



March 29th 2026
Palm Sunday, Tell Me Something Good
9:00 a.m.

St. John Immanuel Lutheran Church

Reverend Maggie Westaby
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Office Hours:
Monday 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Thursday 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.



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

PROCESSION WITH PALMS

All Glory, Laud, And Honor (ELW 344 or as printed in your bulletin)



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.

OPENING DIALOGUE

On this day, Jesus marched

in between the city walls and the Temple, in between joyful Hosannas and doubtful whispers, in between oppressive poverty and greedy power, in between rampant fear and hope unfurled.

On this day, Jesus marched in between what had been and what could be.

So may we meet Christ in that liminal space.

May we lay down our coats in that messy middle.

Hosanna in the highest!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The very first Palm Sunday was a day of action. It was a day of movement, of crowded city streets, and cries of "Hosanna!" It was a day of peaceful protest and dreams for a better world. On this Palm Sunday, let us join the saints before us in an act of faith. Let us begin with an act of prayer, an act of honesty, an act of transformation. Let us begin by drawing close to God and sharing our truth.

Jesus of Nazareth, we know that you spent your days teaching and healing.

You marched through the streets and walked on water. You laid hands on the sick and broke bread at crowded dinner tables. Your good news was not confined to conversation. It was not confined to the Temple. Your good news was an act of love, alive in the world. Holy God, we long for a faith like that. Forgive us for the times when we confine our faith to something we think about, as opposed to something we act upon. Inspire us to love as you loved. Inspire us to act. With hope for tomorrow we pray. Amen.

Church family, whether or not you wave your palm branch, whether or not you live out your faith, whether or not you allow this good news to inspire your actions, God will never stop loving you. Jesus will never stop marching for you. The Spirit will never stop listening to you. We are claimed, loved & held in grace.

What good, good news. Amen!

GREETING

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also, with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy One,

If we've heard this story before, the story of Jesus entering Jerusalem riding on a donkey, then help us to hear it again. And if we've never heard this story before, if we've never heard the story of Palm Sunday or the cries of "Hosanna," then give us the wisdom to follow along. Give us the wisdom to hear these words. Give us the wisdom to take them into our hearts. Give us the wisdom to act on their truth. We are listening.

Amen.

READING: Zechariah 9:9, 16-17

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. On that day the Lord their God will save them, for they are the flock of his people, for like the jewels of a crown they shall shine on his land. For what goodness and beauty are God's!

Word of God Word of Life.

Thanks be to God

Psalm 118

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever!
Out of my distress I called on the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me in a broad place.

With the Lord on my side I do not fear. It is better to take refuge in the Lord.

The Lord is my strength and my might; God has become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

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

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you.

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good, God's steadfast love endures forever.

Spirit, Open My Heart

Spir-it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of
liv-ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing
and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.

GOSPEL: Mark 11:1-11

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus and his disciples were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, and Jesus sent two of his disciples ² and said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³ If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this: ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.’ ” ⁴ They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵ some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” ⁶ They told them what Jesus had said, and they allowed them to take it. ⁷ Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. ⁸ Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹ Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰ Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹¹ Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple, and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve. The Gospel of The Lord.


Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY


Lift High the Cross




Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till



all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:



Refrain
our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs. Responding to "in your mercy," with "**receive our prayer.**"

PEACE

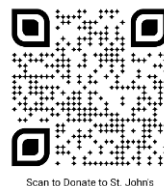
The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Jesus gave himself for the life of the world. With humble hearts bowed in awe, let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

GIVE THANKS

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son. Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son. And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am rich," because of what the Lord has done for us. And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am rich," because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!



OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious and Generous God,

We are amazed by the good gifts you bestow in abundance. Thank you for food that sustains us on our journey. Thank you for the company of saints to whom we are joined. Thank you for giving us your work to do on earth. We offer back to you a portion of all that we have received, setting down our baskets in celebration of your greatest gift, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

PREFACE & GREAT THANKSGIVING

With-us God, it is right, and it is good, to give you thanks and praise. In this Lenten season, we come carrying dust and questions, longings and laments. We come having heard so much bad news that our hearts ache for something true, something steady, something good. So tell us again the story of love that refuses to

let us go. Tell us again of manna in the wilderness, of water from the rock, of mercy that meets us on the road. Tell us the good news that sounds like welcome and feels like home. For when the world feels harsh and divided, you draw near. When hope feels fragile, you remain faithful. When we wander, you do not abandon us. Instead, you send us Jesus. In him, we see the good news alive in the world—love embodied, mercy made flesh, hope refusing to die. So remind us that you are still on the move, living even here, in the words that Jesus said.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

Beloved of God, in this season of Lent, we come hungry for good news. So hear this: Jesus Christ meets us exactly where we are — in our doubts and our courage, in our grief and our gratitude, in all that feels unfinished within us. Christ comes not because we have it all together, but because we are beloved.

Here, the good news takes on flesh. Here, grace is given, not earned. So come and taste the good news, alive in this bread, alive in this cup, alive among us still.

LAMB OF GOD (page 154)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Come, Let Us Eat

Leader or All



1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,
2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,
3 In Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest,
4 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word,

All



come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.
come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.
in Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest.
rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word.

Leader or All



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er,
Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er,
In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er,
Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom,

All



our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er.
Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er.
in the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er.
Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom.

Text: Billema Kwillia, b. 1925, sts. 1-3; Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930, st. 4, alt.; tr. Margaret D. Miller, b. 1927, sts. 1-3, alt.

Music: A VA DE, Billema Kwillia, adapt.

Text sts. 1-3 and tune © Lutheran World Federation; text st. 4 and music adapt. © 1972 *Contemporary Worship 4*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Have No Fear, Little Flock



1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; have no fear, lit - tle
2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; have good cheer, lit - tle
3 Praise the Lord high a - bove; praise the Lord high a -
4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; thank - ful hearts raise to



flock, for the Fa - ther has cho - sen to
flock, for the Fa - ther will keep you in
bove, for he stoops down to heal you, up -
God, for he stays close be - side you, in



give you the king - dom; have no fear, lit - tle flock!
his love for - ev - er; have good cheer, lit - tle flock!
lift and re - store you; praise the Lord high a - bove!
all things works with you; thank - ful hearts raise to God!

Text: Luke 12:32, st. 1; Marjorie Jillson, b. 1931, sts. 2-4
Music: LITTLE FLOCK, Heinz Werner Zimmermann, b. 1930
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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 touch the world with your love. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Beloved of God, you have waved palms and sung “Hosanna.” You have prayed honest prayers and heard again the story of a Savior who does not stand still, but moves—through streets, through crowds, through hearts—bringing love to life. So go now into this Holy Week not as bystanders, but as participants in God’s unfolding grace. Go with courage to follow where Christ leads, even when the road is uncertain. Go with compassion that refuses to stay contained, but spills out into acts of mercy, justice, and peace.

Go as people inspired to act, to love boldly, to serve freely, to show up faithfully. And as you go, remember: Jesus still marches with you. God still claims and loves you. The Spirit still breathes through you, urging you forward. Hosanna in your hearts. Hope in your hands. Faith in your feet. In the name of the Father, † son, and Holy Spirit One God. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms



1 What a fel - low - ship, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -
2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -
3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -



last - ing arms; what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine,
last - ing arms; oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near,



lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Refrain



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Text: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839–1929

Music: SHOWALTER, Anthony J. Showalter, 1858–1924

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. **Thanks be to God.**

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Welcome to all! Please remember to silence pagers and cell phones.

To those who are visiting: Welcome to St. John Immanuel and thank you for joining us! You are welcome to sign our registry in the narthex.

Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday. All are welcome to Christ's Table.

