



**Palm Sunday
Sunday of the Passion**

March 24, 2024 + 9:00 a.m.

Zion-Public WiFi password: Zion54484

Congregational responses are in BOLD.

All are welcome to receive Jesus' unconditional gift of God's grace through the sacrament of Holy Communion. Regardless of your church membership or affiliation, all are encouraged to participate in communion or to come forward for a blessing.

Children of all ages are encouraged to worship with the whole community in Christ. Children's worship bags are available in the back of the sanctuary.

Page numbers that are listed are found in the front of the cranberry-colored hymnal at the bottom of the page. Hymn numbers are listed in bold, large print on the top of the page.

If you would like home communion, a hospital visit, or a conversation with the pastor, please contact the church office at 715.687.4110 or office@zionstratford.org or Pastor Amy Heinz at 608.498.5772 or pastoramy@zionstratford.org.

Ministers: All the People of God through the love of Jesus and the power and gifts of the Holy Spirit

Pastor: Rev. Amy Heinz

Administrative Assistant: Kathy Busche

Organists: Judy Polege, Marge Redetzke, Ryan Huther

Custodian: Rod Huther

Missionaries: Steven & Bethany Friberg, Tanzania

* From Sundays and Seasons, copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress,
License #23254, One License #A-715097

**Reprinted by permission from *The Worship Sourcebook, Second Edition*,
©2013, Faith Alive Christian Resources.

PRELUDE

CENTERING AND BELLS' CALL TO WORSHIP

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

“Prepare the Way”

ZLC Choir

We Gather in Grace

LENTEN PRAYER OF INVOCATION

The trumpet of the Lord sounds, calling us to examine our souls,
for we have not only met temptation, we have felt its grip.

The trumpet of the Lord sounds, calling us to mend our ways,
for we have not only committed sin, we have felt its sting.

The trumpet of the Lord sounds, calling us to rend our hearts,
for we have not only witnessed forgiveness, we have felt its power.

O come, let us worship the Lord!**

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

Hosanna in the highest!

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL

Mark 11:1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples ² and said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³ If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this: ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.’ ” ⁴ They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street.

As they were untying it, ⁵ some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” ⁶ They told them what Jesus had said, and they allowed them to take it. ⁷ Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. ⁸ Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹ Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

“Hosanna!

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

¹⁰ Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹¹ Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple, and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

BLESSING OF PALMS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you. We pray through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Let us go forth in peace,
in the name of Christ. Amen.

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**O God of mercy and might,
in the mystery of the passion of your Son you offer your infinite
life to the world. Gather us around the cross of Christ, and
preserve us until the resurrection. We pray through Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

We Hear the Word of God

COMPLEMENTARY READING

Psalm 118:25-29

²⁵ Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!

O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!

²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.

We bless you from the house of the LORD.

²⁷ The LORD is God,

and he has given us light.

Bind the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar.

²⁸ You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God; I will extol you.

²⁹ O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

GOSPEL READING

Mark 14:3-11

³ While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. ⁴ But some were there who said to one another in anger, “Why was the ointment wasted in this way? ⁵ For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor.” And they scolded her. ⁶ But Jesus said, “Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. ⁷ For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish, but you will not always have me. ⁸ She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. ⁹ Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.”

¹⁰ Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. ¹¹ When they heard it, they were greatly pleased and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

SERMON

What a Waste!

Rev. Amy Heinz

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!”

ELW 346

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

United with your saints across time and place, we pray for our shared world.

A brief silence.

O Jesus, you know the anguish of our human lives.

As one who sees the pain of those who suffer, bring comfort, peace, and strength, especially for all whom we name now either aloud or silently in our hearts. *[brief pause]*

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

As one who has experienced the agony of and tears of losing loved ones, comfort all who grieve, especially all whom we name now either aloud or silently in our hearts. *[brief pause]*

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

As one who understands the agony of those who have been deserted, stand alongside those who feel alone, lonely, and abandoned today, especially all whom we name now either aloud or silently in our hearts. *[brief pause]*

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

As one who was once forsaken by all others, give hope and assurance to those who feel rejection, especially all whom we name now either aloud or silently in our hearts. *[brief pause]*

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

As one who knows the ravages of violence, bring peace and healing to those who are tortured by enemies, especially all whom we name now either aloud or silently in our hearts. *[brief pause]*

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

You, our Lord, have offered up prayers with loud cries and tears;
hear us when we do the same.

We approach your throne of grace with boldness;
may we receive mercy and grace in our time of need.

Amen.**

We Share the Meal

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *“Come to the Table of Mercy”* **ELW 481**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

**Compassionate God,
we gratefully return to you these gifts of our time and labor.
Receive the offering of our whole lives and feed us with your
grace, that in the midst of death all creation might feast on your
unending life in Jesus Christ, our Lord.
In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.****

THE GREAT 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 our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right for us to give you our thanks and praise, O Lord
our God, sustainer of the universe.

At your command all things came to be. You brought forth the
human race and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You
made us stewards of creation, but we turned against you and
betrayed your trust.

Yet your mercy is like a spring that never fails. You yourself, in Christ your Son, came to deliver us; you redeem us in your love and pity; you create new heavens and a new earth where the cry of distress is heard no more.

Therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus and with those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory in this unending hymn:**

SANCTUS

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

ELW p. 153

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION SONGS

“Lamb of God”

ELW p. 191

“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

ELW 623

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

ELW 803

BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We Serve the World in God's Name

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor ☩ and give you peace.

Amen.

CLOSING SONG

"Majesty"

[screen]

DISMISSAL

We go in peace to love and serve our neighbors,
with open doors, open hearts, and open hands.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Holy Week Services
March 28 Maundy Thursday
service/communion 5:30 pm
March 29 Good Friday service 5:30 pm
March 31 Easter Sunday
services/communion 7:00 am & 9:00 am

Notes, Prayers, and Thoughts

Zion Lutheran Church

Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Hands

213501 Legacy Street

Stratford, WI 54484-5908

715.687.4110 + <https://zionstratford.org>