



*Immanuel Lutheran Church
Sweet Springs, Missouri
A Festival Order of Worship for Palm Sunday
March 29, 2026, 9 a.m.*



The Prelude and The Ringing of the Bell call us to sacred worship.

The Invocation: *(please stand if you are able)*

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

P: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: Hosanna to the Son of David.

The Processional Gospel:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 12th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

John 12:12-19 The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!"

His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about Him and had been done to Him. The crowd that had been with Him when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised Him from the dead continued to bear witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet Him was that they heard He had done this sign. So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after Him."

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

The Processional Prayer:

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: Let us pray. We praise and thank You, O God, for the great acts of love by which You have redeemed us through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day He entered Jerusalem in triumph, and was acclaimed Son of David and King of kings by those who scattered their garments and branches of palm in His path. May we now ever hail Him as our Lord and King and follow Him in perfect confidence;

C: through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

P: Let us go forth in peace.

C: in the name of our Lord. Amen.

The Processional Hymn: 441 "Ride On, Ride On, in Majesty"

(We face the cross as it enters. Children are invited to join the procession carrying palms to the foot of the wooden cross up front.)

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Anthem: "Mighty Is Your Love"

Sunday School Children

Our Confession and God's Absolution:

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

The Introit: *(congregation speaks the bold indented lines)*

Blessèd is He who comes in the name of the LORD!

We bless You from the house of the LORD.

Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory?

The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!

Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory?

The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory!

Blessèd is He who comes in the name of the LORD!

We bless You from the house of the LORD.

The Collect of the Day:

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. **C: Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. *(please be seated)***

The Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

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The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning He awakens; He awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught. The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward. I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting. But the Lord GOD helps me; therefore, I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame. He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me. Behold, the Lord GOD helps me; who will declare me guilty?

P: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Gradual:

Christ entered once for all into the holy places by means of His own blood,
thus securing an eternal redemption.

Therefore, He is the mediator of a new covenant,

So that we who are called may receive the promised inheritance.

He sent redemption to His people;

He has commanded His covenant forever.

The Epistle Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. *And being found in human form, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore, God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name,* so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. P: This is the Word of our Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

Hymn: 428 "Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow"

The Gospel Reading: *(please stand if you are able)*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 27th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord. *(Matthew 27:11-66 is read.)*

Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked Him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You have said so." But when He was accused by the chief priests and elders, He gave no answer. Then Pilate said to Him, "Do You not hear how many things they testify against You?" But He gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. And they had then a

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notorious prisoner called Barabbas. So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?" For he knew that it was out of envy that they had delivered Him up. Besides, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, "Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much because of Him today in a dream." Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas." Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said, "Let Him be crucified!" And he said, "Why, what evil has He done?" But they shouted all the more, "Let Him be crucified!"

So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." And all the people answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!" Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered Him to be crucified.

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before Him. And they stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on His head and put a reed in His right hand. And kneeling before Him, they mocked Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they spit on Him and took the reed and struck Him on the head. And when they had mocked Him, they stripped Him of the robe and put His own clothes on Him and led Him away to crucify Him.

As they went out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. They compelled this man to carry His cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered Him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when He tasted it, He would not drink it. And when they had crucified Him, they divided His garments among them by casting lots. Then they sat down and kept watch over Him there. And over His head they put the charge against Him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews."

Then two robbers were crucified with Him, one on the right and one on the left. And those who passed by derided Him, wagging their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross." So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked Him, saying, "He saved others; He cannot save Himself. He is the King of Israel; let Him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in Him. He trusts in God; let God deliver Him now, if He desires Him. For He said, 'I am the Son of God.'" And the robbers who were crucified with Him also reviled Him in the same way.

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, "This man is

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calling Elijah." And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to Him to drink. But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save Him." And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up His spirit.

