

April 2, 2023 9:00 a.m. Passion & Palm Sunday, Year A

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church, ELCA

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Sunday, April 2nd 2023

Passion & Palm Sunday, Year A Reverend Maggie Westaby

Matthew 21:6-11

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The 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!"

¹⁰When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" ¹¹The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee." The Word of The Lord **Thanks be to God**

CALL TO WORSHIP (read responsively)

Come with your branches, hosannas, and songs.

Fill the air with welcome to the Lord.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. **Amen.**

Worship service begins with a procession from the fellowship hall into the sanctuary. If you prefer not to process, you may be seated in the sanctuary for the beginning of the service.

PROCESSION WITH PALMS

All Glory, Laud, and Honor



Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Music: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN, Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635.

WELCOME

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + One God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Let us face this day of palms and Jesus' passion with honesty, confessing our sin before God. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,

Comforted by your compassion toward your people in every age, we ask your mercy for our imperfect gratitude. We have looked to you for favors, when you have given everything. We have withheld from our neighbors and our earth the care and tending they deserve. Forgive our failings. Heal what we have broken, nurture what we have neglected and lead us in your vision, so that we may find wholeness that lives only in you. Amen. God comes to you, humbly and lovingly. In the name of Jesus Christ + all your sins are forgiven.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let your Word, O God, break open our hearts this day through the power of the Holy Spirit, that we may enter Holy Week with humility. May we find space for reflection and prayer. May we be open to the movement of your Spirit, and radiate your peace into the world. In Christ we pray.

Amen.

READING: THE PASSION OF THE LORD: MATTHEW 26:14--27:66

Gene Bahr (narrator) Sue Harris (Jesus) Pastor Maggie (multiple voices)

REFLECTION

SPECIAL MUSIC Sunday School Children

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. Responding to "God of grace," with "hear our prayer."

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Let our hosannas to the one who brings liberation take form in our offering.

OFFERING PRAYER

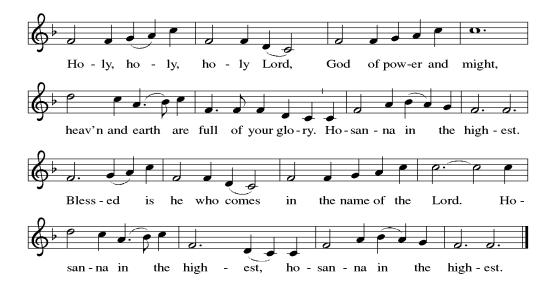
God of all good gifts, Receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your Word. Give us grateful hearts, in the name of the one who came to draw all of creation to himself, Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn: **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

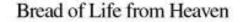
Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Let Us Break Bread Together



Test: African American spiritual Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual





Test: Susan R. Brichl, b. 1952 Music: ARGENTINE SANTO | BREAK NOW THE BREAD, Argentine traditional, refrain; Marty Haugen, b. 1950, stanzas Test and masic O 2000 [GA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638, www.glamasic.com, 800.442,3338, All rights reserved, Used by permission.

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Embodied God,

At your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and care for the world with your love in our hearts.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

May God embrace you in love, providing you peace and rest, May our Creator weave strength & courage into your every breath. May you meet each day with resilient vigor, ready for come what may, And may the light of Christ fill your heart with joy every single day. May the Spirit shine on you with favor, love, and never-ending grace And may the Three In + One, bless you on this Lenten journey, And in every single place. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Go, My Children, with My Blessing



Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt. Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

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DISMISSAL Go in peace. Serve in love.

Thanks be to God.

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Welcome to all! Where we tend to see hopelessness in the world, O God, give us vision to see what you are doing — and to join your life-giving work. Welcome to worship.

"To experience genuine human love, to be part of a community of love is to experience the presence of God." — John J. McNeill

Please remember to silence pagers and cell phones during services.

To those who are visiting: Welcome to St. John and thank you for joining us! You are welcome to sign our registry in the narthex. May God bless you today and all days.

Reminder! If you are in need of Pastoral care, please contact St. John's at (715) 675-6950

Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday. All are welcome to share the Lord's Supper with us.

Food Basket. Each week you are invited to bring non-perishable grocery items to be given to a local food pantry. Place your gift in the *Food Basket* next to the main entrance.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual Easter Egg Hunt: St. John's Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be on Sunday, April 2nd following worship! All children are welcome! We will gather for Fellowship, read the Easter story, make a craft, and end with a candy-filled Easter Egg Hunt!

Pastor Maggie's Book Club. Monday, April 17th at 6:30 p.m. We will be discussing *Forgiving What You Can't Forget* by Lysa Terkeurst.

Thank You! The family of Pat Poeske would like to thank everyone who helped and was a part of Pat Poeske's Celebration of Life. Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

Adult Study! Are you interested in learning more about Lutheranism and the roots of our faith? Are you wanting to discuss how faith and life intersect in our day to day lives? If so, please let Pastor Maggie know.

New Pictorial Directory. Say cheese! We are excited to announce a new church directory will be coming soon and hope to see all your beautiful smiling faces in the directory! There are 3 days you can schedule a session to have pictures taken. The dates are April 10th, 11th, and 12th from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the church parish hall. You are welcome to bring pet/s to be photographed with you. We hope all will schedule a no sales pressure session. Photo examples and a pricing brochure are in the narthex. You can schedule your picture taking session, using the QR code located on the sign in the narthex, or through the link on the home page of our church website <u>www.stjohnwausau.org</u> For those who do not have electronic means to schedule a session or for anyone who may have questions please contact Jan Mueller at dmjm5455.wau@gmail.com. For those who are unable to have pictures taken at the dates and times listed above, you may submit a photo for the directory. There is a \$15 charge to submit your photo, please contact Jan Mueller for more information. Smile!

Live Streaming and Photography Notice. When you enter a St. John Lutheran Church service or event, you will be entering an area where photography, video and audio recording or live streaming may occur. If you prefer not to be recognized on camera, the back row inside the church is not within viewing distance of a camera and communion will typically be only on a wide shot where it may be difficult to recognize congregants. Parents, please note our children's sermons are being recorded and live streamed. If you do not want your child to be recognized on camera, please refrain from having them participate.

Coming This Week @ St. John April 2 – April 9

	<u>Today</u>
9:00 a.m.	Worship
10:15 a.m.	Easter Egg Hunt!
	<u>April 4</u>
8:30 a.m.	Quilting
9:00 a.m.	Pr. Maggie @ Pr. Meeting
	<u>April 6</u>
6:30 p.m.	Maundy Thursday & First Communion

	<u>April 7</u>
6:30 p.m.	Good Friday
	<u>April 9</u>
8:00 a.m.	Worship
9:00 a.m.	Breakfast
10:30 a.m.	Worship