



Ascension Lutheran Church

"A Church for Families, a Family for Everyone"

Palm Sunday ~ April 2, 2023

PALM SUNDAY

April 2, 2023

Welcome to all who are attending our service today. We are glad you are with us! To all guests and visitors, we especially extend our hands of friendship. May God bless the worship time for each one of you. Please come again!

NURSERY AVAILABLE We have an unstaffed nursery for your convenience and privacy. The nursery has audio and video so you may hear and see the worship service while attending to your child.

Holy Communion is celebrated at the 8:30 service on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, and at the 11:00 service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

For those wishing to commune at the Lord's Table with us today: The Lutheran practice of close Communion attempts to prevent a person from eating and drinking judgment on himself (1 Corinthians 11:23–30). Thus, attendance at the Lord's Supper implies a four-level commitment to Christ. We believe that communicants must: (1) be baptized Christians; (2) accept the real presence of Christ's body in the bread and His blood in the wine; (3) confess and repent of one's sins and trust that God offers complete forgiveness of those sins in this Sacrament; and (4) share oneness of faith, doctrine and practice among those who commune. Those wishing to commune with us today who have not done so previously, please see the pastor or an elder before the service begins. *(Grape juice is available for those who do not drink alcohol, and gluten-free wafers are available upon request.)*

Para aquellos que desean participar en la Santa Cena con nosotros hoy: La práctica luterana de la comunión intenta evitar que una persona coma y beba el juicio de Dios sobre sí mismo (1 Corintios 11:23–30). Por lo tanto, la asistencia a la Cena del Señor implica un compromiso de cuatro niveles con Cristo. Creemos que los comulgantes deben: (1) ser bautizados como cristianos; (2) aceptar la presencia real del cuerpo de Cristo en el pan y Su sangre en el vino; (3) confesar y arrepentirse de sus pecados y confiar en que Dios ofrece el perdón completo de esos pecados en este Sacramento; y (4) compartir la unidad de fe, doctrina y práctica entre los que comulgan. Aquellos que desean comulgar con nosotros hoy que no lo han hecho anteriormente, por favor vean al pastor o un anciano antes de que comience el servicio. *(El jugo de uva está disponible para aquellos que no beben alcohol, y hostias libres de gluten están disponibles bajo petición.)*

+ PREPARATION +

Theme: “Opened: The Gates of Righteousness”

As We Gather: “Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord” (Psalm 118:19). Today’s psalm speaks of gates opening for the people of God to enter into His holy presence. These are not any old gates; these are the “gates of righteousness.” As the outstretched arms and nail-scarred hands of our Savior welcome us all to enter these gates, we walk by faith into the presence of the faithful Father who freely gives us His forgiveness. Palm Sunday is the “gate” of Holy Week. As we gather for worship, let us walk through this gate with Jesus, our King, remembering His suffering for our salvation, and receiving again the gifts of God that inspire in us our thanks and praise.

Prelude

“Procession of Praise”

Words by T. of Orleans & J. Threlfall

Music arr. by Joseph M. Martin

Ascension Choir

*All glory, laud, and honor, to You, Redeemer, King,
To Whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.
You are the King of Israel, and David’s royal Son,
Now in the Lord’s name coming, our King and blessed One!*

*From Olivet they followed ‘mid an exultant crowd.
The victor palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud.
The Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state,
Nor scorned that little children should on His bidding wait.*

*“Hosanna in the highest!” That ancient song we sing,
For Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heav’n, our King.
O may we ever praise Him with heart and life and voice,
And in His blissful presence eternally rejoice!
Sing hosanna in the highest! Hosanna to the King!*

Greeting

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

C Amen.

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

C Hosanna to the Son of David.

The Holy Gospel

John 12:12-19 (ESV)

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

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.

P Let us go forth in peace,

C in the name of the Lord.

Palm Sunday Acclamation

- P** All hail to Jesus, the King of our lives! Lift up your hearts and rejoice in Him!
- C** **He came from the very throne of God, but He gave that up to suffer a criminal's death on the cross.**
- P** But God raised Him up that the ends of the earth may bow before Him as their King!
- C** **Jesus Christ is Lord! Hosanna!**
- P** In Him is forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.
- C** **Have mercy on us, Lord! Bless us with Your peace! Hosanna in the highest!**

+ Procession of Palms +

(The pastor, ushers, elders and others will place palm branches at the foot of the cross. The north side (piano side) of the congregation will then do the same, moving up the left side of the aisle, and returning to their seats by the opposite side of the aisle. The south side (pulpit side) will then do the same, moving up the center aisle, returning to their seats by the side aisle.)

