Holy Cross Lutheran Church

(Lutheran Church Missouri Synod)

Divine Service Four

Palm Sunday April 2, 2023





Palm Sunday

April 2, 2023

8:00 and 10:30 AM

Prayer for Palm Sunday

Lord Jesus, today we join those who lined the streets of Jerusalem in acclaiming You as King. Our hearts and voices sing with joy: "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!" Help us to see You as a King unlike any other. You came in humility to save us from our sins. Though more powerful than any king this world has ever known, You laid aside the full and constant use of Your divine powers to suffer and die for the sins of the world. Give lasting strength to our desires to follow You as loyal subjects of Your kingdom. As the remembrance of Your death approaches, let the memory of the hosannas of this day validate the truth that hung over Your head: "This is the king of the Jews." Amen.



The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and

wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Cor. 11:17-34), and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church— Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked to speak with the Pastor prior to communing with us for the first time. We thank you for respecting our belief and practice regarding the Lord's Supper.



Confession and Absolution

Procession of the Cross

Please rise and face the cross in the back of the sanctuary.

442 All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

■ In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

Exhortation

Psalm 124:8; Psalm 130:3-4; Luke 18:13

- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **G** who made heaven and earth.
- P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- **G** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession of Sins

Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Absolution

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.





Service of the Word

Psalm 24:7–10; antiphon: Psalm 118:26



Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the LORD!* We bless you from the house | of the LORD.

Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O | ancient doors,* that the King of glory | may come in.

Who is this King of | glory?* The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in | battle!

Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O | ancient doors,* that the King of glory | may come in.

Who is this King of | glory?* The LORD of hosts, he is the King of | glory!

Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the LORD!* We bless you from the house | of the LORD.



Introit

Gloria in Excelsis

During Lent the Gloria in Excelsis is omitted.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- P Let us pray.

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.

C Amen.

Sit

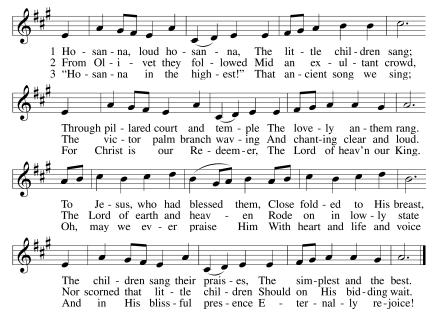
Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 50:4–9a

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?

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

443 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna



Epistle: 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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

During Lent the Alleluia is omitted.



Holy Gospel: John 12:12–19

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.
- 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.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed



G 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.

438 A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

Sermon

"He Who Vindicates Me is Near"

Text: Isaiah 50:4-9a

Stand

Prayer of the Church

After each portion of the prayer:



Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Sit

Offering

(Please add your name to the red fellowship book and pass it to your fellow worshipers.)



Service of the Sacrament

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Please read our Statement on Holy Communion on the inside cover of the bulletin before communing with us.

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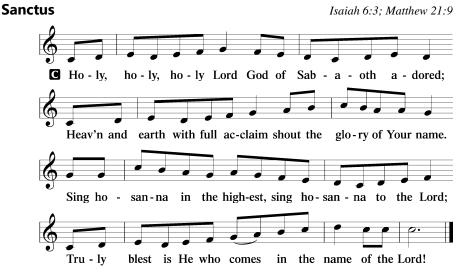
Stand

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

- P The Lord be with you.
- **G** And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- **G** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **G** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:



Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

At Your command, Abraham prepared to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice on the mountain; yet, in mercy You provided a ram as a substitute. We give You thanks that on Calvary You spared not Your only Son but sent Him to offer His life as a ransom for many. As we eat and drink His body and blood, grant us, like Abraham our father, to trust in Your promise now fulfilled in Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

 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.

The Words of Our Lord

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

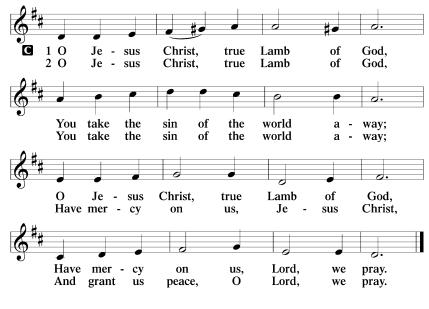
P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.



