



**“Blessed is the king who comes
in the name of the Lord!”**

Luke 19:38, NIV

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

April 13, 2025

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
106 Scheid Road, Sandusky, OH 44870
(419) 625-2192 www.stjohnlcsandusky.com
Sanctuary Worship 10:30 a.m. Live streamed to Facebook

Stacy Lauer-Scovanner, Pastor

April 13, 2025

Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday

Welcome to Worship! Today we follow Christ from triumphal entry to the cross, each waypoint of the journey marked by Jesus' compassion for those who would betray, mock, accuse, or do violence to him. Though persecuted and beaten, Jesus the Son of God is not disgraced; instead, he asks forgiveness for those who put him to death. We have walked the Lenten pathway these forty days, each of us invited through baptism to "let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus." We enter this holy week accompanying Jesus to the cross with both grief and thanksgiving in our hearts, trusting in God's redeeming love.

As Lutheran Christians, we believe and teach that Christ is truly present in the celebration of Holy Communion as he is God with us. Christians of all denominations are encouraged to come to the Lord's table. We commune children of any age who have received communion instruction at St. John or another Christian church. Children who have not yet received communion instruction will receive a blessing. Both red wine and white grape juice are offered to accommodate various traditions. Gluten free wafers are provided for those with dietary restrictions. Please make the pastor aware of your need.

We thank Linda Stauffer for sharing her gift of music with us today. If you are visiting today, please sign the guest register after worship. Plan to worship with us again next Sunday.

Bells

Prelude

"The Palms" Lani Smith, Jean Baptiste Faure

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Please stand if you are able

Call to worship

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

Hosanna in the highest!

Processional Gospel: Luke 19:28-40

The holy gospel according to Luke

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁸ After he had said this, [Jesus] went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

²⁹ When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰ saying, “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’” ³² So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” ³⁴ They said, “The Lord needs it.” ³⁵ Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, ³⁸ saying,

**“Blessed is the king
who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest heaven!”**

³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” ⁴⁰ He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

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; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Procession

Let us go forth in peace,

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

ELW 344

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.

Music: Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635

Refrain

All glory, laud, and honor
to you, redeemer, king,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.

2 The company of angels
are praising you on high;
creation and all mortals
in chorus make reply. *Refrain*

4 To you, before your passion,
they sang their hymns of praise.
To you, now high exalted,
our melody we raise. *Refrain*

1 You are the king of Israel
and David's royal Son,
now in the Lord's name coming,
our King and Blessed One. *Refrain*

3 The multitude of pilgrims
with palms before you went;
our praise and prayer and anthems
before you we present. *Refrain*

5 Their praises you accepted;
accept the prayers we bring,
great author of all goodness,
O good and gracious King. *Refrain*

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

Lenten Wreath

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

ELW 338

Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830–1869 Music: Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

During the singing of “Beneath the Cross of Jesus” verse 3, the last candle on the Lenten wreath is extinguished. Our space becomes a little darker as we journey together toward the Passion of Christ.

I take, O Cross, your 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.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated if you are able

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9

A reading from Isaiah.

This text, the third of the four Servant Songs in Isaiah, speaks of the servant's obedience in the midst of persecution. Though the servant has been variously understood as the prophet himself or a remnant of faithful Israel, Christians have often recognized the figure of Christ in these poems.

⁴The 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 wakens —
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.

⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backward.

⁶I 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.

⁷The 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;

⁸he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.

⁹It is the Lord GOD who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 31:9-16 (Read responsively)

Into your hands, O LORD, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)

⁹Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble;
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

¹⁰**For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing;
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.**

¹¹I am the scorn of my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to my acquaintances; when they see me in the street they avoid me.

¹²**Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind;
I am as useless as a broken pot.**

¹³For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around;
they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

¹⁴**But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD.
I have said, “You are my God.**

¹⁵My times are in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

¹⁶**Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love.”**

Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

A reading from Philippians.

Paul quotes from an early Christian hymn that describes Jesus' humble obedience in his incarnation as a human being, even to death, and his exaltation and glory as Lord of all.

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
⁸he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross.
⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name that is above every name,
¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated

Gospel: The Passion of Our Lord according to Luke.

The Word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God**

Please stand if you are able

Confession and Forgiveness

Let us confess before God our tendency, like the Jerusalem crowds, to profess our faith in moments of enthusiasm and deny our faith in moments of stress.

