



**St. John Lutheran Church and School**

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod  
Reverend Jeff Caithamer

Interim School Principal: Faith Block

*Today's service begins with the procession of palms. "Palm Sunday" is named after the palms which were spread before Jesus as He entered Jerusalem. The acclamation of the people, "Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord," clearly reveals that they hailed Jesus as the messianic king.*

**Procession with Palms**

*The congregation stands and faces the processional cross at the entrance to the nave.*

**Greeting**

**P** The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ, 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.**

**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. John, the twelfth chapter.

**C Glory to You, O Lord.**

**P** 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." (John 12:12-19)

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to You, O Christ.**

**P** Let us go forth in peace

**C In the name of the Lord.**

**Children's Procession** *Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord – Hosanna in the highest!*

**Processional Hymn 442** *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

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

**C Hosanna in the Highest.**

**Children's Message**

**Confession and Absolution** p.184

**Salutation & Collect of the Day** p.189

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. **Amen.**

**Old Testament Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12**

<sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. <sup>12</sup>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.**

**Epistle Reading: Philippians 2:5-11**

<sup>5</sup> Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, <sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup> And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup> Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> 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.**

**Gospel Procession: Holy Gospel Reading: John 12:20-43**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.

**C Glory to You, O Lord.**

**John 12:20-43**

<sup>20</sup> Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. <sup>21</sup> So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus."  
<sup>22</sup> Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. <sup>23</sup> And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup> Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup> If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

<sup>27</sup> "Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. <sup>28</sup> Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." <sup>29</sup> The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." <sup>30</sup> Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not mine. <sup>31</sup> Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. <sup>32</sup> And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." <sup>33</sup> He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die. <sup>34</sup> So the crowd answered him, "We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?" <sup>35</sup> So Jesus said to them, "The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. <sup>36</sup> While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light."

When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them. <sup>37</sup>Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him, <sup>38</sup>so that the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: “Lord, who has believed what he heard from us, and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?” <sup>39</sup>Therefore they could not believe. For again Isaiah said, <sup>40</sup>“He has blinded their eyes and hardened their heart, lest they see with their eyes, and understand with their heart, and turn, and I would heal them.”

<sup>41</sup>Isaiah said these things because he saw his glory and spoke of him. <sup>42</sup>Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; <sup>43</sup>for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

**Nicene Creed** p.191

**Hymn 438** *A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth*

**Sermon** “*Cheers to Jeers*” John 12:1-19

**Offertory** p.192

**Gathering of Tithes and Offering**

(8:00) “*Surely He Hath Borne Our Grievs*” Leo Men’s Choir

(10:45) “*Surely He Hath Borne Our Grievs*” Graun Mixed Choir

**Prayer of the Church** p.193

**Service of the Sacrament** p.194

(8:00) “*God So Loved the World*” Stainer Men’s Choir

(10:45) “*Christ, We Do All Adore Thee*” Dubois Mixed Choir

**Communion Hymns:** **421** *Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing*

**434** *Lamb of God, Pure and Holy*

**440** *Jesus, I Will Ponder Now*

**Thanksgiving, Salutation and Benedicamus** p.200

**Recessional Hymn 441** *Ride On, Ride On in Majesty*

Postlude - “*O Dearest Jesus*” Brahms

**WELCOME TO ST. JOHN!** We ask members and guests to fill out an attendance card located by the hymnals; indicate your attendance at Holy Communion. Cards may be placed in the offering plate. Note that there are two glasses in the center of each tray with diluted wine.

**ABOUT THE LORD'S SUPPER:** Our congregation is a member of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, a family of congregations who pledge themselves to teach and to believe the same doctrines. We invite those persons who are members in good standing of a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod or of a church in fellowship with the LCMS to receive the sacrament. We want to express our sincere welcome to guests and to assure them that it is in their spiritual interest that we practice closed communion. Guests desiring to learn more about our beliefs are asked to make an appointment to speak with our pastor.

**SERVING TODAY - Organist & Choir Director:** Keith Williams. **Elders:** 8:00 - Kurt, Dave, Kendall & Bob; 10:45 - Jeremy, Matt, Terry & Dan. **Acolytes:** 8:00 - Jacob, Jack, Anna; 10:45 - Noah, Hannah & Alexa. **Greeters:** 10:45 - Lynn.