Agnus Dei

Sit



Personal prayer before Communing

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen



Personal prayer of thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

456 Were You There vs. 1-3

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32



Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

Amen.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

С

Benedicamus

- P Let us bless the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

- 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.
- C Amen.

441 Ride On, Ride On in Majesty



Soli Deo Gloria!

(To God alone be the glory.)

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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Palm Sunday

Emotions and events reach a high point in the Jewish capital of Jerusalem on what has come to be called Palm Sunday. A crowd strewing Jesus' path with palm branches as He rode into the city on a donkey shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" However, not everyone in Jerusalem was ready to follow Jesus. Many of the Jewish religious leaders redoubled their efforts to "be done with" this troublemaker. But these palm fronds we have today can give us an insight into God's plans for us.

Jesus gave John (and us) a glimpse of heaven when He had John write in Revelation 7:9, "After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people, and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands." We need to take note of two details in this verse.

The crowd, the multitude, is dressed as victors: the saints were wearing white robes. Jesus, in the waters of Baptism, has given each of us the uniform of victory, the uniform of forgiveness, the uniform of heaven ... a white robe. In truth, we wear the white robe of Jesus even today as a reminder that we are baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

The second important point in that verse is that each one in the multitude is holding a palm branch as he worships the Lamb. As we think back to the events of Palm Sunday, the people in the crowd acclaiming Jesus as King showed excitement and thankfulness. One day we too, standing in the multitude before the Lamb, will be dressed in white and waving palm branches in victory, the victory of spending eternity in the presence of the triune God!



The worship cycle is organized to keep the church focused on Christ; it is not shaped by national holidays or particular causes (e.g., Labor Day, Mother's Day, stewardship). The church year and the worship cycle is divided into three **times**: the Time of Christmas, the Time of Easter, and the Time of the Church. Each of these times, in turn, contains one or more **seasons**.

The second part of the Time of Easter is **Holy Week**. Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, also called the Sunday of the Passion, which recalls Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. On Palm Sunday the procession of the worshipers carrying palm fronds is an enactment of the cries and shouts of "Hosanna" that greeted Jesus as He rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. The procession communicates an outburst of joy; the Scriptural account focuses on Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The paraments for Palm Sunday are red, the color of royalty and passion.

As the days of Holy Week progress, the atmosphere of triumph of Palm Sunday will turn to tragedy. The crowds still listen to Jesus, but the religious leaders set in motion their plot to kill Him. Jesus and His disciples withdraw to celebrate His last Passover, which is at the same time the inauguration of the new covenant meal of the Lord's Supper on the day we now call Maundy Thursday. The color of the paraments for Maundy Thursday is white, symbolizing divinity.

On Good Friday, also called Holy Friday, we recall the climactic event in the life of our Lord on earth, His crucifixion. During Holy Week the focus is on the suffering and death of our Savior and the importance it has for us and for our salvation. The climax of Holy Week is the death of our Savior on Golgotha and His burial in the garden tomb. Except for the processional cross draped in black, and the banner behind the pulpit, the chancel will be bare of ornamentation on Good Friday.

Excerpted from The Altar Guild Manual by Lee A. Maxwell, CPH, 1996.

Announcements



Assisting Elders: 8 a.m. – Steve White 10:30 a.m. – Andy Olson



If you wish to beautify the Lord's sanctuary Easter morning by donating an Easter lily, please sign up at the table in the narthex by **TODAY**, **Sunday**, **April 2**. If you wish to purchase one in honor of a special event or in memory of a loved one, please note that next to your name.

Please pay for your plants by placing a check for \$10 in the offering plate, **made payable to Holy Cross**. Note in the memo section that the check is for an Easter lily. Or place cash in the offering plate noted for Easter lily.

Plants can be taken home after the second service Easter morning.

+	Holy Week Schedule	1
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April 6	7 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Communion Worship Service
April 7	11:30 a.m. 7 p.m.	Good Friday Worship Service Good Friday Tenebrae Worship Service
April 9	8 a.m.	Easter Morning Communion Worship Service
	9 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Easter Morning Breakfast Easter Morning Communion Worship Service

Easter Worshipers please note:



Next Sunday, Easter Worship Service will begin in the narthex. We will enter the sanctuary together in a processional following the cross as we sing the opening hymn. We ask that you wait in the narthex

unless you have a need to be seated early (those with small children or with medical needs).