O God, we sing and praise you, happy of heart and strong of spirit, when we are among others who praise you too. But in times of stress, we seek scapegoats to be targets for our anger. We betray those we love and who have loved us, and we turn against you; too busy to seek you, to selfish to obey you. Your compassion is without bounds, O God, for you forgive us again and again. You restore us to a right spirit and bring us together to worship you. God of steadfast love, teach us how to be steadfast; in Jesus' name we pray. Amen

The good news of Christ is this; when we face the brokenness within ourselves and present our needs before God, we are given grace to grow and courage to continue the journey of faith. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Amen

Prayers of the people:

Response: God in your mercy.

Receive our prayer.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated

Choir Offering

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” Lani Smith, Jeanette Threlfall

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Please stand if you are able

Offertory (Verses 1 & 6 only) *“Take My Life, That I May Be”*

ELW 685

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, alt. Music: William H. Havergal, 1793-1870

1 Take my life, that I may be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Offering Prayer

Gracious Provider,

you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world.
As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those
treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Thanksgiving at the Table

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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**

Invitation to Communion

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

Please be seated

Distribution



- 1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Distribution Hymn

“For the Bread Which You Have Broken”

ELW 494

Text © 1925 Robert Jeffreys Jr., admin. Augsburg Fortress

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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 For the bread which you have broken,
for the wine which you have poured,
for the words which you have spoken,
now we give you thanks, O Lord. | 2 By this promise that you love us,
by your gift of peace restored,
by your call to heav'n above us,
hallow all our lives, O Lord. |
| 3 With the saints who now adore you,
seated at the heav'nly board,
may the church still waiting for you
keep love's tie unbroken, Lord. | 4 In your service, Lord, defend us;
in our hearts keep watch and ward;
in the world to which you send us
let your kingdom come, O Lord. |

Distribution Hymn

“You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd”

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–1681; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.

Music: *Das grosse Cantional*, Darmstadt, 1687

1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep - herd.
 2 Clothed in light up - on the moun - tain,
 3 You, who walk each day be - side us,
 4 Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus!

You, Lord, are both prince and slave.
 stripped of might up - on the cross,
 sit in pow - er at God's side.
 Wor - thy is our cos - mic Christ!

You, peace - mak - er and sword - bring - er
 shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,
 You, who preach a way that's nar - row,
 Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - t'ry;

of the way you took and gave.
 beg - gared by a sol - dier's toss,
 have a love that reach - es wide.
 wor - thy still your peace and strife.

You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 you, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;

you, whom we both scorn and crave.
 you, who are both gift and cost.
 you, who are our pil death - and grim guide.
 you, who are our death and life.

Distribution Hymn

“Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed”

ELW 337

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt. Music: Hugh Wilson, 1764–1824 Public Domain

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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1 Alas! And did my Savior bleed,
and did my sov'reign die?
Would he devote that sacred head
for sinners such as I?</p> <p>3 Well might the sun in darkness hide
and shut its glories in
when God, the mighty maker, died
for his own creatures' sin.</p> <p>5 But tears of grief cannot repay
the debt of love I owe;</p> | <p>2 Was it for sins that I had done
he groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown,
and love beyond degree!</p> <p>4 Thus might I hide my blushing face
while his dear cross appears,
dissolve my heart in thankfulness,
and melt my eyes to tears.</p> <p>here, Lord, I give myself away:
'tis all that I can do.</p> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Please stand

Post Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His care.

Amen

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray.

Generous God,

at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

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

Sending Hymn

"Christ, the Life of All the Living"

ELW 339

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–1681; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.

Music: *Das grosse Cantional*, Darmstadt, 1687

1 Christ, the life of all the living,
Christ, the death of death, our foe,
Christ, yourself for me once giving
to the darkest depths of woe:
through your suffering, death, and merit
life eternal I inherit.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due,
dearest Jesus, unto you.

2 You have suffered great affliction
and have borne it patiently,
even death by crucifixion,
fully to atone for me;
for you chose to be tormented
that my doom should be prevented.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due,
dearest Jesus, unto you.

3 Then, for all that bought my pardon,
for the sorrows deep and sore,
for the anguish in the garden,
I will thank you evermore;

thank you for the groaning, sighing,
for the bleeding and the dying,
for that last triumphant cry,
praise you evermore on high.

Dismissal

Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Christ, the Life of All the Living”

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–1681; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.

Music: *Das grosse Cantional*, Darmstadt, 1687

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St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church is:

“A Family of Disciples, Faithfully Making Christ Known”

And a congregation of the

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S, MINISTERS

Stacy Lauer-Scovanner, Pastor
Pastor Stacy's Day Off – Friday
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Nathan Samsa, Organist

Usher: Ray Witt

Lay Reader: Carolyn Steinfeldt

Audio/Visual Tech: Jeff Justi

Communion Assistant: Sandy Thompson

Website: www.stjohnlcsandusky.com

Attendance: Midweek - April 6 - 41

Like us on Facebook: St. John's Lutheran Church, Sandusky

2025 The Year of Listening Memory Verse.

“Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live...” (Isaiah 55:3a).

