



Pilgrim Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
Corner of Broadway and Florey



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WELCOME TO PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH! Though the liturgy and hymns on the Sundays that fall in Lent are more subdued and solemn, we nevertheless are glad that you are here with us as we receive God's forgiveness in Word and Sacrament and prepare to celebrate our Lord's resurrection for us. Please come again soon and join us for all of our other activities!

AS YOU ARRIVE, please move down the pew towards the wall, in order to leave room for others. If you arrive late, please wait for an appropriate time to enter the sanctuary, such as during a hymn. Please also remember to turn off your cell phones and/or any other electronic devices. Thank you!

ORDER OF SERVICE: To your right you will find today's order of service. The right side of that outline indicates from where the item listed comes: either the Insert in this bulletin or the hymnal, *Lutheran Service Book*, with the Psalms towards the front, its liturgical pages towards the middle, and its hymns towards the back. The △ symbol before a hymn stanza indicates that it especially gives glory to the Triune God; we stand before singing the stanza and conclude the stanza by singing "Amen."

HOLY COMMUNION: At Pilgrim we value your presence among us and love and care about our guests and visitors! However, due to the sad divisions that exist in the world and even in Christianity, we cannot commune everyone at the Lord's Table here. We respectfully ask that guests and visitors who desire to commune first speak with the pastor well before the service. All those present but not communing still may approach the rail for a blessing: come forward and kneel with those who are communing, but fold your arms over your heart and place your hands on the opposite shoulders. For more information about the ancient practice of Closed Communion, see <http://www.pilgrimlc.org/closed-communion>.

INDIVIDUAL CUPS: The top of the tray contains several individual cups of highly-diluted wine. If you receive the blood of Christ in an individual cup, please be sure to wait to consume it until Pastor comes by with the chalice, so that he knows you are receiving it in that fashion. If the supply of individual cups is depleted, please accept the blood of Christ from the chalice.

PALM SUNDAY

2023 MARCH 24

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING TWO (*Lutheran Service Book*, pp.167-183)

+++ **IN THE NAME OF JESUS** +++

PROCESSION OF PALMS

As weather permits and people are able, the congregation gathers outside the church and receives palms. If they are able, those inside may stand and face the entrance to the Nave.

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 with your Spirit.

P Let us pray.

O Lord God of our salvation, we praise and thank You for the great acts of love by which You have redeemed us through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; mercifully assist us that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts whereby You have given us life everlasting, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C Amen

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

P ¹²The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³So 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!" ¹⁴And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

¹⁵"Fear not, daughter of Zion;
behold, your king is coming,
sitting on a donkey's colt!"

¹⁶His 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. ¹⁷The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. ¹⁸The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. ¹⁹So 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 the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

The members of the congregation raise their branches.

P Let us pray.

Most merciful God, the people of Jerusalem, with palms in their hands, gathered to greet Your dearly beloved Son when He came into His Holy City in triumph, and they acclaimed Him Son of David and King of Kings. We ask you to bless these branches and those who bear them, granting that we may ever hail Him as our Lord and King, and, when He comes again, may go forth to meet Him with trusting and steadfast hearts and follow Him in the way that leads to eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Let us go forth in peace,

C in the Name of the Lord.

With raised branches, the congregation follows the pastor into the church while singing "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" (Lutheran Service Book 442).

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.



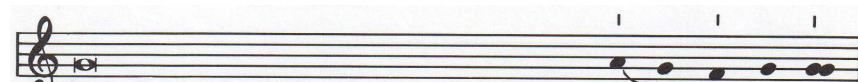
1 You are the King of Is - rael And Da - vid's roy - al Son,
 2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels Is prais - ing You on high,
 3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims With palms be - fore You went;
 4 To You be - fore Your pas - sion They sang their hymns of praise;
 5 As You re - ceived their prais - es, Ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Refrain

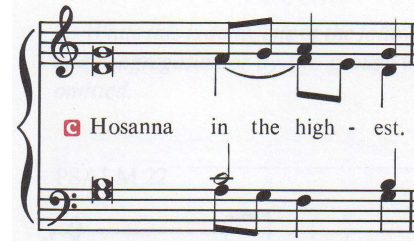


Now in the Lord's name com - ing, Our King and Bless - ed One.
 And we with all cre - a - tion In cho - rus make re - ply.
 Our praise and prayer and an - thems Be - fore You we pre - sent.
 To You, now high ex - alt - ed, Our mel - o - dy we raise.
 O Source of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Our good and gra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

When all have entered the church and gone to their places and the hymn is finished, the pastor chants and the congregation responds as follows:



