

Immanuel Lutheran Church & School

1449 34th Street NW, Winter Haven, FL 33881

www.WinterHavenLutheran.org

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As We Gather

Life can be challenging, and at times it may seem like there's not much to be joyful about. However, on Palm Sunday, we are reminded that as Christians, we have a reason to celebrate and rejoice in our King, who came to bring us salvation. The message of Palm Sunday is a powerful one, reminding us of the great love that God has for us and the lengths to which He went to redeem us. It is a message of hope, reminding us that no matter what challenges we may face in life, we can always find comfort in the knowledge that our sins have been forgiven through Jesus' work in Jerusalem that first Holy Week. As we celebrate Palm Sunday, let us take a moment to reflect on the magnitude of this gift of salvation and the joy it brings to our hearts.

✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Greeting

P Dear friends in Christ, during the weeks of Lent we have been preparing to commemorate our Lord's suffering, death, and resurrection. Today we come together to begin the solemn journey of Holy Week. Christ entered in triumph into His own city to complete His work as our Savior and to gain for us the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. We follow Him in faith and praise Him with joy.

P Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C Hosanna in the highest!

Prayer

P Let us pray.

God our Father, we remember how Jesus entered Jerusalem and was welcomed as a king by those who shouted "Hosanna" and spread their clothing and palm branches in His path. Accept our praise and listen to our prayers as we rejoice in our triumphant King, Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C Amen.

Hymn

160 – All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Confession and Absolution

- P** Beloved in the Lord, as we gather together to celebrate Palm Sunday, let us confess our sins before our King, who comes to us with salvation and peace.
- C** **Almighty God, merciful Father, we come before You with repentant hearts, confessing that we have often failed to recognize Your rightful place as King and Lord of our lives. We have been proud and self-sufficient, seeking our own will instead of submitting to Your perfect will. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, and we justly deserve Your temporal and eternal punishment. But we are sorry for our sins and sincerely repent of them. We humbly ask for Your forgiveness and the grace to live according to Your holy will.**
- P** The King of kings and Lord of lords, Jesus Christ, has come to you. He comes to you with salvation, not on a warhorse, but on a donkey, in lowliness and meekness. He comes to bring peace to all nations and to rule over us in righteousness. As a called servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

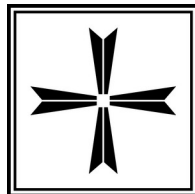
✠ The Service of the Word ✠

Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie

Lord, have mer-cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy
on us. Lord, have mer-cy on us.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G-clef. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "Lord, have mer-cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy". The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: "on us. Lord, have mer-cy on us.". The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.



Glory to God in the Highest

Gloria in Excelsis



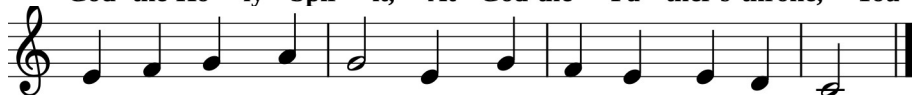
1. To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth, For
2. O Lamb of God ex - alt - ed, You take all sin a - way; Ex -



God has shown His fa - vor In Je - sus' ho - ly birth! Al -
tend to us Your mer - cy And hear us as we pray. With



might - y God and Fa - ther, Our hum - ble thanks we bring; We
God the Ho - ly Spir - it, At God the Fa - ther's throne, You



wor - ship You, we bless You, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
reign, O Christ, for - ev - er, For You are Lord a - lone!

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray...

... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Epistle Reading

Philippians 2:5-11

⁵ Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, ⁷ but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. ⁹ Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,

¹¹ and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 24

- P** The earth is the LORD's, and all its fullness,
C **The world and those who dwell therein.**
P For He has founded it upon the seas,
C **And established it upon the waters.**
P Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD?
C **Or who may stand in His holy place?**
P He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
C **Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, Nor sworn deceitfully.**
P He shall receive blessing from the LORD,
C **And righteousness from the God of his salvation.**
P This is Jacob, the generation of those who seek Him,
C **Who seek Your face.**
P Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors!
C **And the King of glory shall come in.**
P Who is this King of glory?
C **The LORD strong and mighty, The LORD mighty in battle.**
P Lift up your heads, O you gates! Lift up, you everlasting doors!
C **And the King of glory shall come in.**
P Who is this King of glory?
C **The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory.**