Reminder! If you are in need of Pastoral care, or if you or a loved one is in the hospital and would like a visit from Pastor Maggie, please contact St. John Immanuel (715) 675-6950

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 *Shopping Cart*.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holy Week 2026

Thursday, April 2nd at 6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship Service.

Friday, April 3rd at 6:30 p.m. Good Friday Worship Service.

Easter Sunday, April 5th 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Services.

9:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast.

Saturday, April 4th 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Easter Escape Room - Last year's game focused on the crucifixion. This year we're "Finding the Resurrected Christ!" Players will answer Bible study questions and decode mystery messages about John 20 in an effort to discover the secret lock combination that will unlock the vault! But BEWARE! Answering questions incorrectly will force players to complete various team-building detour challenges! For middle and high school students. Sign-up in the Narthex.

Sunday, April 12th Noisy offering! bring your coins (bills also accepted 😊).

This noisy offering will go to: Northcentral Technical College Food Pantry. Noisy offering will be the 2nd Sunday of the month. Money will be raised and donated quarterly.

Monday, April 13th at 6:30 p.m. – Book Club will meet for a discussion on the book “The Measure” by Nikki Erlick.

Monday, April 27th at 6:00 p.m.-Adult Study class will discuss Luke 19:27-24

Monday, April 27th at 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. - St. John Immanuel Youth Group

Fundraiser – Ready for a mouthwatering meal that supports a great cause? Join us at Cousins Subs (225 S 18th Ave) on Monday, April 27th between 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM and make a difference! With every order you place, 15% will be donated to St. John Immanuel Youth Group. Please mention you are eating at Cousins to support St. John's Youth! Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to dine for a purpose!

Saturday, May 9th starting at 8:00 a.m. – Bring Your Tractor to Church / Spring Clean-Up! We'll be doing outdoor work around the church grounds, and we'll also need volunteers to help clean and organize inside the church.

Sunday, May 31st Save the Date! - Mark your calendar to celebrate our church's 160th anniversary. The theme will be "**Celebrating Our Past, Present, and Future**". Watch for more details next month!

June 4th – 6th Synod Assembly in Oshkosh. We have space for one more delegate to attend. If you are interested, please let Pastor Maggie know.

Sunday, July 12th – Friday July 17th Mission Trip to Duluth, MN

Wednesday, July 15th - Sunday, July 19th - Women of the ELCA Triennial Gathering in Des Moines. Sign up by April 15. Contact Marilynn at 920-362-5746 or marilynn.quirk@gmail.com. More information posted in the Narthex.

Every Second Saturday of the month @ 8:00 a.m. – Men's Bible Study at LC's Restaurant in Marathon WI – 304 Main St. Marathon City, WI 54448 – See Eugene Dehnel for details.

Endowment Committee - We are looking for 2 members to join the Endowment Committee. The committee is responsible for monitoring investments and reviewing requests for money from the Endowment Fund. We should only need to meet 2 - 3 times per YEAR. Meetings can easily be held on Sunday morning. Please contact Patti Busche (busche1240@msn.com) if you are interested.

Kwik Trip Gift Cards Sign-up in the Fellowship Hall or on our website! Help support St. John Immanuel with Kwik Trip gift cards!

Live Streaming and Photography Notice. When you enter a St. John Immanuel 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 Immanuel March 29th – April 1st

Today – Palm Sunday, March 29th

- 9:00 a.m. Palm Sunday Worship
- 10:15 a.m. Coffee Hour / Easter Egg Hunt/ No Sunday School

Wednesday, April 1st

- 8:30 a.m. Quilters Meet
- 5:30 p.m. Bells Practice

Maundy Thursday, April 2nd

- 6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship

Good Friday, April 3rd

- 6:30 p.m. Good Friday Worship

Saturday, April 4th

- 1:00 p.m. Kids Escape Room

Easter Sunday, April 5th

- 8:00 a.m. Easter Sunday Worship / No Sunday School
- 9:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast
- 10:30 a.m. Easter Sunday Worship