

**SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION**  
**APRIL 13, 2025**



**WELCOME & GREETING**

The story of Palm Sunday tells of how people removed their cloaks and spread them out in front of Jesus as he entered Jerusalem. The cloak we wear every day to face the world is both the persona we wish to present, and our defense against the elements. As we come to worship may we be willing to lay down our defenses and disguises at the feet of the One who sees us as we really are. Then, set free for worship, may we offer our praises with open hearts and lives.

**PALM SUNDAY CALL TO WORSHIP**

The streets were crowded. A parade mood filled the air.  
Shouts came from deep in the heart.

**Hosanna. Save us.**

Save us from lukewarm faith and callous indifference.

**Hosanna. Save us.**

Save us from paltry hopes, petty dreams, and unquenchable greed.

**Hosanna. Save us.**

Save us from faithless commitments, soft-mindedness and hard-heartedness.

**Hosanna. Save us.**

We cry from the depth of our hearts and the very pit of our souls.

**Hosanna. Save us. Save us now.**

## FIRST READING: ZECHARIAH 9:9-10

### The Coming of Zion's King

<sup>9</sup> Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem!

See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious,

lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

<sup>10</sup> I will take away the chariots from Ephraim

and the warhorses from Jerusalem,

and the battle bow will be broken.

He will proclaim peace to the nations.

His rule will extend from sea to sea

and from the River to the ends of the earth.

### BLESSING OF THE PALMS

Bless these parade palms, O God of Celebration.

May they remind us of the simple joys of living.

May we remember the excitement that comes with following Christ.

Bless these protest palms, O God of Justice.

May they remind us that Empire is not a thing of the past.

May they make us bold and brave to stand up against injustice.

Bless these funeral palms, O God of Comfort.

May they remind us of the road that lies ahead.

May they encourage us in times of grief and pain.

We give you thanks for the parade, the protest, the processional.

Guide our steps through this holiest of weeks as we cry out together:

**"Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna!" Amen.**

**PALM PROCESSIONAL | ALL GLORY, LAUD, AND HONOR**

ELW #344



# 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

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess our sins before God and one another.

*(Pause for silence and reflection.)*

**God of the journey, we do not want to follow where you lead. Instead, we turn inward, focusing on satisfying our own wants, even at the expense of our neighbors. We do not see their suffering; we do not act for their justice. We are motivated by the fear of not getting what we want, or of losing what we have. We ignore the example of your sacrificial love, which has the power to heal and make whole. Forgive us for refusing to heed your call. Change our hearts, our minds, and our actions, so that we might return to following you, no matter where your journey leads.**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Our God is a God of abundant grace and mercy, and never lets us go. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, I now declare to you, for the sake of Jesus, God With Us, who gave all for the redemption of creation, your sins are forgiven. Follow in Christ's loving footsteps. **Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Holy God, we celebrate your coming as our ruling sovereign, and cry out our hosannas with all of creation. Yet we know we will not always remain steadfast, just as the crowds will soon turn against you. Walk with us on the upcoming journey to the cross. In Christ, with Christ, through Christ, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## SECOND READING: PSALM 118:19-23

<sup>19</sup> Open to me the gates of righteousness,

that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

<sup>20</sup> This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.

<sup>21</sup> I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

<sup>22</sup> The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

<sup>23</sup> This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

## HOLY GOSPEL: LUKE 19:29-44

<sup>29</sup> When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, <sup>30</sup> saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. <sup>31</sup> If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.' "

<sup>32</sup> So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. <sup>33</sup> As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” <sup>34</sup> They said, “The Lord needs it.” <sup>35</sup> Then they brought it to Jesus, and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it.

<sup>36</sup> As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road.

<sup>37</sup> Now as he was approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, <sup>38</sup> saying,

“Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heaven!”

<sup>39</sup> Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” <sup>40</sup> He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

### **Jesus Weeps over Jerusalem**

<sup>41</sup> As he came near and saw the city, he wept over it, <sup>42</sup> saying, “If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. <sup>43</sup> Indeed, the days will come upon you when your enemies will set up ramparts around you and surround you and hem you in on every side. <sup>44</sup> They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God.”