Gospel Reading

Matthew 21:1-11

¹ Now when they drew near Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Loose them and bring them to Me. ³ And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and immediately he will send them." ⁴ All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: ⁵ "Tell the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your King is coming to you, Lowly, and sitting on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.'" ⁶ So the disciples went and did as Jesus commanded them. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their clothes on them, and set Him on them. ⁸ And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out,

saying: “Hosanna to the Son of David! ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!’ Hosanna in the highest!” ¹⁰ And when He had come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, “Who is this?” ¹¹ So the multitudes said, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth of Galilee.”

Response

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

C Amen.

Confession of Faith

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead And the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn

725 – No Tramp of Soldiers' Marching Feet

Sermon Text

Zechariah 9:9-10

⁹ “Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰ I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim And the horse from Jerusalem; The battle bow shall be cut off. He shall speak peace to the nations; His dominion shall be ‘from sea to sea, And from the River to the ends of the earth.’



Sermon

Rejoice in the Coming of Your King

I. Rejoice in the Manner in Which He Comes

II. Rejoice in the Message that He Brings

Offertory

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from Your
pres - ence, and take not Your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
store un - to me the joy of Your sal - va - tion; and up -
hold me with Your free spir - it. A - men.

Hymn

161 – Hosanna, Laud Hosanna

Offering

Offering Hymn

442 st. 2

Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to yield Thee
Gladly, freely, of Thine own;
With the sunshine of Thy goodness
Melt our thankless hearts of stone
Till our cold and selfish natures,
Warmed by Thee, at length believe
That more happy and more blessed
'Tis to give than to receive.

General Prayer

✠ The Service of the Sacrament ✠

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up to the Lord.

P It is right and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God...
... Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we praise Your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Sanctus



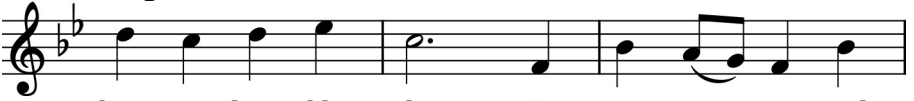
1. Sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts on
2. Ho - san - na in the high - est! How blest is Christ our



high, Your ev - er - last - ing glo - ry fills earth and sea and
King, Who died as our Re - deem - er, e - ter - nal life to



sky." Our voic - es cry, "Ho - san - na!" Lord,
bring! How blest are You, Lord Je - sus, Now



hear our hum - ble plea: In mer - cy, come and
com - ing in God's name! "Ho - san - na in the



save us; In love, come set us free.
high - est!" Our grate - ful hearts pro - claim.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Lord God, You are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in Your mercy, You saved us. We give thanks to You for the grace of Your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, He took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered Himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with You. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive Your Son's body and blood, and lead us to remember His suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship You—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

- C** 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.

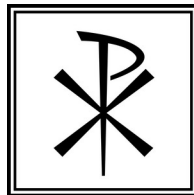
Words of Institution

Pax Domini

Peace of the Lord

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always!

- C** Amen.



Agnus Dei

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, our Sav-ior, Christ, who takes a - way
Je - sus, in Your mer-cy, Make us pure with - in;
Let Your end - less mer-cy Ev - er - more in - crease;



All the world's trans - gres-sions, Lis - ten as we pray:
Cleanse us by Your per - fect Sac - ri - fice for sin.
Com - fort us with par - don, Calm us with Your peace.

