

Welcome to
WEST CLERMONT LUTHERAN CHURCH
Member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
April 2, 2023



Worship 9:30am

Vicar Mike Erickson

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Facebook Live @ West Clermont

<https://www.facebook.com/100011482533370>

The Passion of Our Lord

April 2, 2023

INTRODUCTION

Today, we encounter the paradox that defines our faith: Jesus Christ is glorified king and humiliated servant. We too are full of paradox: like Peter, we fervently desire to follow Christ, but find ourselves afraid, denying God. We wave palms in celebration today as Christ comes into our midst, and we follow with trepidation as his path leads to death on the cross. Amid it all we are invited into this paradoxical promise of life through Christ's broken body and outpoured love in a meal of bread and wine. We begin this week that stands at the center of the church year, anticipating the completion of God's astounding work.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

GATHER HYMN/PROCESSIONAL (Children will process in with palms)

"Pave the Way With Branches"

ACS 928

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Heather Hageman from Shepherd of the Hill.

WCLC MISSION STATEMENT: *As children of God, called to love God and one another, we proclaim the Word of God through study, prayer, worship, and discipleship. We serve those in need within our congregation, our community, and our world as an expression of God's love for us. LOVE, PROCLAIM, SERVE!*

ACCLAMATION

V: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

A brief silence is kept.

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

C: Hosanna in the highest.

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL: Matthew 21:1-11

V: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying 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. ³If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” ⁴This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

⁵“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.”

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The 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!”

¹⁰When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” ¹¹The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

V: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

BLESSING OF PALMS

V: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

V: Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept.

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.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

V: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

C: Amen.

V: Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

C: we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life.

Amen.

V: Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, ✠ forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power.

C: Amen.

KYRIE

ELW pg. 120

CANTICLE OF PRAISE *This is the feast....* **ELW pg. 122**

PRAYER OF THE DAY: 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.**

NOISY CAN OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Hosanna (Praise Is Rising)" by Paul Bloche

CCLI Song #4662491 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y4JN5Gry1Ic>

John 12:13

"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!"

Lyrics:

Praise is rising, eyes are turning to You

We turn to You

Hope is stirring, hearts are yearning for You

We long for You

*'Cause when we see You we find strength
To face the day
In Your presence all our fears are washed away
Washed away
Hosanna, Hosanna
You are the God who saves us
Worthy of all our praises
Hear the sound of hearts returning to You
We turn to You
In Your kingdom broken lives are made new
You make us new
'Cause when we see You, we find strength
To face the day
In Your presence all our fears are washed away
Washed away
Hosanna, Hosanna
You are the God who saves us
Worthy of all our praises
Hosanna, Hosanna
Come have Your way among us
We welcome You here, Lord Jesus
'Cause when we see You, we find strength
To face the day
And in Your presence all our fears are washed away
Washed away
Hosanna, Hosanna
You are the God Who saves us
Worthy of all our praises
Hosanna, Hosanna
Lord, come have Your way among us
We welcome You here, Lord Jesus
We welcome you, yeah, yeah
Have Your way
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna*

MEAL

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

V: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

V: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

V: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***PREFACE**

V: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, whose suffering and death gave salvation to all. You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy ...

ELW pg. 130

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

***LORD'S PRAYER**

V: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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**

V: Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

COMMUNION

“Ah, Holy Jesus”

ELW 349

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION: Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love. Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

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. ^{9a}It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

R: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: Thanks be to God!

Psalm: 31:9-16 (Responsively)

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 all 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

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.

R: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: Thanks be to God!

YOUTH & TEACHERS RELEASED FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

V: Please stay seated for the Gospel.

Gospel:

V: The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew: Hear the passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.
(*Matthew 26.14 – 27.end* or [Matthew 27.11–54](#))

Matthew: One of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said,

Judas: What will you give me if I betray him to you?

Matthew: They paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying,

Disciples: Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?

Matthew: Jesus said,

Jesus: Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'

Matthew: So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal. When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said,

Jesus: Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.

Matthew: And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another,

Disciples: Surely not I, Lord?

