



Union Lutheran Church

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Palm Sunday

April 2, 2023

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

OUR MISSION:

*Christ Centered ~ Mission Driven~ Traditionally-Grounded~
Congregationally Focused (Matthew 28:18-20)*

OUR VISION:

One Relationship at a Time

BE OUR GUEST

Can't wait to see what God can do!



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(Please stand when indicated by *)*

Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW) green hymnal

With One Voice (WOV) blue hymnal

The choir and Kids Choir will gather outside. The palm branches are distributed before the service begins. The minister is standing in the Narthex.

GATHERING

* Palm Sunday Greeting & Prayer

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

C **Hosanna to the Son of David!**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray, Mercifully assist us, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy this day upon the contemplation of those mighty acts whereby you have given us lift everlasting; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

* Processional Gospel: John 12:12-19

¹²The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³So 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!"

¹⁴And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, ¹⁵"Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" ¹⁶His 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.

¹⁷The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. ¹⁸The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. ¹⁹So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him."

* Palm Sunday Prayer

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord.

C **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P We praise and thank you, O God, for the great acts of love by which have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph and was acclaimed Son of David and King of kings by those who scattered their garments and branches of palms in his path. Let our lives truly bless the Messiah, who comes in the name of the Lord, and grant that we may ever hail him as our Lord and King, following our Savior with perfect confidence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

P Let us go forth in peace.

C **In the name of the Lord.**

* Processional Hymn: *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

The procession into the church begins, the Kids Choir and Choir will follow the minister. The Altar Candles are lit at this time.

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or To you, Re-deem-er, King,

To whom the lips of chil - dren Made sweet ho - san - nas ring.

1 You are the king of Is - rael And Da - vid's roy - al Son,
2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels Are prais - ing you on high;
3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims With palms be - fore you went
4 To you, be - fore your Pas - sion, They sang their hymns of praise.

Now in the Lord's name com - ing, Our King and Bless - ed One.
Cre - a - tion and all mor - tals In cho - rus make re - ply.
Our praise and prayer and an - thems Be - fore you we pre - sent.
To you, now high ex - alt - ed, Our mel - o - dy we raise.

5 Their praises you accepted; Accept the prayers we bring,
Great author of all goodness, O good and gracious King. (*Refrain*)

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

C **Hosanna in the highest.**

* Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray, Almighty and everlasting God, you have sent your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, to take upon himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross, that all of humanity should follow the example of his great humility. Mercifully grant that we may both follow the example of his patience and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

WORD

Children's Anthem: *Hosannah! Blessed is He Who Comes* (Burkhardt) Kids Choir

Children's Message

Old Testament Lessons: Isaiah 50:4-9a

⁴The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting. ⁷But the Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame. ⁸He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me. ^{9a}Behold, the Lord God helps me; who will declare me guilty?

R Here ends the reading.

Psalm 118:19-29 (*read responsively*)

L ¹⁹Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the Lord.

C ²⁰**“This is the gate of the Lord;
he who is righteous may enter.”**

L ²¹I will give thanks to you, for you answered me
and have become my salvation.

C ²²**The same stone which the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.**

L ²³This is the Lord's doing,
and it is marvelous in our eyes.

C ²⁴**On this day the Lord has acted;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

L ²⁵Hosannah, Lord, hosannah!
Lord, send us now success.

C ²⁶**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;
we bless you from the house of the Lord.**

L ²⁷God is the Lord; he has shined upon us;
 form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.
C ²⁸**“You are my God, and I will thank you;
 you are my God, and I will exalt you.**
L ²⁹Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
 his mercy endures forever.

New Testament Lesson: Philippians 2:5-11

⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

R Here ends the reading.

* Lenten Verses (“Return to the Lord...”)

LBW p. 83

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 26th chapter.

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

* Holy Gospel: Matthew 26:1-19

¹When Jesus had finished all these sayings, he said to his disciples, ²“You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified.” ³Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas, ⁴and plotted together in order to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. ⁵But they said, “Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar among the people.” ⁶Now when Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, ⁷a woman came up to him with an alabaster flask of very expensive ointment, and she poured it on his head as he reclined at table. ⁸And when the disciples saw it, they were indignant, saying, “Why this waste? ⁹For this could have been sold for a large sum and given to the poor.” ¹⁰But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, “Why do you trouble the woman? For she has done a beautiful thing to me. ¹¹For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. ¹²In pouring this ointment on my body, she has done it to prepare me for burial. ¹³Truly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will also be told in memory of her.” ¹⁴Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests ¹⁵and said, “What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?” And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. ¹⁶And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him. ¹⁷Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the Passover?” ¹⁸He said, “Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, ‘The Teacher says, My time is at hand. I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.’” ¹⁹And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover.

