

Hosanna to the Son of David!

MATTHEW 21:9





+ Palm Sunday +
April 2, 2023

AS WE GATHER

Today is a very special day. This is true not only because it is Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week; today is a very special day because the Word of God is proclaimed in our hearing. In this present hour, in this very house of the Lord, His Word delivers to us the saving work of Jesus. Far from being a detached dispatch from a distant deity, this Word of God is living and active, inspired by the life-giving Spirit who, this very day, brings us to the King who humbled Himself by becoming “obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross” (Philippians 2:8). As we gather again in the presence of our crucified and risen King, may we join with the ancients and say, “This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it” (Psalm 118:24).

REGARDING COMMUNION

*Beginning on Ash Wednesday, the forty days of Lent mark off our journey to Easter. When we were baptized into the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the sign of the cross was made upon our foreheads and hearts to mark us as people redeemed by the cross of the Christ. We rose to newness of life through the resurrection of Jesus and began a life of pilgrimage in faith. The cross of ash made on our foreheads at the beginning of Lent reminds us that the Christian life is one of repentance (or change from wrongs done) ... a life of constant returning to our Lord’s Table to be forgiven and renewed, for here we have the bread of Christ’s Body and the wine of his Blood as strength for the journey. **Since Christian denominations have differing understandings of Holy Communion, if you are not a member of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation and have not communed here before, we ask that you speak with the pastor or elder prior to communing with us the first time. Those not communing are invited to cross their arms over their chests and approach the pastor for a blessing during the distribution. Also, if certain factors prohibit you from partaking of regular wine, non-alcoholic wine is available in the center circle of the tray. If you would like to begin sharing this sacred meal with us on a regular basis, please ask the pastor for a time of faith instruction and formation.***

*If you are in need of a gluten-free wafer for Communion,
please let Pastor or an Elder know.*

Liturgical Color:

Scarlet is the color of blood—associated with the Lord’s passion (suffering).

Near the large cross by the pulpit is a basket with slips of paper, pencils, and tacks. Feel free to write down any of your burdens, worries, wrongs, and sins and tack them to the cross at any time during this season of Lent. They will not be read but removed on Good Friday and burned in the Easter Vigil fire on Holy Saturday. Our Lord takes our darkness and replaces it with his light!

*Visitors: We are glad you have chosen to be with us today! We would especially like to follow-up with you beyond today, so please take a moment to leave your best contact information in the guest books at each entrance/exit. **A cry-room for parents and children is just off from the front entryway, and there's a wonderful nursery downstairs at the end of the fellowship hall for you to make use of at any time.** Do you have any questions about anything here? Don't hesitate to ask one of the ushers or elders, or talk to the pastor.*

PreludeJerrode Marsh

(Prayer request cards will be collected by an usher passing through the aisle.)

Invocation

- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God, the Father 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.

Processional Gospel **John 12:12-19**

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.
- C** Glory to You, O Lord.

The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. 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!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

"Fear not, daughter of Zion;
behold, your king is coming,
sitting on a donkey's colt!"

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. 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. The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. So

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.

Collect

P 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.

C Amen.

Procession of Palms

Please rise and turn to face the Narthex

Processional Song..... *"Hosanna" (Sunday school children)*
(All are welcome to wave a palm during the procession.)

Divine Service, Setting Three

Confession and Absolution

Confession and Absolution.....*pages 184-185*

P Beloved in the Lord! . . . our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P Almighty God, . . . Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C O most merciful God, who has given Your only begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your Grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P Almighty God, . . . Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Entrance Hymn..... "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" #443



1 Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, The lit - tle chil - dren sang;
2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed Mid an ex - ul - tant crowd,
3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song we sing;



Through pil - lared court and tem - ple The love - ly an - them rang.
The vic - tor palm branch wav - ing And chant - ing clear and loud.
For Christ is our Re - deem - er, The Lord of heav'n our King.



