



## St. John Lutheran Church

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Lake Dr  
Houghton Lake,  
MI 48629  
989-366-5164

# 9:00 - Traditional



**March 29, 2026**

## *Welcome*

to St. John Lutheran Church and our Traditional Worship Service. We are so glad you have chosen to join us today and we pray your time with us will fill you with the love our Lord has for you.

Today's service includes the Lord's Supper. If you are a first-time visitor and wish to receive Holy Communion, please speak with one of our Elders or myself prior to service.

May God bless your worship with us today,  
*Paul Kruse, Pastor*

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***Compelled by the Love of Christ to Joyfully Live, Learn,  
Share, and Serve'***

*Our Vision is to inspire the vibrant experience of Christian  
faith in our community, to all generations, wherever they  
may be'*

**Theme of the Day:** On Palm Sunday Christ was greeted with palm branches – the ancient symbol for victory. Job 41 is also all about victory. God’s victory over that same evil foe who still means deadly woe!

## **Service Setting for Today**

***Divine Service Four*** (pp 203ff)

### **Prelude**

## **Sharing of the Peace and Welcome**

### **Opening Song**

**“All Glory Laud, and Honor”** LSB 442 vs. 1-4

**ref** All glory, laud, and honor  
To You, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children  
Made sweet hosannas ring.

You are the King of Israel  
And David’s royal Son,  
Now in the Lord’s name coming,  
Our King and Blessèd One. **Refrain**

The company of angels  
Is praising You on high,  
And we with all creation  
In chorus make reply. **Refrain**

The multitude of pilgrims  
With palms before You went;  
Our praise and prayer and anthems  
Before You we present. **Refrain**

To You before Your passion  
They sang their hymns of praise;  
To You, now high exalted,  
Our melody we raise. **Refrain**

Text: Theodulf of Orléans, c. 762–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Text: Public domain

## Invocation

LSB 203

**L** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

## Confession and Forgiveness

**L** Loving Father, like those who greeted Jesus as he entered Jerusalem and later shouted, “Crucify him,” we are fickle people who often deny Christ in our thoughts, words, and deeds. Remembering the events of Holy Week helps us see ourselves for what we are, sinners in need of a Savior.

**C** **O King of Glory, we confess that our praise of your majesty has often been faint, our performance as citizens of your kingdom has often been lack-luster. For we have surrendered to the enemy far too often. For our sin you died, Lord Jesus. For our restoration, you rose again. Draw us closer to you in this Holy Week, that our eyes may catch the vision of your love, and our hearts be captured by the wonder of your grace.**

**L** God’s almighty power is shown chiefly in the weakness of Jesus—his riding upon a donkey on Palm Sunday, his bitter agony in Gethsemane, as well as in his bloody sweat on Good Friday. His resurrection assures you that his promises of forgiveness, life and salvation are all yours, now and indeed, forevermore!

**C** **I know that my Redeemer lives!**

## Service of the Word

### Introit (Entrance)

**L** Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

**C** **We bless you from the house of the Lord.**

**L** Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors,

**C** **that the King of glory may come in.**

**L** Who is this King of glory?

**C** **The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle!**

**L** Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors,

**C** **that the King of glory may come in.**

**L** Who is this King of glory?

**C** **The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory!**

**L** Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

**C** **We bless you from the house of the Lord.**

**☩ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**Kyrie Eleison (Lord, Have Mercy)** *(Sung)*

*LSB 204*

**☩ Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

**L** The Lord be with you.

**☩ And also with you.**

**L** Let us pray together...

**☩ Almighty and everlasting God, you send your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of his great humility and patience and be made partakes of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **First Reading**

Job 41:18-34

<sup>18</sup> His sneezings flash forth light, and his eyes are like the eyelids of the dawn.

<sup>19</sup> Out of his mouth go flaming torches; sparks of fire leap forth. <sup>20</sup> Out of his nostrils comes forth smoke, as from a boiling pot and burning rushes. <sup>21</sup> His breath kindles coals, and a flame comes forth from his mouth. <sup>22</sup> In his neck abides strength, and terror dances before him. <sup>23</sup> The folds of his flesh stick together, firmly cast on him and immovable. <sup>24</sup> His heart is hard as a stone, hard as the lower millstone. <sup>25</sup> When he raises himself up, the mighty are afraid; at the crashing they are beside themselves. <sup>26</sup> Though the sword reaches him, it does not avail, nor the spear, the dart, or the javelin. <sup>27</sup> He counts iron as straw, and bronze as rotten wood. <sup>28</sup> The arrow cannot make him flee; for him, sling stones are turned to stubble. <sup>29</sup> Clubs are counted as stubble; he laughs at the rattle of javelins.] <sup>30</sup> His underparts are like sharp potsherds; he spreads himself like a threshing sledge on the mire. <sup>31</sup> He makes the deep boil like a pot; he makes the sea like a pot of ointment. <sup>32</sup> Behind him he leaves a shining wake; one would think the deep to be white-haired. <sup>33</sup> On earth there is not his like, a creature without fear. <sup>34</sup> He sees everything that is high; he is king over all the sons of pride."

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**☩ Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

<sup>7</sup> So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. <sup>8</sup> Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. <sup>9</sup> But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. <sup>10</sup> For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Reading

John 12:12-19

**L** The Holy Gospel according to St. John the twelfth chapter

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>12</sup> The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup> So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" <sup>14</sup> And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, <sup>15</sup> "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" <sup>16</sup> His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. <sup>17</sup> The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. <sup>18</sup> The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. <sup>19</sup> So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him."

