

PALM SUNDAY

WINNETKA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION
MARCH 24, 2024



GATHERING

We begin worship today gathered around the cross under the balcony.

CHORAL INTROIT

Hosanna!

Hosanna in excelsis!

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

-Matthew 21:9

CALL TO WORSHIP | STANDING

Dear friends in Christ,
during Lent we have been preparing for the celebration
of our Lord's death and resurrection,
and in our imagination we have come as far
as the gates and Temple of Jerusalem.
On this day of palms and passion,
let us walk the way of the cross with Jesus,
that we may share in the joy of his resurrection.

GOSPEL | STANDING

Mark 11:1-11

When Jesus and his disciples were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and 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. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this: 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said, and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna!

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

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Then 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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Following the Gospel, we process into the sanctuary, and remain standing
to sing the opening hymn.*



1. Ex - ult to - day, Je - ru - sa - lem! God comes to set you free!
2. So wave your_ palms and fill the air with shouts of joy this day;



This ro - yal_ Son of Beth - le - hem ful - fills_ all proph - e - cy.
the King of_ glo - ry comes to bear your sin_ and death a - way!



With joy, the cit - y re - so - nates! O__ Zi - on's daugh - ter, sing!
Ho - san - na, Lord! Your peo - ple__ save! O__ come, Em - man - u - el,



Lift up your_ heads, you might - y gates, and greet your com - ing King!
and by your_ cross and shat - tered grace, tear down the gates of hell!

OPENING PRAYER | STANDING

**We come to worship you, O Christ,
the bringer of salvation,
the hoped-for one,
the Savior who stands us among us now.
Accept the praise of our lips
as we lay our lives before you,
and offer you everything we have.
Amen.**

WORD

CHORAL ANTHEM

What Wondrous Love Is This

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of life
to lay aside his crown for my soul.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE PHILLIPPIAN CANTICLE

Philippians 2:5-11

Children (K-6) are dismissed to Sunday School following the scripture reading.

HYMN 224 | STANDING

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

THE PASSION ACCORDING TO MARK

Mark 15:1-39

CHORAL ANTHEM

The Sparrow's Song

"I will build my nest in the arms of the tree," sang the sparrow soft and low.
"The cross that stands upon the hill will keep me safe, I know.
For the tree will be a shelter strong, a tower high above,
a place where I can sing my song and know that I am loved."

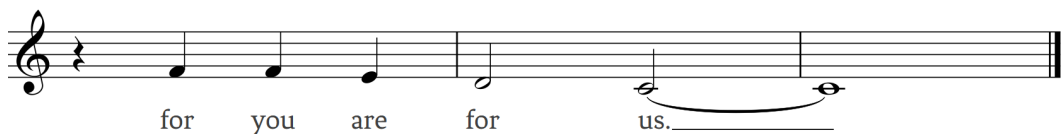
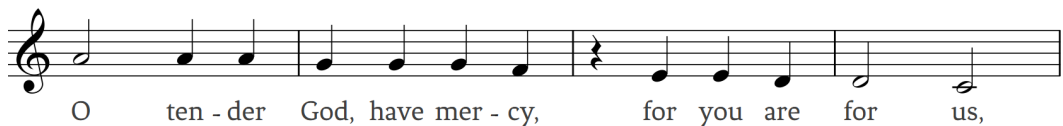
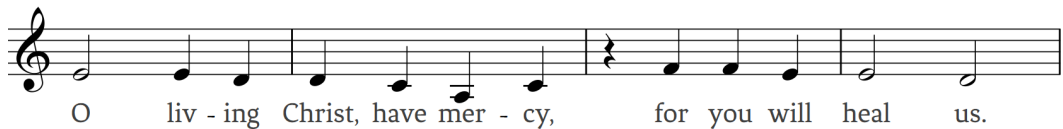
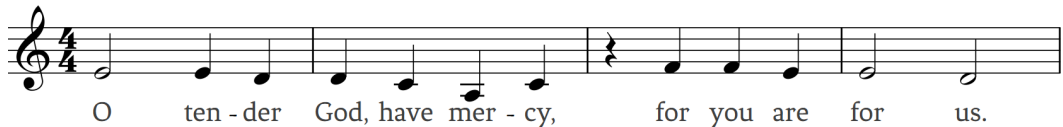
"I will build my nest in the arms of the tree that held the Lord of life,
the Keeper of all fragile things, the One who gave me flight.
For he sees me when on clouds I soar; he hears me when I sing;
he holds me close through every storm. I am safe beneath his wings.
Tree of mercy, tree of grace, in your shadow there is hope.
Tree of comfort, tree of life, in your branches I am home."

