



Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church – ELCA

“Encouraging faith and proclaiming God’s love by Gathering, Growing and Giving.”

Palm Sunday

Service of the Word

March 24, 2024

This worship is being live streamed. Your presence in the sanctuary signifies your agreeing to be on our live broadcast.

NOTE: **Bold text** indicates worshippers’ response, and * means please stand as able.

PRELUDE

Michelle Young

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

C: Hosanna to the son of David.

*P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

*P: Let us pray... **Mercifully assist us, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the completion of those mighty acts whereby you have given us life everlasting; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

C: Amen.

*A Reading from the Gospel of Mark of Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem

All: Glory to you O Lord.

¹ As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, ² saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³ If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ say, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.’”

⁴ They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, ⁵ some people standing there asked, “What are you doing, untying that colt?” ⁶ They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. ⁷ When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. ⁸ Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. ⁹ Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted, “Hosanna!” “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” ¹⁰ “Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!” “Hosanna in the highest heaven!” ¹¹ Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple courts. He looked around at everything, but since it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve.

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: Hosanna in the highest.

*PROCESSION WITH THE PALMS (*please stand as you are able and sing, palms can be lifted high and even waved if you are comfortable doing so*)

Refrain 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. **Refrain**

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

The multitude of pilgrims with palms before you went.
Our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present. **Refrain**

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

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760-821; tr. John M. Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

Public Domain

Children sing and Children's Sermon

WELCOME & MINISTRY MESSAGES

Pastor Ron Gerl

GATHERING

* GREETING The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

Please join in reading Psalm 31 responsively.

PSALM 31:9-16

⁹Be merciful to me, LORD, for I am in distress; my eyes grow weak with sorrow, my soul and body with grief.

¹⁰**My life is consumed by anguish and my years by groaning; my strength fails because of my affliction, and my bones grow weak.**

¹¹Because of all my enemies, I am the utter contempt of my neighbors and an object of dread to my closest friends— those who see me on the street flee from me.

¹²**I am forgotten as though I were dead; I have become like broken pottery.**

¹³For I hear many whispering, "Terror on every side!" They conspire against me and plot to take my life.

¹⁴**But I trust in you, LORD; I say, "You are my God."**

¹⁵My times are in your hands; deliver me from the hands of my enemies, from those who pursue me.

¹⁶**Let your face shine on your servant; save me in your unfailing love.**

* PRAYER OF THE DAY 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.**

* HYMN

My Song is Love Unknown

LBW#94

My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me,
love to the loveless shown, that they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail
flesh and die? My Lord should take frail flesh and die?

He came from his blest throne, salvation to bestow;
but men made strange, and none the longed-for Christ would know.
But, oh, my friend, my friend indeed, who at my need his
life did spend; who at my need his life did spend!

Sometimes they strew his way and his sweet praises sing;
resounding all the day hosannas to their King.
Then "Crucify!" is all their breath, and for his death they
thirst and cry, and for his death they thirst and cry.

Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run, he gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these themselves displease, and
'gainst him rise; themselves displease, and 'gainst him rise.

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624-1683

Public Domain

PASSION NARRATIVE ACCORDING TO MARK

Chief Priest: Rick Hollister
Disciple 2: Billy Heltne
Pilate: Bud Barum

Peter: Hayley Webb
Judas: Courtney Larson
Narrator: Pastor Ron Gerl

Disciple 1: Gordy Sessions
Servant: Judy Dieter
Jesus: Keith Lee

Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Were you
there when they crucified my Lord? Oh,
sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you
there when they nailed him to the tree? Oh,
sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you
there when they laid him in the tomb? Oh,
sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Were you there when God raised him from the tomb? Were you
there when God raised him from the tomb? Oh,
sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when God raised him from the tomb?