We need your help with Easter Breakfast!



Bring your favorite breakfast item to share! We need fruit, pastries, breakfast casseroles, etc. for Easter Breakfast between the worship services on Easter morning. If you are able to provide an item,

please sign up on the sheet on the table in the narthex and bring your dish to the church by 8:30 a.m. next Sunday, April 9, Easter morning.

Please join us in celebrating Easter next Sunday at 9 a.m. with breakfast in between services.



Thank You! big "Thank You" to a

A big "Thank You" to all those who donated to World Vision at our Valentines Brunch sponsored by Thrivent Financial. With

the \$1,100 collected, we ordered a couple of water purifiers, some goats, chickens, ducks, sheep and a pig through World Vision.

Portals of Prayer for April-June 2023 are out!

Pick up your copy from the table in the narthex. We have digest size copies if you need larger print. These are a great resource to use in your daily devotions!

Fellowship Committee

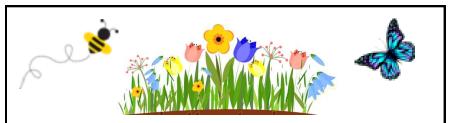


We have a new Fellowship Committee that is looking for members! We will organize, plan, and execute providing snacks for special occasions, fun activities, and social events. If you are interested in participating in the planning of Christian fellowship, please contact Kathy Harrington at 1-209-352-6893.

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them." (Matthew 18:20)



Please check the **Sunday Greeter schedule**, posted on the bulletin board, to find out when you're scheduled to serve. Thank you!



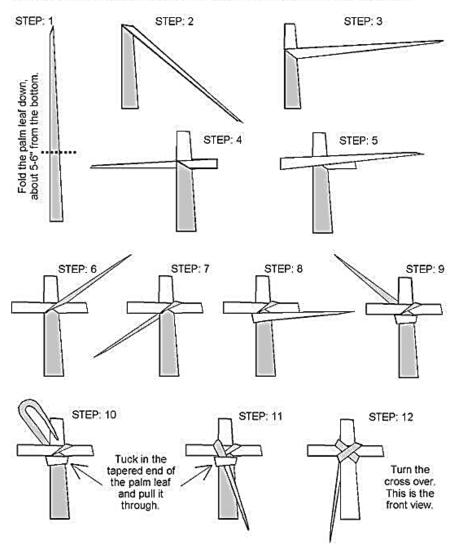
Spring is almost here and maybe you too are excited to do some gardening in the fresh air. Here at Holy Cross we have flower beds that would love some tender loving care. Whether you have gardening experience or not, please consider adopting one of the flower beds. You might prefer the quiet time to garden alone or perhaps you would enjoy tending a bed with a friend, your spouse, children, or grandchildren. All are welcome. You would be able to choose the plantings and tend the bed on your schedule. Some funding is available if cost is an issue. Please contact Debbie Skelton at 720-470-1706 to volunteer and to pick out your flower bed. Thank you for making Holy Cross more beautiful!

Palm Sunday

The Sunday before Easter is known as Palm Sunday. It is the beginning of Holy Week. It celebrates Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey. Great crowds of people thronged the streets waving palm branches to welcome Him. The people shouted "Hosanna" and laid their cloaks and palm branches from the nearby trees in His path.

Palm Leaf Cross Directions

Supplies: One palm leaf strip about 24-26" in length, 1/2" in width, tapering to the end.



The Ladies of Christ Lutheran Church and the Ruth Guild of University Hills Lutheran Church are hosting the

SPRING LWML RALLY

at Christ Lutheran Church located at 2695 S. Franklin St., Denver, CO 80210



on Saturday, April 29, 2023 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

We will have pastries and fruit for breakfast. Lunch will be provided.

The Bethesda Craft Sale will be present.

We will be collecting shoes in any condition for Soles for Souls.

We will be collecting canned vegetables for the Community Food Bank.

We will be collecting newborn baby items – diapers, wipes, clothes.

We hope to see you there!

