

Rethinking Religion

REAL STRENGTH

Sixth Sunday in Lent – Palm Sunday

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH | Bangor, WI

March 24, 2024

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, we welcome you to St. Paul's. We especially welcome our guests who have joined us today. We pray that your soul will be strengthened by the good news of God's forgiveness through Jesus.

PRAYER IN PREPARATION FOR TODAY'S WORSHIP

Almighty Savior, I can get caught up in the world's definition of real strength, and I can exert the power and authority I have in various areas of my life for my own good. You, Lord, show me what real strength is. Though the all-powerful Creator, you humbly rode into Jerusalem to use the power of your love to give your life to save mine. Build my real strength today in you that I can humbly serve you for your sake and for the sake of my neighbor. Compel me to proclaim your gracious name this morning in this hour of praise and prayer. In that name I pray. Amen.

FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Children's activity sheets are available near the entrance to the sanctuary. The church basement is also available with a live feed of the worship service along with a Kids' Corner for parents with children to utilize during the service if needed.

THANK OFFERING

You may leave your offering in the plate in the lobby. The QR code to the right will provide the link to our online giving option. If you're visiting with us today you are welcome to give an offering, but don't feel compelled by guilt or embarrassment to do so. God wants all offerings to be made freely and with joy.



SETTING THREE

p.188

The Service is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church that highlights the Word of God and the forgiveness, life, and salvation we receive through the gospel of Jesus Christ.

PREK-8 CHOIR

Palm Branches

Stand

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

CONFESSION

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.
Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done,

and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,

according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

DECLARATION OF GRACE

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

INTRODUCTION TO HOLY WEEK

Dear friends in Christ, during the weeks of Lent we have been preparing to commemorate our Lord's suffering, death, and resurrection. Today we come together to begin the solemn journey of Holy Week. Christ entered in triumph into his own city to complete his work as our Savior and to gain for us the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. We follow him in faith and praise him with joy.

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

Hosanna in the highest!

HYMN

302 Prepare the Royal Highway sts. 1, 2

(short musical intro)



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal



near! Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a
King! Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread



lev - el road ap - pear! Then greet the King of
gar - ments! Shout and sing! God's prom - ise will not

glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!

Refrain
Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's Word!

Text: tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.; Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847

Tune: Swedish, 17th cent.

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 736889

Tune: Public domain

The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

We praise you, O God, for the great acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ. As he was acclaimed by those who scattered their garments and branches of palms in his path, so may we always hail him as our King and follow him with perfect confidence; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

FIRST READING

Zechariah 9:9–12

- ⁹Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion!
Shout, Daughter Jerusalem!
Look! Your King is coming to you.
He is righteous and brings salvation.
He is humble and is riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
- ¹⁰I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the horse from Jerusalem.
The battle bow will be taken away,
and he will proclaim peace to the nations.
His kingdom will extend from sea to sea,
from the River to the ends of the earth.
- ¹¹As for you,
because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will release your prisoners from the waterless pit.
- ¹²Return to the stronghold, you prisoners who have hope.
This very day I declare that I will restore double to you.

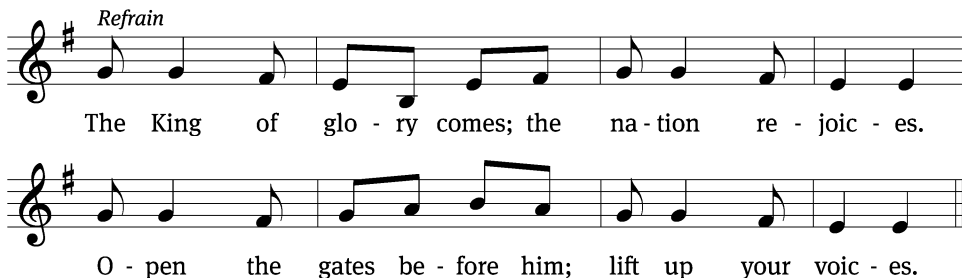
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

548 The King of Glory Comes

Refrain



The King of glo - ry comes; the na - tion re - joic - es.

O - pen the gates be - fore him; lift up your voic - es.

1 Who is the King of glo - ry? How shall we call him?
 2 In all of Gal - i - lee, in cit - y or vil - lage,
 3 He gave his life for us, the pledge of sal - va - tion;
 4 He con - quered sin and death; he tru - ly has ris - en,
Refrain
 He is Im - man - u - el, the prom - ised of a - ges.
 he goes a - mong his peo - ple, cur - ing their ill - ness.
 he took up - on him - self the sin of the na - tions.
 and he will share with us his heav - en - ly vi - sion.

Text: Willard F. Jabusch, 1930–2018, alt.

Tune: Israeli, 20th cent.

