



Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday
Sunday, March 24, 2024: 8:30 am & 11:00 am
Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Bismarck, ND
Pastor John Streccius and Pastor Beth Walch

Our Purpose Statement: “Love All, Serve All, Welcome All as Christ.”

Today we follow Christ from triumphal entry to the cross, each waypoint of the journey marked by Jesus’ compassion for those who would betray, mock, accuse, or do violence to him. Though persecuted and beaten, Jesus the Son of God is not disgraced; instead, he asks forgiveness for those who put him to death. We have walked the Lenten pathway these forty days, each of us invited through baptism to “let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus.” We enter this holy week accompanying Jesus to the cross with both grief and thanksgiving in our hearts, trusting in God’s redeeming love.

Today’s worship service is taken from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) service book and hymnal. Please turn to Setting III, pp. 138-146, for the order of the service and to the back of the book for the hymns.

Light type = Presiding and Assisting Ministers; **Bold type = Congregation**

(PLEASE GATHER IN THE NARTHEX FOR THE PALM PROCESSION)

Greeting and Call to Worship

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is our King! Jesus is Lord!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Mark 11:1-11

¹When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, ‘Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, “Why are you doing this?” just say this, “The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.” ’ ⁴They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵some of the bystanders said to them, ‘What are you doing, untying the colt?’ ⁶They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. ⁷Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, ‘Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!’ ¹¹Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We praise and bless you, ever-living God, for the acts of love by which you redeem the world through Jesus Christ our Lord.

This day Jesus entered the holy city of Jerusalem and was proclaimed king by those who spread their garments and palm branches along his way.

Let these branches be for us signs of his victory; and grant that we who bear them may always acclaim Jesus Messiah by walking the way of his suffering and cross;

That dying and rising with him, we may enter into your kingdom. Through Jesus Christ, who loves and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Let us go forth in peace, **in the name of Christ. Amen.**

Procession of Palms

Gathering Hymn: ELW #344, “All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

As we now enter into the contemplation of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and meditate on the salvation of the world through his sufferings, death, burial, and resurrection, 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. Amen.**

Children’s Message

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Part I, Mark 14:1-25 “Preparing for Passover”

Hymn: ELW #343, “My Song of Love Unknown” (vs. 1)

Part II, Mark 14:26-52, “Gethsemane to Arrest”

Hymn: ELW #343, “My Song of Love Unknown” (vs. 2)

Part III, Mark 14:53-72, “Trial to Denial”

Hymn: ELW #343, “My Song of Love Unknown” (vs. 3)

Part IV, Mark 15:1-32, “Crucifixion”

Hymn: ELW #343, “My Song of Love Unknown” (vs. 4)

Part V, Mark 15:33-47, “Death and Burial”

Hymn: ELW #343, “My Song of Love Unknown” (vs. 5-6)

Litany

P. Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." In the name of Jesus, we pray:

C. Lord, help us to take up our cross and follow you.

P. You stood before Pilate, your life condemned, your word rejected, your innocence ignored:

C. Keep us from rejecting your word of truth, life and love.

P. You carried your cross on the wounded stripes of your back, for love of us and for all the world.

C. Help us to bear our cross, for love of you and for love of all.

P. As you struggled to bear your cross to Calvary, a passerby was drafted to help you.

C. Make us as willing as Simon to bear the burdens of all in need.

P. Nailed to the cross, you took your place among the condemned.

C. Out of death you bring life, out of darkness you bring light, transform us by your love.

Prayers of Intercession

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Offering

Offertory

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.
Amen.

Words of Institution

Lord’s Prayer

Distribution

ELW #463, “Lord, Who the Night You Were Betrayed”

ELW #616, “Jesus Remember Me”

Prayer after Communion

Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; sharing Christ’s love through word and deed.

Blessing

Beloved, we are God’s own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and + give you peace.
Amen.

Sending Hymn: ELW #339, “Christ, the Life of All the Living”

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share your bread.
Thanks be to God.

If your family plans to participate in the egg hunt, please remain IN THE SANCTUARY following the Palm Sunday service for instructions. If not, please go enjoy brunch in the fellowship hall.

Worship Participants: Pastors: John Streccius & Beth Walch; **Assisting:** (8:30) Steve Andrist (11:00) Linda Simmons; **Communion Assistants:** (8:30) Beverly Berry & Judy Kudrna (11:00) Diane Clinton; **Ushers:** (8:30) Dan & Barb Wrolstad (11:00) Mike & Amanda Gill & family; **Acolyte:** (8:30) HELP NEEDED (11:00) HELP NEEDED; **Song Leader:** Mary Cooper; **Pianist:** Becky Salveson; **March Altar Guild:** Deb Burke, Connie Peterson, Justine Bennes; **Readers Theater:** Al Klein, Bruce Boe, Steve Andrist, Linda Simmons, Peggy Christman, Mary Ann Gray, Pastor John and Pastor Beth.

Prayers at Lord of Life: Shirley O’Brien, Coralyn Hoovestol, Kelli Mahlum, Grant Geffre, Ruth Ann Rexine, Sharon Fisher, Edna Mae Erickson, Mary York, Ellen Bartz, Pat Hellman, Susan Francis, Mavis Jundt, Betty Dendinger, Todd Asendorf, Karen Stacevich, Kylah Anderson, Matt Olson, Joyce Koch, Jerry McLachlan, Scott Berry, Nathan Berndt, Aldeen Klain, Emmett Pratt, Rose Horner, Emma Seibel, Marlene Muse, Jack Lostlen.

Flowers are given today by: Dan & Barb Wrolstad in thanks to the Lord of Life staff.

