

Palm Sunday

March 24, 2024

Greetings and Welcome

GATHERING

**Blessing of the Palms*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these palms and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

P: Let us go forth in joy.

**Palm Procession – “All Glory, Laud, and Honor” ELW 344 (organ)*

*Refrain: All glory, laud, and honor to you, redeemer, king,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.*

- 1 **You are the king of Israel and David's royal Son,
now in the Lord's name coming, our King and Blessed One. *Refrain***
- 2 **The company of angels are praising you on high;
creation and all mortals in chorus make reply. *Refrain***
- 3 **The multitude of pilgrims with palms before you went;
our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present. *Refrain***
- 4 **To you, before your passion, they sang their hymns of praise.
To you, now high exalted, our melody we raise. *Refrain***
- 5 **Their praises you accepted; accept the prayers we bring,
great author of all goodness, O good and gracious King. *Refrain***

** Confession and Forgiveness*

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Silence for Reflection and Confession

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

**Call to Worship – “Hosanna”*

(piano)

**1. Hosanna, hosanna, Hosanna in the highest;
Hosanna, hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.
Lord, we lift up Your name, With hearts full of praise;
Be exalted, O Lord, my God, Hosanna in the highest.**

Children's Sermon

WORD

Reading: Psalm 118:25-29

Reader: Carol VanderKloot

²⁵Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!

O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!

²⁶Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.

We bless you from the house of the LORD.

²⁷The LORD is God,

and he has given us light.

Bind the festal procession with branches,

up to the horns of the altar.

²⁸You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;

you are my God, I will extol you.

²⁹O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,

for his steadfast love endures for ever.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Reading:* Mark 11:1-11; Mark 14:3-9

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 11th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, ‘Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, “Why are you doing this?” just say this, “The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.”’ ⁴They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵some of the bystanders said to them, ‘What are you doing, untying the colt?’ ⁶They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. ⁷Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

‘Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

¹⁰ Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!’

¹¹Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

³While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. ⁴But some were there who said to one another in anger, ‘Why was the ointment wasted in this way? ⁵For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor.’ And they scolded her. ⁶But Jesus said, ‘Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. ⁷For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. ⁸She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. ⁹Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.’

P: The gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Hymn of Praise – “Hosanna”

(piano)

**2. Glory, glory, Glory to the King of kings;
Glory, glory, Glory to the King of kings.
Lord, we lift up Your name, With hearts full of praise;
Be exalted, O Lord, my God, Hosanna in the highest.**

Sermon: "God Provides and People Sing"

Song of the Day – “My Life Flows on in Endless Song” ELW 763, vv. 1, 2, & 4
(piano)

**1 My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation,
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.**

*Refrain: No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?*

**2 Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing? *Refrain***

- 4 **The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing? *Refrain***

**The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Prayers of Intercession*

Stewardship Time

(piano)

“The Wonderful Cross”

The Congregation is invited to sing with the Faith Singers

1. **When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.**
2. **See from His head, His hands, His feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?**

*Refrain: O the wonderful cross, O the wonderful cross
bids me come and die and find that I may truly live.*

*O the wonderful cross, O the wonderful cross;
all who gather here by grace draw near and bless Your name.*

3. **Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were an off'ring far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all. *Refrain***

Stewardship is about our grateful response to God's grace for us. How do you respond? If you would like to financially support our ministry together, you can place a donation in

an offering box or through our website. If you would like to support our ministry together through service, you can find a list of ministry teams online or on our ministry team menu. Consider joining a ministry team, or starting a new one, today!

—Please take a moment to sign into the Welcome Folder in your pew—

**Great Thanksgiving*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**Words of Institution*

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

**Lord's Prayer*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

“We Will Glorify”

(piano)

1. **We will glorify the King of kings, we will glorify the Lamb;
We will glorify the Lord of lords, who is the great I AM.**
2. **Lord Jehovah reigns in majesty, we will bow before His throne;
We will worship Him in righteousness, we will worship Him alone.**
3. **He is Lord of heaven, Lord of earth, He is Lord of all who live;
He is Lord above the universe, all praise to Him we give.**
1. **We will glorify the King of kings, we will glorify the Lamb;
We will glorify the Lord of lords, who is the great I AM.**

