



March 24, 2024 - PALM SUNDAY

AS WE GATHER

The death of Jesus on the cross is not cause for continued sorrow or ongoing relief. As the Epistle points out, our Lord's giving of Himself for our sin makes His a glorious death. It causes "every tongue [to] confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:11). How do we do that? First, our Lord's death draws us to Him, where we find forgiveness, grace, and mercy. Then, each day we are given opportunity to die to sin ourselves and to receive Christ's forgiveness. It is an ongoing process that involves interacting with the people around us, with whom we share Christ's invitation to heaven itself. We sing "Hosanna," which means "save us." Because of the cross, we are confident that we have been saved already.

GREETING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

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

People: **Hosanna to the Son of David.**

PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray.

Most merciful God, as the people of Jerusalem, with palms in their hands, gathered to greet Your dearly beloved Son when He came into His Holy City, grant that we may ever hail Him as our 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.

People: **Amen.**

HOLY GOSPEL *John 12:12–19* *(The triumphal entry)*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹² The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³ So 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!" ¹⁴ And 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!”

¹⁶ His 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. ¹⁷ The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. ¹⁸ The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. ¹⁹ So the Pharisees said to one another, “You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN: LSB 442 “All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Today is the beginning of Holy Week. During Holy Week, we shall recall how our Savior gave His life so that our sins may all be forgiven, and heaven opened to us.

People: **Even during worship, our minds wander to other concerns.**

Pastor: These concerns are already known to God. Give them into His loving hands for resolution, but turn your hearts and minds to focus on our Lord's step-by-step determination to free us from every sin. Confident of the forgiveness He won through His glorious death and resurrection, let us then admit our sinful condition to Him and to one another.

People: **I confess to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in my thinking, speaking, and acting. I am mired in sin and incapable of saving myself. Heavenly Father, for Jesus' sake and because of His sacrifice for us fallen creatures, we beg You to forgive, strengthen, and turn us to Your will so that we may follow our Savior in loving service to You and to one another.**

Pastor: As an ordained servant of Christ, who gave Himself over to death that we might have eternal life, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

☩ WORD ☩

INTROIT *Psalm 24:7–10; antiphon: Psalm 118:26*

People: **Blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD!
We bless you from the house of the LORD.**

Pastor: Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle! Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory!

People: Blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD!
We bless you from the house of the LORD.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, Your Son's death was His ultimate glory, drawing us to Himself.

People: Grant us so to follow His way that we may live each day in joyful service to You until we see You face to face in resurrection glory;

Pastor: through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Zechariah 9:9–12 (The King comes humbly on a donkey.)*

Pastor: A reading from Zechariah.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

People: Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

Pastor: behold, your king is coming to you;

People: righteous and having salvation is He,

Pastor: humble and mounted on a donkey,

People: on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

Pastor: I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and He shall speak peace to the nations; His rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

People: As for you also, because of the blood of My covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN: LSB 901 "Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty" vs 1, 2

EPISTLE *Philippians 2:5–11 (Because of His humble death, Christ has been exalted by the Father.)*

⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,^[a] ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,^[b] ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant,^[c] being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

NEW MEMBER RECEPTION

HYMN OF THE DAY: LSB 901 "Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty" vs 3, 4, 5

SERMON

CREED: *The Apostles' Creed*

All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Because our Lord humbled Himself and became obedient even to death on the cross, now He is highly exalted, at the Father's right hand, ready and able to receive our prayers and accept our praise. Let us go to Him in prayer for all people in their various circumstances.

For people without the necessities of food, clothing, and shelter, that the Holy Spirit would hear their cries and groans, bringing tears of relief and peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Pastor: For all who face this day burdened with illness or addiction, ongoing conflict with people around them, or fear of what might happen, that God would assure them of His gracious presence and strengthen their faith in His guidance and protection, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Pastor: For those who serve the needs of others as they provide medical and emergency care, as they maintain order in our communities and peace across borders, and as they put themselves in danger that their neighbors may find the protection they need, that God would use the gifts He has placed within them to serve in compassion and love, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Pastor: For loving families and caring communities, for schools and institutions of higher learning, wherever people gather to share and build up, that God would provide them the wisdom and understanding they need to do His will, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Pastor: For people near and dear to us, [*especially . . .*], that God would visit, relieve, and console them in His grace and mercy, and for the church here and around the world, that our Lord would strengthen our faith and move us to be His servants, drawing people to His glorious death and resurrection and serving Him with all that we are and have, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who taught us to pray

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

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.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

HYMN: LSB 837 “Lift High the Cross”

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 2.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS for Week of March 24, 2024

Grace Lutheran Church 1120 S. Park Ave. Aurora, MO
Church: 417-678-3603 Pastor Ken Lampe Cell: 417-366-3597
pastor@gracelutheranaurora.com

Family for the Week: Faith & Hallee Wright
Immanuel, Joplin - Rev. William Marler

Prayers of Peace and Comfort:

Prayers of Thanks:

Prayers for Health and Healing:

Complete Prayer List:

Mrs. Chris Atkins - (friend of Pam Bowling - health and healing from cancer)
Jim Troyke – (health and healing from heart issues)
Sandra Whalen – (health and healing from back surgery)
Steve Hilton – (friend of Harold & Gwen Lampe – health and healing from cancer)
Ron Hicks – (friend of Glenda Enlow - health and healing)
June Winger – (Sharon Barlow's mother – health and healing)
Marty Jones – (Bobby Jones' mother - health and healing)
Debbie Porter – (friend of Harold & Gwen Lampe – recovery from frostbite)
Ernest Ramm – (Cheryl Lile's uncle – health and healing from stroke)
Janet Fisher – (daughter of Bill & Joanne Michel – health and healing from surgery)
Norma Kaiser – (friend of Gwen & Harold Lampe – health and healing from a stroke)
Jill Bode – (niece of Rachel Sanford – health and healing from cancer)
Alice Troyke – (health and healing from a fall)
Rick Bauer – (Gladys Bauer's son – health and healing)
Jackie Clark – (Micki Gettman's friend – healing from a broken hip)
Betty Gordon – (health and healing)
Linda Kennell – (Pastor Kennell's mother – health and healing)
Bob & Bev Hess – (health and healing from a fall)
Kathy Brown – (friend of Kathy Holle - health and healing)
Larry Moennig – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing)
Pat Michel – (Bill Michel's Sister-In-Law – health and healing)
Gary Gardner – (health and healing)
Pastor Gary Griffin – (health and healing from cancer)
Thomas Williams – (Ruth Stoddard's friend – health and healing)
Larry Swart – (friend of Bill Munden – health and healing)
Dean Hadley – (health and healing)
Kooper Tutten – (Jeeper Meyer's Great-grandson - health and healing)
Sheryl Holle – (Kathy Holle's cousin – health and healing from cancer)
Jeff Flatten – (great nephew of Kathy Holle – health and healing)
Steve Doss – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing)
Dorothea Dennis – (health and healing & peace and comfort)
Danata Hopkins – (continued health and healing)
Pete Doss – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing)
Ellie Armstrong – (friend of David Lampe – health and healing)
Margaret Seburn - (cousin of Joanne Michel - health and healing)
Randy Wallace – (brother-in-law of Micki Gettman – health and healing)
Diana Bauer – (daughter-in-law of Gladys Bauer - health and healing)
Jami Bauer – (relative of Gladys Bauer - peace and comfort)
Vicki Heppard – (relative of Gladys Bauer - health and healing from cancer)
Bob & Barbara Steinberg - (health and healing)
Ruth Stoddard – (health and healing)



THIS WEEK

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| Sunday | March 24th | 9:00 am - Happy Half Hour 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am – Service |
| Monday | March 25th | Ladies Bible Study in Freistatt - 1:30 pm |

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| Wednesday | March 27th | Pastor in Office |
| Thursday | March 28th | Pastor in Office Maundy Thursday Service - 7:00 pm with Communion |
| Friday | March 29th | Tenebra Service - 7:00 pm |
| Sunday | March 31st | 8:30 am – Easter Breakfast 10:00 am – Service with Communion |

Birthdays: David Hoaglan-Mar. 25; David Lampe-Mar. 26; Kelsey Robertson-Mar. 26; Don Wolf-Mar. 29
Anniversaries: Scott & Tammy Stafford-Mar. 25

Portals of Prayer for April - June are now available. If you need a large print version, please see Pastor.



Grace will be doing a Shine project as last year in helping out at Camp Barnabas. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Please consider signing up to help out. Our work day is April 20th.

New Church Directory: Grace will be doing a new Church Directory. We would like to have pictures of new members and any current members wishing a new picture. Contact Charlie Chambers to get new photos.

Throughout this holy time, we are drawn to Calvary to live in hope, peace, trust and perseverance. The services in this series reveal how Christ and his cross serve as examples for us of how to live out our lives for and through our crucified Lord and Savior.

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| Mar. 24 | Duncan Cox | |
| Mar. 31 | John 2:1-18 | "Guided to New Life" |

"Words That Last Forever" is the theme for our Midweek Lenten Services. We will listen to Jesus as He speaks from the cross 2000 years ago. And we will ponder the meaning of His words for our own lives in the 21st century.

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| Mar. 28 | Luke 22:19 | "For You" | Ken Lampe (Maundy Thursday) |
| Mar. 29 | Luke 23:46 | "Hands" | Ken Lampe (Good Friday) |

Lenten Devotion booklets are available under the mailboxes.

March

GREETERS:
03/24: Stan & Sharon Crandall
 03/31: Charlie & Edee Chambers

USHERS:
03/24: Charlie Chambers
 03/31: Bill Michel

Grace is Collecting Supplies for Trinity School in Freistatt through the month of April.

- (1) Zip Lock baggies - any size
- (2) Colored Markers
- (3) Dry Markers for white boards
- (4) Post-It notes – 4x6 or 3x5 size with lines

There is a collection box in the entry way of the church. If you have any questions, please see Linda Myers.

Spring Cleaning:

If you have any extra cloth material and wish to donate it for making quilts and blankets to be given away, please let Don Wolf know.

Aurora City Wide Garage Sale: Save the date – June 1 - on Grace's lot. Spaces are available to anyone who wants to sell. Grace is also having a booth and anyone wanting to contribute articles should see Pam Bowling. Items are being accepted now through May.