

Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church



Palm/Passion Sunday

5:30 p.m. March 28, 2026

9:00 a.m. March 29, 2026

Today, we encounter the paradox that defines our faith: Jesus Christ is glorified king and humiliated servant. We too are full of paradox: like Peter, we fervently desire to follow Christ, but find ourselves afraid, denying God. We wave palms in celebration today as Christ comes into our midst, and we follow with trepidation as his path leads to death on the cross. Amid it all we are invited into this paradoxical promise of life through Christ's broken body and outpoured love in a meal of bread and wine. We begin this week that stands at the center of the church year, anticipating the completion of God's astounding work.

Welcome

Welcome to worship at Zion Lutheran Church. May this time honor God and inspire you.
Worship details: In this bulletin, **bold print** indicates the congregation's responses. **Assisted listening devices**, which are cleaned, disinfected, and have earpads replaced after each service are available in the narthex; ask an usher. **Hospitality details:** **A family restroom** is located in the hallway next to the sanctuary. **If you are visiting today**, please feel free to sign the Guest Registry located in the narthex. We ask that ALL members, regular visitors, and guests **sign the pew pad sheet**, so that we can better get to know each other.

PRELUDE

"All Glory, Laud & Honor" by John H. Shaffner
"Palm Sunday" by Robert Hughes

ANNOUNCEMENTS & RINGING OF BELL

PROCESSION WITH PALMS:

P The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

ACCLAMATION

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

C **Hosanna in the highest.**

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 upon the contemplation of those mighty acts whereby you have given us life everlasting; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

The assembly may stand

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL: Matthew 21:1-11

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

1 When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. 3 If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." 4 This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:

5 "Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; 7 they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. 8 A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

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

10 When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” 11 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.

BLESSING OF PALMS

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. **We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

PROCESSION

P Let us go forth in peace,

C **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN:

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

ELW (red book) # 344

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A As we now enter into the contemplation of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and meditate on the salvation of the world through his sufferings, death, burial, and resurrection, let us pray.

C **Sovereign God, you have established your rule in the human heart through the servanthood of Jesus Christ. By your Spirit, keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues confess Jesus as Lord and with their lives praise him as Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.**

The assembly is seated

Isaiah 50:4-9a *The servant of the Lord expresses absolute confidence in his final vindication, despite the fact that he has been struck and spit upon. This characteristic of the servant played an important role in the early church's understanding of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus.*

⁴ The Lord God has given me a trained tongue, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens, 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 in court together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ^{9a} It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

R The Word of God, Word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 31:9-16 *(read responsively)*

⁹ Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble; my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

¹⁰ **For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.**

¹¹ 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.

¹² **Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind; I am as useless as a broken pot.**

¹³ 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.

¹⁴ **But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord. I have said, "You are my God.**

¹⁵ My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

¹⁶ **Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love."**

Philippians 2:5-11 *Paul uses an early Christian hymn to help us comprehend Jesus' obedient selflessness on the cross and how God has made Christ lord over all reality. The perspective of the cross becomes the way we rightly understand God, Christ, our own lives, and fellowship within the community of Christ.*

⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, ¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

R The Word of God, Word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer”

ELW (red book) # 618

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition ends with: Hear us, O God. Please respond with: **Your mercy is great.**

P Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

C Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always. **C And also with you.**

We share Christ's peace with one another.

The assembly is seated.

NOISY OFFERING Gifts received in the Noisy Offering will be split between

ELCA World Hunger and local food pantries

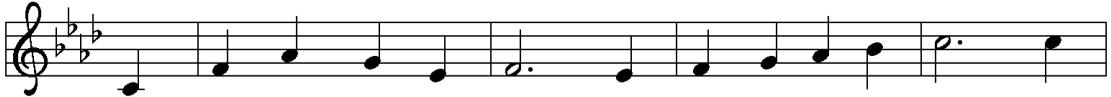
(Offering plates will not be passed during the service, but are available at the sanctuary entrance.)

The assembly may stand.

OFFERING RESPONSE

“Restore in Us, O God”

ELW (red book) # 328



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen-dor of your love; re -
2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from
3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -
4 Three-per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.
fruit-less fear un - furl our lives like spring-time bud and flow'r.
tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.
we, when all our search-ing ends, may see you face to face.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: BAYLOR, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933

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OFFERING PRAYER

A 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. 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.

C Amen.

The assembly may stand

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise... .. we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
 pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LORD'S PRAYER

C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

The assembly is seated. All who trust that Christ is truly present in the sacrament are welcome to partake of this meal. All are welcome to come forward as the ushers direct you. However, you are also welcome to remain in your pew and the Lord's Supper will be brought to you; simply let the usher know your desire when they come to your pew.