To Je - sus, who had blessed them, Close fold - ed to His breast,
The Lord of earth and heav - en Rode on in low - ly state
Oh, may we ev - er praise Him With heart and life and voice



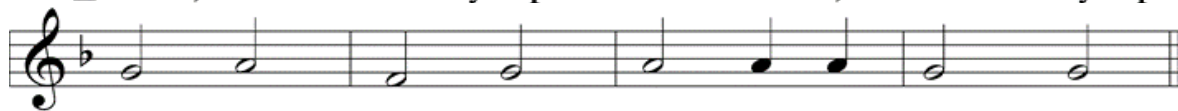
The chil - dren sang their prais - es, The sim - plest and the best.
Nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren Should on His bid - ding wait.
And in His bliss - ful pres - ence E - ter - nal - ly re - joice!

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Kyrie.....page 186



Q Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Salutation



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

Collect of the Day (*spoken in unison*)

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. Amen.

Please be seated.

Old Testament Reading **Isaiah 50:4-9a**

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.
The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious;
I turned not backward.
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.
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.
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.
Behold, the Lord GOD helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Gradual *(spoken in unison)*

[Christ] entered once for all into the holy places, by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance. He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. (Hebrews 9:12a, c, 15a)

Epistle Reading **Philippians 2:5-11**

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Choir Anthem *Hosanna! Sing a Loud Hosanna! (Mark Hayes)*

Please rise.

Holy Gospel **John 12:20-43**

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



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

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

told Jesus. And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 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. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. 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.

“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. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die. 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?” 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. 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. Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him, so that the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

“Lord, who has believed what he heard from us,
and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?”

Therefore they could not believe. For again Isaiah said,

“He has blinded their eyes
and hardened their heart,
lest they see with their eyes,
and understand with their heart, and turn,
and I would heal them.”

Isaiah said these things because he saw his glory and spoke of him. Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed.....page 191

**I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.**

**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Please be seated.

Hymn of the Day "When I Behold Jesus Christ" #542



1 When I be - hold Je - sus Christ, True God who died for me,
2 For me You gave all Your love, For me You suf-fered pain;
3 You had no sin, ho - ly Lord, But You were tor-tured, tried;
4 What love is this? Great - er love No one has ev - er known.



I won - der much at His love As He hung on the tree.
I find no words, noth - ing can Your self - less - ness ex - plain.
On Gol - go - tha there for all My sins You bled and died.
My life with God— this I owe To You, and You a - lone.

Refrain



What kind of love is this? What kind of love is this?



You showed Your love, Je - sus, there To me on Cal - va - ry.



What kind of love is this? What kind of love is this?



You showed Your love, Je - sus, there To me on Cal - va - ry.

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Sermon..... "Save Us Now!"

Offering

District Youth Gathering Sharing

Please rise.

Offertorypages 192-193



☐ Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



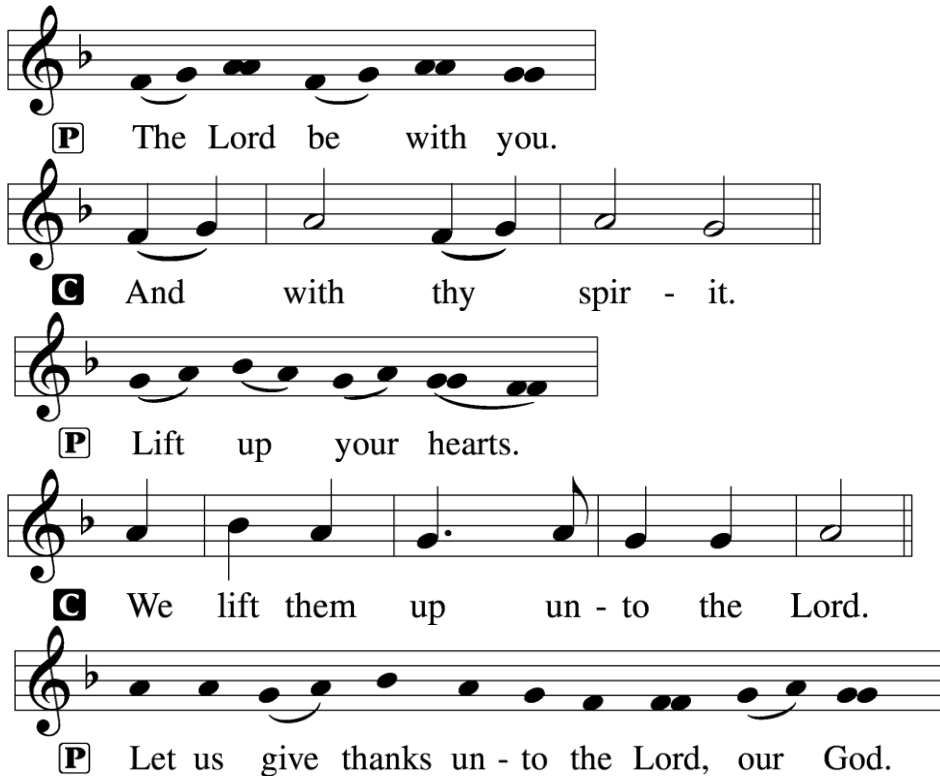
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Prayer of the Church

