



March 29, 2026 – Palm Sunday

AS WE GATHER

Our Sundays and Wednesdays in Lent have been preparing us for Holy Week. Our Sundays in Lent prepared us to turn towards Jesus, the King who came to die and rise. Our Wednesdays in Lent helped us meditate on all that Jesus did for us. Today begins Holy Week with Palm Sunday. Today, we celebrate that Jesus, the King, rode into Jerusalem riding on a young donkey, with shouts from the people: “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!” (John 12:13) But we also look forward to the rest of this week, as Jesus came to Jerusalem to be “lifted up from the earth” which will “draw all people to [Himself]” (John 12:32). We join in the shouts and cry out, “Hosanna! Save us, now!”

WELCOME

GREETING

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Hosanna!

People: Hosanna to the Son of David!

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

People: Hosanna in the highest!

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.

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.

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
People: **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Pastor: We take a moment of silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,
People: **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

KYRIE

Pastor: Lord, have mercy.

People: **Christ, have mercy.**

Pastor: Lord, have mercy.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN *LSB 531, "Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus," (Melody: LSB 423)*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to 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 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 *Isaiah 50:4-8*

⁴ The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught. ⁵ The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward. ⁶ I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting. ⁷ But the Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame. ⁸ He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM *Psalms 118:19–29*

Pastor: Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

People: **This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.**

Pastor: I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

People: **The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.**

Pastor: This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

People: **This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Pastor: Save us, we pray, O LORD! O LORD, we pray, give us success!

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

Pastor: The LORD is God, and he has made his light to shine upon us. Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar!

People: **You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you.**

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;

People: **for his steadfast love endures forever!**

EPISTLE READING *Philippians 2:5–11*

⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, 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.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR *"Hosanna"*

GOSPEL READING *John 12:12–36*

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." ²⁰ Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. ²¹ So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²² Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³ And Jesus

answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵ Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him. ²⁷ "Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." ²⁹ The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰ Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not mine. ³¹ Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. ³² And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³ He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die. ³⁴ So the crowd answered him, "We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?" ³⁵ So Jesus said to them, "The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. ³⁶ While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light." When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY *LSB 443, "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"*

SERMON *Palm Sunday (John 12:12-36)*

APOSTLE'S 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

HYMN *LSB 783, "Take My Life and Let It Be"*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,
People: **Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, and confident that You will hear and answer us, O Lord.
People: **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
People: **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

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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 441, "Ride On, Ride On in Majesty"*

CLOSING

Pastor: Go in peace and serve your neighbor.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Service adapted from the following: Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A Quarter 2. Copyright © 2022 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission. & Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 2. Copyright © 2024 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission. & Divine Service setting 3 (LSB 184-202).



ANNOUNCEMENTS for Week of March 29, 2026

Grace Lutheran Church 1120 S. Park Ave. Aurora, MO

Church: 417-678-3603 Pastor Daniel Heitshusen

Cell: 832-727-3135 pastor@gracelutheranaurora.com

**Family for the Week: Byron & Tara Martin & Homebound Families
Immanuel, Lockwood**

Prayers of Peace and Comfort:

Prayers of Thanksgiving:

Prayers for Health and Healing:

Complete Prayer List:

Temporary

Tammy Ardrey (cousin of Kathy Holle – health and healing)
Bruce Banks – (friend of Teri Ediger)
Becky – (daughter of Diane and Bill Thompson)
Jeannie Bennett – (relative of Teri Ediger – health and healing)
Opal Bulow (niece of Linda Myers)
Treaa Bussey – (friend of Pam Bowling – health and healing)
Joyce Campbell – (friend of Wanda Thompson–health and healing)
Sara Drewianka – (friend of Gwen Lampe – health and healing from accident)
Kyle and family – (grandson to Cathy Munden, son to Teri)
McGee family – (health and healing)
Bonny Gray – (sister of Cynthia Swoyer–Wolf)