**OUR CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY** - The altar flowers are given today by Jeffrey & Jessica in loving memory of son Elliot. We also remember the following people in our prayers: *for peace and comfort:* for the family of Glenn Goeres at his death March 21<sup>st</sup>; *following surgery:* Bob; *for healing and recovery:* Lucille, Kevin, Pam, Mary, Judy -sister of Larry, Bill -son in law of Dave & Donna, Dan -brother of Bonnie; Brandon -nephew of Brenda, Bruce, Lorelai, Rachel -niece of Judy, Lois, Ellie, Stephen -son of Ken, Dale -brother in law of Ellie, Cathy -sister of Millie, Merv, John, Todd -grandson of Harold, Tom; *for strength, hope, and peace:* Anna -mother of Bill; *for successful treatments:* Philip -son of Starley, Judy, Johnny -son in law of Letty, Joan, Jeannette, Nancy, Maxine; *for those in the military:* Mitchell, Heath, Taylor, Andy, Christopher, Brandon, Suzzanna, Ben, Allyson, Tom, Zachary; *for our homebound:* Walt, Frank, Lavina, Geneice.

For requests for the prayer chain or to be added to the chain:

<http://stjohnmedia.org/church/PrayerList.html>

**Easter Lilies** - If you would like to help decorate our sanctuary for Easter, order forms for lilies can be found on the narthex table. Plants are \$8 each; please make checks payable to the church. Orders can be accepted through today.

**We need your help** - We are still in need of greeters. You can sign up on the Greeters/Ushers sheet in the overflow area in the back of the church. Thank you from the Evangelism Board.

## EDUCATION HOUR TODAY

**Adult Bible Class** – Pastor Caithamer, fellowship hall

**Sunday School Opening** will be in the Sanctuary for 1<sup>st</sup> Grade - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. 3 and 4 year olds and Kindergarten meet in room 4C. We begin at 9:30. Come and join us!

1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Room 4A	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup>	Room 2B
3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup>	Room 1C	High School	Youth Room
5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup>	Room 4B		

## OUR WEEK AHEAD

<b>Today</b>	<i>Palm Sunday</i> ; 8:00 Holy Communion; 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School; 10:45 Holy Communion; 12:00 Brass Rehearsal; 1:00 Adult Information Class
<b>Monday</b>	9:00 MOPS
<b>Tuesday</b>	10:00 Adult Bible Class; 6:00 Parish Ed; 6:30 Stewardship; 7:00 Youth Board
<b>Wednesday</b>	5:00 PTF; 5:45 Midweek School; 6:00 Men's Choir; 6:45 Mixed Choir
<b>Thursday</b>	<i>Maundy Thursday</i> ; 8:05 Chapel; 6:00 Handbells; 7:15 Holy Communion
<b>Friday</b>	<i>Good Friday</i> ; 6:15 Men & Mixed Choir; 7:15 Tenebrae Vespers; <i>Church Office closes at noon; School closed</i>
<b>Saturday</b>	Easter Brass & Handbells Rehearsal TBA; 1:00 Easter Breakfast Setup
<b>Sunday</b>	<i>Easter</i> ; 6:00 Sunrise Service; 7:00 Easter Breakfast; 7:15 Handbells; 7:30 Mixed Choir; 8:00 Holy Communion; 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School; 10:15 Men's Choir; 10:45 Holy Communion

**Choirs** - There will be a change in our usual rehearsal schedule this week. Today, 3.25 - Noon - Brass rehearsal; Wednesday, 3.28 - 6:00 Men's Choir, 6:45 Mixed Choir; Maundy Thursday, 3.29, Alleluia Ringers at 6:00 (and ring for 7:15 service); Good Friday, 3.30 Both Men's and Mixed Choir will gather at 6:15 to warmup together (and sing for 7:15 service); Saturday, 3.31 - Brass and Handbells - time t.b.d.

**Sunday School on Easter** - All children's classes will combine on Easter Sunday to hear the Easter story and do special activities to celebrate Christ's resurrection. Please plan to join us.