Stewardship Info: Attendance – Sun. (3-17): 155 **Wed.** (3-20): 126
Offering: General Plate Offering: \$26,718.00 General Online Giving: \$6,078.21

February expenses: \$54,971.84 **February income:** \$61,858.39
Annual expenses through February: \$141,740.35
Annual income through February: \$106,963.75


March Service Group Leaders: Al & Shirley Klein (391-7166)
Volunteers: Members with last names starting with “Toll” through “Zie”

Worship Helps: Large print bulletins, a wheelchair and a walker, and personal p.a. devices are available from the ushers’. **Activity bags and bulletins** for children are available in the narthex.

Ushers/Greeters and Communion Assistants are always needed. Please check the sign up sheets for openings at the Information Desk.

Today we will serve Holy Communion in worship. Those who come to receive the gifts of Christ’s body and blood for the strengthening of their faith and the forgiveness of their sins are welcome to eat and drink. Children are welcome to receive Holy Communion at any age. Please have them extend their hand to receive the elements, if not we will offer a blessing. Taste and see that the Lord is good!

For Communion: Grape juice is always available. Simply select the light colored liquid. Gluten free communion wafers are available, indicate gluten free to the server when you come to the communion station.



Altar Bouquet Donations: Thank you for your donations to date, the next available Sundays are April 7, April 21, May 12 and May 19. Cost is \$25.00/ bouquet. The sign-up sheet can be located at the Information Desk. ****Please note Altar Flowers on check memo line.**

NO Worship or activities Wednesday, March 27th.

Maundy Thursday Dinner Church, March 28th at 6pm. You are invited to worship with a meal as we remember and celebrate the Last Supper. A simple family style meal will be provided as we remember our Lord's last evening with his disciples. If you are interested in helping in the preparations of the meal please contact either of the pastors. All are welcome.

LORD OF LIFE BOOK CLUB, April 3rd at 4:45 pm, “Someone Else’s Shoes” by JoJo Moyes. Nisha Cantor lives the globetrotting life of the seriously wealthy, until her husband announces a divorce and cuts her off. Nisha is determined to hang onto her glamorous life. But in the meantime, she must scramble to cope—she doesn't even have the shoes she was, until a moment ago, standing in.

Ken Snyder’s 90th Birthday Celebration! Come join us for an open house on Sunday, April 7 from 2:00 pm– 4:00 pm in the fellowship hall to celebrate Ken turning 90! Everyone welcome.

Young at Hearts: On April 8th, we invited Dan Cashman to speak on gardening as our thoughts turn to spring planting. We will meet at 2:30 for coffee and dessert.

Donations Needed: My name is Caroline Gill and I am a freshman at Legacy High School. For my confirmation project this year, I decided to build and install a Little Free Pantry at the Soup Cafe. I am hoping that we can provide grab-and-go food items for the people who live near or visit the soup cafe and may need something when the soup cafe is closed or if they need something extra to eat. I have a box in the narthex for non-perishable food donations as well as winter hats and gloves!

Lord of Life is scheduled to help Heaven’s Helpers Soup Café on March 25. Shifts are two hours in length from 8 AM through 5:30 PM. Just log in to <https://www.soupcafe.org/volunteer/> or, if you need assistance signing up, please contact Shirley Klein at Shirley.klein7166@gmail.com or call her at 701-391-7166. Please remember to wear closed toe shoes and a Lord of Life shirt if you have one.

Opportunity for Centering Prayer: On Thursdays at 8:30 am a 20-minute session for silent prayer is held. All are welcome. This group began last Lenten season and continues to gather. Please join us.

Heavens Helpers Closet 701 is again in need for some specific items. We will be collecting items through the Lent Season, they can be dropped in the narthex on the labeled cart. As Pastor John mentioned in worship, we should not only look at giving something up for Lent, we should look at giving something back during Lent. Items needed are: Men's pants (especially jeans), men's belts, men and women new or gently used shoes, especially sneakers. Men, women, and children coats (new or gently used). New underwear for men, women and children. New or gently used bedding to include sheets, pillowcases, blankets, comforters (please label size of bedding).

The plarning group is in need of clean plastic bags with no tears. Those from Menards, Target and grocery stores are preferred as those from Walmart and dollar stores tear too easily. They can be left in the quilting room.

Sunday Adult Forums: March 24 - NO Class - Palm Sunday & March 31 - NO Class – Easter

Thank you for your financial offerings to the ministry of Lord of Life Lutheran Church. If you would like to give now using your smartphone, just take a picture of the QR code and you will be taken to the secure church website for giving.



Happening this week at Lord of Life
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-3:00 pm
Church Office: 701-223-2986
www.lordoflifebismarck.org

Sun., March 24
Palm Sunday
8:30 am: Worship
9:30 am: Brunch in Fellowship Hall
9:45 am: Easter Egg Hunt
No Church School or Adult Forum
11:00 am: Worship

Mon., March 25
LOL at Heaven’s Helpers

Tues., March 26
10:00 am: Staff Meeting
5:30 pm: Faith, Food & Conversation at Lucky’s 13
7:00 pm: Boy Scouts

Wed., March 27
3:30 pm: Plarning
NO Worship
NO Church School
NO Confirmation

Thurs., March 28
Bulletin Deadline @ 12:00 pm
Maundy Thursday

8:30 am: Centering Prayer
9:30 am: Brunch with Beth
11:00 am: Book Study
6:00 pm: Meal & Worship

Fri., March 29
Good Friday
12:00 pm: Good Friday Worship
7:00 pm: Good Friday Worship

Sat., March 30
7:00 pm: Ecumenical Easter Vigil

Sun., March 31
Easter
8:30 am: Worship
No Church School or Adult Forum
11:00 am: Worship

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