**L** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## Nicene Creed

*LSB 206*

**C** **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  $\times$  of the world to come. Amen.**

## **Children's Message**

### **Message Song**

### **"Hosanna Loud Hosanna" *LSB 443***

Hosanna, loud hosanna,  
The little children sang;  
Through pillared court and temple  
The lovely anthem rang.  
To Jesus, who had blessed them,  
Close folded to His breast,  
The children sang their praises,  
The simplest and the best.  
From Olivet they followed  
Mid an exultant crowd,  
The victor palm branch waving  
And chanting clear and loud.  
The Lord of earth and heaven  
Rode on in lowly state  
Nor scorned that little children  
Should on His bidding wait.  
"Hosanna in the highest!"

That ancient song we sing;  
For Christ is our Redeemer,  
The Lord of heav'n our King.  
Oh, may we ever praise Him  
With heart and life and voice  
And in His blissful presence  
Eternally rejoice!

Text: Jeannette Threlfall, 1821–80, alt. Text: Public domain

## Message

**“On Earth is not His Equal!”**

## Offering

*Would you like to give online? Scan the QR code and it will take you directly to our donation site.*



## Prayers of the Church

### Service of the Sacrament

- 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 Him thanks and praise.**
- P** It is truly good, right, and proper . . . Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

### Sanctus (Holy) *(Sung)*

*LSB 208*

- C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored; Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name. Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord; Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

### Lord's Prayer

*LSB 209*

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- 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.**

## **The Words of Our Lord**

LSB 162

## **Pax Domini (The Peace of the Lord)**

LSB 209

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**G** Amen.

## **Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) (sung)**

LSB 210

**G** **O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

## **Distribution of the Holy Sacrament**

*The Lord gave this Holy Sacrament to His Church so that His followers might receive His love and forgiveness in a visible, tangible way. When the Church celebrates this Sacrament, believers are also making a public declaration of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor.11:26). Holy Communion is offered every week at St. John Lutheran, but because it is possible to receive the Lord's Supper to one's detriment (1 Cor. 11:27-29), we ask all who wish to partake of it to examine themselves as follows:*

- 1. Do I believe that I am a sinner and therefore deserve God's punishment?*
- 2. Am I truly sorry that by my sins I have offended God?*
- 3. Do I believe that God accepts the death of Jesus as payment for my sins and therefore forgives my sins for Jesus' sake alone and not because of any goodness or effort on my part?*
- 4. Do I intend, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to turn from my sins?*
- 5. Do I seek to forgive others as God has forgiven me?*
- 6. Do I believe Christ's own Word that His body and blood are truly present and received in, with, and under the bread and wine (Matt.26:26-28)?*

*If you have been baptized into the Christian faith and can answer "yes" to the above questions, you are invited to receive Holy Communion with the assurance of all the blessings Scripture promises. Children and those who do not subscribe to these statements are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing and should indicate this by keeping their hand folded.*

## Distribution Hymn

## “Ride On, Ride On in Majesty” *LSB 441*

Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
Hark! All the tribes hosanna cry.  
O Savior meek, pursue Thy road,  
With palms and scattered garments strowed.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die.  
O Christ, Thy triumphs now begin  
O'er captive death and conquered sin.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
The angel armies of the sky  
Look down with sad and wond'ring eyes  
To see the approaching sacrifice.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh.  
The Father on His sapphire throne  
Awaits His own anointed Son.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die.  
Bow Thy meek head to mortal pain,  
Then take, O God, Thy pow'r and reign.

Text: Henry H. Milman, 1791–1868, alt. Text: Public domain

## Nunc Dimittis (Song of Simeon) *(Sung)*

*LSB 211*

**☞ O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heav'nly peace, For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace: A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill, The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.**

**All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son, All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One; For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be, God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.**

## Post-Communion Prayer

**P** Let us pray... We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this beneficial gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## **Benediction (Blessing)**

**L** 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.**

## **Closing Song**

### **“A Mighty Fortress is our God”** *LSB 656*

A mighty fortress is our God,  
A trusty shield and weapon;  
He helps us free from ev'ry need  
That hath us now o'ertaken.  
The old evil foe  
Now means deadly woe;  
Deep guile and great might  
Are his dread arms in fight;  
On earth is not his equal.

With might of ours can naught be done,  
Soon were our loss effected;  
But for us fights the valiant One,  
Whom God Himself elected.  
Ask ye, Who is this?  
Jesus Christ it is,  
Of Sabaoth Lord,  
And there's none other God;  
He holds the field forever.

Though devils all the world should fill,  
All eager to devour us,  
We tremble not, we fear no ill;

They shall not overpow'r us.  
This world's prince may still  
    Scowl fierce as he will,  
    He can harm us none.  
He's judged; the deed is done;  
One little word can fell him.

The Word they still shall let remain  
    Nor any thanks have for it;  
He's by our side upon the plain  
With His good gifts and Spirit.  
    And take they our life,  
Goods, fame, child, and wife,  
    Though these all be gone,  
    Our vict'ry has been won;  
The Kingdom ours remaineth.

Text: tr. composite; Martin Luther, 1483–1546 Text: Public domain

#### **Acknowledgments**

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