



St. John Lutheran Church

Powellsville
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Franklin Furnace, Ohio 45629-8937
574-8028 or email: stjoh1875@g mail.com

March 29, 2026
SUNDAY OF THE PASSION
PALM SUNDAY

Leader: People of St. John, what is our purpose?

All: To live for the Lord who made us, to love as Jesus taught us, and to serve where the Spirit leads us.

PRELUDE

PROCESSION WITH PALMS

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: Matthew 21:1-11

¹When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." ⁴This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:

⁵"Tell the daughter of Zion,

Look, your king is coming to you,

humble and mounted on a donkey,

and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and

that followed were shouting,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!

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

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹⁰ When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” ¹¹ The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

THANKSGIVING

Those in the congregation raise their branches.

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 palm 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.

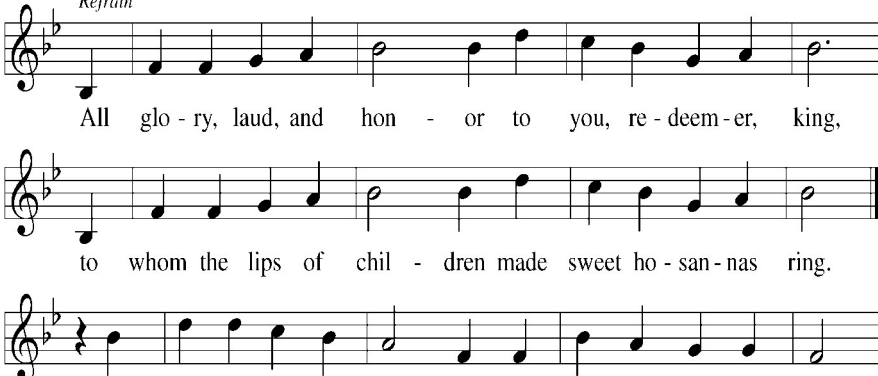
C **Amen**

PROCESSION

P Let us go forth in peace,

C **in the name of the Lord.**

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 is 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

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

C **Hosanna in the highest.**

+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray

All: **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. Amen**

CHOIR

The Palms

Congregation please join the choir on verse 3.

**Sing and rejoice , O blest Jerusalem
Of all the songs sing the emancipation;
Thro' boundless love, the Christ of Bethlehem
Brings forth the hope to thee forevermore.**

**(Chorus) Join us and sing, His name declare
Let every voice resound with joyful acclamation,
Hosanna! Praise ye the Lord.
Bless Him who cometh to bring us Salvation!**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Children will be dismissed to Children's Church following the Children's Sermon

FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a

⁴The Lord GOD has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens--
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.
⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backward.
⁶I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who
pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.
⁷The Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
⁸he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.
⁹It is the Lord GOD who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

PSALM 31:9-16

⁹Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble;
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

¹⁰**For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing;**

my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.

¹¹I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors,
a dismay to those of my acquaintance;
when they see me in the street they avoid me.

¹²**I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind;**

I am as useless as a broken pot.

¹³For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around;
they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

¹⁴**But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD.**

I have said, "You are my God.

¹⁵My times are in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

¹⁶**Make your face to shine upon your servant,
and in your lovingkindness save me."**

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:5-11

⁵Let 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,

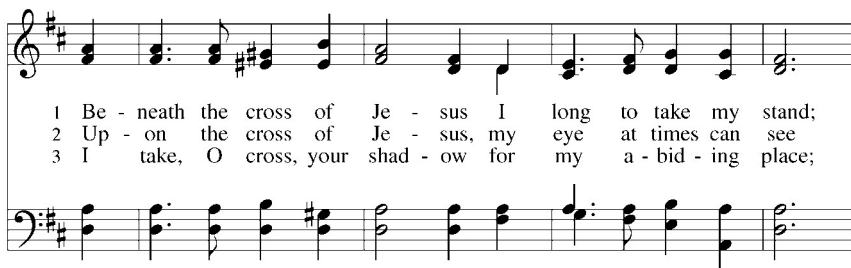
¹¹and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

+ THE PASSION ACCORDING TO ST. Matthew 26:14-27:66
PLEASE USE THE PASSION OF OUR LORD ACCORDING TO Matthew
INSERT.

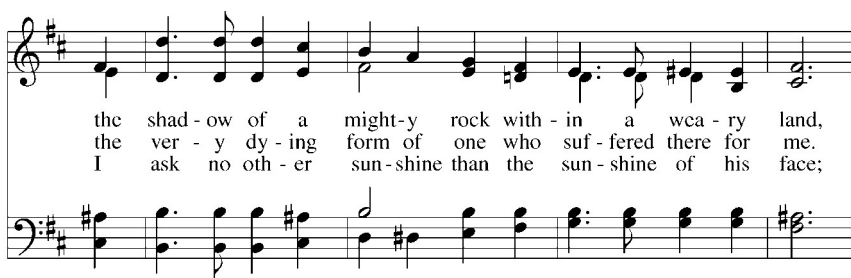
SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ HYMN OF THE DAY *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

#107



1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might-y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me;
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with-in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.
the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830–1869

Music: ST. CHRISTOPHER, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

+ NICENE CREED

C We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was mademan.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen

+ THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for
the world and its needs.