HYMN

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

- ref** All glory, laud, and honor
To You, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children
Made sweet hosannas ring.
- 1 You are the King of Israel
And David's royal Son,
Now in the Lord's name coming,
Our King and Blessèd One. **Refrain**
- 2 The company of angels
Is praising You on high,
And we with all creation
In chorus make reply. **Refrain**

- 3 The multitude of pilgrims
With palms before You went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems
Before You we present. **Refrain**
- 4 To You before Your passion
They sang their hymns of praise;
To You, now high exalted,
Our melody we raise. **Refrain**
- 5 As You received their praises,
Accept the prayers we bring,
O Source of ev'ry blessing,
Our good and gracious King. **Refrain**

Text: Theodulf of Orléans, c. 762–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Text: Public domain

Confession and Absolution

- P** Lord Jesus, on this day when we remember Your entry into Jerusalem as King and Savior, we walk with You to Your cross, where Your righteousness is given to all who believe. Search our hearts and minds that we may receive Your Word, share in Your Spirit, and be renewed in our relationships with You and with one another.

We take a moment of silence for personal prayers of confession.

- P** With humble hearts, let us pray together.
- C** **Lord Jesus, the Father's only Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords, hear us as we pray.**
- P** You reign over all things and yet humbled Yourself for our salvation.
- C** **We confess that our rebellion against You in thought, word, and action is the reason why You entered into this world.**
- P** It is why You passed through the gates of Jerusalem on Palm Sunday and why You laid down Your life upon Calvary's cross on Good Friday—

C to forgive our sins, to redeem our lives, and to cancel the debt we owe to God.

P With hearts that are humble and lives that are grateful, help us to receive Your grace and bow before You in worship,

C confessing that You alone are Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, shows His mercy to us in the sending of His only Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords. The One who entered into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday was handed over to death upon the cross so that we may be reconciled to the Father and granted His remission, full and free. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Rejoicing in Your mercy to us this day, enable us to follow our Savior, walking with Him to His cross and sharing with Him in His resurrection. We pray this in the name of our humble King, Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sharing The Peace of the Lord

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

+ THE WORD +

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 50:4-9a (ESV)

⁴The 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.
⁵The Lord GOD has opened My ear,
and I was not rebellious;
I turned not backward.
⁶I 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.
⁷But 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.
⁸He 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.
⁹Behold, the Lord GOD helps Me;
who will declare Me guilty?

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Philippians 2:5-11 (ESV)

⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,
⁶who, though He was in the form of God, did not count equality
with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but made Himself nothing, taking
the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And
being found in human form, He humbled Himself by becoming
obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Lambs' Lesson

Pr. Jim Sprengle

+ The Passion Of Our Lord +

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 26 and 27 (ESV)

(The congregation reads the parts in bold)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the Passion of Our Lord.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

JUDAS AGREES TO BETRAY JESUS (Mt 26:14-16, 21-25)

¹⁴Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests ¹⁵and said, "What will you give me if I deliver Him over to you?" And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. ¹⁶And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray Him.²¹And as they were eating, He said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me." ²²And they were very sorrowful and began to say to Him one after another,

"Is it I, Lord?"

²³He answered, "He who has dipped his hand in the dish with Me will betray Me. ²⁴The Son of Man goes as it is written of Him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born." ²⁵Judas, who would betray Him, answered,

“Is it I, Rabbi?”

He said to him, “You have said so.”

JESUS’ PREDICTION OF PETER’S DENIAL (Mt 26:31-35)

³¹Then Jesus said to them, “You will all fall away because of Me this night. For it is written, ‘I will strike the Shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ ³²But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.” ³³Peter answered Him,

“Though they all fall away because of You, I will never fall away.”

³⁴Jesus said to Him, “Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.” ³⁵Peter said to Him,

“Even if I must die with You, I will not deny You!”

And all the disciples said the same.