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

PASTOR JANET KETTERING

**HYMN OF THE DAY | O CHRIST, WHAT CAN IT MEAN FOR US**

ELW #431

## 431

## O Christ, What Can It Mean for Us

1 O Christ, what can it mean for us to claim you as our  
 2 You came, the im - age of our God, to heal and to for -  
 3 Though some would make their great - ness felt and lord it o - ver  
 4 You chose a hum - ble hu - man form and shunned the world's re -

king? What roy - al face have you re - vealed whose  
 give, to shed your blood for sin - ners' sake that  
 all, you said the first must be the last and  
 now; you died for us up - on a cross with

praise the church would sing? As - pir - ing not to  
 we might rise and live. To break the law of  
 ser - vice be our call. O Christ, in work - place,  
 thorns your on - ly crown. But still, be - yond the

glo - ry's height, to pow - er, wealth, and fame, you  
 death you came, the law of love to bring: a  
 church, and home, let none to pow - er cling; for  
 span of years, our glad ho - san - nas ring, for

walked a dif - f'rent, low - ly way, an - oth - er's will your aim.  
 dif - f'rent rule of righ - teous - ness, a dif - f'rent kind of king.  
 still, through us, you come to serve, a dif - f'rent kind of king.  
 now at God's right hand you reign, a dif - f'rent kind of king!

## CONGREGATIONAL SHARING

### PALM SUNDAY AFFIRMATION

**We believe in the God who is the pillar of fire and the pillar of cloud.**

**We trust in our Holy Parent who judges and shows mercy.**

**We hope in our Creator who is faithful to all that is seen and unseen.**

**We believe in the Jesus who rode in triumph into Jerusalem.**

**We trust in the Messiah who was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**We hope in the living Christ who walked out of the tomb.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, giver of faith and formation.**

**We trust in the Breath of Life who stirs, sustains, and sanctifies.**

**We hope in our Advocate who brings to us, and through us, the gift of God's peace.**

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

With trust and hope, we pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

With the crowds in Jerusalem and the very stones of the ground, we cry out our hope in your salvation. May we remain faithful to you even when the road ahead becomes uncertain or even frightening. Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

We praise you for the wisdom and leadership of Indigenous communities in caring for your wondrous creation. Help us to listen to their generations upon generations of experience in walking softly upon the earth. Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

Natural disasters often harm those who are already most vulnerable. Help us to provide the aid needed in response to these conditions, and uplift those who are struggling in the midst of them. Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

Comfort your people as they mourn and face the difficulties of life. Give courage and comfort to all who are experiencing illness of any kind. We pray especially for Pastor Phil, Scott, Janice, Rick and Kelly, Terry Schreier, Jim and Sally, Dave, Dorothy, Clover, and all those we lift through our Prayer Chain. Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

Sometimes it is difficult to be honest and communicate, even with those we love the most. Help us to be open and transparent with one another, and renew all relationships in our lives. Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all peoples to heed your call for justice, mercy, and compassion. Incline the hearts of the leaders of our country to align with your vision. Inspire those who have power to lead by example, seeking peace and understanding and empower us to trust that you will guide them. Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

Be with those who are estranged from their families. Bring them healing and restoration, and may they find love and community in new places. Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our ability to care for one another. Let us love, not in words or speech, but in truth and action. Strengthen and equip us to care for those in need through the ministries of our community: The Gunbarrel Faith Partnership, Lutheran Campus Ministry, the Community Infant Program, the Little Free Pantry, All Roads of Boulder, and Rise Against Suicide. Use us to share Christ's love through the acts of kindness we share with one another and our neighbors in need, especially those who are lost, poor, abused, forgotten, silenced, or avoided. Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the work of the Joshua School and organizations like them. Empower those who nurture the minds, bodies and spirits of children and adults living on the Autism Spectrum. Help us to help them reach their fullest potential. Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the nations now engaged in war, especially Ukraine and Gaza. In the steadfastness of your love, hasten the day of peace. Look with mercy on those exposed to hatred, conflict, and death. Show compassion to the dying and those who have lost loved ones and the safety of home. In your mercy, remove all causes and occasions of war. Incline the hearts of all people to follow the path to peace and justice, that war may cease and reconciliation may come. Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Thank you for the lives of the saints gone before us. Help us to remember how they used their gifts and skills for your kingdom, and help us to do the same. Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

We entrust all these prayers and those of our hearts to you, O God. In Jesus name we pray. **Amen.**

### **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*(Please share a sign of God's love and peace with one another.)*

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Gracious God, **we praise you for your generosity and goodness to us. Accept our gifts as a sign of our faithfulness to you. Use them for the benefit of all that you have created, for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.**



# CELEBRATING COMMUNITY: SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 GOD thanks and praise.**

O Holy One, there are no words to describe the mystery of this bread and cup.

Thank you for gathering us together to remember that you are always present among us. There are no sighs deep enough to reveal what we feel in sharing the love that is present in this feast.

Tasting of that love, we remember that at that table, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And, again, after supper, he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it for all to drink, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you would drink it, in remembrance of me."

Preparing to receive this gift, we gather in hope...the hope that is ours in the Prayer that Jesus gave us.