**Easter Breakfast Volunteer Sign-Up** - We are in need of volunteers to help with Easter Breakfast this year. Help needed includes set-up on Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> from 1-3pm as well as help Easter morning from 6-9am. There are sign-up sheets for this on the bulletin board next to the church office as well as the sign-up sheet for food items. Please consider volunteering your help or donating food for the breakfast. Any questions contact Vanessa

**Faith & Family Night** - Our next Faith & Family Night will be held Friday, April 6, 5:30-7:00pm. Dinner will be provided, followed by a brief devotion and a family activity. A sign-up sheet is available on the bulletin board across from the fellowship hall. Families with children of all ages are invited. We hope you'll join us.

**Camp CILCA's** Early Bird discount ends March 31. Register your camper before the end of the month to receive \$10-25 off the registration fee. Visit [www.cilca.org](http://www.cilca.org) to register online.

**VBS Planning Meeting** - We will be having a planning meeting on Saturday, April 21 at 9am. We will be going over plans for VBS, ordering supplies and going over the Bible Lessons. If you are unable to make the meeting and are willing to help, please contact me or sign-up on the bulletin board. We still need volunteers in the preschool rooms and adult volunteers to lead the children to the different sites. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Faith.

**The Church Garage Sale** is scheduled for Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. We are looking for volunteers to help our youth with this event. Volunteers will be needed for various tasks and times starting April 15<sup>th</sup> going through April 21<sup>st</sup>. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside the church office showing what help is needed. Please consider volunteering to help with this very popular community event. Questions? Contact Vanessa.

**This Week at St. John Lutheran School and Little Lamb Preschool:** Yankee Candle Sale begins and Ram Rebate Orders on Monday, Yearbook Committee Meeting on Tuesday, PTF Meeting on Wednesday, Ram Rebate Order pickup on Thursday, No School on Good Friday; St. John Athletics: Track practices, no meets

**Grant Funding From Thrivent Financial** through its Thrivent Choice program can help support organizations you care about. From this program, \$2,130 has already been directed to St. John Lutheran School during 2017. Eligible Thrivent Financial members have until March 31, 2018 to direct any remaining 2017 Choice Dollars to hundreds of worthy organizations. Simply call 800-847-4836 and say Thrivent Choice after the prompt or go to [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) to learn more. Please don't let your Choice Dollars expire. Ronda, Congregational Advocate

**Talk Radio For Holy Week** - Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's topics include: The Hymn "In the Cross of Christ I Glory," Apparent Contradictions on the Crucifixion & Death of Jesus, The Upper Room, The Garden of Gethsemane, The Trials of Jesus and more. You can listen live or on-demand at [www.issuesetc.org](http://www.issuesetc.org) and on the LPR mobile app.

**Fire Alarm/Security System Update** - The new fire alarm installation has been completed, is in service, and the removal of the old system has begun. The process has begun to secure final proposal quotes for the upgrade to the security system. The congregation has raised in excess of \$24,000 thus far, which is approximately 25% of the total cost. The trustees and finance would like to see at least 50% of the total cost financed through the ongoing fundraising. Thank you to anyone who has donated their time or financially to this major project.

**The Family Altar** - Copies of today's Learn By Heart can be found on the narthex table.

**Stewardship Corner** - If God's grace is our power source to live as God-pleasing stewards, love is the basis. *"We love because He first loved us"* (1 John 4:19). Love begins with God. We can love Him and others because He first loved us. God is love, and He loves us more than our minds can imagine. *"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life"* (John 3:16). What greater love can be received than that Jesus laid down His life for sinful people like us? God's love for us compels us to use our time, talents and money in service for our Lord.

**LEARN BY HEART**  
***THE FAMILY ALTAR***

The families of St. John are encouraged to learn these words from the Small Catechism by heart this week:

The Table of Duties - What the Hearers Owe Their Pastors

We ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. 1 Thess. 5:12-13

Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you. Heb. 13:17

Hymn 450 *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* (st. \5-7)

Psalm 51:10-15

Bible Readings for the Week:

The Resurrection of Our Lord – John 20:1-18

On the Road to Emmaus – Luke 24:13-35

Jesus Eats Broiled Fish – Luke 24:33-49

Jesus Ordains the Apostles – John 20:19-31