A brief silence.

P O God, you announce words of grace and truth. Give wisdom to all preachers
in your church both globally and locally (*here local bishops, pastors, deacons,
and lay preachers may be named*). Open our hearts to encounter the infinite
life you offer in Jesus. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

- P You hold the whole universe. Gather sun and moon, clouds and stars, land and sea, and plants and animals around the cross, so that all creation bears witness to your saving love. Hear us, O God.
- C **Your mercy is great.**
- P Your power is sure. Destroy inequity and division in every place, and build your beloved community among all people. Guide judges, attorneys, and juries so that they act with justice and fairness. Hear us, O God
- C **Your mercy is great.**
- P Your heart breaks open at our pain. Send healing and vindication to all who, like Jesus, know the sting of betrayal, denial, abuse, or false accusations. Be with those experiencing pain or loss this day (*especially*). Hear us, O God.
- C **Your mercy is great.**
- P Your ways show compassion. Let this same mind be in us as we enter Holy Week. Bless those here who will lead worship and tell the story of Jesus' death and resurrection. Hear us, O God.
- C **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

- P O Holy Spirit, We pray for our next pastor. We know not who you are making ready to come and be with us, but we ask that you speed our meeting with one another, and that you make us ready to seek new adventures with a new shepherd at our side. Grant that we might make ready today to find the new tomorrow you desire for St. John Lutheran Church. Hear us, O God.
- P O God, your embrace is eternal. Praise and thanks to you for (*Hans Nielsen Hauge and*) all the faithful departed who rest in your mercy. Deliver us all from death's power and raise us to life in you. Hear us, O God.
- C **Your mercy is great.**
- P Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation
- C **Amen.**

+ THE PEACE

[shared among the congregation]

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C **And also with you.**

The ministers and congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words:

Peace be with you.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Create in Me



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the
joy of your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

+ OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our
selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive
them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen

+THE LORDS PRAYER

(Matthew 6:9-13)

C 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

C Amen

+ BENEDICTION

(Numbers 6:24-26)

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace,

+ in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

+ CLOSING HYMN

O Savior, Precious Savior

#514

1 O Sav - ior, pre - cious Sav - ior, whom yet un - seen we love;
 2 O bring - er of sal - va - tion, who won - drous - ly hast wrought,
 3 In thee all full - ness dwell - eth, all grace and pow'r di - vine;
 4 Oh, grant the con - sum - ma - tion of this our song a - bove,

O name of might and fa - vor, all oth - er names a - bove:
 thy - self the rev - e - la - tion of love be - yond our thought:
 the glo - ry that ex - cel - leth, O Son of God, is thine.
 in end - less ad - o - ra - tion and ev - er - last - ing love;

we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
 we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
 We wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
 then shall we praise and bless thee where per - fect prais - es ring,

we praise thee and con - fess thee, our ho - ly Lord and King.
 we praise thee and con - fess thee, our gra - cious Lord and King.
 we praise thee and con - fess thee, our glo - rious Lord and King.
 and ev - er - more con - fess thee, our Sav - ior and our King!

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879

Music: ANGEL'S STORY, Arthur H. Mann, 1850-1929

+ DISMISSAL

P	Go in peace.
Children	Serve the Lord.
C	Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

+Stand as you are able

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SERVING TODAY

Organist	Kendra Hughes
Lay Reader	Shane Tieman
Prayer Leader	Kara Tieman
Greeter	Jim Gleim
Acolyte	Eli DeGonzague
Altar Committee	Kendra Hughes, Vicki Titus
Council President	Rick Williams

PASSION READERS

Dawn Scott	Pastor Kruse
Shane Tieman	Brian Oakes
Dené DeGonzague	Shaun Allen
Vivian Riffel	Jon Bailey

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH. We are pleased you are here. If you are visiting with us this morning, please sign our guest book in the entrance area. And we hope you will join us again very soon.

LET US PRAY FOR: Dale Ramey, Emily Smith, Peggy Butler, Roberta Sommer, Patricia Cavendish, Jim Skipworth, Galen Gleim, Paul Means, Grace Mootz, Marcella Mootz, Kay Staker, Kimberly Tolliver, Danica Clarkson, Bill Murphy, Linda Martin, Rena McIntyre, Bill Culver, Melaine Hawk, Patty Poole, Kent Gifford, Nicholas Young, Jason Pierce, Beth Miller, Jane Staker, Joanne Oakes, Rod Schneider, Brian & Carol Hicks, Ed Hughes, Karyn Sexton, Brenda Moore, Shirley Gleim, Donna Arnett, Ken Staker, Pastor Dennis King, Luke White, The Congregation of the Mountain Church in Asmushausen, Germany, the members of our armed forces, and those we hold privately in our hearts.

PLEASE LEAVE THE BOOKLET that is inserted into the bulletin, The Passion Of Our Lord According to Luke, on the table in the back of the church as you leave this morning.

