



HOSANNA *in the highest!*

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Matthew 21:9

*Welcome to St. John Lutheran Church
Palm Sunday
Saturday, April 1, 2023*

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PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG

Hosanna

Hosanna ... Hosanna ... Hosanna in the highest,
Hosanna ... Hosanna ... Hosanna in the highest,
Lord, we lift up Your name, with hearts full of praise,
Be exalted oh Lord, my God, Hosanna in the highest.

Glory ... Glory ... Glory to the King of Kings,
Glory ... Glory ... Glory to the King of Kings,
Lord, we lift up Your name, With hearts full of praise,
Be exalted oh Lord, my God, Glory to the King of Kings.

Hosanna ... Hosanna ... Hosanna in the highest,
Hosanna ... Hosanna ... Hosanna in the highest,
Lord, we lift up Your name, with hearts full of praise,
Be exalted oh Lord, my God, Hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna ... Hosanna ... Hosanna in the highest,
Hosanna ... Hosanna ... Hosanna in the highest,
Lord, we lift up Your name, with hearts full of praise,
Be exalted oh Lord, my God, Hosanna in the highest.

Lord we lift up your name, With hearts full of praise,
Be exalted oh Lord, my God, Hosanna, in the highest.

Be exalted oh Lord, my God, Hosanna, in the highest

WE CONFESS OUR LACK OF FAITH

P: God,

C: we confess our lack of faith. We see a glimpse of what we ought to be and we know we fall short of the goal. We desire faith which is solid

and unchanging, yet we crumble under the trials and temptations of life. We want to be strong, but we know our own weaknesses. Our sinful condition strips us of any spiritual gain we humanly devise. God, forgive us. Accept us as we are, unworthy for the task, yet gifted for your purposes. Give us your gift of faith.

WE HEAR THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD'S GIFT OF FAITH

P: Our God is a great God and knows what we need in every area of our life. God knows our weaknesses and our unbelieving hearts. God loves us enough to die on a cross and provide forgiveness for our sin. Today the focus is not on the faith we can muster, but on the great gifts our God gives. God has given us the gift of faith, faith for the moment, faith for every trial, faith for every temptation, faith for every difficult situation. Praise God for this inexpressible gift of faith.

C: Amen

FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:4-9a

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he awakens— awakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like 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 are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

SECOND READING

Philippians 2:5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

GOSPEL

Matthew 21:1-11

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village

ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

"Tell the daughter of Zion,
Look, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

SERMON

Pastor Shawn O'Brien

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of good gifts,

C: receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen.

OFFERING SONG

Once Again

Jesus Christ...I think upon Your sacrifice
You became nothing...poured out to death.
Many times... I've wondered at your gift of life and
I'm in that place once again...I'm in that place once again

CHORUS

And once again I look upon the cross where You died
I'm humbled by Your mercy and I'm broken inside
Once again I thank You...Once again I pour out my life

Now You are...exalted to the highest place
King of the heavens...where one day I'll bow
But for now...I'll marvel at Your saving grace and
I'm full of praise once again...I'm full of praise once again

CHORUS

Thank You for the cross...Thank You for the cross
Thank You for the cross...my friend
Thank You for the cross...Thank You for the cross
Thank You for the cross...my friend

HOLY COMMUNION

P: As we journey through these forty days, we come to find rest for our hearts and contentment for our minds.

C: We are caught up in the activity of our life and need to pause and receive God's sustaining gift of grace.

P: In this holy time of worship, we come to receive the forgiving grace of God in the bread and the wine.

C: We praise you, God, for your heavenly food given in love for us.

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

C: In this meal we discover a God who sent his only Son, so that all may receive life. In the body broken and the blood poured out, we experience the mercy of a dying Savior who prayed for our forgiveness. In the eating and drinking we are united with the risen Savior who greets us with the promise of peace.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**All: 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 DISTRIBUTION

Welcome!

St. John practices "open communion". All who are baptized and instructed are welcome to share the Lord's Supper with us today. Starting with the right side of the church, followed by the left when they are finished, the pastor will distribute the bread and the communion assistant will serve the wine. We will also have pre-sealed elements available for those who would prefer the more hygienic option (or those who wish to receive grape juice instead of wine). Indicate to the pastor that you would like pre-sealed elements and skip the wine server. Those who wish to receive a blessing should indicate their wishes to the pastor by crossing their arms over their chest.

BLESSING

P: God, the giver of love, Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey.

C: Amen.



SENDING SONG

Days of Elijah

These are the days of Elijah
Declaring the Word of the Lord.
And these are the days of your ser-vant,
Mo-ses Righ-tous-ness being restored.
And though these are days of great trials
Of famine and darkness and sword.
Still we are the voice in the de-sert,
cry-ing Prepare ye the way of the Lord.

Chorus: Behold he comes ... riding on the clouds
Shining like the sun ... at the trumpet call
So lift your voice ... it's the year of jubilee
And out of Zion's hill salvation comes.

And these are the days of Ezekiel
The dry bones becoming as flesh.
And these are the days of your ser-vant,
Da-vid Rebuilding a temple of praise.
And these are the days of the har-vest
The fields are as white in your world.
And we are the la-bor-ers in your vine-yard
Declaring the word of the Lord. ***Chorus***

There is no God like Jehovah ...
(repeat several times)

Chorus 2x

Who... was... and
Who is ... and
Who is ... to come

Who... was... and
Who is ... and
Who is ... to come ***Repeat***

Who... was... and
Who is ... and
Who is ... to come

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve in love.

C: Thanks be to God.



21140 W. Toledo Street
P.O. Box 235
Williston, Ohio 43468
(419) 836-5514
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-2pm
Email: office@stjohnwilliston.org

Pastor Shawn O'Brien
(419) 378-1112
pastorobrien@stjohnwilliston.org

***We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church.
We are... "creating and nurturing life changing relationships
based on the love of God in Jesus Christ,
so that we may grow in faith, serve God,
and serve our neighbor."***

Contemporary Worship: Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday School for all ages 8:30 am
Traditional Worship: Sunday 9:45 am

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