The Triumphal Entry

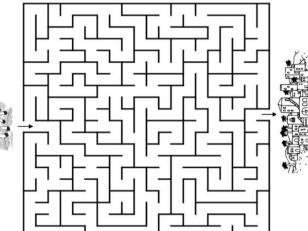
"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" Luke 19:38 (NIV)



Ν	S	Μ	Ε	J	Κ	Α	С	0	L	Т	S	S	Н	PRAISE
L	κ	Ε	Ρ	Т	N	Ε	R	D	L	Ι	Н	С	S	CHRIST REMEMBER
С	С	L	Α	Ε	Μ	Н	0	S	Α	Ν	N	Α	Т	COLT HOPE
Н	R	Α	S	D	W	0	R	С	Ρ	Α	R	D	0	EXPECTED SAVIOR
R	Ε	S	S	Μ	Ε	J	Ν	Н	0	J	R	Н	Ν	SAVES
I	Μ	U	0	Α	Α	Х	Α	Ε	D	0	J	R	Е	CHILDREN STONES
S	Е	R	v	R	Α	R	Ρ	Ι	L	U	Κ	Е	S	PHARISEES JERUSALEM
Т	м	Ε	Е	Κ	Ι	0	S	Е	J	Е	U	Е	н	JOHN
R	В	J	R	S	Н	С	W	S	С	Е	0	S	т	HOSANNA
Κ	Е	S	Е	0	Ι	Ε	Н	Ε	Α	Т	S	Ε	Ρ	DISCIPLES PASSOVER
Ι	R	Ε	Α	Ρ	R	Α	Ι	S	Е	v	Ε	U	S	JESUS
Ν	S	S	L	V	Ε	Κ	Α	R	0	R	I	D	S	MARK KING
G	С	Ε	в	В	Ε	Т	Н	Α	Ν	Υ	Ρ	0	R	BETHANY LORD
Α	S	S	Ρ	Ε	Ε	S	В	R	Α	N	С	Н	R	CROWD BRANCH

Palm Sunday Maze





Petitions and Prayers: Jesus answers only prayers based on His Word. He answers all prayers prompted by His Word working in us.



Health concerns:

Lord Jesus, lift the spirits and strengthen the faith of those people who are ill, helping them to look beyond this present affliction. Remind them that You are near, even in this time of pain and suffering. Heal them if it be Your will; if not, give them the strength to endure in faith. We pray in Your name, our only Lord and Savior. Amen.

Please keep the following in your prayers:

- Devon Hanson (grandson of Connie and Terry Mitchell) mental health issues
- Roger Frank (brother of Connie Mitchell) cancer
- Mary (relative of Tabris') pray for protection and wisdom for her family concerning special needs.
- Angela (single mother in Illinois) friend of Helen Tabris –waiting for heart transplant
- Jamie (is missing and has mental health issues) and young daughter Jade (is being adopted by family in Colorado)

Prayer of intercession:

*Hail Jesus, our King! On this day long ago, You rode on a donkey into Jerusalem and were hailed as King. You did not look like a king: You had no crown, no scepter, no royal steed. Everything in Your procession failed to measure up to the heralding of majesty. But as our Brother, You began this journey to the cross to save us for all eternity. We thank You, risen Lord, for this journey on our behalf. Amen.

"Life Quotes" from Lutherans for Life April 2, 2023

"As you travel with Jesus through Holy Week, don't lose heart. He is your Palm Sunday King. He will always come to you and give you the best of what He has to offer because of His humble attitude and His devotion to His mission. When you see this Savior who personally cares for you, you can't help but join the believers of old to give to the Lord your best and most precious treasures of your heart and life, and then to join with all believers saying, 'Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!'"

Rev. Peter Sulzle, St John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota -- A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org



Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!

Luke 19:38

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

(Missouri Synod) 9770 Foothills Canyon Blvd. Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

Sunday Worship Services	8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
Bible Classes and Sunday School	9:25 a.m.
Church Office	
Rev. Bruce Skelton, Pastor, cell	
Website	www.hclchr.org

Reaching lost souls with the Gospel: Nourishing and equipping the saints for life and ministry!



Check out The Lutheran Hour Sunday mornings at 6 a.m. on 850 KOA Radio or or and click on "Listen Now" anytime.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church





Holy Cross Lutheran is on Facebook. Check us out and Like us at facebook.com/HolyCrossHighlandsRanch.

Everything has gone up in price except salvation. It is still a free gift paid in full by Jesus.