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



C Hosanna in the high - est.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Salutation and Collect of the Day (& Additional Collect for Lent)	172
Old Testament (& Response): Zechariah 9:9-12	172
Psalm 118:19-29 (antiphon v.26)	118
(Sing the Psalm responsively using the tone provided. The antiphon begins and ends the psalm, and the congregation sings the indented portions. The <i>Gloria Patri</i> is omitted during Holy Week.)	
Epistle (& Response): Philippians 2:5-11	172
Alleluia and Verse: Lent	173
Holy Gospel (& Responses): John 12:20-43	173
Hymn of the Day: "A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth"	438
Sermon	John 12:20-43
Nicene Creed	174
Prayer of the Church, Offering, & Offertory	175-176
(Offerings placed in the Box in the Narthex before the Service are brought forward here.)	
P ...O Lord, we pray: C Hosanna! Save us! (Psalm 118:25a; John 12:13)	

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface, Sanctus, Prayer of Thanksgiving; (left column)	177-180
The Words of Our Lord, Proclamation of Christ, (Prayer of Remembrance,) Lord's Prayer; Pax Domini, & Agnus Dei	
Distribution (& Distribution Hymns):	181
"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"	443
"Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow"	428
"When I Behold Jesus Christ"	542
Post-Communion Canticle: "Nunc Dimittis"	182
(The <i>Gloria Patri</i> is omitted during Holy Week.)	
Post-Communion Collect & Benediction	183
Closing Hymn: "In Silent Pain the Eternal Son"	432

+++ TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY +++

ABOUT TODAY'S LITURGY: The most-distinctive feature of our Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion liturgy is certainly the Procession of Palms, which practice of commemorating the use of palms on the day Jesus entered Jerusalem apparently originated in the Church in Jerusalem during the fourth century. As is recommended, the Procession takes the place of our usual Catechesis, preparation of corporate Confession, Entrance Hymn, and Kyrie (the Gloria in Excelsis is omitted during penitential seasons such as Lent). While all are encouraged to examine themselves and otherwise be prepared to receive the Sacrament of the Altar, such as by private Confession and individual Absolution (and see Small Catechism Section 4: "Christian Questions and Their Answers" on *LSB* 329-330), those are truly worthy and well prepared who have faith in Jesus's words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins" (Small Catechism VI:10). We also note that the Altar Crucifix is veiled for Holy Week: that veil can be a sign of austerity and restraint, symbolize the rejection of Jesus (as in today's Gospel Reading, especially v.36), intensify our focus on the cross, and remind us that we are not worthy to look on the cross. Finally, the *Gloria Patri* is omitted during Holy Week, not to deny the glory to the Triune God but as further restraint of our rejoicing as the Church approaches the hour of God's glory on the cross of the Son.



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***Blessed is He Who comes in
the Name of the Lord, even
the King of Israel!***

BEFORE THE SERVICE: As you greet and visit with one another, please be sensitive to others who may wish an opportunity for silence to pray and otherwise to prepare for worship.

PEW SLIPS: *Visitors*, please register your attendance both by completing a slip from the rack on the back of the pews and placing them in the Offering Box in the Narthex (the entryway) and by signing the Guest Register at the door. *Members*, please complete a slip only if your contact information has changed or you have a new or updated prayer-list request. (The Usher tracks church attendance and communion participation.)

PEW CUSHIONS: If you would like to use a cushion either for your seat or for your seat and back, cushions for your use are available in the Usher's Closet off of the north side of the Narthex.

IF A NEED SHOULD ARISE, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Restrooms are available in the Parish Hall (non-ADA Restrooms are available in the Office Area, one with a change table), and there is a Cry Room (also with a change table) off the south side of the Narthex. Let the Usher or Elder-on-Duty know if you need assistance or supplies.

LARGER-PRINT/FLOW-THROUGH BINDERS are provided for those who have trouble seeing the smaller-print of the hymnal, those with other special needs who cannot follow the liturgy in the hymnal or handle its weight, and those who are visiting Pilgrim who are not already familiar with liturgical services and/or our hymnal. Pilgrim's Board of Elders encourages all others to learn to participate in the Divine Service using the hymnal. If you need or otherwise want to use a flow-through and can help minimize paper and copying expenses, a PDF of the flow-through binder's contents is available in the upper-right corner of Pilgrim's homepage, www.pilgrimlc.org, to open on or download to your electronic device. Also, Concordia Publishing House offers a larger-print edition of *Lutheran Service Book* (see item #031202 at www.cph.org and the sample of the print available in the Church Office).

OFFERING BOX: Offerings may be placed in the Offering Box in the Narthex before or after services. Envelopes are available on the side of the Box for your use, such as if you would like your cash offering to be recorded, tracked, and receipted in a report back to you.

PRAYER REQUEST: If you have a special petition for the Prayers of the Church, please notify the Usher, Elder on Duty, or Pastor before the service.