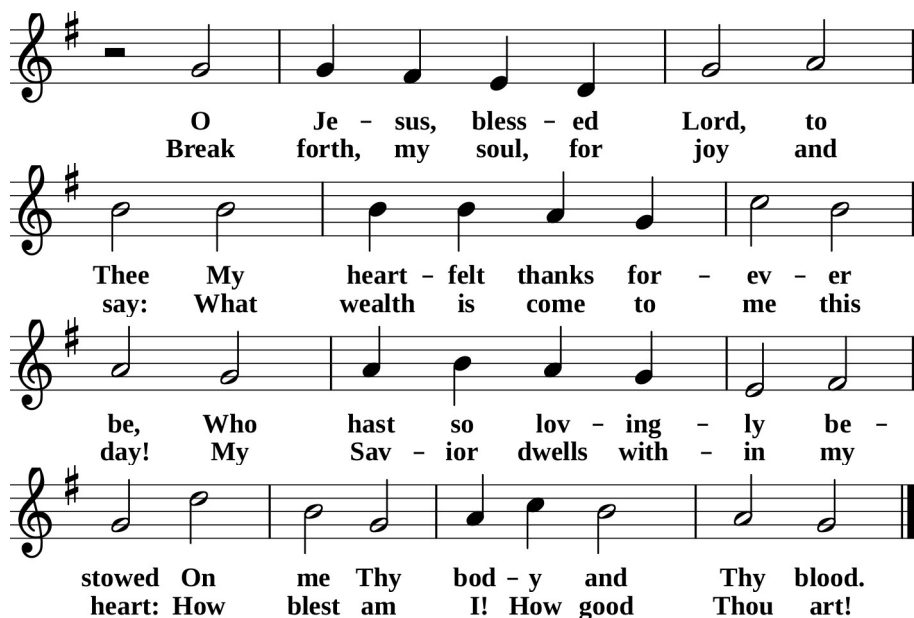
Distribution

Holy Communion is rightly called a ‘Sacrament’ because it is a “Sacred act;” not in what WE do for Christ, but in what Christ does for US! Because God’s Word presents the reception of this Sacrament as a most intimate expression of spiritual and confessional unity (1 Corinthians 1:10; 10:16-17 Romans 16:17-18), we ask only those who have publicly professed such oneness of faith and belief with us by membership here or another CLC church come forward at this time. This is not a judgment of anyone’s faith, but rather an expression of ours. Please speak with pastor if you are seeking a church home or have any questions. We’d love to have you!



Post-Communion Canticle

TLH 309



O Je - sus, bless - ed for Lord, to
Break forth, my soul, for joy and
Thee My heart - felt thanks for - ev - er
say: What wealth is come to me this
be, Who hast so lov - ing - ly be -
day! My Sav - ior dwells with - in my
stowed On me Thy bod - y and Thy blood.
heart: How blest am I! How good Thou art!

Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C Amen.

Hymn

162 – Ride On, Ride On, in Majesty

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✝ Announcements ✝

Welcome to all of our guests and visitors this morning in our Savior's name. We are glad that you have come to worship with us this morning, and hope that you will come back and join us again. It is our prayer that your faith will be strengthened by the preaching of our Lord's pure Word and by the psalms and hymns that our Scripture-based liturgy offers. If you have any questions about our church or are interested in learning more about the Scriptures, please ask Pastor Sauers.

Upcoming Schedule

April 2	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:15 am	Worship Service w/ Holy Communion
	11:15 am	Quarterly Voters' Meeting/ Ladies' Meeting
April 7	6:30 pm	Good Friday Worship Service
April 9	9:00 am	Easter Brunch
	10:15 am	Worship Service
April 16	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:15 am	Worship Service

Member Visits: Pastor would like to get to know everyone in the congregation, and to that end, would like to visit with each family individually. These visits are intended as an opportunity for spiritual encouragement and for members to share their concerns, questions, comments, and suggestions. Please find the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board and sign up.

Meetings: Following today's worship service, we will have our quarterly voters' meeting. The ladies will also meet.

Thank You: Thank you to everyone who helped with yesterday's work day. Your hard work and dedication made a big difference. We appreciate your willingness to serve and support our church. Thanks again for your generosity and commitment.

Easter Brunch: Join us next Sunday at 9:00am for Easter Brunch. This year's brunch will feature finger foods (donuts, muffins, fruit, cheese & crackers, etc.) Please bring something to share if you would like, and join us for this wonderful opportunity to connect with one another and celebrate the joy of Easter together.

Christ's Explorers Camp: Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church (W. Columbia, SC) will be hosting Christ's Explorers Camp July 20th - 23rd in Sevierville, TN. Camp is open to students entering grades 3-9 for the 2023-24 school year. Registration opens on Saturday, April 1st at 9 AM (EST). Registrations will be limited to the first 25 boys and 25 girls. You may register online at christsexplorerscamp.com.