Matthew: Jesus answered,

Jesus: The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.

Matthew: Judas, who betrayed him, said,

Judas: Surely not I, Rabbi?

Matthew: Jesus replied,

Jesus: You have said so.

Matthew: While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said,

Jesus: Take, eat; this is my body.

Matthew: Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying,

Jesus: Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.

Matthew: When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them,

Jesus: You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.

Matthew: Peter said to him,

Peter: Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.

Matthew: Jesus said to him,

Jesus: Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.

Matthew: Peter said to him,

Peter: Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.

Matthew: And so said all the disciples.

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples,

Jesus: Sit here while I go over there and pray.

Matthew: He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them,

Jesus: I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.

Matthew: And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed,

Jesus: My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want.

Matthew: Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter,

Jesus: So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Matthew: Again he went away for the second time and prayed,

Jesus: My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.

Matthew: Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them,

Jesus: Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.

Matthew: While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying,

Judas: The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.

Matthew: At once he came up to Jesus and said,

Judas: Greetings, Rabbi!

Matthew: and kissed him. Jesus said to him,

Jesus: Friend, do what you are here to do.

Matthew: Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to him,

Jesus: Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?

Matthew: At that hour Jesus said to the crowds,

Jesus: Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled.

Matthew: Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said,

Witnesses: This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.'

Matthew: The high priest stood up and said,

High Priest: Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?

Matthew: But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him,

High Priest: I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.

Matthew: Jesus said to him,

Jesus: You have said so. But I tell you, From now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.

Matthew: Then the high priest tore his clothes and said,

High Priest: He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?

Matthew: They answered,

Priests: He deserves death.

Matthew: Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, saying,

Priests: Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?

Matthew: Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said,

Servant Girl 1 You also were with Jesus the Galilean.

Matthew: But he denied it before all of them, saying,

Peter: I do not know what you are talking about.

Matthew: When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders,

Servant Girl 2: This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.

Matthew: Again he denied it with an oath,

Peter: I do not know the man.

Matthew: After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter,

Crowd: Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you.

Matthew: Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath,

Peter: I do not know the man!

Matthew: At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: 'Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.' And he went out and wept bitterly.

When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor.

When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. He said,

Judas: I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.

Matthew: But they said,

Priests: What is that to us? See to it yourself.

Matthew: Throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said,

Priests: It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money.

Matthew: After conferring together, they used them to buy the potter's field as a place to bury foreigners. For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the

prophet Jeremiah, ‘And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one on whom a price had been set, on whom some of the people of Israel had set a price, and they gave them for the potter’s field, as the Lord commanded me.’

Matthew 27.11

- Matthew: Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him,
Pilate: Are you the King of the Jews?
Matthew: Jesus said,
Jesus: You say so.
Matthew: But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him,
Pilate: Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?
Matthew: But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed. Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them,
Pilate: Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?
Matthew: For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him,
Pilate’s wife: Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.
Matthew: Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them,
Pilate: Which of the two do you want me to release for you?
Matthew: And they said,
Crowd: Barabbas.
Matthew: Pilate said to them,
Pilate: Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?
Matthew: All of them said,
Crowd: Let him be crucified!
Matthew: Then he asked,
Pilate: Why, what evil has he done?

Matthew: But they shouted all the more,

Crowd: Let him be crucified!

Matthew: So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying,

Pilate: I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.

Matthew: Then the people as a whole answered,

Crowd: His blood be on us and on our children!

Matthew: So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying,

Soldiers: Hail, King of the Jews!

Matthew: They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him. As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.' Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying,

Crowd: You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.

Matthew: In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying,

Crowd: He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, 'I am God's Son.'

Matthew: The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice,

Jesus: Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?

Matthew: that is,

Jesus: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Matthew: When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

Crowd: **This man is calling for Elijah.**

Matthew: At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said,

Crowd: **Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.**

Matthew: Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said,

Centurion: Truly this man was God's Son!

Matthew 27.54

Matthew: Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had provided for him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said,

Priests: Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' Therefore command the tomb to be

made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, ‘He has been raised from the dead,’ and the last deception would be worse than the first.