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** hear our prayer.
- ...
- C** Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Communion Liturgypages 194-197



P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right and salutary . . . evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus..... *page 195*



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer..... *page 196*



C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the

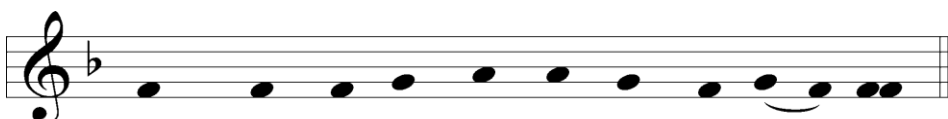


glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Words of Our Lord..... *page 197*

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, . . . as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Pax Domini..... *page 197*



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



A - men.

Agnus Dei.....page 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit (until motioned to rise and proceed forward if going for Communion or a blessing).

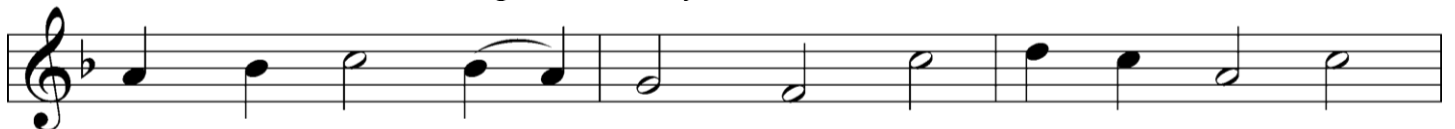
Communion Distribution

Instrumental

Communion Hymn "A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth", #438



1 A Lamb goes un - com - plain - ing forth, The
2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend, The
3 "Yes, Fa - ther, yes, most will - ing - ly I'll
4 Lord, when Your glo - ry I shall see And



guilt of sin - ners bear - ing And, lad - en with the
Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, Whom God the Fa - ther
bear what You com - mand Me. My will con - forms to
taste Your king - dom's plea - sure, Your blood my roy - al



sins of earth, None else the bur - den shar - ing; Goes
 chose to send To gain for us His fa - vor. "Go
 Your de - cree, I'll do what You have asked Me." O
 robe shall be, My joy be - yond all mea - sure! When



pa - tient on, grows weak and faint, To slaugh - ter led with -
 forth, My Son," the Fa - ther said, "And free My chil - dren
 won - drous Love, what have You done! The Fa - ther of - fers
 I ap - pear be - fore Your throne, Your righ - teous - ness shall



out com - plaint, That spot - less life to of - fer, He bears the
 from their dread Of guilt and con - dem - na - tion. The wrath and
 up His Son, De - sir - ing our sal - va - tion. O Love, how
 be my crown; With these I need not hide me. And there, in



stripes, the wounds, the lies, The mock - er - y, and
 stripes are hard to bear, But by Your pas - sion
 strong You are to save! You lay the One in -
 gar - ments rich - ly wrought, As Your own bride shall



yet re - plies, "All this I glad - ly suf - fer."
 they will share The fruit of Your sal - va - tion."
 to the grave Who built the earth's foun - da - tion.
 we be brought To stand in joy be - side You.