And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after His resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. When the centurion and those who were with Him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!" There were also many women there, looking on from a distance, who had followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to Him, among whom were Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Joseph and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb. The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, "Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while He was still alive, 'After three days I will rise.' Therefore, order the tomb to be made secure until the third day, lest His disciples go and steal Him away and tell the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last fraud will be worse than the first." Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can." So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.** (please be seated)

Sermon Hymn: 531 "Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus"

Sermon: "Humbled and Exalted" Philippians 2:8-9

The Prayer of the Church (please stand if you are able)

P Heavenly Father, in love for us Your Son became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Teach us to look to You at the time of death so that drawing strength from You, we would receive the comfort of life eternal in our Savior Jesus. We pray for those who mourn the loss of loved ones to physical death, asking You to bless them with fond memories of them and with the gift of the heavenly life that lasts forever which You now have given to them as Your servants who have died in the faith. Lord, in Your mercy, C hear our prayer.

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P Heavenly Father, give Your protection and guidance to all who serve in our nation's military, especially in this time of war, as well as those who serve in law enforcement and as emergency responders so that every life is protected and our that citizens live under peace and justice in this country and in every nation of the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Heavenly Father, we ask that You would come to the rescue of all who are sick, injured, facing surgery, or recovering from surgery. We place into Your care and keeping including Roy, Donna, Evelyn, Nolan, Ronda, Ron, Lindsey, Bryce, Zachary, Brandy, Avery, Jeff, Debby, Rev. Hagan, Gail, Randy, Laurie, Kelly, Alan, David, Danny, Inez, Mary Lou, Charlotte, Kathy, Elliot, Rev. Snyder, Rhonda and those we remember in the silence of our hearts. Help them, heal them, comfort them, and encourage them in the way that You know to be best for each of them. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Heavenly Father, You bless us every day during the years of life You give us. We pray that You would provide favorable weather for those working outside in this week to come. We trust that You will give them the strength and safety they need for service done for Your glory and the good of others. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Lord of the Church, during Holy Week, You call Your people around the world to follow You through Your Passion, death, and resurrection. Bless Pastor Engvall and Teffie as they prepare for their move to Immanuel. Bless also the service of all who provide music, who read Your Holy Scriptures in the assembly, and who proclaim Your suffering, death, and resurrection--that Your flock would be fed and Your glory revealed. Lord, in Your mercy, C hear our prayer.

P Heavenly Father, on the night before He went to the cross, Your Son gave us the gift of His holy Supper. Show us our sin, give us repentant hearts, and assure us that our King has made Himself a servant for us, so that with confident faith we sing our hosannas to Him who comes to us in the name of the Lord and gratefully receive His body and blood which give us life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Into Your gracious care, heavenly Father, we place ourselves and everyone for whom we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

The Offering (please be seated)

Offertory: (LSB 434; please stand if you are able)

**Lamb of God, pure and ho-ly, Who on the cross didst suf-fer,
Ev-er pa-tient and low-ly, Thy-self to scorn didst of-fer.
All sins Thou bor-est for us, Else had de-spair reigned o'er us:
Have mer-cy on us, O Je-sus! O Je-sus!**

The Liturgy of Holy Communion

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

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P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying: *(LSB 438)*

**A Lamb goes un-com-plain-ing forth, The guilt of sin-ners bear-ing
And, lad-en with the sins of earth, None else the bur-den shar-ing;
Goes pa-tient on, grows weak and faint,
To slaugh-ter led with-out com-plaint,
That spot-less life to of-fer, He bears the stripes, the wounds, the lies,
The mock-er-y, and yet re-plies, "All this I glad-ly suf-fer."**

The Lord's Prayer: *(prayed in unison)*

The Words of Our Lord and the Pax Domini:

P:The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: Amen.**

Distribution Hymns: *(please be seated)*

440 "Jesus, I Will Ponder Now"

442 "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

444 "No Tramp of Soldiers' Marching Feet"

The Post-Communion Collect: *(please stand if you are able)*

P: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end;

C: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Benediction:

P: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

C: Amen. Hosanna to Jesus Christ, the Son of Man and Son of God!

The Closing Hymn: 443 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

(please be seated)

Anthem: "Our God is an Awesome God" *Sunday School Children* Page 7