Wine, grape juice and gluten-free options are available. The grape juice is the light colored liquid in the center ring of the trays. Place your empty glass in the receptacle available as you head back to your seat via the side aisle.



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION MUSIC

*“Let Us Break Bread Together”
 “You Satisfy the Hungry Heart”*

**ELW (red book) # 471
 ELW (red book) # 484**

The assembly may stand

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A Let us pray. **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. 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

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C **Amen**

HYMN:

“Jesus, Is a Rock In a Weary Land”

ELW (red book) # 333

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Believe the good news.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Fanfare” by R. Mark Otterstad

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WORSHIP LEADERS

5:30 pm

9:00 am

Proclaimer:

Pastor Paul Holmer

Pastor Paul Holmer

Organist:

Christine Holmer

Christine Holmer

Worship Assistant:

Joel Hansen

Deb Vath

Communion Servers:

Dennis & Judy Andersen

Jolene Burnett & Jessica Hilgendorf

Greeters:

Linda Shaff

Arlene Job

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Thursday, April 2nd at 7:00 pm

Maundy Thursday Worship

Friday, April 3rd at 7:00 pm

Good Friday Worship

Saturday, April 4th at 5:30 pm

Easter Sunday Worship

Sunday, April 5th at 9:00 am

Easter Sunday Worship

OFFICE CLOSURES: Zion's office will close at noon on Friday, April 3rd, in observance of Good Friday. The office will also be closed on Monday, April 6th, in observance of Easter.

LENTEN OFFERINGS— KIDS AGAINST HUNGER: Social Ministry will be distributing bags for collecting Lenten offerings. All offerings will be used to fund Zion's next "Kids Against Hunger" Event. Faith FUNdations, Confirmation and members of Zion will take a stand against hunger and package meals that are sent to starving and malnourished children around the world and to the local pantries. For only 25¢, the ingredients to provide 1 meal can be purchased. Won't you help feed a starving child? Fill your food bag and return it on Easter Sunday and help us fund our next "Kids Against Hunger" event.

CENTERING PRAYER OFFERED DURING LENT: Pastor Barbara invites you to join her for centering prayer on Tuesdays during Lent. This time of silent prayer will be offered at 12 noon in the chapel area off the dining room.

EASTER GARDEN FORMS are available in the narthex for those who would like to contribute to the garden or the alternative giving, Kids Against Hunger. Forms need to be turned in by **this weekend** for inclusion in the Easter bulletin.

SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED: Zion’s Student Aid Committee is accepting applications for scholarships for the 2026 - 2027 school year. Criteria for this student aid include: Membership in Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, participation in congregational activities, and acceptance at an accredited institution of higher education. Applications are available at the church office. Due Date: April 17th, 2026.

PRAYER LIST:	Skip Carstensen	Joyce McCabe	Tina Thompson
	Rick Gelhar	Tom & Judy McLaughlin	Kay Weispfenning
	Pam Hammond	Joyce Miller	

HAPPENING AT ZION THIS WEEK:

Tuesday, March 31st:	5:30 pm– Wa Tan Ye
	5:30 pm– Boy Scouts
Wednesday, April 1st:	5:15 pm– Faith FUNdations
	5:30 pm– Bells Rehearsal
	6:30 pm– Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, April 2nd:	7:00 pm– Maundy Thursday Worship
Friday, April 3rd:	12:00 pm– Office Closes
	7:00 pm– Good Friday Worship
Saturday, April 4th:	5:30 pm– Easter Worship
Sunday, April 5th:	9:00 am– Easter Worship

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Saturday, March 21st 5:30 attendance	50
Sunday, March 22nd 9:00 attendance	<u>120</u>
Total Weekend In-Person attendance	170



Zion Lutheran Church
439 Third Avenue South
Clinton, IA 52732

Zion Contact Information

Rev. Barbara Hayden, Interim Pastor
pastorbarb@zionlutheranclinton.org

Kelly Bork, Child Care Director
zioncc-ps@hotmail.com

Amanda Deuermeyer, Office Administrator
officeadministrator@zionlutheranclinton.org

Patrick Hoffman, Custodian

Church Address
439 3rd Ave S.
Clinton, IA 52732
Phone: 563-242-7391

Child Care Address
430 3rd Ave S
Clinton, IA 52732
Phone: 563-243-9393

The 9:00 am worship service streamed live on Facebook
(www.facebook.com/zionlutheranchurchclinton)
And will be broadcast on KROS, 1340 AM and
105.9 FM, at 10:30 am