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Communion Hymn ... "Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed", #560



1 Drawn to the cross, which Thou hast blessed With heal - ing
 2 Thou know - est all my griefs and fears, Thy grace a -
 3 Wash me and take a - way each stain; Let noth - ing
 4 And then for work to do for Thee, Which shall so

gifts for souls dis - tressed, To find in Thee my
 bused, my mis - spent years; Yet now to Thee with
 of my sin re - main. For cleans - ing, though it
 sweet a ser - vice be That an - gels well might
 life, my rest, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
 con - trite tears, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
 be through pain, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
 en - vy me, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.

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Communion Hymn *“O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee”, #632*

1 O Je - sus, bless - ed Lord, to Thee My heart - felt
 2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say: What wealth is
 thanks for - ev - er be, Who hast so lov - ing -
 come to me this day! My Sav - ior dwells with -
 ly be - stowed On me Thy bod - y and Thy blood.
 in my heart: How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

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Please rise.

Nunc Dimittis..... *pages 199-200*

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
 cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,

which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
 a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
 peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving *pages 200-201*

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.
P Let us pray. . . one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

Salutation and Benedicamus *page 201*

Benediction *page 202*

Sending Hymn *"Lift High the Cross" #837*

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim Till



all the world a - dore His sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Cap - tain trod,
2 Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,
3 All new - born sol - diers of the Cru - ci - fied
4 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,

Refrain



Our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
The hosts of God in con - qu'ring ranks com - bine.
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died.
As Thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to Thee.

5 Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. Refrain

6 So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! Refrain

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Dismissal (Bethlehem's Mission)

- P** Grow in Christ,
- C** Live in Love and Share the Faith!

Postlude

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Next week's readings:

OT: Acts 10:34-43; Epistle: Colossians 3:1-4; Gospel: Matthew 28:1-10

Attendance Last Saturday: 41

Attendance Last Sunday: 72

Lenten Midweek Attendance: 61

Total Offering: \$4,849.00

Missions: \$325.00

Home Use: \$3,417.00

Benevolences: \$1,107.00

Serving us today:

Elders..... Willie Crespo, Alan Miller
Musician.....Jerrode Marsh
Altar Committee.....Darlene Laubenstein (Chair), Mary Creswell, Erika Freeman
Peggy Hoyer, Lynn Lowe, Cindy Smith
Flower CommitteeLana Vanderburgh (Chair), Penny Humphrey

This Week's Schedule

Monday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	10:00 a.m.	Moms and Tots
	6:30 p.m.	Scouts
Tuesday	11:30 a.m.	Braille in Concordia
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	5:30 p.m.	Faith Night/Discussion
	6:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Thursday	9:30 a.m.	Pastor at Warrensburg Christian School
	1:00 p.m.	Games and Cards Group
	5:00 p.m.	Altar Bread Making
	7:00 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Service <i>(Service will be livestreamed)</i>
Friday	12:00 p.m.	Good Friday Noonday Prayer Service
	7:00 p.m.	Good Friday Service <i>(Service will be livestreamed)</i>
Saturday	11:00 a.m.	Easter Egg Hunt
	7:00 p.m.	Easter Vigil Service <i>(Begins out front)</i>
Sunday	6:30 a.m.	Greet the Rising "Sun/Son" Prayer Service <i>(Out front)</i>
	7:00 a.m.	Easter Sunrise Communion Service
	10:30 a.m.	Easter Celebration Communion Service <i>(Service will be livestreamed)</i>

Prayers

For Those to Be Baptized—We rejoice that Grayson McLain, Sondra Privett, and Morgan Holmberg will receive the gift of Holy Baptism at the Easter Vigil (which is a baptismal and resurrection centered service) on Holy Saturday, April 8, beginning at 7 p.m. We give thanks for this brother and these sisters in the Triune faith and life!

For Sustenance, Healing, and Provision—We remember those who are dealing with illness, are homebound or in nursing homes, are undergoing and recovering from surgery, as well as going through hospitalization and rehabilitation: Charlie Becker,

Mel Bockelman, Paula Brewer, Ray & Mary Carstensen, Bob & Barbara Compton, Marion Droege, Wilma Gertz, Karen Haase, Mary Johnson, Wanda Kreisel, Ron McComas, Janet Mudd, Judy Pierce, Maryanna Savery, Ben Smith, Denny Spanton, Rose Steitz, & Joe Zeman.