Text: © 1966, 1985 Willard F. Jabusch, admin. OCP Publications. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 736889

Tune: Public domain

SECOND READING

Hebrews 12:1–3

¹Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us get rid of every burden and the sin that so easily ensnares us, and let us run with patient endurance the race that is laid out for us. ²Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, who is the author of our faith and the one who brings it to its goal. In view of the joy set before him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of God's throne. ³Carefully consider him who endured such hostility against himself from sinful people, so that you do not grow weary and lose heart.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 12:23

**The hour has come, the hour has come
 for the Son of Man to be glorified.**

GOSPEL

Mark 11:1–10

¹As they approached Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, on the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples ²and told them, "Go into the village ahead of you. As soon as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it here. ³If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord needs it, and he will send it back here without delay.' "

⁴They left and found a colt on the street, tied at a door; and they untied it. ⁵Some who were standing there asked them, "What are you doing, untying that colt?" ⁶The disciples answered them just as Jesus had instructed them, and the men let them go.

⁷They brought the colt to Jesus, threw their garments on it, and Jesus sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their garments on the road. Others spread branches that they had cut from the fields. ⁹Those who went in front and those who followed were crying out,

Hosanna!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!

Hosanna in the highest!

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children who are in grade four and younger may come forward and sit on the front step for the children's devotion. Older children, parents, or other family members may come forward to encourage the younger children's participation.

HYMN OF THE DAY

411 Ride On, Ride On in Majesty



1 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! Hark! All the
2 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly
3 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! The an - gel
4 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! Your last and
5 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly



tribes ho - san - na cry. O Sav - ior meek, pur -
pomp ride on to die. O Christ, your tri - umphs
ar - mies of the sky look down with sad and
fierc - est strife is nigh. The Fa - ther on his
pomp ride on to die. Bow your meek head to



sue your road, with palms and scat - tered gar - ments strowed.
now be - gin o'er cap - tive death and con - quered sin.
won-d'ring eyes to see th'ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.
sap - phire throne a - waits his own a - noint - ed Son.
mor - tal pain, then take, O Christ, your pow'r and reign.

Text: Henry H. Milman, 1791–1868, alt.

Tune: Musicalisch Hand-Buch der Geistlichen Melodien, Hamburg, 1690, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

Hebrews 12:1–3

Look at Him

Stand

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Be seated

OFFERING

"I know, my God, that you test the heart, and you take pleasure in uprightness. In the uprightness of my heart I have freely offered all these things. Now with joy I see your people, who are present here to bring the offering freely to you" (1 Chronicles 29:17).

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Lord Jesus, you are the King of heaven and earth. We join the first Palm Sunday worshippers in praising and glorifying you for coming to this earth to be our Savior. Though you are one with God the Father and Lord of all, you humbled yourself and became one with us. Thanks be to you for living a life of perfect conformity to God's holy law in our place.

Praise be to you for being obedient to death, even death on a cross, to redeem us from sin.

Cause our voices to blend with those who sang your praises as you rode into Jerusalem. Move us to confess you before others as our Lord. Help us proclaim the message of peace and forgiveness to people of all nations. Use us to assure all people that your blood has cleansed them from sin and set them free from slavery to sin, death, and the devil.

Move us to dedicate all we are and have to your glory.

Lord Jesus, you are King over all the earth. Bless the nations of this world with wise rulers and good government. Let peace prevail. Grant success to the businesses and industries of our land to serve for the common good. Cause all employers to be honest and fair-minded and all employees to be diligent and faithful. Look with favor on our nation's schools. Be with those who teach and those who learn.

Comfort the sick and the afflicted with the assurance of your care and protections. Strengthen the faith of the dying.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

Dear Savior, as we walk with you this week toward Calvary, keep us focused on your purpose for coming into this world and on our calling to spread this wonderful message of salvation.

Hear us for your mercy's sake. Amen.

HYMN

412 All Glory, Laud, and Honor



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 is prais - ing you on high,
- 3 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore you went;
- 4 To you be - fore your pas - sion they sang their hymns of praise;
- 5 As you re - ceived their prais - es, ac - cept the prayers we bring,

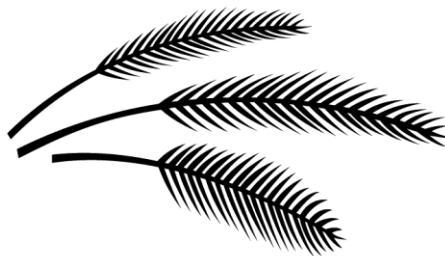


now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One.
 and we with all cre - a - tion in cho - rus make re - ply.
 our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.
 to you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
 O Source of ev - 'ry bless - ing, our good and gra - cious King.

Text: tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.; Theodulph of Orleans, c. 762–821

Tune: Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain



Stand

PRAYER

Almighty and everlasting God, you sent your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon himself our flesh and 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 your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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.**

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
Amen.