JESUS PRAYS IN THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE (Mt 26:36-46)

³⁶Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and He said to His disciples, “Sit here, while I go over there and pray.”

³⁷And taking with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, He began to be sorrowful and troubled. ³⁸Then He said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with Me.” ³⁹And going a little farther He fell on His face and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.”

⁴⁰And He came to the disciples and found them sleeping.

And He said to Peter, “So, could you not watch with Me one hour?
⁴¹Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” ⁴²Again, for the second time, He went away and prayed, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, Your will be done.”

⁴³And again He came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy.

⁴⁴So, leaving them again, He went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again. ⁴⁵Then He came to the disciples and said to them, "Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴⁶Rise, let us be going; see, My betrayer is at hand."

JUDAS' BETRAYAL AND THE ARREST OF JESUS (Mt 26:47-56)

⁴⁷While He was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. ⁴⁸Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; seize Him." ⁴⁹And he came up to Jesus at once and said,

"Greetings, Rabbi!" And he kissed Him.

⁵⁰Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you came to do."

Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized Him.

⁵¹And behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. ⁵²Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword. ⁵³Do you think that I cannot appeal to My Father, and He will at once send Me more than twelve legions of angels? ⁵⁴But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?" ⁵⁵At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture Me? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not seize Me. ⁵⁶But all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled."

Then all the disciples left Him and fled.

PETER'S DENIAL (Mt 26:69-75)

⁶⁹Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came up to him and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean."

⁷⁰But he denied it before them all, saying,

"I do not know what you mean."

⁷¹And when he went out to the entrance, another servant girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth." ⁷²And again he denied it with an oath:

"I do not know the man."

⁷³After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Certainly you too are one of them, for your accent betrays you."

⁷⁴Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear,

"I do not know the man."

And immediately the rooster crowed. ⁷⁵And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

JESUS BEFORE PILATE (Mt 27:11-17, 21-26)

¹¹Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You have said so." ¹²But when He was accused by the chief priests and elders, He gave no answer. ¹³Then Pilate said to Him, "Do You not hear how many things they testify against You?" ¹⁴But He gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, – so that the governor was greatly amazed. ¹⁵Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted.

¹⁶And they had then a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. ¹⁷So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?"

²¹The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said,

"Barabbas."

²²Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said,

"Let Him be crucified!"

²³And he said, "Why, what evil has He done?" But they shouted all the more,

"Let Him be crucified!"

²⁴So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." ²⁵And all the people answered,
"His blood be on us and on our children!"

²⁶Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered Him to be crucified.

THE SOLDIERS MOCK JESUS (Mt 27:27-31)

²⁷Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before Him.

²⁸And they stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him, ²⁹and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on His head and put a reed in His right hand. And kneeling before Him, they mocked Him, saying,

"Hail, King of the Jews!"

³⁰And they spit on Him and took the reed and struck Him on the head. ³¹And when they had mocked Him, they stripped Him of the robe and put His own clothes on Him and led Him away to crucify Him.

JESUS' CRUCIFIXION (Mt 27:32-44)

³²As they went out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. They compelled this man to carry His cross. ³³And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), ³⁴they offered Him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when He

tasted it, He would not drink it. ³⁵And when they had crucified Him, they divided His garments among them by casting lots. ³⁶Then they sat down and kept watch over Him there. ³⁷And over His head they put the charge against Him, which read,

“This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.”

³⁸Then two robbers were crucified with Him, one on the right and one on the left. ³⁹And those who passed by derided Him, wagging their heads ⁴⁰and saying,

“You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross.”

⁴¹So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked Him, saying,

⁴²“He saved others; He cannot save Himself. He is the King of Israel; let Him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in Him. ⁴³He trusts in God; let God deliver Him now, if He desires Him. For He said, ‘I am the Son of God.’”

⁴⁴And the robbers who were crucified with Him also reviled Him in the same way.

THE DEATH OF JESUS (Mt 27:45-54)

⁴⁵Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. ⁴⁶And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” ⁴⁷And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said,

“This man is calling Elijah.”

⁴⁸And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to Him to drink. ⁴⁹But the others said,

“Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save Him.”

⁵⁰And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up His spirit. ⁵¹And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. ⁵²The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, ⁵³and coming out of the tombs after His resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. ⁵⁴When the centurion and those who were with Him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said,

“Truly this was the Son of God!”