Tessie Holle – (cousin of Kathy Holle)
Janet – (Darlene Lampe's son–in–law's mother)
Donnie Munden – (brother–in–law of Cathy Munden)
Bill Parsons – (Joanne Michel's brother – health and healing)
Suzanne Parsons – (friend of Sue Doss – health and healing)
Joe Pennington – (brother–in–law of Bill Michel – health and healing)
Billy Schmells – (friend of Cheryl Lile – health and healing)
LC Stalcup – (relative of Gladys Bauer – health and healing)
Tim Tucek – (relative of Gladys Bauer – peace and comfort)
Dayton Wheeler – (grandson of Wanda Thompson – surgery)

Long Term

Doug Bernard – (Cathy Munden's cousin – health and healing)
Jill Bode – (niece of Rachel Sanford – health & healing, cancer)
Pat Bricco – (friend of Grace – health and healing)
Kathy Browne – (friend of Kathy Holle – health and healing)
Mary Ann Campbell – (friend of Harold Lampe – peace and comfort)
Jackie Clark – (Micki Gettman's friend – healing from a broken–hip)
Dorthea Dennis – (health and healing)
Glenda Enlow – (health and healing)
Lois Gaddy – (friend of Gwen Lampe – health and healing)
Gary Gardner – (health and healing)
Betty Gordon – (health and healing)

Pastor Hagen – (health and healing)
Zana Haley and baby Veda – (Cathy Munden's granddaughter)
Marybeth Lamp – (friend of Pam Bowling – health and healing)
Mitzie Lorenz – (friend of Harold Lampe – peace and comfort)
Jeeper Meyer – (health and healing from cancer)
Pat Michel – (Bill Michel's sister–In–Law – health & healing)
Margaret Seburn – (cousin of Joanne Michel – health and healing)
Ruth Stoddard – (health & healing)
Larry Swart – (friend of Bill Munden – health and healing from cancer)
Bill Thompson – (health and healing)
June Winger – (Sharon Barlow's mother – health & healing)

Sunday	March 29th	WEEK Happy Half Hour – 9:00 am Fellowship – 9:30 am Service – 10:00 am Pot Luck Lunch after service
Monday	March 30th	Braille - 9:00 am & 1:00 pm
Thursday	April 2nd	Maundy Thursday
Friday	April 3rd	Good Friday
Sunday	April 5th	Easter Breakfast - 8:45 am Service – 10:00 am
Monday	April 6th	Braille - 9:00 am & 1:00 pm LWML in Freistatt - 1:30 pm

Birthdays: Mar. 29-Don Wolf; Mar. 30-Pastor Heitshusen
Anniversaries: Apr. 5-Michael & Amy Garoutte

	March	
GREETERS:		USHERS:
29: Charlie & Edee Chambers		29: Rob Springer
	April	
5: Mathew Springer & Emily Ernest		5: Bill Michel



Sheltering Hope is an organization here in Aurora. They recently voted to form the following committees in 2026 to meet their goals: Jobs committee, Mentorship committee, and Transportation committee. If you are interested in learning more about Sheltering Hope and/or serving on one of the committees, please see Pastor Heitshusen for more details.

Jodi Wright needs pictures of Grace’s Ministry teams, individuals in the group and a short summary of activities for our web site. If you have specific questions, please contact Jodi.

Transportation Help Needed: One of our shut-ins is in need of transportation help to and from her doctors’ appointments. We would like to have a list of people who are willing to help. You would **not** be signing up to be a driver for every appointment. You would only be signing up to be on the list of individuals willing to be contacted, if needed. Please contact Pastor Heitshusen if you are willing to put your name in the list and/or if you have any questions.

The **LWML** is having an in-gathering for Trinity Lambs Cottage Daycare in Freistatt. A list of items requested is in the narthex. Items will be collected until March 29th. If you have questions, please ask Edith.

The **LWML Spring Social** is scheduled for Sunday, May 3rd, in Rockville. An invitation is posted in the narthex. Everyone is invited to attend. If you have questions, or would like to attend, please talk with Edith.