

SUNDAY  
OF THE *passion*



PALM SUNDAY  
SUNDAY, APRIL 13

*american*  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

# american

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

801 Monroe Street  
La Porte City, IA 50651

(319) 342-2852

Services led by  
**Pastor Sevaraj Periannan**  
(Pastor Selva)

Email:  
[selvaperia@gmail.com](mailto:selvaperia@gmail.com)

Phone:  
(319) 961-5828

\*\*\*

Church Secretary  
**Jeff Voelschow**

Email:  
[alsecretary@lpctel.net](mailto:alsecretary@lpctel.net)

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# volunteer

Select a Sunday.  
Select a Role.

**BE OF SERVICE.**



## OUR MISSION

We are people who worship Jesus Christ, reaching out to teach and share his love for people. We believe through the Holy Spirit, God has empowered us to worship Jesus Christ through music, Word and Sacrament; To Teach the gospel through Sunday School, confirmation, Bible Study and Youth Ministry. To share the gospel and reach out through Fellowship, Evangelism and Ministry to all in need.

## JOIN US for Worship, Fellowship & Sunday School each week!

Worship begins @ 9 am \* Fellowship/Sunday School @ 10 am

# Welcome to Worship

## PALM SUNDAY

## INTRODUCTION

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.

*(Congregation will gather at the church's west entrance for a processional into the sanctuary together.)*

## WELCOME

## BLESSING OF THE PALMS

The Lord be with you. **And, also with you.**

Let us pray. We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today He entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you, through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## ENTRANCE INTO THE FINAL DAYS

### PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL

Luke 19: 28-40

<sup>28</sup>After he had said this, [Jesus] went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

<sup>29</sup>When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, <sup>30</sup>saying, “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. <sup>31</sup>If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’” <sup>32</sup>So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. <sup>33</sup>As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” <sup>34</sup>They said, “The Lord needs it.” <sup>35</sup>Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. <sup>36</sup>As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. <sup>37</sup>As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, <sup>38</sup>saying,

“Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!”

<sup>39</sup>Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” <sup>40</sup>He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

### PROCESSIONAL HYMN

**ELW #344** All Glory, Laud & Honor

*NOTE\*\*Pastor and children will begin the procession. All are invited to participate! As you pass the cross, lay your palm at the base of the cross or on the steps approaching the cross. At the end of the hymn, the children may gather on the steps leading to the altar to listen to Pastor's children's sermon*

**Refrain:: All glory, laud, and honor to you, redeemer, king, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.**

VERSE 1 You are the king of Israel and David's royal Son, now in the Lord's name coming, our King and Blessed One. **Refrain**

VERSE 2 The company of angels are praising you on high; creation and all mortals in chorus make reply. **Refrain**

VERSE 3 The multitude of pilgrims with palms before you went; our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present. **Refrain**

VERSE 4 To you, before your passion, they sang their hymns of praise. To you, now high exalted, our melody we raise. **Refrain**

VERSE 5 Their praises you accepted; accept the prayers we bring, great author of all goodness, O good and gracious King. **Refrain**

## LENTEN KYRIE

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Almighty God, Creator of all that is, send your power upon us.

**Lord, have mercy on us.**

Jesus Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
forgive us our sin.

**Christ, have mercy on us.**

Spirit of God, who brings to us God's mercy and grace, give us your peace.

**Lord, have mercy on us.**

*(Congregation, please be seated)*

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### INTRO TO THE PASSION

*Through the teachings  
and events of the passion  
story we see and hear the  
great contradictions that  
characterize the coming  
of God's reign. The leader  
serves the followers, proud  
Peter is revealed in his  
cowardice, and Jesus—the  
innocent bringer of life—is  
arrested, beaten, executed,  
and buried.*

The Gospel of Luke 22: 14 — 23: 56

*(Please follow along with the script in the supplemental leaflet. The congregation reads the part  
of "the crowd.")*



# HYMN OF THE DAY ACS #927 Christ is the Life



1 Christ is the life of all that is, God's pure cre - a - tive  
2 Christ is the death of all that is; a broad and beck - 'ning  
3 Christ is the death of all that is, a bright, con - sum - ing  
4 Christ is the life of all that is, Be - gin - ning and the



Word, whose pow'r be - yond and through all space the  
tomb, who wel - comes us from well - worn ways to  
fire, whose flames re - quire our pri - or self as  
End; cre - a - tive force, most peace - ful death, trans -



worlds to Be - ing stirred. Christ is the life be - yond all  
dark - ness of the womb. Christ is the death, the sink - ing  
kin - dling for the pyre. Christ is the death of dust - y  
form - ing burn - ing brand. Christ is the life, in whose wise



time, cre - a - tion's birth and breath, whose la - bor  
down past all de - sire and fear, whose prom - ise  
days of un - cre - a - tive strife, for out from  
love cre - a - tion lives and dies and thus for -



brings all things to be and brings all things to death.  
in the gen - tle dark bids new - ness to ap - pear.  
fire we tread up - on the thresh - old of new life.  
ev - er - more shall bless the Source, the liv - ing Christ.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953. Music: COE FEN, Kenneth Naylor, 1931-1991, Text c. 1989 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress, Music c. Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used with permission