For Military Members—We remember all service and support personnel who are deployed and stationed away from us and their families: Andy Burden, Ty Carter and Chance Hillsman.

For Jonathan and Bridgette Sharp as they finish their time at Concordia Seminary and prepare for upcoming pastoral and deaconess calls this April 26! The service will be livestreamed.

Prayer Requests & Spiritual Care—If you would like to make a prayer request, contact Pr. Joel or email the church office. Also, if you're feeling the strain, feel free to call or text Pr. Joel or contact your elder or the church office. We rely upon the Holy Spirit and his gifts in Christ during every time of uncertainty, and can never be thankful enough for the gift of each other!

Special Days for Members This Week

Birthdays—MaryBeth Snodgrass-1st, Mike Rich-2nd, Andrew Kurz-3rd, Benjamin Florida-5th, Rich Vanderburgh-6th, **Anniversaries**—Roy and Judy Schache-4th, Peggy and Richard Hoyer-7th.

Worship Services and Faith Discussion

Saturday Services start at 5:30 p.m. Sunday Services are at 10:30 a.m. Sunday's Services are live on Facebook and YouTube and the webpage at blchurch.com.

Faith Night—Join others in the Fellowship Hall on **Wednesday, April 5, from 5:30-6:00 p.m.** for a simple meal (bring something simple you'd like to share) and conversation, followed by a discussion from 6:00 to 6:45. We'll be talking about Passover and the feast of life through Christ the Lamb of God who is our Passover (1 Cor. 5:7).

Sunday School and Christian Education

Wednesday Bible Study—We are currently taking a break from Wednesday Bible Study during the Lenten season—join us for midweek worship in the evening! We will resume on **April 12 at 10:30 a.m.** and pick up where we left off in Zechariah.

Sunday Bible Study (normally 9:15-10:10 a.m. in the conference room) will not be held on Easter Sunday but will resume the following. Join us as we continue our study and discussion of *Clearly Christian: Following Christ in This Age of Confusion*.

Sunday School is at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings downstairs for ages Preschool through 12th grade. We invite all children of the congregation (and outside too!) to come and be a part of this time set aside for growing together in Christ.

Holy Week & Easter Sunday Services—Please check the calendar or the end of the bulletin for all of the Holy Week services and times; plan to attend and invite others!

Holy Thursday Altar Bread Making—Join us in the kitchen as we pray our way through the steps and make the bread to be used for the Communion service that evening. Anyone is welcome to participate on the **6th at 5:00 p.m.**

The Men's Club will again be handing out *hot cross buns* on Easter morning in lieu of their traditional Easter breakfast. The *hot cross buns* will be made by Warrensburg's own Green Truck Bakery the day before. Keep your eyes open to learn more about these special rolls and their meaning for Easter Sunday.

Vacation Bible School—Mark your calendars for **June 23-25!** Those wanting to help with reading, crafts, music, games, snacks, etc., please get in touch with Ellen Pederson.

Music

Bob Bennett in concert at Bethlehem again! Six years to the date after he was last here, Bob will be here for a community-wide concert on **Sunday, April 23 at 2 p.m.** This will be our Shine! (Matthew 5:16) event for this year, especially fitting since that verse is what Bob has signed with his name for decades. Admission will be food items to donate to the Food Center. Start spreading the word! And if you're not familiar with this superb California guitarist/singer-songwriter, look up his website (www.bobbennett.com) and give a view/listen (through YouTube or such), especially to "Hand of Kindness," "Man of the Tombs," and "I Know that My Redeemer Lives." He'll also be singing some in our weekend services!

Fellowship and Opportunities to Serve

Easter Cross—the Easter Cross will be put together on **Saturday, April 8 at 9:00 a.m.** We would welcome anyone that would be willing to help.

Easter Egg Hunt—the Fellowship Board will be putting on an Easter Egg Hunt on **Saturday, April 8, at 11:00 a.m.** The Easter bunny will be here along with 500 eggs to collect. A special prize will be given to those collecting the **golden eggs**.