Thank you for volunteering to read this Palm Sunday!!

Jeff Justi, Melinda Zorn, Carolyn Steinfeldt, Paula Hoffman Laws, Peg Kingsley and Sandy Thompson

The Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Laurie Kropf in loving memory of my husband Mark Kropf for our 3rd anniversary April 16.

In this season of Hope, Council asks the congregation to pray that people at St. John's, and everywhere, follow the Holy Spirit and remain open to journeying on whatever spiritual adventures we may be led on.

Communion Clean-up today: Sandy Thompson

17 – Set-up – Elizabeth Libben Cleanup –

20 – Set-up – Jim Kluding Cleanup – Jim

27 – Set-up – Elizabeth Libben Cleanup -

Thank you for your willingness to help with this important ministry. If you would like to help, please see Toni Nossaman, Joleen Dillender or Sandy Thompson.

Holy Week Worship Opportunities

April 17 – Maundy Thursday Joint Worship – 6:30 pm at St. John's with celebration of Holy Communion

April 18 – Good Friday Joint Worship at Zion, Huron – 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday Schedule:

Easter Sunday, April 20

Easter egg hunt will be held for the youth at 9:30 am.

Easter Worship at 10:30 am with Holy Communion.

Note: only one service will be held on Easter morning.

St. John's is a family of disciples, faithfully making Christ known. We gather for worship, we care for our neighbors, we pray and study together. And now, we are going to have a month of fellowship! You are invited to join the fun!

Please sign up for each of these events so that we can make reservations. Lunch, you will pay for your own meal, and each event will have a small charge (less than \$20). At Colonial Gardens, we will be potting some beautiful plants. At Island Sham, we will be making our own candles. With Cherished House to Home, we will meet at the church and do a painting project. We will volunteer with OHgo. We hope you will join us!

May 1 @ 11:30 lunch @ Bar North

1:00 Colonial Gardens

May 8 @ 11:30 lunch @ Manny's

1:00 **St John's** for art project with Cherished House to Home

May 15 @ 11:30 lunch @ Daly's

1:00 make candles @ Island Sham - 136 E Market St, Sandusky, OH 44870

May 22 @ 11:30 lunch @ Old Dutch

1:00 volunteer at OHgo

Thank you: Dear friends, Thank you so much for your generous contribution of \$1000. To fund our Laundry Love project! As you may have heard, we are assisting families with their laundry costs four times a month now. This is possible because of the kindhearted support of people like you. You are truly a blessing to the Sandusky community. Thank you again and have a blessed Easter! The Laundry Love Team of First Congregational UCC Church Sandusky.

Thank you St. John's and Pastor Stacy: Thank you for the opportunity to speak at your service about our shelter and thank you for all the good you do in our community! Sincerely, Melissa Gundlach and HSEC

Weekly Listening Plan

For this Year of Listening, we have invited local musicians to select a song for collective reflection each month. We encourage you to explore the monthly scripture and weekly listening practices.

We invite you to join us in these four unique listening practices each month!

April 2025

Psalm 95:1-7

Week 2 – “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands”

Enjoy the song selection video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cDdOIWqkUrQ&t=51s>

1. Read and reflect on the scripture that inspired the song. **Psalm 95:1-7**
2. Explore weekly practices connected to the lyrics throughout your week.
3. It can be powerful to remind each other of God’s care for us at times we may struggle to feel His hands. Who in your life might need a reminder in these days? Send a note, call or visit.

Happy Birthday to John Giordano, Tavilynn Dillender and Toni Nossaman.

Happy Anniversary to John and Marcia Giordano.

ST. JOHN’S CALENDAR FOR APRIL 13TH THRU APRIL 27TH

Sunday, April 13	9:15 am 10:00 am 10:30 am	Study with Lynn Choir Practice Palm Sunday Worship
Tuesday, April 15	7:00 pm	Council Meeting
Wednesday, April 16	5:30 pm	Jt. Choir Practice at Zion Huron
Thursday, April 17	6:30 pm	Jt. Maundy Thurs. Worship, at St. John’s
Friday, April 18	7:00 pm	Jt. Good Friday Worship at Zion Huron
Sunday, April 20	9:30 am 10:30 am	Easter Egg Hunt Easter Worship
Thursday, April 24	6:00 pm	Bell choir practice
Sunday, April 27	9:15 am 10:30 am	Study with Lynn Worship