*(Congregation, please stand)*

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

*A printed version of the Apostles' Creed is available on the inside back cover of the red hymnal.*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Petitions end “God, in your mercy,” Congregation responds, “receive our prayer.”*

## SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*(Congregation, please be seated)*

## OFFERING

*(Congregation, please stand)*

## OFFERTORY ELW #186 Create in Me a Clean Heart

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923. Music copyright 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

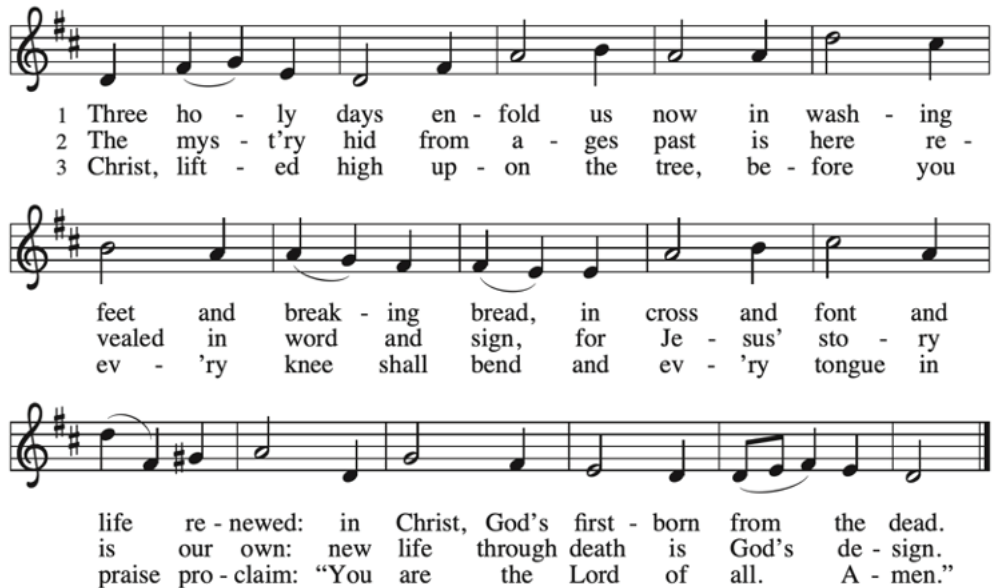
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

## BLESSING

God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

# SENDING HYMN ACS #930 Three Holy Days Enfold Us Now



1 Three ho - ly days en - fold us now in wash - ing  
 2 The mys - t'ry hid from a - ges past is here re -  
 3 Christ, lift - ed high up - on the tree, be - fore you

feet and break - ing bread, in cross and font and  
 vealed in word and sign, for Je - sus' sto - ry  
 ev - 'ry knee shall bend and ev - 'ry tongue in

life re - newed: in Christ, God's first - born from the dead.  
 is our own: new life through death is God's de - sign.  
 praise pro - claim: "You are the Lord of all. A - men."

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939, Music: ROCKINGHAM OLD, Edward Miller, 1731-1807, adapt.  
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**DISMISSAL** Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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## A PLACE WITH JESUS

The movement of this day—from shouts of praise to words of denial and cries for crucifixion—mirrors the path of discipleship. The lives of Jesus' followers hang in the balance between faithfulness and betrayal. For Peter, the act of denial is subtle and insidious. He claims not to know Jesus; he claims to have no place as his disciple. On the surface it is seemingly harmless. It happens, and then is over in a moment. In reality, the harm is deep and lasting. Subtle but harmful denial happens in a split second as disciples compromise faith for the sake of self-

protection—as they're too embarrassed to give thanks; as someone knows how to help but fails to do so because it's inconvenient; as resources are hoarded. While Peter withholds everything for his own sake, Jesus, for the sake of others, withholds nothing. As disciples fail to claim their place with Jesus, Jesus' embrace claims them. From the cross, Jesus offers mercy wide enough to claim even those who do not know what they do.



# holy week



*palm* SUNDAY \*WORSHIP & PASSION READING

We will gather at the West Entrance for a processional into the sanctuary waving our palm leaves and singing as we go. We enter this holy week accompanying Jesus to the cross with both grief and thanksgiving in our hearts, trusting in God's redeeming love.

SUN  
APR  
13 9 AM

THU  
APR  
17 7 PM

*maundy* THURSDAY \*WORSHIP & COMMUNION

Tonight we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another.



*good* FRIDAY \*WORSHIP

Standing with the disciples at the foot of the cross, we pray for the whole world in the ancient bidding prayer, as Christ's death offers life to all. We gather in solemn devotion. We depart silently. We anticipate the culmination of the Three Days in the Easter Vigil.

FRI  
APR  
18 7 PM

SUN  
APR  
20 9 AM

*easter* SUNDAY \*WORSHIP & COMMUNION

Today Christ is risen, and we gather together with astonishment and joy. Christ is risen, and we have been set free from the bonds of death. Christ is risen, and we are forgiven.  
Let us rejoice: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

