

MARCH 29, 2026



PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS *service begins outside*

◆ ACCLAMATION

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

C: (repeat)

P: Hosanna! Hosanna to the Son of David!

C: (repeat)

P: PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL: MATTHEW 21:1-11

TRANSLATION BY WILDA C. GAFNEY

C: **GLORY TO YOU, O LORD**

Now they had come near Jerusalem and reached Bethpage on the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, “Go into the village before you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her: release them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Son of Woman needs them.’ And they will send them immediately.” This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

“Tell the daughter of Zion, ‘Look your sovereign is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’”

The disciples went and did just as Jesus had instructed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that were going before him and the one following him were shouting, saying:

“Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Holy One! Hosanna in the highest!”

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was shaken, asking, “Who is this?” The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

P: THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD.

C: **PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

ELW 344

All Glory, Laud & Honor

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.

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*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

FROM COLE ARTHUR RILEY

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you!**

L: God of the Palms, thank you for drawing near to us. We have known what it is to encounter “help” that isn’t truly help. We have known about false saviors who cloak themselves in heroism while secretly delighting in suffering. Thank you for showing us a different way: a God who rejects the trappings of Roman-style privileges, a God who is unbothered by sitting on a donkey if it means you are drawing near to us.

C: **As we wait, take away any fear that has settled on our souls. Help us to trust in the arrival of goodness even in the wake of suffering. Let this Palm Sunday speak the language of welcome; that we would never turn hope away when it appears to us. Amen.**

PLEASE BE SEATED

L: FIRST READING: ISAIAH 50:4-9a

⁴ The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he awakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. ⁵ The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. ⁶ I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. ⁷ The Lord GOD helps me; therefore, I have not been disgraced; therefore, I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸ he who vindicates me is near. >

Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.⁹ It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

L: WORD OF GOD. WORD OF LIFE. **C: THANKS BE TO GOD!**

L: PSALM 31:9-16 *We read responsively*

L: Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

C: For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.

L: I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to my acquaintances; when they see me in the street, they avoid me.

C: Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind; I am as useless as a broken pot.

L: For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around; they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

C: But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. I have said, "You are my God.

L: My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

C: Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love."

L: SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

GOOD NEWS TRANSLATION

⁵ The attitude you should have is the one that Christ Jesus had: ⁶ He always had the nature of God, but he did not think that by force he should try to remain equal with God. ⁷ Instead of this, of his own free will he gave up all he had, and took the nature of a servant. He became like a human being and appeared in human likeness. ⁸ He was humble and walked the path of obedience all the way to death—his death on the cross. ⁹ For this reason God raised him to the highest place above and gave him the name that is greater than any other name. ¹⁰ And so, in honor of the name of Jesus all beings in heaven, on earth, and in the world below will fall on their knees, ¹¹ and all will openly proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

L: WORD OF GOD. WORD OF LIFE. **C: THANKS BE TO GOD!**

HYMN VERSE

What Wondrous Love Is This v. 1,2 ELW 666

¹ What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What wondrous love is this, O my soul! That caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul? > >

² When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down, when I was sinking down, sinking down, when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

THE PASSION READING ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 26:14 -27:66

In fulfillment of scripture and obedience to God's will, Jesus goes to the cross so that a new covenant in his blood may bring forgiveness of sins. Even the soldiers who crucify him recognize him to be the Son of God.

Judas agrees to betrayal - The Lord's Supper

HYMN VERSE * REFRAIN ONLY - SING 2X ELW 472

Eat This Bread

"Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry. Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst."

Peter's denial foretold - Jesus prays in Gethsemane

HYMN VERSE v. 1 ELW 347

Go to Dark Gethsemane

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.

Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus

HYMN VERSE v. 2 ELW 347

Go to Dark Gethsemane

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 suffering, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.

Jesus Before the High Priest

[DIALOGUE W/CROWD]

High Priest "You have now heard his blasphemy. What do you think?"

CONG "He deserves death."

Narrator Then they spat in his face and struck him, and some slapped him, saying,

CONG "Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?"

Brief pause

Peter's Denial

[DIALOGUE W/CROWD]

Narrator After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter,

CONG "Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you."

2 Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee? Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee. 'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee; I crucified thee.

Jesus Before Pilate -Suicide of Judas

[DIALOGUE W/CROWD]

Pilate "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?"

CONG "Barabbas!"

Pilate "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?"

CONG "Let him be crucified!"

Pilate "Why, what evil has he done?"

CONG "Let him be crucified!"

Narrator

Pilate "*I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.*"

CONG "His blood be on us and on our children!"

Were you there when they crucified my Lord? repeat Oh---- sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble, were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Soldiers Mock Jesus - Crucifixion

[NARRATOR & CROWD]

Narrator Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying,

CONG "You, who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross."

2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? ...

3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side? ...

◆ PLEASE STAND The Death of Jesus

[NARRATOR & CROWD]

Narrator When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

CONG "This man is calling for Elijah."

Narratorand gave it to him to drink. But the others said,

CONG "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him."