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

Sermon: *Gotta Have a Donkey* Pastor Heidi Punt

* HYMN: *Ride On, Ride On in Majesty* LBW# 121

* Nicene Creed LBW p. 84

* Prayer of the Church & Sharing of the Peace LBW p. 85-86

Offering *The Offering is received as the Lord's Table is prepared. All loose offering will go towards the Social Ministry Fund. During the month of April, the Benevolence Teaching Moment is on the NALC Disaster Response. Please prayerfully consider giving to the Benevolence Fund.*

Anthem: *Palm Sunday* (Young) Chancel Choir with Micah Nguyen, Handbells

MEAL

* Offertory (*"What shall I render..."*) & Offertory Prayer LBW p. 87

* Great Thanksgiving & Sanctus LBW p. 88-89

* Words of Institution LBW p. 89

* Lord's Prayer LBW p. 91

Lamb of God & Distribution of Communion LBW p. 92

At Union Lutheran Church the Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated each Sunday. All baptized Christians who believe in the real presence of Christ in the Lord's Supper are invited to commune. All who do not commune are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. For those who prefer individually sealed units please indicate. Gluten Free wafers and grape juice are also available upon request. Please fill out the connection card and hand to the Usher while following their directions to receive Holy Communion or a blessing.

* Post-Communion Canticle (*"Lord, now you let your servant..."*) LBW p. 93

* Post-Communion Prayer LBW p. 94

SENDING

* Benediction LBW p. 95

* RECESSIONAL HYMN: *Ah, Holy Jesus* LBW# 123

* Sending

P You have been nurtured in Word and Sacrament now go therefore and make disciples of all nations

C **Baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and of the Holy Spirit.**

P Union Lutheran Church you are sent!

C **Amen, amen, amen**

Postlude: *Al Glory, Laud, and Honor* (Burkhardt)

Lutheran Book of Worship Setting 2 (p. 77-97)
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Union News

Palm Sunday, April 2, Activities:

9:15 a.m. Kids Choir

9:35 a.m. Sunday School

Children & Youth: The Wise King

1 Kings 3:5-15; Proverbs 3:1-12

Adult Sunday School Class:

The Empty Tomb ~ Luke 24:1-12

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

2:45 p.m.-3:30 p.m. Beginners Bells (B'n B)

4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Union & Salem Middle/High School Youth at Salem

Deadline for contacting the church office for placing a potted flower in honorarium or memorial for the Easter Flowers Booklet.

During the season of Lent, branches will be used in place of Altar Flowers

This Weeks' Activities:

All are welcome to drive or walk through the parking lot and stop at each Station of the Cross during Holy Week. A handout will be available.

Wednesday, April 5 6:30 p.m. Confirmation

6:30 p.m. Belles & Beaus

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, April 6 10:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday services

Friday, April 7 10:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Good Friday services

7:30 p.m. Middle & High School Youth Lock-in

7:30 p.m. Prayer Vigil

Saturday, April 8 11:00 a.m.-12 noon drop off potted flowers

Pick up fresh cakes and/or pies

Next Sunday, Easter Sunday, April 9

7:30 a.m. Sunrise Service

Exodus 14:10-15:1; Psalm 118:15-29; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; John 20:1-19

Youth Led Worship Service.

8:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast

10:30 a.m. Easter Service, Worship & Holy Communion

Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 16:1-11; Colossians 3:1-4; Matthew 28:1-10

Sermon: *Resurrection People*

No Sunday School on Easter Sunday.

Linda Kesler has reserved the Altar Flowers for Easter Sunday.

Those Serving in April:

Acolyte: Adam Thompson

Altar Guild & Communion Assistant: Mary Hutchens

Lay Reader: Doris Shepherd

Communion Assistants: Janice Goodman & Kevin Huffman

Ushers: Phil Cauble, Larry Barringer, Wade Leazer & Adam Thompson

Connector: April 2, 9, & 30: Vicki Hunter ~ April 16 & 23: Jennifer Curlee

Offering Counters: Tara Davis, Cathy Painter, & Ron Vellines

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

Nursing Home Residents - Brenda Mahaley, Pat Miller, and Ruth Monroe (Autumn Care)

Homebound Members – Arnold Cauble, Rachel Earnhardt, Jean Kluttz, Frances Norris, Billy Waller, & Michael Walton

Sick/Surgery/Recovery – Nancy Kesler, John Knight, Vernon Overcash, Doug Peeler, Sylvia Peeler, Jean Ray (Asbury Health & Rehabilitation, Room 213 Dillworth Hallway, 3800 Shamrock Drive, Charlotte, NC 28215), & Debbie Rinehart

Continual Prayer – Evonne Batten, Nancy Ballew (Kat Clifton's mother), Pastor George Bradshaw (Pineridge Baptist Church), Bill Broadway, Janet Dunning (Doris Shepherd's sister), Glenn Eagle, Tommy and Joan Kerns, Garrin Kluttz (Jean & James Kluttz grandson), Pat Kluttz, Glenn & Betty Sue Lowder, Della Morgan (Pam Vellines' mother), Dusty Morgan, Sr. Family (Dusty, Sr., Lisa, Felisaty, and Dusty, Jr.), Danny "Chocolate" Myers (Frank Merrell's friend), William Page, Effie Vellines, Union Fire Department #76, Haiti (gangs), Nigerian Christians, & those affected by natural or political disasters

Confirmation Students: Caylea Cline, Mallory Eagle, Bailey Wilhelm, & Lucas Wilhelm

How Can You Serve?

How can you serve during the month of April? The Sunday School Department is sponsoring a collection of pennies. Please place coins in the jar located in the Narthex.