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” ELW 634 *(organ)*

- 1 **All hail the pow’r of Jesus’ name! Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem and crown him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem and crown him Lord of all.**
- 2 **O seed of Israel’s chosen race now ransomed from the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.**
- 3 **Hail him, you heirs of David’s line, whom David Lord did call
the God incarnate, man divine and crown him Lord of all.
The God Incarnate, man divine and crown him Lord of all.**
- 4 **Sinners, whose love can ne’er forget the wormwood and the gall,
go spread your trophies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.
Go spread your trophies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.**
- 5 **Let ev’ry kindred, ev’ry tribe on this terrestrial ball
to him all majesty ascribe and crown him Lord of all.
to him all majesty ascribe and crown him Lord of all.**
- 6 **Oh, that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!
We’ll join the everlasting song and crown him Lord of all.
We’ll join the everlasting song and crown him Lord of all.**

**Post-Communion Blessing*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen.**

**Closing Prayer*

SENDING

**Benediction*

P: The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you, the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

**Sending Song – “Go to Dark Gethsemane” ELW 347, vv. 1-3 (organ)*

- 1 **Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter's pow'r;
your Redeemer's conflict see. Watch with him one bitter hour;
turn not from his griefs away; learn from Jesus Christ to pray.**
- 2 **Follow to the judgment hall, view the Lord of life arraigned;
oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun not suff'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.**
- 3 **Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb; there, adoring at his feet,
mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete.
"It is finished!" hear him cry; learn from Jesus Christ to die.**

**Dismissal*

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Song Credits

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“We Will Glorify,” from **Songs for Praise & Worship**, Word Music, © 1992. CCLI#973583

Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Kay Schnitker
Greeter: Lillian Korous
Reader: Carol VanderKloot
Ushers: Hallie Mayner & Patty Nelson
Pastor: Adam Dichsen
Sabbatical Pastor: Paul Schwartzkopf
Music Director: Jean Welch
Organist: Sandi Watts
Pianist: Jean Welch
Drummer: John Demien
Financial Assistants: Malinda Carlson & Kelly Hartz
Chancel Committee: Kim Heise
Coffee Host: Kay Schnitker



Singers:

Benen Dichsen	Kelly Hartz	Kris Roth	Carol VanderKloot
Louis Dichsen	Terri Kimler	Cole Street	
Marilyn Dichsen	Adam Krohe	Melissa Street	

Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson	Kelly Hartz	Gaylon Martin	Monica Proefrock
Ken Devlin	Greg Kimler	Patty Nelson	Kelly Street
Marilyn Dichsen			

What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, March 24, 9:30am: Worship – Palm Sunday
10:45am: Sunday School
10:55am: Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, March 27, 7:00am: Men's Prayer Group

Thursday, March 28, 7:00pm: Maundy Thursday Service

Friday, March 29, 7:00pm: Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Sunday, March 31, 9:30am: Resurrection Worship
10:30am: Easter Breakfast in the Great Room

Wednesday, April 3, 7:00am: Men's Prayer Group

Saturday, April 6, 8:00am Cooking for 9:00am Men's Breakfast

News Updates

Sunday School

Calling all kids! After worship, fellowship, and snacks, we will gather for music and then head to our classes. We have two classes this year, one for pre-K through Kindergarten and the other for early elementary. If you have questions or are interested in helping, contact Patty Nelson at 217-653-3105.

Music Rehearsals – Join us for an Easter Choir!

Singers – please join us for an **Easter Anthem!** Rehearsal will be today at 10:55am after the service. Jean Welch, *Music Director*

Faith Family Easter Breakfast 10:30am

Join us after worship for a delicious meal of breakfast casseroles, coffee cakes, and fruit salad. A free-will donation will be collected to support Local Needs. **If you would like to donate food** (casserole, coffee cake, fruit salad, milk, or orange juice), **there is a signup sheet** on the counter by the Fair-Trade Coffee sales.

Easter Altar Plants

We will adorn our altar with live plants on Easter again this year. To make a donation, mark your check or envelope as “Easter Altar Flowers” and place it in the offering box or mail it to the church office.