"I will take my rest at the foot of the tree," said the sinner tired and worn.
"Beneath the cross of Calvary is where I'll make my home.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful Savior,
we come to your cross,
acknowledging that we are full of inconsistencies.
We praise you with our lips,
but our lives contradict what we say.
We claim to be your loyal disciples,
but we run away when things get too difficult.
We say we will stand by you in your suffering,
but we abandon our neighbors made in your own image.
Forgive the pain we cause you,
and the hurt we inflict on others.
Give us hearts full of praise,
open to your call,
and impatient with whatever stands between us and your will,
so that we may follow you to whatever lies ahead,
this Holy Week and every week.

Silence is kept for personal confession.



WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SHARING THE PEACE | STANDING

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord of mercy,

hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts as we forgive our debtors;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

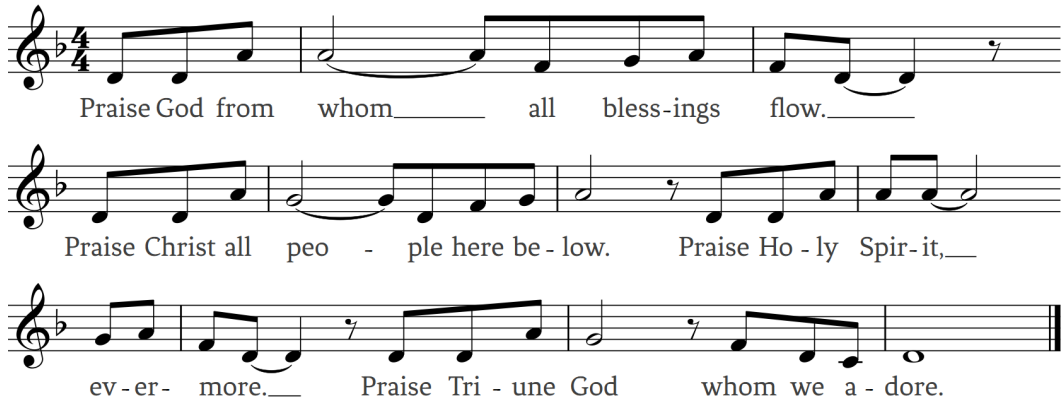
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.

Amen.

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

DOXOLOGY | STANDING



Praise God from whom _____ all bless-ings flow. _____

Praise Christ all peo - ple here be - low. Praise Ho - ly Spir-it, _____

ev - er - more. _____ Praise Tri - une God whom we a - dore.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING | STANDING

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

O God,

we thank you for Jesus,

who showed us your love for all creation,

who opened our eyes to see your kingdom,

and who gave his very life for us.

Freely we have received, freely we give.

We now lay our offerings at the foot of the cross.

Use them to further the work of your kingdom

in the world you so love.

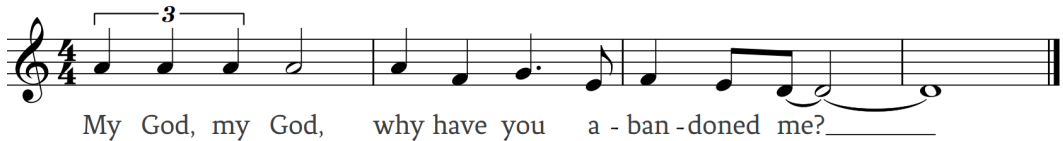
Amen.