Be seated

CLOSING HYMN

413 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna



1 Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, the lit - tle chil-dren sang;
2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed mid an ex - ult - ant crowd,
3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" that an-cient song we sing,



thro' pil-lared court and tem - ple the love - ly an - them rang.
the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing and chant-ing clear and loud.
for Christ is our Re - deem-er, the Lord of heav'n, our King.



To Je - sus, who had blessed them, close fold - ed to his breast,
The Lord of earth and heav - en rode on in low - ly state
Oh, may we ev - er praise him with heart and life and voice



the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim-plest and the best.
nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren should on his bid-ding wait.
and in his roy - al pres - ence e - ter - nal - ly re - joice.

Text: Jeannette Threlfall, 1821–1880, alt.

Tune: Gesang-Buch Herzogl. Hofkapelle, Württemberg, 1784

Text and tune: Public domain

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Maundy Thursday – Worship with Communion – 7:00 pm

Good Friday Tenebrae Worship – 1:30 & 7:00 pm

Easter Egg Hunt @ St. Paul's School – Saturday, 10:00 am

Easter Sunday Hymn Festival Worship – 6:30 & 9:00 am

Easter Breakfast – 7:15-9:00 am

BAKE SALE TODAY

Today PACE is hosting our annual bake sale between services in the church basement. Funds raised will help support the Easter Egg Hunt and various other PACE initiated events throughout the year. Thank you for supporting the gospel efforts of our church and school!

NO MIDWEEK STUDIES THIS WEEK

There will be no Bible Information Class, midweek Bible studies, or public school catechism class this week as we focus our attention on the worship services for Holy Week.

EASTER EGG HUNT

March 30th, your St. Paul's School will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt for the children of our congregation and community. The event will start at 10:00 am and will include an egg hunt, games, an Easter story, and door prizes. We hope that our St. Paul's family will help support the event by either attending the event, spreading the word, or attending the bake sale. Thank you for your support.

EASTER BREAKFAST

The church will be having an Easter Breakfast again this year, between services 7:15-9:00 am. If you are interested in donating breakfast sweets (sweet rolls or coffee cake), please contact Pam Hoth 608-386-0169, Linda Hoth 608-461-0055 or Ruth Elsen 608-461-8092.

QUARTERLY VOTERS' MEETING

Our next quarterly voters' meeting will be Sunday, April 7, at 11:15 am, in the church basement.

HOW WE GOT THE BIBLE

Our next midweek Bible study series is called *How We Got the Bible*. The story of the Bible has been called "The Greatest Story Ever Told." But did you ever wonder where the Bible came from? Who wrote it? Why did they write it? Who decided which books to include? In this study, Dr. Paul Maier travels to The Bible Museum in Goodyear, Arizona, to take a look at how we got the Bible.

LAST CHANCE FOR OLD HYMNALS

If you would like any more copies of the old red hymnals, please grab as many as you would like. You can find them in the elevator hallway in the church basement.

MEMORIAL GIVEN

In memory of Eileen Arndt, \$1000 has been gifted to the St. Paul's Lutheran School Endowment Trust.

LWMS SPRING RALLY

The LWMS Spring Rally will be held on Saturday, April 13, at English Lutheran Church, 741 N. East Avenue, Viroqua, WI. Registration will begin at 12:30 pm with the program starting at 1:00 pm. The guest speaker for the rally will be Chad Marohn, principal of Cornerstone Lutheran High School in Eau Claire, WI. This is a new high school for area youth. Principal Marohn will be speaking about the development and current status of the high school and the role it plays in the community. We look forward to hearing about this new endeavor. A light luncheon will be served following the business meeting.

OFFERING SUMMARY (includes online and memorials to Gen Fund)

2024 Weekly Budget: \$11,826.00	Budget to Date: \$130,086.00
Received Last Week: \$9,852.43	Rec'd to Date: \$97,173.16

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 am: 100	Online Viewers: 44	10:00 am: 86	Total: 230
Sunday Bible Study: 6	Sunday School: 6	Tues./Wed. Bible Study: 22	
Midweek Lenten Service: 118	Online Viewers: 13	Total: 131	

CALENDAR

TODAY	8:00 am	Palm Sunday Worship
	9:00 am	Bake Sale
	9:10 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Bible Study
	10:00 am	Palm Sunday Worship
MONDAY	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
THURSDAY	7:00 pm	Maudy Thursday Worship with Communion
FRIDAY	1:30 pm	Good Friday Tenebrae Service
	7:00 pm	Good Friday Tenebrae Service
SATURDAY	10:00 am	Easter Egg Hunt at St. Paul’s School
NEXT SUNDAY	6:30 am	Easter Hymn Festival Worship
	7:15 am	Easter Breakfast
	9:00 am	Easter Hymn Festival Worship

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presiding Minister	Pastor Brock Groth
Accompanist	Harriet Langrehr

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Hosanna TO THE
SON OF DAVID

Hosanna IN THE
HIGHEST





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