JESUS' BURIAL (Mt 27:57-61)

⁵⁷When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. ⁵⁸He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. ⁵⁹And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud ⁶⁰and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away. ⁶¹Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

PILATE POSTS A GUARD (Mt 27:62-66)

⁶²Next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate ⁶³and said, “Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while He was still alive, ‘After three days I will rise.’ ⁶⁴Therefore order the tomb to be made secure until the third day, lest His disciples go and steal Him away and tell the people, ‘He has risen from the dead,’ and the last fraud will be worse than the first.” ⁶⁵Pilate said to them, “You have a guard of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can.” ⁶⁶So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Prayer /Love in Action Requests Gathered

Hymn

No Tramp of Soldiers' Marching Feet

- 1 No tramp of soldiers' marching feet
With banners and with drums,
No sound of music's martial beat:
"The King of glory comes!"
To greet what pomp of kingly pride
No bells in triumph ring,
No city gates swing open wide:
"Behold, behold your King!"
- 2 And yet He comes. The children cheer;
With palms His path is strown.
With ev'ry step the cross draws near:
The King of glory's throne.
Astride a colt He passes by
As loud hosannas ring,
Or else the very stones would cry
"Behold, behold your King!"
- 3 What fading flow'rs His road adorn;
The palms, how soon laid down!
No bloom or leaf but only thorn
The King of glory's crown.
The soldiers mock, the rabble cries,
The streets with tumult ring,
As Pilate to the mob replies,
"Behold, behold your King!"
- 4 Now He who bore for mortals' sake
The cross and all its pains
And chose a servant's form to take,
The King of glory reigns.
Hosanna to the Savior's name
Till heaven's rafters ring,
And all the ransomed host proclaim
"Behold, behold your King!"

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926

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Sermon

"HERO TO ZERO"

Pr. Jim Sprengle
Matthew 27:24-26

APOSTLES' CREED

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.

Tithes and Offerings

(Our offerings are made as an act of worship, given in loving response to all that God has graciously given us, both materially and spiritually.)

Prayer of the Church

P Confident in our Father's mercy, let us come before Him in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, trusting that our prayers will be answered according to His good and gracious will.

Gracious Father, we join with the masses of people, past and present, who enter Your gates with thanksgiving and courts with praise as we begin Holy Week. With humility and faith, we walk with our Savior as He journeys to the cross for our salvation. And so we pray:

C help us to trust in Him.

P Giver of every blessing, You alone are the One who exchanges the rags of our sin for the robe of Your righteousness. Because of the innocent blood of Christ, offered for us on Calvary's tree, we are granted Your cleansing and pardon. By Your grace alone, we, through faith, receive the benefits of Jesus' death and resurrection. As we look to our Savior during this week of His passion:

C help us to trust in Him.

P Your Son is the reason we rejoice this day as we come into Your merciful presence to receive You as You humble Yourself for us, serving us by Your Word and Spirit. With hearts ready to receive and mouths ready to share with others the confession of Your saving name, grant that Jesus be glorified throughout His Church on earth, here among us in this congregation and wherever His Gospel is proclaimed. We ask You, Father:

C help us to trust in Him.

P Restorer of the broken and Physician of both soul and body, look with mercy upon those who are sick, homebound, hospitalized, recovering, or awaiting medical procedures. This day we name before You...that they may experience Your merciful presence, healing, and comfort in their lives. Commending them and ourselves to Your care, we pray:

C help us to trust in Jesus, who died and rose again so we may receive Your righteousness.

P We give You thanks for the blessings and occasions being celebrated this week...In all things, Lord,

C help us to trust in You.

P We ask for this grace in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You, O Father, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**C 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

- P** Let your eyes be fixed on Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

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.

Numbers 6:24–26

- C** Amen.

(We depart in silence as we anticipate the journey of our Lord to the cross.)

Acknowledgments

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Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A Quarter 2.

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“Procession of Praise” from “The Song Everlasting” Joseph M. Martin, © Copyright 2011 Hal Leonard – MILWIN MUSIC CORP. Used by permission under OneLicense #A-729093. All rights reserved.