HOLY WEEK worship begins today with Palm Sunday, the Sunday of the Passion. Maundy Thursday/Good Friday service will be Thursday, April 2 at 7:00 p.m.

CHOIR PRACTICE will be at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday.

EASTER DAY: Start your day with Easter Breakfast at 9:00 a.m.!! We will celebrate the resurrection of our Lord with our Easter Festival Service of Holy Communion at 10:00 a.m.. Easter Egg Hunt for the children to follow Easter service. Make the journey to Easter this year an important part of your walk of faith by marking your calendar today.

THE BLANKET PROJECT GROUP will begin meeting again on Tuesday, April 7 at 10:00 a.m. Come and join as we meet every Tuesday morning! Everyone is welcome.

HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY on Sunday, April 12 during worship.

CONFIRMATION CLASS for 7th and 8th graders will today April 12 and 26 at 9:30 a.m. We will meet downstairs in the library Sunday School room. **CONFIRMATION** will be Sunday, May 3.

CONFIRMATION is scheduled for Sunday, May 3 at 10:00 a.m. worship service. Our confirmands are Drew DeGonzague and Emmett Salyers. A reception will follow worship. Plan to come and join in the celebration of this important ministry.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Vacation Bible school is just around the corner! Plans are already in place, and we need your help! The dates for this summer 's VBS will be June 22 through the 26th from 5:30 to 8:15 pm. Again this year we will be having a kid friendly light supper for children and families.

Our theme this year is Rainforest Falls - Exploring the Nature of God!

If you are interested in helping in any way, please let Vivian know! (740.464.1914) We are looking forward to another fun filled successful year of VBS with our children!

This Week at St. John

Today—Palm Sunday—Sunday of the Passion

10:00 a.m. **Worship**

11:00 a.m. Youth helping to fill Easter Eggs

Wednesday

7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday

7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday/Good Friday Service—*Holy Communion*

Next Sunday—The Resurrection of Our Lord

9:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast

10:30 a.m. **Worship—Holy Communion**
Easter Egg Hunt following worship.

Attendance

2026 Average: 65

2025 Average 62

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 5

Organist

Worship Assistant

Lay Reader

Prayer Leader

Acolyte

Greeter

Altar Committee

Council President

Ann Henry

Vivian Riffel

Vivian Riffel

Rick Williams

Eli DeGonzague

Shirley Gleim

Nancy Williams, James & Kym Hayman

Rick Williams

CELEBRATING THIS WEEK

BIRTHDAYS: Crystal Culver, Becky Williams, Vicki Bradley, Renee Basham, Nick Basham, Pastor Brent Cavendish, Creed Miller, Emmett Salyers

BAPTISMS: Shirley Gleim, Baleigh Sparks

ANNIVERSARIES: Tom & Jane Bussler

IF WE MISSED ANYONE please let Vicki Bradley know so we can add you to the list.

Coming Events

Sunday, March 29 Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday

Wednesday, April 1 at 7:00 Choir Practice

Thursday, April 2 at 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service

Sunday, April 5 at 9:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast

Sunday, April 5 at 10:00 a.m. Easter Festival of Holy Communion

Sunday, April 5, following Easter Worship Service, Easter Egg Hunt

Tuesday, April 7 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Wednesday, April 8 at 7:00 p.m. Choir practice

Sunday, April 12 at 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class

Sunday, April 12 Holy Humor Sunday

Tuesday, April 14 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Wednesday, April 15 at 7:00 p.m. Choir practice

Sunday, April 19 at 11:00 a.m. Church Council Meeting

Tuesday, April 21 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Wednesday, April 22 at 7:00 p.m. Choir practice

Sunday, April 26 at 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class

Tuesday, April 28 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Wednesday, April 29 at 7:00 p.m. Choir practice

Sunday, May 3 Confirmation

Tuesday, May 5 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Tuesday, May 12 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Sunday, May 17 at 11:00 a.m. Church Council Meeting

Tuesday, May 19 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Tuesday, May 26 at 10:00 a.m. Blanket Project

Sunday, June 22-26 at 5:30 p.m. –8:15 p.m. Vacation Bible School

Kid friendly light supper for children and families.

Maundy Thursday/Good Friday Service

Thursday, April 2 at 7:00 p.m.

Easter Breakfast

Sunday, April 5 at 9:00 a.m.

Easter Festival Service of Holy Communion

Sunday, April 5 at 10:00 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 5 following worship.

Blanket Project

**Will begin meeting again on Tuesday,
April 7 at 10:00 a.m.
Everyone is welcome to join.**

Holy Humor Sunday

Sunday, April 12 during worship

Confirmation

**Sunday, May 3 during worship.
A reception will follow worship.**

Vacation Bible School Rainforest Falls

June 22 –26

**Kid friendly light supper for children and families.
VBS Program June 28 during worship**

Join us for
Easter Breakfast

Sunday, April 20
at 9:00 a.m.



Sunday, April 5
Following Easter Worship Service