



First Lutheran Church

Sunday, March 29, 2026 | Palm Sunday

Today, we encounter the paradox that defines our faith: Jesus Christ is glorified king and humiliated servant. We too are full of paradox: like Peter, we fervently desire to follow Christ, but find ourselves afraid, denying God. We wave palms in celebration today as Christ comes into our midst, and we follow with trepidation as his path leads to death on the cross. Amid it all we are invited into this paradoxical promise of life through Christ's broken body and outpoured love in a meal of bread and wine. We begin this week that stands at the center of the church year, anticipating the completion of God's astounding work.



PRELUDE

MUSICAL MESSAGE | *Palm Sunday Celebration - Don R. Edwards* | *Alleluia Ringers*

PALM SUNDAY CALL TO WORSHIP (*from back of sanctuary)

P: Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!

C: Hosanna in the Highest!

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 21st Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL | *Matthew 21:1-11*

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet: "Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

P: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord

C: (*Wave palms) Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna!

GATHERING HYMN | *All Glory, Laud, and Honor* | vs. 1, 3-4 ELW #344

**Refrain: 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 Blessed One. **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**

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: Merciful God, **C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out our offenses. Release us from the guilt and shame we carry, and renew a right spirit within us. Teach us your ways, and uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in the newness of life through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

C: Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

MUSICAL MESSAGE | *Lift High the Palms* | *Jubilate Choir*

SERMON | Pr. Matthew Rossler

SONG OF THE DAY

 | *Soon and Very Soon*

1. Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King.

**Refrain: Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.**

2. No more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King,
No more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King,
No more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King. **Refrain**
3. No more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King
No more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King,
No more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King. **Refrain**
4. Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King. **Refrain**

STATEMENT OF FAITH

 | *Apostle's Creed*

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P: Lord in your mercy, **C: Hear our prayer.**

SHARING OF PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING / NOISY OFFERING | *March: Becker County Food Pantry*

OFFERTORY SONG | *Holy, Holy, Holy* | *ELW #473*

1. Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you.
My heart is glad to say the words: You are holy God. **(Sing 2x)**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Loving God, **C: receive this offering for the building up of your kingdom: the proclamation of your word and the loving of our neighbor. Amen.**

COMMUNION

Words of Institution

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.

Distribution

Post Communion Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

C: Gracious God, at this table you have nourished our body and soul with food and drink. As you have been food and drink for us, transform us to be food and drink for one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN | *Go to Dark Gethsemane* | *ELW #347*

1. Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter's pow'r;
your Redeemer's conflict see. Watch with him one bitter hour;
turn not from his griefs away; learn from Jesus Christ to pray.
2. Follow to the judgment hall, view the Lord of life arraigned;
oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun not suff'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.
3. Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb; there, adoring at his feet,
mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete.
"It is finished!" hear him cry; learn from Jesus Christ to die.

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE



ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOIN IN THE DISCUSSION

*Sunday, April 12
@ 10:30am in the library*
Pr Joe, Pr Matthew and the confirmation students have been sharing questions with the congregation on Sunday mornings. Now you have an opportunity to join in the discussion in an informal and fun environment!

PERSONAL CARE KITS

The Circles are collecting items to make Personal Care Kits through the end of May. Items needed are: *nail clippers, adult toothbrushes, combs, lightweight, dark colored bath towels & bath sized, bar soap*. A collection box is available outside of the church office.

THEOLOGY ON TAP

April 16 & 30 @ 7pm
Only two more sessions left until we break for summer. Join us at Buck's Mill for great conversation with great people! All are welcome.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 22-25
Open to kids completing K-5th grade. Cost: FREE! Registration opens April 8.

THE CHOSEN BIBLE STUDY

*Tuesdays at 1 pm. in the library
Through May 5.*
Now watching season 2!

EASTER BREAK

April 1: No Oasis
April 5: No Kids Fellowship
April 6: Office closed

SENIOR RECOGNITION SUNDAY

Sunday, April 26
Join us as we celebrate the Class of 2026! We are currently looking for individuals or families to carry on the tradition of creating a homemade blanket to gift to a graduating senior. If that's you, please sign up at the information table.

WANT TO TRY CONFIRMATION AGAIN?

On select Wednesdays you can come to the sanctuary from 6:30-7:30pm and join our 7th & 8th graders for their confirmation lesson. Join us for our last lesson on **4/8: Theology: The Cross vs. Glory**

WELCA GATHERING

Ladies, join us on *April 14*, for the spring gathering at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Wadena. Program begins at 9am and features Pr Lauryl Ivers.

REBEKAH CIRCLE

April 7 @ 9am
Please note the date change! The Rebekah Circle will meet on April 7 at the Lincoln Park Apartments.

HIGH SCHOOL FREE LUNCH

April 23 & May 14 @ 11:30am
Students, join the pastors at Pizza Ranch for food, fun and friends!

EASTER at FLC

Palm Sunday | March 29

Maundy Thursday | April 2
Worship services @ 12 & 6pm

Good Friday | April 3
Worship services @ 12 & 6pm

Easter Sunday
Worship services @ 8:30, 9:30 & 10:30am

Prayers for God's People

*Ongoing prayers for:
Bill Wegschied, Cole Woltjer,
Gretta Frisch, Judy Wood, Larry Kjono, Tyler Wilson, Dave & Pam Nustad, Cami Eckhoff, Kathy Larson, the Blake Family, Ethan Jacob, Dale and Ramona Amundson, Bette Wammer.*

Prayers of comfort for those who mourn the loss of a loved one.

UPCOMING DATES

Ap 22 | 1st grade Service Project
Ap 26 | Senior Recognition Sunday
May 3 | Confirmation Sunday
May 3 & 6 | New Member Welcome
May 6 | Last Day of Oasis
May 17 | Annual Meeting
May 24 Outdoor worship begins

Thanks for worshipping with us!



Lead Pastor: Joe Skogmo
Associate Pastor: Matthew Rossler
Music Director: Karen Bimberg

Prefer electronic giving? Scan the **QR code to give online**. Then, drop the **green laminated slip** in the offering plate.



MEMBERSHIP

Interested in becoming a member of FLC? New members are welcome all year, however, our **next New Member Welcome is May 3 & 6.**