† EASTER BREAKFAST NEXT SUNDAY

Sunday, April 9 the Human Care Board is hosting an Easter Breakfast Fundraiser between services! Tickets will be sold in advance to estimate the number who will attend; however, no advance purchase is necessary! The Cost is \$5 and under 12 years old is free! You are welcome to donate further the day of the event for this valuable ministry! Check out the white board in the Narthex for opportunities to provide food for the event!

† LIFE SUNDAY UPDATES!

- Baby bottles to collect donations for *First Image* will arrive in time for Easter! Do not forget to pick yours up in the Narthex and fill it with any and all donations! Then return it to the church!
- Life Sunday planned for May 14 (Mother's Day)
- The First Image Fun Run and Walk is a family-friendly annual event. Come together to support women, men, and babies so they can have every opportunity to experience abundant life! Register online at: <https://first-image.org/5k/> The run is on Saturday, May 13th at Blue Lake Regional Park, 21224 NE Blue Lake Rd, Fairview, OR 97024

† BRACELET PROJECT FOR SPANISH SPEAKERS

Volunteers will help put bracelets together in the community room on Wednesdays at 2pm. If you cannot come to Wednesdays, you can take home supplies and make them from home! ~or~

Help spread the Gospel! Know a business in town that is willing to put a basket of bracelets on their counter? Family-owned restaurants, mechanics, retail stores, hotels - or any place willing to put a basket of Gospel bracelets in their business will help spread the Word.

† WOMEN'S HOME BIBLE STUDY

The Bible Study will meet the last Tuesday of every month, 9:30am-11:00am at Elle Brown's home, 214 NE 27th Street, Gresham

† PRAYER NEEDS?

Contact the church office with any requests, please e-mail: office@alcportland.org

† MILESTONES

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS:

Jim Haggard	Apr. 2	Eileen Hatley	Apr. 3
Bob Rekdahl	Apr. 4	Emanuel Aguilar	Apr. 5
Josue Aguilar	Apr. 5	Lesly Aguilar	Apr. 5

BIRTHDAYS

Rich Zahursky	Apr. 2	Rose Cassetty	Apr. 6
Terry Girard	Apr. 8	Klara Schmidt	Apr. 8

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

John and Wendy Hazen	Apr. 4, 1981
Mike and Laura Potter	Apr. 5, 1980
Ron and Carolyn Barendse	Apr. 6, 1957

ASSISTING IN SERVICE SUNDAY, APRIL 2

	8:30am	11:00am
Elder:	Randy Schroeder	Dan Parshall
Acolytes:		
Cross Bearer:		
Ushers:	Stan Chapulis Bob Rekdahl	Matthias McInaney Marcus Young
Audio/Visual:	Laura Potter	Michele Sprengle
PowerPoint:	Debbie Rekdahl	Michele Sprengle/Ryan
Greeters:	Margo Bachhuber Elizabeth Alvarado	Riki Neagle Carrie Graham
Readers:	Randy Schroeder	Virginia Jacobs
Altar Circle:	Both Services	Margo Bachhuber
Flowers:	Both Services	Wendy Hazen
Counters:	Both Services	Dave and Jan Oswald

ASSISTING IN SERVICE MAUNDY THURS., APRIL 6

	7:00pm
Elder:	Herb Hofer
Ushers:	Marcus Young
Audio/Visual:	Stan Chapulis
PowerPoint:	NEEDED
Greeters:	Margo Bachhuber
Altar Circle:	Wendy Hazen / All
Counters:	Bonnie Webber and Rebecca Williamson

ASSISTING IN SERVICE GOOD FRIDAY., APRIL 7

	7:00pm
Elder:	NEEDED
Ushers:	Bob Rekdahl / Marcus Young
Audio/Visual:	J. E. Knox
PowerPoint:	Rosemary Knox
Greeters:	Margo Bachhuber
Altar Circle:	All
Counters:	Bonnie Webber and Rebecca Williamson

ASSISTING IN SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 9

	8:30am	11:00am
Elder:	Randy Bryant	John Hazen
Acolytes:		
Ushers:	Stan Chapulis	Matthias McInaney
	NEEDED	Johnnie Driessner
Audio/Visual:	Teresa Osgood	J. E. Knox
PowerPoint:	Taylor Osgood	Rosemary Knox
Greeters:	Sheryl Maier	Rebecca Williamson
Readers:	Randy Bryant	Peggy Hall
Altar Circle:	Both Services	All
Flowers:	Both Services	Altar Guild
Counters:	Both Services	Bonnie Webber and Rebecca Williamson

