

Ascension of Christ Lutheran Church

16935 W. 14 Mile Road, Beverly Hills, Michigan 48025

Phone: 248.644.8890 Web: www.ascensionofchrist.org

The Reverend Larry K. Loree, Jr., Pastor

*A member congregation of The English District of
The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod*



Palm Sunday

March 29, 2026

+IN THE NAME OF JESUS+

WELCOME to the Divine Service at Ascension of Christ! We pray that you will be richly blessed by God as you hear His Word, receive His gifts and worship Him with your prayer and praise!

TO OUR GUESTS Welcome, we are glad that you have chosen to worship with us this morning. Please don't hesitate to ask an usher or a greeter if you have any questions. Be sure to introduce yourself to our Pastor. We invite you to consider Ascension of Christ if you are looking for a church home. We gather every Sunday morning for *Adult Bible Study* at 9:00 a.m., the Divine Service at 10:15 a.m., and Fellowship Hour immediately after the Divine Service.

CHILDREN AT ASCENSION At Ascension, we want you to feel at home. First, please relax and enjoy your time here. Jesus knows that children tend to wiggle and squawk a bit, so please don't feel embarrassed by it. Your children are welcome here! To make it easier on your family, please dare to sit closer to the front where your children can easily see what's going on, note the colors, watch the pastors, wonder about those heads on the lectern, and embrace the action at the altar. What Jesus does here is for them, too! As we go through the Divine Service, encourage them to join in on their parts: *Amen! Lord have mercy. And with your spirit. I believe! Our Father!* And please be sure to sing and pray your parts too! Children learn by following your lead. There are some busy bags in the back of the church for you and if you must take your children out of the church, please hurry back!

THE LORD'S SUPPER IS JOYFULLY RECEIVED HERE TODAY At the altar, our Lord Jesus Christ delivers His true body and blood into our mouths. His gift of body and blood given in, with, and under the bread and wine, bestows tremendous benefits. His body and blood forgives our sins, strengthens our faith, binds us to the Lord, and unites us with each other. In this is life and salvation. All members of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod have publicly confessed this sacred gift and its blessings and so are encouraged to commune. When you have examined yourself according to Christ's bidding (1 Corinthians 11:28), come to His Supper rejoicing, just as Jesus asks, knowing that our Lord meets you at His altar with joy. If you are a guest and would like to learn more about the practice of the Lord's Supper at Ascension of Christ, or if you are uncertain about whether you should receive the Lord's Supper, please speak with Pastor Loree before communing for the first time.

THE LITURGY FOR PALM SUNDAY *The Cross and Passion of Our Lord Are the Hour of His Glory* "Behold, your King is coming to you . . . humble and mounted on a donkey" (Zech. 9:9–12; Mt. 21:1–9). Our Lord rides in this humble fashion because He is entering Jerusalem to humble Himself even to the point of death on a cross (Phil. 2:5–11). His kingly crown will not be made of gold but of thorns, the sign of sin's curse. For His royal reign is displayed in bearing this curse for His people, saving us from our enemies by sacrificing His own life. The sinless One takes the place of the sinner so that the sinner can be freed and bear the name "Barabbas," "son of the Father" (Matthew 26 and 27). It is at the name of this exalted Savior, Jesus, that we bow in humble faith. With the centurion who declared, "Truly this was the Son of God!" (Mt. 27:54), we are also given to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father (Phil. 2:11).

+PROCESSION OF PALMS+

Weather permitting, the procession will begin outside. In the event of inclement weather, the procession will begin in the narthex and proceed into the nave with 'All Glory Laud and Honor.'

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.

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.

HOLY GOSPEL

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the nineteenth chapter.
- C** Glory be to Thee, O Lord.
- P** When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village in front of you, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' you shall say this: 'The Lord has need of it.'" So those who were sent went away and found it just as he had told them. And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?" And they said, "The Lord has need of it." And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

P Let us go forth in peace,

C in the name of the Lord.

PROCESSION OF PALMS

HOSANNA, LOUD HOSANNA

LSB 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.

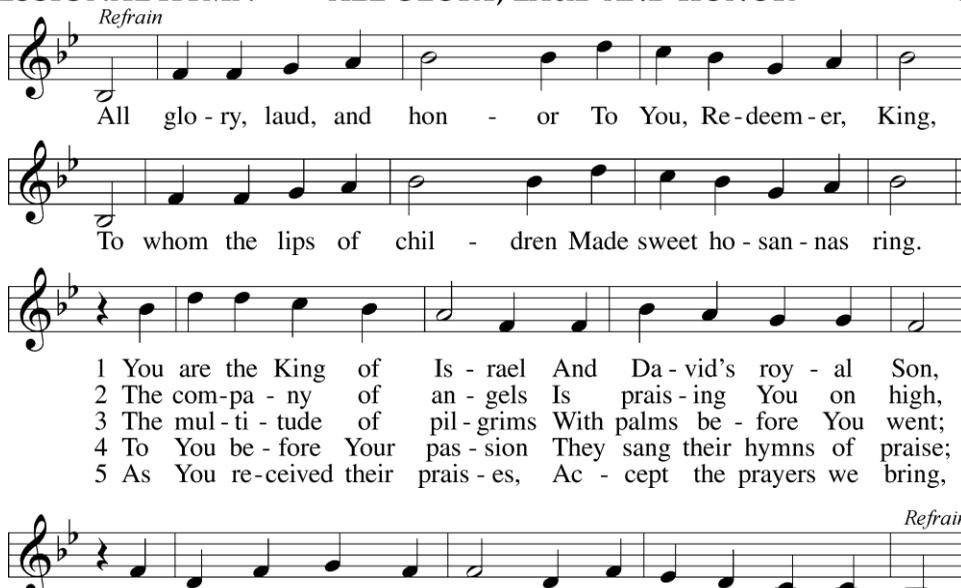


To Je - sus, who had blessed them, Close fold - ed to His breast,
The Lord of earth and heav - en Rode on in low - ly state
Oh, may we ev - er praise Him With heart and life and voice



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!

Refrain



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or To You, Re - deem - er, King,
 To whom the lips of chil - dren Made sweet ho - san - nas ring.

1 You are the King of Is - rael And Da - vid's roy - al Son,
 2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels Is prais - ing You on high,
 3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims With palms be - fore You went;
 4 To You be - fore Your pas - sion They sang their hymns of praise;
 5 As You re - ceived their prais - es, Ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Refrain

Now in the Lord's name com - ing, Our King and Bless - ed One.
 And we with all cre - a - tion In cho - rus make re - ply.
 Our praise and prayer and an - thems Be - fore You we pre - sent.
 To You, now high ex - alt - ed, Our mel - o - dy we raise.
 O Source of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Our good and gra - cious King.

PALM SUNDAY ACCLAMATION

- P** Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
C Amen

A brief time of silence is observed to highlight the contrast between Jesus' triumphal entry and His passion.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spirit.
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.

+GOD SPEAKS TO US IN HIS WORD+

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Zechariah 9:9-12

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!
behold, your king is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation is he,
humble and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall speak peace to the nations;
his rule shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.
As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.
Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Psalms 73:23b-24, 1



You hold my | right hand.*

You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will receive me to | glory.

Truly God is good to | Israel,*

to those who are | pure in heart.

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.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

TRACT

Psalm 22:1, 4–5

My God, my God, why have you for- | saken me?*

Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my | groaning?

In you our fathers | trusted;*

they trusted, and you de- | livered them.

To you they cried and were | rescued;*

in you they trusted and were not | put to shame.

CHOIR ANTHEM

“My Song is Love Unknown” arr. Carl Schalk

HOLY GOSPEL *You may remain seated during the reading of the Passion.*

St. Matthew 26:1—27:66

(Please see the additional handout for the Passion reading)

NICENE CREED

(back of the hymnal)

HYMN OF THE DAY *(Tune: Deo Gracias)* **THE ROYAL BANNERS FORWARD GO** LSB 455

HOMILY

+GOD RECEIVES OUR PRAYERS AND OFFERING+

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *Kneel/Stand*

Sit

OFFERING

Hosanna, Blessed is He! arr. Kevin Stewart

OFFERTORY



C 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.

+GOD GIVES A FORETASTE OF THE FEAST TO COME+

Stand

PREFACE

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.

PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS



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

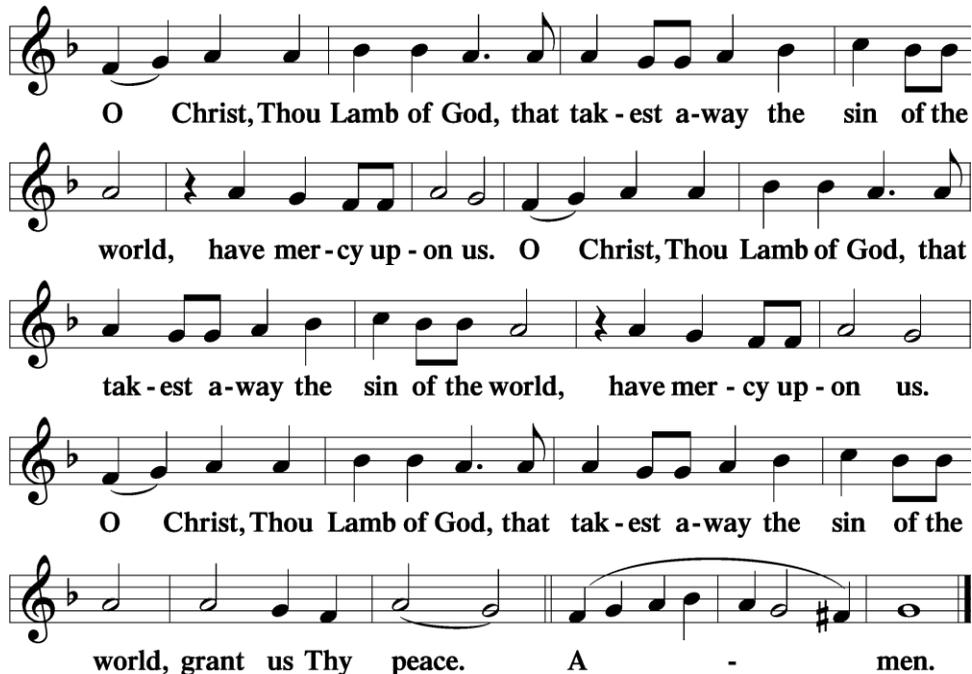
THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of † the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI



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

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

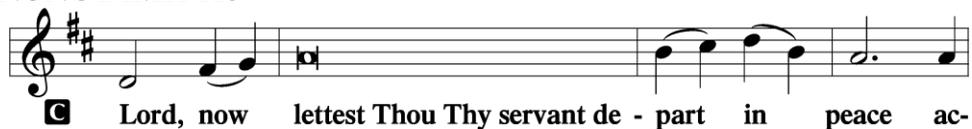
<i>RIDE ON, RIDE ON, IN MAJESTY</i>	LSB 441
<i>A LAMB GOES UNCOMPLAINING FORTH</i>	LSB 438
<i>JESUS, I WILL PONDER NOW</i>	LSB 440

Stand

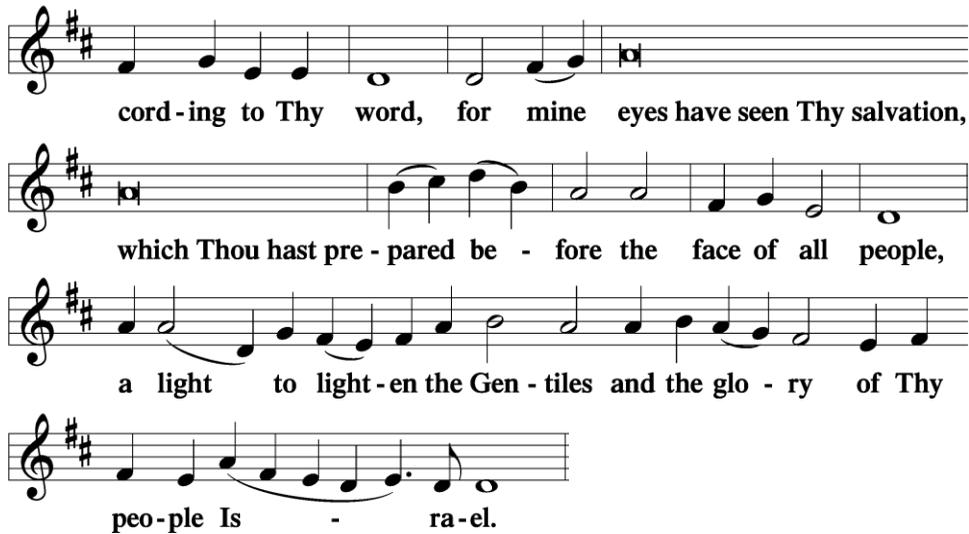
DISMISSAL

- P** The true body and precious blood of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.
- C** Amen.

NUNC DIMITTIS



C 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.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

- P** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C  and His mercy endureth forever.
P Let us pray. Almighty God, who has given Your only begotten Son to be unto us both a sacrifice for sin and also an example of Godly life, as You did not spare Your own Son but gave Him up for us all, give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive His most inestimable benefit and also daily endeavor ourselves to follow the blessed steps of His most holy life; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C  Amen.

+GOD BLESSES US AND SENDS US FORTH TO SERVE+

SALUTATION & BENEDICAMUS

- P** The Lord be with you.
C  And with thy spirit.
P Bless we the Lord.
C  Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

☐ 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.

☐  Amen. Amen. Amen.

POSTLUDE

+TO GOD ALONE BE GLORY+

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

04/02 **Maundy Thursday**

12:00 p.m. Divine Service

7:00 p.m. Divine Service (with stripping of the altar)

04/03 **Good Friday**

12:00 p.m. Chief Service (Divine Service)

7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Vespers

04/04 **Holy Saturday**

7:30 p.m. Easter Vigil (with champagne afterglow)

04/05 **Easter Sunday**

9:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast

9:30 a.m. Butterfly Hunt

10:15 a.m. Festival Divine Service