*(Please gather in front of the Altar and join hands  
for a special vocal version of the Lord's Prayer by Peyton Sawyer.)*

The one who comes in the name of the Lord answers our cries of "Hosanna" with his own cry of welcome. Come and meet him at the table of life, and be fed and nourished on his very presence. All is prepared. Hosanna!

## SHARING THE MEAL

This is the body of Christ, broken in love for you.

This is the blood of Christ, poured out in forgiveness of you.

COMMUNION HYMN | LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER

ELW #471

# Let Us Break Bread Together

471

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;

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.

*Refrain*

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

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

Text: African American spiritual  
Music: African American spiritual

BREAK BREAD TOGETHER  
10 10 and refrain

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

# PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

# CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING HYMN | BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR

ELW #838

## Beautiful Savior

838

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,  
2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,  
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,  
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,

Son of God and Son of Man!  
robed in the flow'rs of the spar - kling stars on high;  
bright the of God and Son of Man!

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,  
Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,  
Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,  
Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.  
than all the an - gels in the sky.  
now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

## PALM SUNDAY WORDS OF SILENCE & SENDING

May we remain here to whisper our hosannas throughout this week,  
in every moment.

When the world goes silent on the cause of God, may we remain,  
crying out the hosanna beat that marks the rhythm of this week.

In the sound of the breaking bread and the coins being counted,  
hear the broken hosanna.

**Still, we believe in love's way.**

In the twisting of the crown of thorns and the sound of thirty-nine lashes,  
hear the scourged hosanna.

**Still, we trust in love's choice.**

In the sound of nails being hammered and in the silence that follows,  
hear the empty hosanna.

**Still, we believe in love's way.**

May we remain here to whisper our hosannas throughout this week, in every moment.  
May we remain with you, O Jesus, still believing, still following, still your companions.  
And let the stones remain silent.

### Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**This is Christ's church. There is a place for you here.**

We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace.  
Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person--questions, complexities and all.  
Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

**WORSHIP RESOURCES:**

**WELCOME & GREETING – ANN SIDDALL**

**BLESSING OF THE PALMS – REV. CAELA SIMMONS WOODS, AS ADAPTED**

**PALM SUNDAY CALL TO WORSHIP – THE OPEN CHURCH, AS ADAPTED**

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**PRAYER OF THE DAY – NARRATIVE LECTIONARY WORSHIP RESOURCES COPYRIGHT © 2024 CLERGY STUFF**

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD – ERIC MILNER WHITE**

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**PALM SUNDAY WORDS OF SILENCE & SENDING – RODDY HAMILTON, AS ADAPTED**

**WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS:**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:**

CAROLINE MICHALAK

**ALTAR GUILD: GERRY & KEN MOORHEAD, LYNN TRUMBLE & KAY WERPY**

**ASSISTING MINISTER: TIM KIRCHOFF**

**COFFEE AND CONVERSATION: KATHY WOOTTON**

**LECTOR: CINDIE SCOBY**

**PIANIST: MARGARET SCHARFF**

**SOLOIST: PEYTON SAWYER**

**PASTOR: REV. JANET KETTERING**

**SHEPHERD CALENDAR OF EVENTS – APRIL 13 – APRIL 20, 2024**

**Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday – Triumphal Entry**

9:30 a.m. – Palm Processional Hybrid In-Person/Zoom Worship  
with Holy Communion

**Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>**

11:00 a.m. – Amazing Grace Book Study by Zoom

**Maundy Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> – Words of Institution**

6:30 p.m. – Hybrid In-Person/Zoom Worship with Holy Communion

**Good Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup> – Crucifixion**

7:00 a.m. – Men's Zoom Breakfast Bible Study

6:30 p.m. – Good Friday Hybrid In-Person/Zoom Worship

**Easter Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup> – Resurrection**

6:15 a.m. – Sunrise Service at Boulder Reservoir

9:30 a.m. – Easter Hybrid In-Person/Zoom Worship with Holy Communion  
Potluck Brunch immediately following Worship

**APRIL  
BIRTHDAYS**

**SHERILYN W. 4/6**

**KAY W. 4/9**

**DOROTHY F. 4/13**

**CINDIE S. 4/27**

## DAILY NARRATIVE LECTIONARY READINGS: WEEK OF APRIL 13, 2025

### **Monday, April 14, 2025**

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/luke-2228-46-journey-to-the-cross-part-i2025>

Luke 22:28-46 Journey to the Cross, Part 1

### **Tuesday, April 15, 2025**

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/luke-2247-71-journey-to-the-cross-part-ii2025>

Luke 22:47-71 Journey to the Cross, Part 2

### **Wednesday, April 16, 2025**

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/luke-231-31-journey-to-the-cross-part-iii2025>