EVENTS THIS WEEK – SUN., APRIL 2 - SAT., APRIL 1

Sunday, April 2	8:30am	Worship no comm.
Palm Sunday	9:45am	Education Hour
	11:00am	Worship no comm.
	5:00pm	Worship in Spanish
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
Tuesday, April 4	6:00pm	Elder Meeting
Wednesday April 5	11:00am	CareConnect
	2:00pm	Crafting Get-Together/Bracelets
	7:00pm	SPECIAL TIME Choir
Thursday, April 6	7:00pm	Maundy Thursday Worship
Friday, April 7	6:30pm	NO Noche Familiar
	7:00pm	NO Confirmation
	7:00pm	Good Friday Worship

EVENTS NEXT WEEK – SUN., APRIL 9 - SAT., APRIL 15

Sunday, April 9	8:30am	Worship no comm.
Easter Sunday	9:45am	Education Hour
	11:00am	Worship no comm.
	5:00pm	Worship in Spanish
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
Tuesday, April 11	6:00pm	Council Meeting
Wednesday April 12	11:00am	CareConnect
	2:00pm	Crafting Get-Together/Bracelets
Thursday, April 13	6:00pm	Praise Team
	7:00pm	Choir
Friday, April 14	6:30pm	Noche Familiar
	7:00pm	NO Confirmation
	7:00pm	Good Friday Worship
Saturday, April 15	10:30am	The Chosen 3

† PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

Gina Kreps, Nephews of Gil Cdebaca, The Brown Family, Bill and Sylvia Guthrie, Jerry and Alma Bangs, Kevin McInaney, Judy Blubbaum, Robert (Virginia Jacob's Brother), Cindy Linnemann, Brian Laxton, Carlyn Staudt, Karla Deal, Mike Fogarty, Emily Kohnke (member of the Webber Family), Rich Zahursky, Mike Hatley, Lorraine Haggard, Esperanza Gutierrez, Kim Laxton, Antonia Martinez (mother of Esperanza Gutierrez), Ava Wentela (Sue Wentela's granddaughter), *Barbara Schrader, *Larry Hart, *Dale Porath. *Home Bound.

† PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:

Michael Williamson, Air Force, Reserve — Texas (grandson of Rebecca Williamson);
Jamie Wong-Lopez, Marines — Annapolis MD (nephew of Kevin and Merci McInaney);
Clayton Wright, Air Force – Yokota AFB Japan (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);
Colton Wright, Navy — (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);
Tyler Young, Navy — Deployed (nephew of Karen Arronson).

Ascension Lutheran Church

1440 SE 182nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97233

Church: 503-665-8821 • Web Site: www.alcportland.org

Church Office Hours: Monday–Friday 9am to 3pm

Our Mission Statement:

~Go and Share Jesus Christ~

Our Vision Statement:

“Take part...Join Jesus on His mission.”

The members of Ascension Lutheran Church are committed to being God's witnesses in Gresham, and in all of Portland and the Northwest, and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8):

With the universal Christian Church, we believe, teach and respond to the love of the Triune God—the Father, Creator of all that exists; the Son Jesus Christ, Who left His home in Heaven to become flesh and blood, to suffer and die for the sins of all peoples of the world, and Who rose from the grave, victorious over sin, death and the devil, that we too might live with Him in Heaven; and the Holy Spirit, Who creates faith in our hearts in Christ Jesus through God's Word and Sacrament. The three Persons of the Holy Trinity are one God, co-equal and co-eternal. The core teachings of our faith from the Lutheran perspective can be summarized in three short phrases: Grace alone, Scripture alone, Faith alone.

STAFF

Rev. Jim Sprengle, Pastor

pastor@alcportland.org

Ruberto Ek Yah, Pastor

pastorekyah@alcportland.org

Brad Hall, Worship and Music Coordinator

worship@alcportland.org

Michele Sprengle, Office Administrator

office@alcportland.org

Bonnie Webber and Rebecca Williamson, Treasurers

treasurer@alcportland.org

Wanda Cassetty, Council Secretary

council@alcportland.org

Laura Potter, Property Management

property@alcportland.org