LAST WEEK: There were 3 students and 2 teachers for Sunday School; 9 people were present in Adult Bible Class, and another 1 participated via Skype; 34 were present in the Sunday Divine Service (27 communed), and another 2 participated via Skype; 2 catechumens were in Tuesday afternoon catechesis; and 13 were present in the Midweek Lenten Vespers Service, and another 2 participated via Skype. (Tuesday evening catechesis was not held due to the rescheduled March Elders' Meeting.)

THANKS to Facilities Coordinator Brady Gage and all those who participated in yesterday's Work Day (rain day); to Rev. Adler for the use of his chasubles; to Ben Ford, Remo Gualtieri, and all those helping with the video and audio for classes and services; to George Heil for his care of the inside and outside of Pilgrim's facilities; to Tina McMurray for her Church Office work; and to Arcele Wilburn for procuring the palms.

GROWING IN WORSHIP: Parents, be sure to make use of the bulletins for children aged 5-10 available in the Narthex, including their activities for the whole week!

SERVING TODAY: The Rev. Dr. Jayson S. Galler, Pastor; Carl Gardner, Elder on Duty; and Elaine Navaille, Accompanist.

LIFE THOUGHTS: Sinful nature prizes popularity, property, and power. Sinful nature despises dependence and so discards aging or gestating neighbors. But, Jesus proves that God has designed humankind to rely on Him and each other. His salvation comes about by humbly and happily entrusting oneself to an Almighty Father (Philippians 2:6-8). We need not take life and death into our own hands when we can rest upon His.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS: "Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey" (Zechariah 9:9). No king ever rode to war as Zechariah describes, but no king ever had come to wage battle by dying. In His Passion, our Lord Jesus gives everything He has and is in order to bring us from death to life, to make us His own people, and to show us an example of self-giving love that He enables us to follow.

AS YOU DEPART, please be mindful of those who are ushered out behind you, who may have difficulty standing and waiting, and so who need an open path to the door and to get to their cars quickly. If you stop to talk to someone in the Sanctuary, please keep the aisle as clear as possible, and please delay lengthier conversations with the pastor until after he has greeted everyone. Thank you for your consideration!

PALM BRANCHES: You are encouraged to take your palm branch home to keep as a reminder throughout the year of your participation in the procession and service that began Holy Week. (Branches are customarily placed behind crosses or religious pictures.) You may bring it back next year on or before Shrove Tuesday to be burned into ashes for Ash Wednesday.

AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX are hardcopies of Pastor Galler's recent newspaper columns (including his 03/16 column titled "God forgives even repentant killers"); the March edition of Pilgrim's monthly newsletter *The Pilgrimage*; *Portals of Prayer* for April-June 2024; the latest Church Directory (dated 2024/02/26, printed on yellow-colored paper); the Winter 2024 issue of *Christian Culture*, the magazine of Luther Classical College; the large-print schedule of Daily Bible Reading for March; and Pilgrim's Funeral Planning Worksheet for completing, discussing with Pastor Galler, and filing in the Church Office.

EASTER BREAKFAST MEETING: Men of the congregation usually meet on Palm Sunday to finalize plans for the next Sunday's Easter Breakfast.

CATECHESIS: Pastor Galler is normally scheduled to teach an in-person Catechism Class on Tuesdays at both 4:45 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library; the 6:00 p.m. class is available live via Skype (recorded videos remain there for 30 days). All are welcome to participate!

STUDY HOURS: Pastor Galler is usually in his study Tuesdays from 5:00-8:00 p.m., Wednesdays through Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to Noon, and Saturdays Noon to 3:00 p.m. Come for Individual Confession and Absolution (see *Lutheran Service Book* 292-293) or for any other reason. Pastor Galler is also available at other times by appointment at Pilgrim, or he can come to you (email pastor@pilgrimlc.org or text/call 903-984-4333). For emergency pastoral care, please call Pastor Galler.

HOLY (MAUNDY) THURSDAY DIVINE SERVICE: Join us this Thursday, March 28, at 7:00 p.m. for Divine Service, which will include the usual Stripping of the Altar.

GOOD FRIDAY DIVINE SERVICE: Join us this Friday, March 29, at 7:00 p.m., for Divine Service, which this year will include ancient elements such as the full reading of the Passion according to St. John, the Bidding Prayer, a cross procession, and the Reproaches.

EASTER FLOWERS: The congregation is purchasing a number of Easter Lilies from our local New Generation Farms, but all are welcome to bring more Lilies or other flowers in order to beautify the Chancel next Sunday. You may leave them for the Easter Season or take them with you after the Divine Service to enjoy elsewhere or to share with others.

NEXT SUNDAY: 8:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast; 9:00 Easter Egg Hunt; 9:30 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Bible Class (with a special topic related to Easter); and 10:45 a.m. Divine Service.

Readings: Isaiah 25:6-9; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; and Mark 16:1-8.

Hymns: 489, 488, 459, 458, 548, 457, 477, 466, and 461.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY's hiatus for Lent ends Wednesday, April 3, at 7:00 p.m. Join us live in-person in the Conference Room/Library or via Skype as we continue our study "Salvation History is Our Story" with Revelation 6. Each week's video and audio are posted online for you to watch or hear later (www.pilgrimlc.org/bible-studies/salvation-history).

CELEBRATE LIFE: Right to Life East Texas will have its annual banquet and fundraiser on Saturday, April 6, in Longview. The special guest speaker is Dr. Joe Pojman, the founder and executive director of the Texas Alliance for Life. The cost is \$50/person (\$400/table of 8) and reservations are required. For more information, see the Church Office or visit www.rtle.org.

"THE 15-2 FOLK" will gather next on Sunday, April 7, after the Divine Service, for sharing some snacks and playing some Cribbage. All are welcome, even if you do not know how to play Cribbage. We will teach you!

THE APRIL ELDERS' MEETING that would have been held on April 9 has been cancelled due to scheduling conflicts. However, if circumstances warrant, a briefer special-purpose meeting will be held. Please let Pastor Galler, your Elder, or one of the other Elders know if there is something that you think needs to be addressed.

COUNCIL REPORTS: Please submit reports for the First Quarter of 2023 to Recording Secretary Joy McHargue by Sunday, April 14, so that the Packet for the April 28 regular Quarterly Council Meeting can be distributed and available before that Meeting.

PILGRIM'S MARY/MARTHA SOCIETY will meet next over lunch after the Divine Service Sunday, April 21, and continue its study of the Women of the Bible with Abigail.

QUARTERLY CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING: Pilgrim's Church Council will meet next on Sunday, April 28, after the Divine Service. Before then, the Packet with the working agenda and reports will be distributed electronically and available in hardcopy in the Narthex. Even though only Council Members can vote in Council Meetings, everyone is encouraged and welcome to attend and to contribute to the discussion. The Council makes some decisions and recommends that the Voters' Assembly makes other decisions. Our participation in the administration of Pilgrim's secular affairs is necessary for its survival, humanly speaking, and fruit of our faith.

BACH CANTATA SERIES: You are invited to Zion Lutheran Church (6121 E. Lovers Lane in Dallas) Sunday, May 12, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. for Evening Prayer that will include the singing of J. S. Bach's Cantata titled *Nach dir, Herr, verlanget mich* ("For Thee, O Lord, I long").

"WALKING TOGETHER": Please plan to attend the next Special Congregational Study, scheduled for June 30, on "Ministry". (If you missed February 4's Special Congregational Study on "Unity and Fellowship", please pick up a hardcopy of the handout from the Narthex and listen to the audio or video files at www.pilgrimlc.org/bible-studies/walking-together.) All of these Special Studies together are intended to provide information that we need in order to consider rightly Pilgrim's continued relationship with the Missouri Synod. So, all members, especially Pilgrim's voters, are strongly encouraged to participate in these studies, either in person or electronically.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE on the committee organizing the celebration of Pilgrim's 75th anniversary in 2027? Please pray about it and speak either to President George B. Heil or to Pastor Galler.

CAN YOU HOST AN AMERICAN EXCHANGE STUDENT? The American Exchange Project (see www.americanexchangeproject.org) is seeking host families in Kilgore for U.S. high-school students the week of July 10-17 and the week of July 24-31, including providing some meals and transportation. For more information or to volunteer, contact Julie Cox at 903-522-0267.

WOULD YOU LIKE A BABY GRAND PIANO? A woman in the community who is moving is looking to give away a Yamaha baby grand piano to someone who is passionate about the piano and would appreciate the opportunity to own and play this one and can give it a home where it will be properly cared for and cherished. For more information, see the Church Office.

BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP: What does the Bible, not anyone else, say about stewardship? If you missed Rev. Adler's special one-session Adult Bible Class on Sunday, November 26, 2023, please check it out online at <https://www.pilgrimlc.org/bible-studies/romans>.

ELECTRONIC OFFERINGS: Although Pilgrim does not pay to receive online offerings, you likely can set up a free "bill pay" through your bank or credit union, so that your institution automatically either sends a physical check to Pilgrim or transfers your funds electronically. If you need help, including Pilgrim's account number, contact Treasurer Debbie Shockley.

HELPING HANDS: Pilgrim has a bin below the Guest Register in the Narthex to receive your contributions of non-perishable food, plastic bags, and devotional material to be taken monthly to Kilgore's food pantry.

TITUS FUND: At any time, you may contribute beyond your regular offerings to help us provide others' "daily necessities" (Titus 3:14 NIV). The Titus Fund, LWML Mites, and Sunday School offerings for Lutheran Heritage Foundation are "grandfathered" exceptions to the Voters' Assembly's no restricted-donation policy.