



April 2, 2023

9:00 a.m.

Passion & Palm Sunday, Year A

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church, ELCA

Reverend Maggie Westaby

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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

Refrain

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.
 5 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Refrain

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.
 great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

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

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

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

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

The first system of music features a treble and bass staff in B-flat major. The vocal line has three parts: Part 1 (soprano) starts on G4, Part 2 (alto) on F4, and Part 3 (bass) on E4. The accompaniment consists of chords in the bass staff.

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

The second system continues the vocal lines and accompaniment from the first system, ending with a double bar line.

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

The Refrain section begins with a treble and bass staff. The vocal line starts on G4. The accompaniment features a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes.

sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

The final system concludes the piece with a double bar line. The vocal line ends on G4, and the accompaniment ends with a final chord.

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

Bread of Life from Heaven

Refrain

Bread of life from heav-en, your blood and bod - y giv - en,

we eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain.

1 Break now the bread of Christ's sac - ri - fice; giv - ing
 2 Seek not the food that will pass a - way; set your
 3 Love as the one who, in love for you, gave him -
 4 Dwell in the one who now dwells in you; make your
 5 Drink of this cup and de - clare his death; eat this

thanks, hun - gry ones, gath - er round. Eat, all of you, and be
 hearts on the food that en - dures. Come, learn the true and the
 self for the life of the world. Come to the one who is
 home in the life - giv - ing Word. Know on - ly Christ, Ho - ly
 bread and be - lieve Eas - ter morn; trust his re - turn and, with

sat - is - fied; in Christ's pres - ence the loaves will a - bound.
 liv - ing way, that the full - ness of life may be yours.
 food for you, that your hun - ger and thirst be no more.
 One of God, and be - lieve in the truth you have heard.
 ev - 'ry breath, praise the one in whom you are re - born.

Text: Susan R. Brühl, b. 1952
 Music: ARGENTINE SANTO | BREAK NOW THE BREAD, Argentine traditional, refrain; Marty Haugen, b. 1950, stanzas
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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



- 1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
- 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
- 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

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 www.stjohnwausau.org 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

Today

9:00 a.m. Worship
10:15 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt!

April 4

8:30 a.m. Quilting
9:00 a.m. Pr. Maggie @ Pr. Meeting

April 6

6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday & First Communion

April 7

6:30 p.m. Good Friday

April 9

8:00 a.m. Worship

9:00 a.m. Breakfast

10:30 a.m. Worship