Text: African American spiritual

Public Domain

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

God of the covenant, through the church you draw us into community. We give thanks for the means of grace around which we gather. Inspire writers, musicians, and artists whose creative gifts adorn our worship. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of all that exists, you lavish the earth with extravagant beauty. Preserve the rich and complex diversity of living things. Support local, national, and international efforts to protect the environment for future generations. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of the nations, you desire peace and plenty for all people. Defend those who challenge oppression and expose corruption. Support advocates for human rights, social justice, and the welfare of children. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of good will, you restore what is broken. We pray for any experiencing estrangement, conflict, or abuse in families and intimate relationships. Protect and comfort all who are vulnerable, especially those living in institutions. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every time and place, you are with us. Support ministries of prayer and presence in this congregation. Move us to reach out to any who are homebound, lonely, grieving, in treatment, or ill, we especially pray for Barb Barum, Ron Rose, Sandy Kenefick, Lori Jenson and the family of John Ausman. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of promise, we give thanks for the saints whose faith inspires us. Grant us faith to trust in your everlasting love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

GIVING

The OFFERING PLATE is located at the entrance of the church sanctuary. Your generous giving supports God's mission and ministry at Shepherd of the Hill.

*OFFERING HYMN

Create in Me a Clean Heart

LBW page 96

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

Psalm: 51:-10-12

Public Domain

* OFFERING PRAYER O Lord our God, **maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us. Jesus Christ our Lord.**
Amen.

* LORD'S PRAYER **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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

* BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* RECESSIONAL HYMN

Jesus I Will Ponder Now

LBW#115

Jesus, I will ponder now on your holy passion;
let your Spirit now endow me for meditation.
Grant that I in love and faith may the image cherish
of your suffering, pain, and death, that I may not perish.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holy Week Worship Services:

Barum Lutheran-

Good Friday 2 pm service, Easter Sunday 9 am service

Big Elk Creek-

Maundy Thursday 7 pm service, Easter Sunday 10:30 am service

Trinity United Methodist-

Good Friday 2 pm service, Sunrise Easter Service 7 am



SOTH will be serving Sunday March 31st!

Volunteers needed, please consider helping. Two shifts available 1-3:15pm & 3-5pm.

Sign-up sheet is in the gathering area on the bulletin board.

Contact Holly Sweeney- 715-456-6960 with any questions.



Easter Sunday during Worship kids will take a noisy offering!

Collection towards our new Audio and Video Sanctuary Technology fund!

Start saving your change!



As many of you know our Sunday school classes take a collection on Sunday mornings during opening and we use it towards the ELCA Good Gifts program. As a group we vote what we'd like to purchase and set the goal. Our most recent collection goal was \$240.00- we made it!! For our \$240.00 we were able to purchase 4 roosters, 2 piglets, 2 water filters and stock 6 backpacks with food!!



The Chippewa Valley WELCA conference is holding the **Day of Renewal** event on April 20 at Hope Lutheran church in Eau Claire. There will be two main speakers, and music by the Good Neighbor Ukulele ministry. Lunch will be provided. Please meet other women of faith from 30 churches in the conference. It will be an uplifting time. Registration forms are on the table by the mailboxes. Mail your form no later than April 8th

If this is your first time attending your *registration fee* will be sponsored by a member of SOTH. Please let Claudeen Oebser or Kris Jenson know.

MAILING ADDRESSES for those folks who you may want to send words of care, concern, cheer, or sympathy.

Please, let the secretary know if you would like to be added and/ or know someone who might like to be.

- Anita Clemmens: E8784 555th Lot 128, Elk Mound, WI 54739
- Audrey Bracher: Colfax 110 Park Drive Room 310, Colfax, WI 54730
- Lori Jenson: E8799 530th Ave. Elk Mound, WI 54739
- Mary Ausman: E9556 490th Ave, Elk Mound, WI 54739

Giving Through our Website

Our website now provides us with the opportunity to give donations on-line at any time without banking information. Most people are using credit cards today and not writing checks and now this includes the option of supporting the continuing work of Christ here at Shepherd of the Hill. Even if you only watch our streaming of worship services, you will now have the flexibility to make offerings from your home!

Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS028313. New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. One License Podcast / Streaming License A-724679/ CCLI Streaming License #1727740