

April 10, 2022

Palm Sunday

Welcome to First St. John Lutheran Church! We offer two services with Sunday School for youth and adults and catechism between the services. Our regular Sunday schedule is:

8:00 am	Early Worship
9:15 am	Sunday School / Catechism
9:15 am	Adult Bible Study
10:30 am	Late Worship

Covid Guidelines: If you are fully vaccinated, you do not need to wear a mask. However, if you have not been vaccinated, please continue wearing a mask. We have some available near the entryway if you don't have one.

Livestream and Recorded Worship: We livestream the service on our church website at www.firststjohn.com. Also, the service will be recorded and published to the website.

Adult Sunday School meets at 9:15 am in the lounge (middle floor of the educational building – turn right out of the door by the choir loft).

Children ages 3 through 5th grade will meet for Sunday School in the basement of the church (the JAM Room!).

Catechism Class: Class will be held from 9:15 to 10:15 am each Sunday.

Nursery is in the church basement and is currently unstaffed; you are welcome to sit with your child. A diaper changing table is available in the ladies restroom in the basement of the church.

Restrooms are in the church basement. Go to the Narthex (lobby) and take either set of steps to the basement hallway. The ladies room is at one end, and the men's room is at the other.

Flowers: If you would like to sign up for altar flowers, there is a book in the Narthex (lobby) by the telephone. Or, you can call the church office during the week to check on availability.

Memorials: If you wish to give a memorial in honor or memory of a loved one, you may mail it in or pick up a memorial card in the church office or the Narthex (lobby) and place it in the offering plate.

First St. John Lutheran Church

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www.firststjohn.com

Rev. Jerald K. Rayl

Annette Slater - Music Director
Dr. Anthony Pattin - Church Musician

ORDER OF WORSHIP – 10:30 am

Prelude

The Procession With Palms *(please stand)*

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

C: Hosanna to the Son of David.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Mercifully assist us, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts whereby you have given us life everlasting; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Processional Gospel – Luke 19:28-40

After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' say, 'The Lord needs it.'"

Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They replied, "The Lord needs it." They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road.

When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!"

"I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."

*(Please raise your palm branches
for the thanksgiving and the processional.)*

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: 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 the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was acclaimed Son of David and King of kings by those who scattered their garments and branches of palms in his path.

We ask that you bless these branches and those who bear them, and grant that we may ever hail him as our Lord and King and follow him with perfect confidence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Processional Hymn *"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"* No. 344

*Children, worship leaders, choir, and any worshipers
who wish to join in will now make their way
around the sanctuary to the altar while the hymn is sung.*

After the conclusion of the hymn:

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

C: Hosanna in the highest.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy, enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

(Please be seated)

Announcements

FIRST READING: Philippians 2:5-11

Paul quotes from an early Christian hymn that describes Jesus' humble obedience, even to death, and his exaltation as Lord of all.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,

⁷but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

⁸he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,

¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and
under the earth,

¹¹and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Praise Singers *“At the Foot of the Cross”*

Gospel Acclamation (spoken)

P: The Gospel according to St. Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

The HOLY GOSPEL – The Passion of Our Lord According to St. Luke

The Gospel is printed in the booklet that you received with your bulletin this morning. It will be read in parts with the Congregation reading the selections marked with the leaf and printed in bold type.

As a sign of respect and devotion, the Congregation will be instructed to stand prior to the reading of our Lord's death on the cross.

Gospel Response (Spoken)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

Message Song *“O Sacred Head Now Wounded”*

Pastor Rayl

No. 351

(Please stand)

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

(Please be seated)

Pastoral Prayer *(Each petition concludes with this response)*

P: Hear us, Lord.

C: Your mercy is great.

The Offering

Chancel Choir

“Gospel Hosanna”

Jack Schrader

Offering Prayer

P: Merciful God, receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection, through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

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.

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

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

P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will to accomplish all things for our salvation.

P: 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. Let us proclaim the mystery of faith;

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth burning with justice, peace, and love. Remember us in your kingdom and join us in praying:

The Lord’s Prayer *(prayed by all)*

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

P: Return to God with all your heart. Receive bread for the journey, drink for the desert.

C: We come with open hands, hearts and lives.

(Please be seated)

The Communion *(distribution will be continuous)*

If you wish to receive grape juice instead of wine, place your hand over your shoulder as you approach the person distributing the wine.

“All baptized Christians, believing that our Lord Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, bringing to us the gift of forgiveness and the promise of eternal life, are welcome to gather at the Lord’s table. Infants, children and others who have not been baptized are welcome to come to receive a blessing; please make an X with your arms across your chest.”

Communion Hymns- During the distribution of Communion the following hymns will be sung by the congregation:

“For the Bread Which You Have Broken” No. 494
“Bread of Life From Heaven” No. 474

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and sustain you in God’s grace.

C: Amen.

Prayer after Communion

P: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

The Blessing

P: May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed.

C: We turn to the Lord for our life and hope.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you (+) peace.

C: **Amen.**

Dismissal

P: Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Song *"Christ, the Life of All the Living"* No. 339
Postlude

*As you're leaving, please remember to return your copy of
The Passion reading to the box in the Narthex or on the
front pew near the piano so it can be used again.
Thank you.*

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

ELDERS

Darold Henninger, Kevin Ruedy

READER

Tom Hartford

ACOLYTES

Mckenna Cummerow

SOUND BOARD

Andy Hodges

April 10, 2022

PALM SUNDAY

Blessed Is the King

How quickly Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem turns into a prelude for his passion and death! Those who read the passion narrative today may wonder how it is that victory and agony can occupy such close proximity.

The gospel according to Luke records that Jesus entered Jerusalem on a colt. He didn't arrive in an elaborately decorated carriage pulled by a big stallion--quite likely the preferred method of arrival by great political figures in the first century. No, Jesus entered Jerusalem humbly seated on the back of a colt. This colt had never been ridden before. Neither did it have a hand-tooled leather saddle. The disciples simply threw their coats on its back for Jesus to sit on.

So Jesus' entry into Jerusalem was not really a triumphal entry at all. This was not like a conquering emperor coming into the city. Jesus did not seem interested in seizing any kind of political opportunity. Neither did he want to evade his responsibility.

In Luke's account, Pilate asked Jesus if he was the "king" of the Jews. Jesus' response was one of seeming indifference to that kind of authority: "You say so."

Our mission in the world is much the same as Christ's as he entered Jerusalem on a colt. We are not called to conquer the world, but to face our tasks and proclaim God's good news humbly, with full awareness of the difficulties we will encounter. Our mission, like Christ's, is not to avoid the painful realities of the crosses in our lives, but to face them head-on, knowing that God will ultimately see us through them.