Matthew: Pilate said to them,

Pilate: You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can.

Matthew: So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

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In this version, a few pronouns have been changed to the corresponding proper nouns for clarity in a dramatic reading. No other changes have been made to the text of the NRSV.

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V: *This is the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ.*

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

SERMON

Vicar Micheal Erickson

HYMN OF THE DAY:

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor” ELW 344

***NICENE CREED:**

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin
Mary and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius**

**Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of
sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the
life of the world to come. Amen.**

***INTERCESSIONS**

V: Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

***WE SHARE GOD'S PEACE**

V: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

V: Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER:

V: God of good gifts, 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.

C: **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

V: 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 MUSIC:

"Go to Dark Gethsemane"

ELW 347

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve in love.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Prayer List

Requested: Jeanette (Davisson) Cain, Bob Kress, Don Erickson, Ken Erickson, Jake Noggle, Karen Guyer, Lynzee Henrikson-Makowski, Karen Kohls, Ardell Fortune, Inez Oakland, Jerry Erickson, Julie Albertson, Danice Cummings, LaVerne & Grace Swenson, Karen Kerner.

Assisted Living, Nursing Homes & Shut-Ins: Millard Nelson, Betty Erickson, Gail Herman, John Yauslin, Marilyn Knutsen, Marilyn Shipton, Bud Siebrecht, Karen Follett, Rodney Guyer.

In the Military: Jeff Kleppe, Nathan Guyer, Major Stephanie Wilkins, Kennedy White.

Sunday, March 26, 2023

Loose: \$28.00

Regular: \$575.00

Paint: \$20.00

Total General Fund: \$723.66

Attendance: 59

Noisy Can: \$95.91

Copies: \$4.75



Tues. 4/4	9am	Quilting
Wed. 4/5	1pm	WELCA Board Mtg.
	5:30pm	Council Mtg.
Thurs. 4/6	6:30pm	Maundy Thursday Worship
		Holy Communion
Fri. 4/7	6:30pm	Good Friday Worship @ Elgin
Sat. 4/8	8:30am	Men's Group
Sun. 4/9	9:30am	Easter Worship
		Holy Communion
	6:00pm	Sunday Mtg.



WCLC Camperships are available for those attending a faith-based summer camp in 2023. Stop in the office.



Men's Group will meet Saturday, April 8th @ 8:30am at the church.



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

- Sunday, April 2 Palm Sunday Worship @ 9:30am- *Holy Communion*
- Thursday, April 6 Maundy Thursday Worship @ 6:30pm- *Holy Communion*
- Friday, April 7 Good Friday Worship @ 6:30pm @ **Elgin Lutheran**
- Sunday, April 9 **EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 9:30pm.- Holy Communion**



We are now taking orders for the **WCLC T-shirts**. Shirts are \$18 each. 2x are an additional \$2. 3x and larger are an additional \$3. We will take orders until the last Sunday in April (4/30). Only a few extra shirts will be ordered, so make sure you get your shirt (s) now. The order sheet is in the Fellowship area.




CCC Easter Egg Hunt is Sat., April 8th @ 10am in the City Park.



Community Club Bingo is **April 16th**. Lunch starts at noon. Bingo begins at 1pm. Funds go toward area NFV High School Students going on a German Exchange this summer.



Scholarships GRADUATING SENIORS: Applications for the WCLC Scholarship are now available. Completed applications are due back to the office by Sunday, April 30th.

 In February, the decision was made to switch from Shechem Conference to **Shepherd of the Hill Conference** within our Synod. The switch became official on March 18th. Our newsletter will now feature the Shepherd of the Hill newsletter.



The **Shepherd of the Hill Women's Spring In-Gathering** is @ Elgin Lutheran on Saturday, April 22nd, beginning at 9am. The cost for lunch is \$5. Please RSVP to Cindy @ torkel15@alpinenet.com or call 563-880-2859 by 4/14.



The **Northern Lights Women's Chorus** will present its spring concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 16 at Decorah Lutheran Church. An intermission freewill offering will be taken, with a portion of the proceeds being donated to local nonprofit organizations.