Synod Assembly 2024

The **Annual Assembly** of our Central/Southern IL Synod will be June 6-8 in Decatur. Faith is entitled to two (2) lay voting members, plus the pastor. If you are interested in serving as one of the voting members, please contact Kelly Hartz, Pastor Paul, or Kris Roth. We will need to get registrations sent in by April 15.

Men’s Breakfast

Come and connect with other men as we share our faith and enjoy some good food on **Saturday, April 6**. At 8:00, we hang out in the kitchen, helping to cook, drink coffee, and visit. At 9:00, we sit down for some conversation and discussion on a specific topic.

Book Discussion Group

Please join Kelly Hartz **on Sunday, April 7** immediately following the service for our next book club discussion on “*The Gifts of Imperfection*,” by Brené Brown. Books are available for \$10 on the cabinet under the working cross in the gathering area.

Women of Faith Fellowship Night

We are on hiatus during Lent, but will resume meeting in April. Look for more information to come!

Youth Group Help Wanted

One of the hats worn by Pastor Adam is youth leader. In his absence, we are looking for people willing to lead an event, host a meal, or lead a youth Sunday school class. If you are interested, please let Kelly Hartz know. We have a wonderful group of youth, and you would be blessed by your time with them!

Crisis Center Foundation Supply Collection

Help those in crisis in the Jacksonville Area. The Jacksonville Area Conference of Churches and member churches are collecting much-needed items for the Crisis Center Foundation and their clients. The Crisis Center Foundation is a shelter for women, men, and their dependents looking to get away from their abusers while receiving the care and help they need to process their trauma while striving towards independence. Located in Jacksonville, IL, the facility is open 24/7 and provides a wide selection of services to help transition those in need to a safe and happy life. Trained staff is available on their 24-hour hotline at 217-243-4357 to discuss our services and to plan a path forward.

Needed items include:

Toiletries: Shampoo, Conditioner, Bath Soap, Deodorant, Toothbrush/paste, Shaving Supplies, Combs/Brushes

Clothing: Socks - all sizes, Underwear - all sizes

Baby Items: Diapers, Pull-ups, Wipes, Lotion, Powder

Gift Cards: Walmart, Dollar General, Gas Station

Shelter Supplies: Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Kitchen Towels, Dish Cloths, Hot Pads, Storage Containers

We are collecting these items **until Today**; please place your donations in the blue box in the Mission and Ministry Center (coat closet) Thank You! Pick up a handy list of needed items on the counter by the coffee sales.

Community Good Friday Service – Jacksonville Conference of Churches

Join together on **Friday, March 29 at 12 noon** for this community Good Friday Service. Speakers and participants from churches throughout the area will come together on this notable day in the Christian year. The event is hosted by First Presbyterian Church at **870 W. College** (Jacksonville) and will be simulcast on the First Presbyterian Facebook page. This year, the message will be presented by 2 area pastors: Polly Pulley from Spirit

of Faith Soup Kitchen, and Rev. Zachary D. Brooks of Trinity Episcopal Church. A special addition to this year's service is a sacred dance group from the St. Louis Salvation Army, called *Made to Worship*. They will offer a special interpretation of Good Friday through movement and dance. A free will offering will benefit Morgan County Unmet Needs. This organization brings together the charity support of local churches to share information and the resources to help people who fall through the cracks of financial assistance. This fund is administrated through the Jacksonville Conference of Churches, and partners with The Salvation Army and Prairieland United Way. Checks can be made payable to "The Jacksonville Area Conference of Churches," with "Unmet Needs" on the memo line. We hope to encourage the community to come together during this holy season.

Fairly-Traded Coffee/Tea

Check out the coffee display from Equal Exchange. Simply select the product(s) you would like to purchase, and place the money in the container provided by the display (**\$6.50** regular; **\$7.50** decaf; **\$3.00** tea; **\$2.50** chocolate bars; **\$5.50** hot chocolate). Checks should be made out to Faith Lutheran Church with "*coffee*" designated in the memo area.

Sign-Up Sheets

are available at the podium in the gathering area. Please take a moment to sign up to be an Usher, Reader, Greeter, Communion Assistant, Coffee Host, Chancel Committee volunteer, and to Donate Altar Plants. **Thank You!** *We are Gifted to Serve!*

Contribution Envelopes for 2024 are available in the gathering area.