

# Immanuel Lutheran Church


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## **Palm Sunday** **April 13, 2025**



### **AS WE GATHER**

#### **From Palms to Passion: Jesus for You**

Today we are brought to the threshold of Holy Week. This was the day the Jewish people chose the Passover Lamb. How quickly things can change in a week! On this Palm Sunday, we see Jesus enter Jerusalem with palms, a symbol of victory, strewn in the road and being waved. Yet it was from that entry that Jesus went to show His true love—His passion—by dying on the cross on Friday. That death showed His love for you. By faith, we believe what Jesus did was for us. Everything about us—our sin, our eternal destination—changed that week because Jesus took the road from palms to passion. Receive what Jesus did for you by faith, knowing your home in heaven was paid for with the King's ransom—His own blood.

## PRELUDE AND WELCOME

*Chorale Prelude on "O world, I e'en must leave thee", by Johannes Brahms  
Processional for Palm Sunday on St. Theodulph, by Phil Krahenbuhl*

### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

*Please stand as you are able.*

## INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

## OPENING GOSPEL John 12;12-19

<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."

<sup>20</sup> Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. <sup>21</sup> So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." <sup>22</sup> Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. <sup>23</sup> And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup> Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup> If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

<sup>27</sup> “Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. <sup>28</sup> Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” <sup>29</sup> The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.”

**HYMN**      “All Glory, Laud, and Honor” #442

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**Pastor:** We confess before You, Lord, that we have sinned against You.

**People:** **We have sinned not only against You but one another, with what we have thought, what we have said, and by what we have or have not done.**

**Pastor:** We unseat You and put ourselves on the throne that belongs only to You.

**People:** **Our pride in these and all sins deserves Your punishment, yet today we approach Your throne of grace, asking for Your mercy.**

**Pastor:** So I ask you now: are you sincere in this, your confession before God, and promise, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to amend your sinful life? If so, answer, “Yes, with the help of God.”

**People:** **Yes, with the help of God.**

**Pastor:** Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the first Palm Sunday to show His love for you at the cross. At the cross, He showed His passion for you by dying for your sins and paying the price we could not pay. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** **Amen! Thank You, Lord, for Your passion for us.**

## **☩ WORD ☩**

**INTROIT**      *Psalm 24:7–10; antiphon: Psalm 118:26*

**Pastor:** Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! We bless You from the house of the Lord.

**People:** **Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.**

**Pastor:** Who is this King of glory?

**People:** **The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle!**

Pastor: Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

**People: Who is this King of glory?**

Pastor: The Lord of hosts, He is the King of glory! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

**People: We bless You from the house of the Lord.**

## **GREETING**

Pastor: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

**People: Hosanna in the highest!**

## **KYRIE**

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For our Savior's willingness to ride into Jerusalem, let us give thanks to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For our Savior's humility in showing His real passion for all by dying five days later, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the Holy Spirit to open our hearts to grow in faith during this Holy Week, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, our gracious Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

**HYMN** "A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth" #438 v 1 and 3

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, on this day, You entered Jerusalem with pomp and circumstance, yet Your true passion was to be sacrificed for our sins. Help us, we pray, to look past the pomp and circumstance and see Your passion for us; we ask this in Your name, who with the Father and Holy Spirit are one God, one Lord, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Deuteronomy 32:36-39

*(God will vindicate His people.)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE**

Philippians 2:5-11 *(Paul reveals what the mind of Christ is.)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**VERSE**

*Philippians 2:8b*

Pastor: He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death,

**People: even death on a cross.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** Luke 22:1-23:56

*(The betrayal, arrest, trials and crucifixion of Jesus)*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> chapters.

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

*The Gospel is read.*

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**THE APOSTLE'S CREED** *Found on the last page of your pew hymnal.*

*Please be seated.*

**HYMN** "No Tramp of Soldiers' Marching Feet" #444

**SERMON**

Pr. Mark Croucher

**OFFERING and OFFERTORY**

*"In the Hour of Trial," arranged by Lani Smith for Flute and Organ*

*Please stand as you are able.*

**We give Thee but Thine own,  
What e’er the gift may be;  
All that we have is Thine alone,  
A trust, O Lord, from Thee,**

**May we Thy bounties thus,  
As stewards true receive  
And gladly, as Thou blessest us,  
To Thee our first-fruits give!**

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**Pastor:** Almighty God, King of the universe, we come before You humbly asking that You would hear our prayers and answer them according to Your will.

We bow before You and give unto You our worship and praise.

**People:** **We worship You not because we love You, but You loved us first and gave the King’s ransom to pay our sin’s debt. Thank You, Jesus, for loving us so much.**

**Pastor:** We thank You for the working of the Holy Spirit in our hearts and lives both to bring us to faith and keep us in the faith.

**People:** **Continue to open the eyes of our hearts and those around us, that we might see Your entry with palms for what it really was—Your passion to save us.**

**Pastor:** As we near the day of Your return, we see a world in turmoil.

**People:** **Help us, Prince of Peace, amid all the chaos, to keep our eyes fixed on You.**

**Pastor:** You are a benevolent King, known to grant requests.

**People:** **While You walked this earth, You granted the requests of the blind, the lame, the deaf, and even the widow at Nain, who did not ask You for anything, and You raised her son back to life.**

**Pastor:** We lift up those who are sick and those who are suffering, including Liz, Myron, Betty, Karla, Pastor Koenig and Deborah.

**People:** **Be with them, ease their pain, and bring relief from sicknesses through doctors, nurses, medicines, and miracles to accomplish Your will in their lives.**

Pastor: You tell us in Your Word to remember those in authority. We lift up those who hold seats of power.

**People: For rulers in all places, high and low, north, south, east, and west, we ask that Your Spirit would guide them and Satan's power be thwarted in all places.**

Pastor: For Your church in all places, that the Gospel would be powerfully proclaimed this week, and the Holy Spirit stir faith in the hearts of many,

**People: use us according to Your will, that others may see the life of Jesus in us.**

Pastor: Before Your throne, almighty King, we lift these and all petitions of our hearts, trusting You will answer all according to Your will.

**People: We pray in the name of Jesus, who with the Father and Holy Spirit is one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **SALUTATION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## **BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION**

Pastor: Your King cares for you! Receive His blessing through the words of the Aaronic benediction, by which He said, "Thus you shall bless the people." Receive that benediction, your King's blessing:

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.

**People: Amen.**

**HYMN** "Ride On, Ride On in Majesty" #441

## **POSTLUDE**

*"Ride On, Ride On in Majesty," arranged by Lani Smith for Piano and Organ*

## **THE MESSENGER**

April 13, 2025

**WELCOME!** Dear guest, we pray that your worship with us is as spiritually enriching for you as your presence is encouraging to us. We invite you to sign our guest book in the foyer and “Like” us on Facebook or follow us on Instagram. Please leave your email address if you would like periodic updates from Immanuel. Most importantly, come back and worship with us again next Sunday.

**SERVING US TODAY:** Pr. Mark Croucher  
Linda Rayburn, Organist  
Beth Behrens, Flute  
Mike Thompson, Drums

**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Liz Kraft, Myron Kimber, Betty Peuster, Karla Kass, Pr. Cliff Koenig and Deborah Carter

**LAST SUNDAY’S ATTENANCE:** 27 total, 2 children

**THE LUTHERAN HOUR** theme for next Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup> is **"A Risen Christ and a Clean Room"** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler The risen Christ has folded Death up and put it in its place. Now Christ invites you to trust in Him and find place and purpose in His new creation. (John 20:5-7) Listen online at <https://www.lutheranhour.org>.