Earth Day—Everyone is welcome to meet and help others with whatever needs to be done on our Bethlehem Community Vegetable Garden and surrounding greenspace on **Earth Day—Saturday, April 22 from 10 a.m. until 12 noon.** As our thanks for coming out, we'll have garden and yard giveaway items to encourage

your planting, growing, and cultivating wherever you happen to live.

Garden & Greenspace—Thanks to all who've helped over the past few weeks and are chomping at the bit to make up for rained out work days! Keep your eyes and ears open for upcoming opportunities as we enter spring officially this week. If you're looking for something to do on **Saturday mornings between 10 a.m. and noon** (and maybe a bit before and after), you'll generally find someone in our churchyard who'd be happy to have help.

Exercise Class happens at **9:30 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays** in the Fellowship Hall. This class is low impact exercise open to anyone, men or women. For more information, contact Judy Smith.

The Games and Card Group meets on **Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.** in the Youth Room downstairs. Anyone, men and women, are welcome to come. If you have any questions, please contact Melvin Theroff.

The Quilting Group meets on the **second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.** (September through May). Anyone is welcome to help with this project. No special sewing skills are needed. Bring your own lunch. If you have any questions, please contact Georgia Luker.

This & That

The Katy Trail medical mobile unit continues to be in Warrensburg each **Tuesday from 9am-3pm**. If you know someone who has medical needs and would benefit from *affordable or free healthcare* (thanks to a generous Bethlehem donor), *along with prescription help as well*, please pass on this information! The unit is located behind the food pantry at **137 E. Culton Street Warrensburg**. First Presbyterian Church is currently hosting a **free lunch** at that time (with others, such as us, donating the ingredients). **The lunch is served from 11:30am-1pm**. All are welcome. Most insurances are accepted. **Call 877-733-5824 to schedule an appointment.**

Country Kitchen Cards—We have Country Kitchen Cards. Stop by the office if you would like to purchase one. They are \$10 and you get 10 buy-one- get-one free meal deals. All proceeds go to the youth group. Thanks for your support!

2023 Elders

Willie Crespo (last name begins A-F) 660-679-8121, crespo6fam@gmail.com

Ricky Bertels (last name begins G-K), 660-262-8080, rick1janice2@gmail.com

Jack Easterwood (last name begins L-O) 660-678-2045, easter.egg2380@gmail.com

Alan Miller (last name begins P-Z) 660-909-1764, alormiller@aol.com

HOLY WEEK AT BETHLEHEM



MAUNDAY THURSDAY COMMUNION SERVICE

(Service will also be livestreamed)

April 6-7:00 p.m.



GOOD FRIDAY NOONDAY PRAYER

April 7-12:00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY

(Service will be livestreamed)

April 7-7:00 p.m.



SATURDAY EASTER VIGIL

(Begins out front)

April 8-7:00 p.m.



GREET THE RISING "SUN/SON"

(Begins out front)

April 9-6:30 a.m.

EASTER SUNRISE COMMUNION SERVICE

April 9-7:00 a.m.

EASTER CELEBRATION COMMUNION SERVICE

(Service will also be livestreamed)

April 9-10:30 a.m.

Contact Information

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 607 N. Maguire, Warrensburg, MO 64093

Our Mission

· Grow in Christ · Live in Love · Share the Faith

Our Vision

To be a community of believers, disciples, and servants while we deepen our personal faith and reach others for Christ.



Rev. Joel R. Kurz

Tuesday & Thursday: 8am–5pm, Wednesday & Friday: 10am-5pm

Otherwise by appointment

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Cell Phone: 660-441-5710

Email: pastor@blchurch.com

Website: www.blchurch.com Facebook: [blcwarrensburg](https://www.facebook.com/blcwarrensburg)

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Monday–Friday: 8am-5pm

660-747-6742

officemanager@blchurch.com

Bookkeeper:

Teresa Hillsman

Tuesday: 9am-11am

Thursday: 9am-11am

financial@blchurch.com

Please note that Bethlehem Lutheran Church has a closed-circuit video system. This allows for live streaming on the web, viewing of the service on screens in the building and helps to enhance our security. Please see a trustee or an elder if you have any questions.