MOMENT OF SILENCE - ended by bell ringing 3x

The Burial of Jesus

4 Were you there when the sun refused to shine? ...

5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

The Guard at the Tomb

What Wondrous Love v. 3-4

3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing: to God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb, who is the great I AM, while millions joint the theme, I will sing, I will sing, while millions join the theme, I will sing.

4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing God's love for me, and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and through eternity I'll sing on.

APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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

P: Hear us, O God **C: Your mercy is great**

SHARING OF PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always!

C: And also with you!

PLEASE BE SEATED

OFFERTORY-OFFERING-NOISY OFFERING

◆ OFFERING PRAYER

P: O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty.

C: Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION & LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table.

Feast on God's goodness and mercy!

PLEASE BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION & HYMN

ELW 338

Beneath the Cross of Jesus >>

1 Beneath the cross of Jesus I long to take my stand; the shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land, a home within a wilderness, a rest upon the way, from the burning of the noontide heat and burdens of the day.

2 Upon the cross of Jesus, my eye at times can see the very dying form of one who suffered there for me. And from my contrite heart, with tears, two wonders I confess: the wonder of his glorious love and my unworthiness.

3 I take, O cross, your shadow for my abiding place; I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face; content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss, my sinful self my only shame, my glory all, the cross.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey.

C: Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

ADAPTED FROM KATE BOWLER, *THE LIVES WE ACTUALLY HAVE*

P: On this Palm Sunday, time is marked as one small donkey plods toward Jerusalem. One with a face set like flint, feet almost grazing the ground, walks forward toward the easing of all sorrow – not in the power of horses and swift victory, but in small, steady steps toward the mystery – that through suffering, healing comes, that through shame, dignity is restored, that through the cross, powers are disarmed and death done away with forever.

Blessed are those walking forward into the great, small work they do: in hospitals, homes, grocery stores, fields, classrooms, churches, and cubicles. And blessed are we, joining the crowds waving palm branches to shout ourselves hoarse:

C: Hosanna! Save us! Save our world!

P: God, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Spirit, have mercy.

C: Amen.

◆ SENDING SONG ELW 339
Christ the Life of All the Living

1 Christ, the life of all the living, Christ, the death of death, our foe, Christ, yourself for me once giving to the darkest depths of woe: through your suffering, death and merit, life eternal I inherit. Thousand, thousand thanks are due, dearest Jesus, unto you.

2 You have suffered great affliction and have borne it patiently, even death by crucifixion, fully to atone for me; for you chose to be tormented that my

doom should be prevented. Thousand, thousand thanks are due, dearest Jesus, unto you.

3 Then, for all that bought my pardon, for the sorrows deep and sore, for the anguish in the garden, I will thank you evermore; thank you for the groaning, sighing, for the bleeding and the dying, for that last triumphant cry, praise you evermore on high.

Ringing of Bell

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Believe the good news!

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

PARTICIPANTS

PASTOR—Rev D.J. Chatelaine | ACOLYTE—Boe Aronson
ORGAN/PIANO—Tammy Hanson | WORSHIP ASSISTANT—Harris Haugen | GREETER(S)—Jenn Lerfald | C/SET-UP—Erica Aronson | C/SERVERS—Harris Haugen, Angie Eggert, Erica Aronson | TECH CREW—Heidi Haugen, Steve Johnson, Holly Aldorfer, Jack Aronson, Luke Cordes | SPRING BRUNCH—by FLCW.

PASSION READING

Narrators—Tanya Short, Lindsey Short | **Judas**—Eric Hoversten | **Disciple**—Elsie Braaten | **Jesus**—Dave Kolsrud | **Peter**—Chris Cordes | **Witnesses**—Abby Lerfald, Olivia Lerfald | **High Priest**—Michael Short | **Servants**—Donna Berge, Abel Eggert | **Chief Priests**—Luke Cordes, Seth Aldorfer | **Pontius Pilate**—Oliver Bauer | **Mrs. Pilate**—Erica Aronson | **Soldiers**—Harvey Bauer, Henry Kruger | **Centurion**—Boe Aronson.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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BIBLICAL TEXTS from NRSVue unless otherwise noted.

PUBLIC DOMAIN HYMNS *All Glory Laud & Honor, Go to Dark Gethsemane, Ah Holy Jesus, Beneath the Cross of Jesus, Christ the Life of All the Living.* **REPRINT & PODCAST/STREAMING—UNDER ONELICENSE.NET #A709489 AND CCLI LICENSE #11502929. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.**

OL/SKU #78764 *What Wondrous Love* ELW 666

OL/SKU #00891 *Eat This Bread* ELW 472

OL/SKU #51959 *Were You There* ELW 353

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Jennifer Lerfald, Jim Fountaine, Dax Eggert, Larry Walker, Renee Spidahl-Carmichael, & Tim Emerson.

CALENDAR

Sun Mar 29	After Worship: <i>EASTER SINGERS MEETING; Brunch, Easter Egg Hunt; Caramel Roll Order Pick-Up.</i> 3 PM Choir Concert @ Aspelund-Emmanuel
Thu Apr 2	6:30 AM MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP
Fri Apr 3	7:00 AM GOOD FRI WORSHIP @ Vang
Sun Apr 5	9 AM EASTER DAY WORSHIP