Luke 23:1-31 Journey to the Cross, Part 3

### **Thursday, April 17, 2025**

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/luke-221-27-last-supper-maundy-thursday2025>

Luke 22:1-27 Last Supper—Maundy Thursday

### **Friday, April 18, 2025**

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/luke-2332-47-crucifixion-good-friday2025>

Luke 23:32-47 Crucifixion—Good Friday

### **Saturday, April 19, 2025**

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/luke-2348-56-burial-of-jesus2025>

Luke 23:48-56 Burial of Jesus

### **Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025**

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/luke-241-12-empty-tomb-easter2025>

Luke 24:1-12 Empty Tomb—Easter

**WELCOME!** *Thank you for worshiping with us today!*

## **GUESTS**

Please sign our Guestbook and/or fill out the brightly-colored Info Slip and place it in the offering plate. This helps us get to know you better so that we can serve you more effectively.

## **DO YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW NEED PRAYERS?**

**Prayer Changes Things.** The Shepherd Prayer Chain members stand by ready to help. You'll find our Prayer Box on the table to your left as you enter the building, as well as paper and pencils. Please write your prayer request and place it in the box. *You are not required to sign your request or give the name of the person for whom we will pray, unless you wish.* If you desire a private conversation with Pastor Janet, please contact the Church Office or call her on her cell phone at 507-360-1625. **All prayer requests will remain confidential.**

## **CHILDREN ARE CHERISHED AT SHEPHERD!**

In our Sanctuary, you'll see a coloring table and soft toys. Children's bulletins are available on the table just outside the Sanctuary. If at any time you wish to take your child out for some quiet time, our Nursery/Library is stocked with supplies for playing, coloring, studying the Children's Bulletin, or reading.

## **REMEMBRANCE**

On the north wall of the Sanctuary a table is set with candles. You are invited to light a candle in memory of a loved one at any time before, during, or after our worship service.

## **COMMUNION**

At Shepherd of the Hills, we recognize that the Table of Communion is not our table. It is not a Lutheran table. It is our Lord's Table – a meal prepared for all – prepared in love. *Please come.* All who long for the Good News in Jesus Christ are truly welcome at this table. As Jesus called children to be close to him, we, likewise, extend this invitation to all children. Should you not feel comfortable receiving the Sacrament, please come forward indicating that you wish to receive a blessing by folding your arms over your chest.

## **COMMUNION OUTSIDE OF WORSHIP**

Arrangements can be made to bring communion to you at a time convenient for you. If, for any reason, you are unable to attend normal services, such as a hospital stay or for personal reasons, and wish to have communion brought to you, please contact the Church Office, Pastor Janet at 507-360-1625, or Dick Werpy at 720-771-6767.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

At Shepherd, we worship as one Faith Family. If you wish to extend your worship to include membership, please see Pastor Janet.

# Shepherd of the Hills

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

### PARTNERS IN WORSHIP

THE MINISTERS: ALL THE PEOPLE

PASTOR: REV. JANET COLBY KETTERING

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: CAROLINE MICHALAK

ALTAR GUILD: KEN & GERRY MOORHEAD, LYNN TRUMBLE & KAY WERPY

ASSISTING MINISTERS: TIM KIRCHOFF, DICK WERPY & JOHN YARBERRY

PIANIST: MARGARET SCHARFF

PRAYER CHAIN ADMINISTRATOR: KATHY WOOTTON

SHEPHERD COUNCIL:

JOHN YARBERRY, PRESIDENT

DICK WERPY, VICE-PRESIDENT

KELLY MAUER, SECRETARY

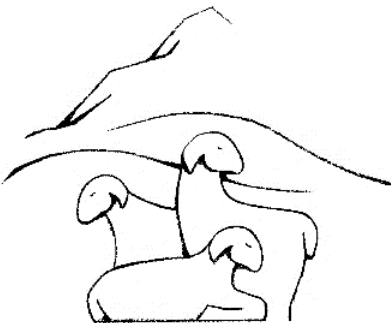
TERRY SCOPY, TREASURER

WAYNE OTTO & JIM TIMMERMANN, BUILDING & MAINTENANCE

JANICE IRISH, MICHELLE KIRCHOFF, CINDIE SCOPY & PASTOR JANET KETTERING

ZOOM TECHNICIAN: FUZZ NEWKIRK

### OUR MISSION STATEMENT



Marked by the Cross of Christ Forever, v  
+ Gather in Love  
+ Grow in Faith  
+ Share God's Love & Grace  
+ We are Empowered to **BOLDLY**  
Proclaim & Witness God's Word



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Check out our Facebook page at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran