

St. Mark's Presbyterian Church
Palm/Passion Sunday – March 29, 2026

Land Acknowledgement

I acknowledge I am leading worship from Treaty 4 Territory the traditional homeland of the Cree, Ojibwe, Saulteaux, Dakota, Nakota, Lakota, and the Métis Nations

Responsive Call to Worship

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Jesus humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Therefore, God has exalted him and given him the name above every name.

Hosanna! Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Let us worship God in the name of Jesus Christ, our Servant Lord.

Liturgy of the Palms

Hymn 217 Ride on, ride on in majesty

**1. Ride on, ride on in majesty;
hark, all the tribes Hosanna cry.
O Saviour meek, pursue thy road
with palms and scattered garments strewed.**

**2. Ride on, ride on in majesty;
in lowly pomp ride on to die.
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin
o'er captive death and conquered sin.**

**3. Ride on, ride on in majesty;
the angel hosts beyond the sky
look down with sad and wondering eyes
to see the approaching sacrifice.**

**4. Ride on, ride on in majesty;
the last and fiercest strife is nigh.
Thy Father on the sapphire throne
expects thee, loved, anointed Son.**

**5. Ride on, ride on in majesty;
in lowly pomp ride on to die.
Bow thy meek head to mortal pain;
then take, O God, thy power and reign.**

Prayer of Praise (*minister*)

Responsive Reading Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 **p. 565 NT & Psalms**

¹Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!
His faithful love endures forever.

²Let all Israel repeat:

“His faithful love endures forever.”

¹⁹Open for me the gates where the righteous enter,
and I will go in and thank the Lord.

**²⁰These gates lead to the presence of the Lord,
and the godly enter there.**

²¹I thank you for answering my prayer
and giving me victory!

**²²The stone that the builders rejected
has now become the cornerstone.**

²³This is the Lord’s doing,
and it is wonderful to see.

**²⁴This is the day the Lord has made.
We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

²⁵Please, Lord, please save us.

Please, Lord, please give us success.

**²⁶Bless the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
We bless you from the house of the Lord.**

²⁷The Lord is God, shining upon us.

Take the sacrifice and bind it with cords on the altar.

**²⁸You are my God, and I will praise you!
You are my God, and I will exalt you!**

**²⁹Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!
His faithful love endures forever.**

Scripture Lessons:

Matthew 21:1-11 p. 40 NT & Psalms

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Hymn 214 **All glory, laud and honour**

Refrain:

**All glory, laud and honour
to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring!**

**1. Thou art the King of Israel,
thou David's royal son,
who in the Lord's name comest,
the King and blessed one.**

Refrain:

**All glory, laud and honour
to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring!**

**2. The people of the Hebrews
with palms before thee went;
our praise and prayer and anthems
before thee we present.**

Refrain:

**All glory, laud and honour
to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring!**

**3. To thee before thy passion
they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee, now high exalted,
our melody we raise.**

Refrain:

**All glory, laud and honour
to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring!**

**4. You didst accept their praises;
accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest,
thou good and gracious King.**

⁹Have mercy on me, Lord, for I am in distress.

Tears blur my eyes.

My body and soul are withering away.

¹⁰I am dying from grief;

my years are shortened by sadness.

Sin has drained my strength;

I am wasting away from within.

¹¹I am scorned by all my enemies

and despised by my neighbors—

even my friends are afraid to come near me.

When they see me on the street,

they run the other way.

¹²I am ignored as if I were dead,

as if I were a broken pot.

¹³I have heard the many rumors about me,

and I am surrounded by terror.

My enemies conspire against me,

plotting to take my life.

¹⁴But I am trusting you, O Lord,

saying, “You are my God!”

¹⁵My future is in your hands.

Rescue me from those who hunt me down relentlessly.

¹⁶Let your favor shine on your servant.

In your unfailing love, rescue me.

Scripture Lessons:

Isaiah 50:4-9a p. 598 pew Bible

Philippians 2:5-11 p. 342 NT & Psalms

Matthew 27:11-54 p. 56 NT & Psalms

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession (congregation)

Lord Jesus Christ, when our words and actions reflect a reluctance to confess you publicly as Lord of our lives; when we fear that humbling ourselves, would be seen by others as weakness, or some sort of defect in our character; when we find ourselves looking forward to Easter as a time to enjoy holidays – glossing over the events of your passion and death. Forgive us.

- silent confession -

The Lord's Prayer (Debts/Debtors)

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.

**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.**

Assurance of Pardon (minister)

Sermon Not an ordinary day

Prayers of the People (minister)

Prayer of Dedication (congregation)

**Gracious God, when we remember Jesus gave his life
for us, our offering seems so small. Yet Jesus shows us
that five loaves and two fish can feed a multitude; a
man dying on a cross becomes Living Bread for a
hungry world. Bless these small gifts with your
goodness so that the miracle of Jesus' love continues to
amaze the world. Amen.**

Communion Hymn 537 Twas on that night

- 1. 'Twas on that night when doomed to know
the eager rage of every foe,
that night in which he was betrayed,
the Savior of the world took bread,**
- 2. and after thanks and glory given
to God who rules in earth and heaven,
that symbol of his flesh he broke,
and thus to all his followers spoke:**
- 3. "My broken body thus I give
for you, for all; take, eat, and live;
and oft the sacred rite renew
that brings my wondrous love to view."**
- 4. Then in his hands the cup he raised,**

**and God anew he thanked and praised;
the fullness of God's grace he showed
and from his lips salvation flowed.**

**5. "My blood I thus pour forth," he cries,
"to cleanse the soul in sin that lies;
in this the covenant is sealed,
and heaven's eternal grace revealed."**

**6. "With suffering love this cup is given;
let all partake the wine of heaven,
and when you gather, let it pour,
in living memory of this hour."**

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you;

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts;

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God;

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is a good and joyful thing, Holy One, that we offer you our gratitude and praise with hearts full of love, for we have seen your grace and power. And so, we join our voices with all your creatures high and low, with all the saints before us and beside us, in heaven and on earth, to celebrate your humility and your resurrecting power.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Receive our praise and joy this day, O Christ. Your promised resurrection reminds us that there are new possibilities for us and our weary world. Even when we falter in discouragement, even if we hesitate at the news that your great love has come back to embrace us, you will not let us go. You call us by name to assure us of your love. You open your arms to welcome us back to your side. You have spread this table for us, offering us not only the bread and cup, but

your very self, present with us here and everywhere. In anticipation of receiving these gifts, we proclaim our faith and our hope as we say,

**Christ has died;
Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

Spirit of Life, rising in us and around us, breathe upon us now and upon this bread and cup. May they be for us Christ's body and blood, gifts of new life, with the power to make us whole. As this bread and cup become a part of us, may we become a part of you, Lord Jesus, united with you and with each other in love. Dare us to live for justice and joy, trusting that all things will work together for good through the power of love that raised you from the dead, the power of the love we share in your name.

Distribution

The Breaking of the Bread

The Pouring of the Cup

The Revelation

Prayer after Communion

Lord Jesus Christ, you have nourished us, body, and soul, in this meal. We have heard your love and hope proclaimed, now send us out to speak it to others. We have seen your love and hope poured out, now send us out to show it in everything we do. We have been fed by your love and hope at your table, now send us out to share it so the world may believe. And let all things be done for your glory. Amen.

Hymn 238 Beneath the cross of Jesus

- 1. Beneath the cross of Jesus
I fain would take my stand,
the shadow of a mighty rock
within a weary land,
a home with in the wilderness,
a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat
and the burden of the day.**
- 2. Upon the cross of Jesus
mine eyes at times can see**

**the very dying form of one
who suffered there for me,
and from my stricken heart with tears
two wonders I confess:
the wonders of redeeming love
and my own unworthiness.**

**3. I take, O cross, thy shadow
for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than
the sunshine of his face;
content to let the world go by,
to know no gain nor loss;
my sinful self my only shame,
my glory all, the cross.**

Choral Blessing

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will be with you each hour of every day.
God will be there, watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

Benediction

Three-fold Amen

Piano Postlude