WE ENTER INTO HOLY WEEK

STRIPPING OF THE SANCTUARY

Psalm 22

*The sanctuary is stripped of its furnishings and decoration.
The starkness helps us to recall that during Holy Week Jesus was abandoned by his
followers, stripped of his dignity, and left to face the cross alone.*



All who see me scoff; they mock me with parted lips, they wag their head:
“He relied on the Lord; let him deliver him, let him rescue him,
if he loves him.” (refrain)

Indeed many dogs surround me, a pack of evildoers close upon me;
They have pierced my hands and feet, I can number all my bones. (refrain)

They divide my garments among them, for my vesture they cast lots.
But you, O Lord, be not far from me; O my help, hasten to my aid. (refrain)

I will proclaim your name to my brethren; amidst the assembly I will praise you:
“You who fear the Lord, praise him; all you descendants of Jacob,
give glory to him.” (refrain)

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION | STANDING

Jesus' face turns toward the cross.

Even if we wish to look away, we will not.

We will watch what comes though our hearts may break.

In the breaking, we will be made whole.

This is our blessing: that Love endured death for us.

And then, there was something new...

We leave quietly today as we enter into this most Holy Week with Christ.

ORDER FLOWERS FOR EASTER - DUE TODAY

If you would like to help fill the sanctuary with flowers for Easter Sunday (and the Easter season), please fill out this form and **return it by this Sunday**.

In loving memory _____

In honor _____

In thanksgiving _____

Given by _____

Donation Amount _____

HOLY WEEK



MAUNDY THURSDAY
MARCH 28 @ 7PM
UNDER THE BALCONY

- Remember the Last Supper of Jesus with music and holy communion around the Table of the Lord

GOOD FRIDAY
MARCH 29 @ 7PM
ST. JAMES THE LESS EPISCOPAL

- Ponder the crucifixion of Jesus with prayer and music around the Cross of Christ
- We will worship together with members of the Lutheran Church of the Ascension, St. James the Less Episcopal Church, and Northfield Community Church

EASTER SUNDAY
MARCH 31 @ 10AM
SANCTUARY

- Celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus with a festival worship service
- Rejoice with choral music, baptismal waters, and holy communion
- Easter reception and egg hunt following worship
- Children remain in worship with their families

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Information about weekly Bible studies and small groups can be found in your weekly email or at winnpres.org. Sign up at winnpres.org to receive our weekly email.



OFFERING

- Scan QR code
- Offering plate in worship
- Online at winnpres.org

FLOWER DONATIONS ARE DUE TODAY

All donations for Easter flowers are due today. This allows us time to include all the names in the Easter bulletin.

HOLY WEEK

Holy Week is the central week of our life as Christians. It is the week that we recall through scripture, music, ritual, and sacrament the last days of Jesus.

MAUNDY THURSDAY / MARCH 28 @ 7PM

Holy Communion under the balcony at WPC.

GOOD FRIDAY / MARCH 29 @ 7PM

We will be worshipping together with members from Lutheran Church of the Ascension, St. James the Less Episcopal

Church, and Northfield Community Church. **The service will be held at St. James (550 Sunset Ridge Rd, Northfield).** Our musicians, pastor, and music director will be helping with this special service.

EASTER SUNDAY / MARCH 31 @ 10AM

CHRISTIAN FORMATION TODAY

The Historical Jesus in Conference Room B

SERVING TODAY

Worship Leaders: Paul Gilmore, Geoff Duffy

Greeters: Nancy Holly, Deacons

Lector: Liz Berwanger, Bill McNair,

 Sherri Lewis, Kathy Fink, David Holly

Prayer Leader: Liz Berwanger

Musicians: Bryan Wlas, Daniel Rausch,

 Shannon McMullen, Kyra Kornfeld,

 Warren Oja, Laurie DeVillers

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