CLC Call News: The dual parish of Redemption Lutheran of Lynnwood, WA and Ascension Lutheran of Tacoma, WA has called Pastor Chad Seybt of the quad parish of the CLC churches in Onalaska, Fairchild, Millston, and Melrose, WI. <> Pastor Norman Greve has accepted the call to serve as vacancy pastor at Calvary Lutheran in Marquette, MI. That congregation is requesting a graduate from Immanuel Lutheran Seminary to be their pastor. <> Mrs. Leah Ude of Eau Claire, WI has returned the call to be teacher at Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church of Middleton, WI. <> Pastor Luke Bernthal of St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Mountain View, CA is considering the call to serve as the third pastor at Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI.

Fruits of Faith – March 26, 2023 – Orlando – 11 WH – 27	
Immanuel Home	\$1,170.00
Property Improvement	\$100.00
ILC Scholarship	\$200.00
Lent	\$55.25
Sign	\$5.00
Total Offering	\$1,926.80

✠ Serving Next Weekend ✠

Cleaner (4/8): Naumann **Acolyte (4/9):** Seth Bernthal

✠ Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions ✠

April 3-8

Monday: Zechariah 9:8-12 – The prophet speaks to the people rebuilding the Temple after returning from exile. He encourages them with prophecies of God’s care for His kingdom and of the future Messiah coming on a donkey (v9). Peace and freedom are assured by the blood of His covenant with Israel (v11).

Tuesday: John 12:1-8 – When Mary anoints Jesus’ feet with expensive ointment, Judas grumbles about her extravagance. Jesus’ face is set for Jerusalem, where He will suffer and die on the cross, and He defends Mary’s anointing of Him as a preparation for His burial.

Wednesday: Hebrews 12:1-6 – As Jesus looked to the joy ahead while enduring the cross, so Christians look to Jesus as they struggle with sin and trouble, knowing that for Jesus’ sake God treats us as His own children and brings benefits for us from everything we must endure.

Maundy Thursday: Luke 22:14-20 – Jesus’ last meal culminates in the institution of the Lord’s Supper, in which He gives His body and blood, along with the benefits of the suffering that looms before Him. In describing the cup as the “new covenant in my blood,” we are reminded of Zechariah’s prophecy (9:11) in Monday’s reading.

Good Friday: Luke 23:44-46 – Darkness in the middle of the day reminds us of the world-changing event taking place on the cross, the tearing of the temple curtain reminds us of the direct access to God that forgiveness brings, and Jesus’ last words bring confidence that He has accomplished His mission to rescue mankind.

Saturday: 2 Corinthians 5:14-21 – How could we not love Him who died our death so that we might live as a new creation? Now the Lord’s ambassadors declare the wondrous result of Christ’s doing and dying: that God is reconciled with us, that Christ has taken our sin and has given us His righteousness!

The Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem

Revelation 7:9-10 - *"After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!'"*

Do you notice the similarity between our Revelation passage above and the events of Palm Sunday? On both occasions a great multitude of people is waving palm branches and singing Hosanna (the Hebrew word Hosanna means "save now" or "salvation"--as the hosts in Revelation sing).

Jesus did not have any false hopes of grandeur when He rode into earthly Jerusalem amid the shouts of Hosanna. He did not think, "Finally the people are receiving Me as they ought. Things are looking up now." No, He knew very well what lay ahead of Him in the earthly Jerusalem. He was entering Jerusalem devoted to His purpose of saving us. He came to suffer and die at the hands of men.

Because Jesus entered the earthly Jerusalem as the Lamb of God to be sacrificed for the sins of the world, He has opened the door of the heavenly Jerusalem for us.

He wore a crown of thorns, so that we could wear a crown of glory.

He was forsaken by God Himself, so that we could be accepted by God into perfect peace and glory.

What a glorious procession that will be when we wave our palm branches and join the angels in singing Hosanna to our God!

On Palm Sunday we have a little foretaste of the glorious entry into the New Jerusalem. What a great day to which we can look forward. But we do not have to wait until then. We can sing our praise to God with our whole heart now. Just as we eagerly anticipate that we will "serve God day and night in His temple" of heaven, we can serve Him now with our whole life.

As we celebrate Palm Sunday, let us praise Him who opened the way for our triumphal entry into the New Jerusalem--Heaven!

