

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



LENT

Third & Terry, Longmont, Colorado

(303) 776-2800 | www.firstluth.org

Pastor Garrett Struessel and Deacon Korra Looschen

Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 29, 2026

9:30 a.m.

GATHERING



PRELUDE

“Overture to Messiah” by G. F. Handel

Gary Elmquist

GATHERING

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

Thanks be to God.

ENTRANCE LITURGY

(please stand and face the rear of the sanctuary)

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

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL

Matthew 21:1-11

Jesus enters Jerusalem

¹ When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ² 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. ³ If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” ⁴ This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet: 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.” ⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷ they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ 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!” ¹⁰ When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” ¹¹ The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you O Christ

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.

Let us go forth in peace,

in the name of Christ. Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

ELW 344 vs. 1,2,3

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

Hosanna in the highest.

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

ANTHEM

“If My People” by Douglas E. Wagner

Chancel Choir

WORD

READINGS

Isaiah 50:4-9a

The image of the servant of God is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.

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?

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Philippians 2:5-11

Christ did not act to attain status and glory but was obedient to God even to the point of death. Following Christ's example, we do not seek personal status or glory but care for others as God cared for us in Christ's death.

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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S TIME

SERMON

Pastor Garrett Struessel

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

Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERTORY

"The Palms" arr. by Dudley Buck,

Chancel Choir

Solo by Randy Williams

OFFERING PRAYER

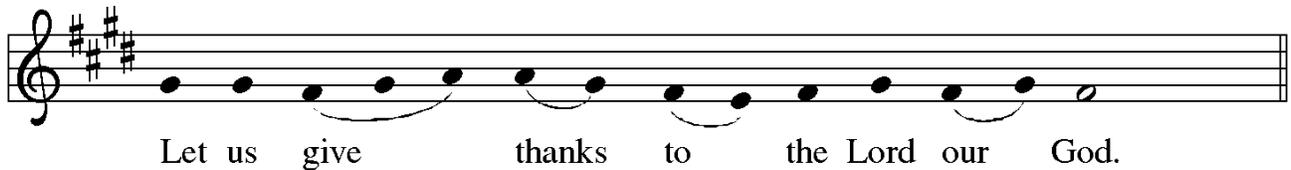
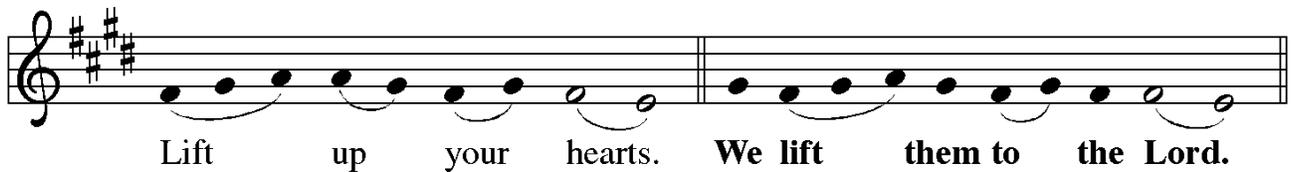
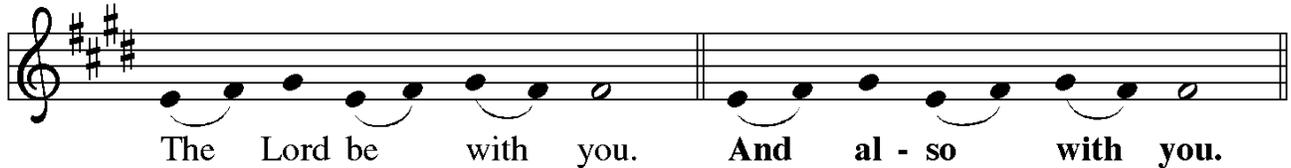
O God, maker of heaven and earth,

your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

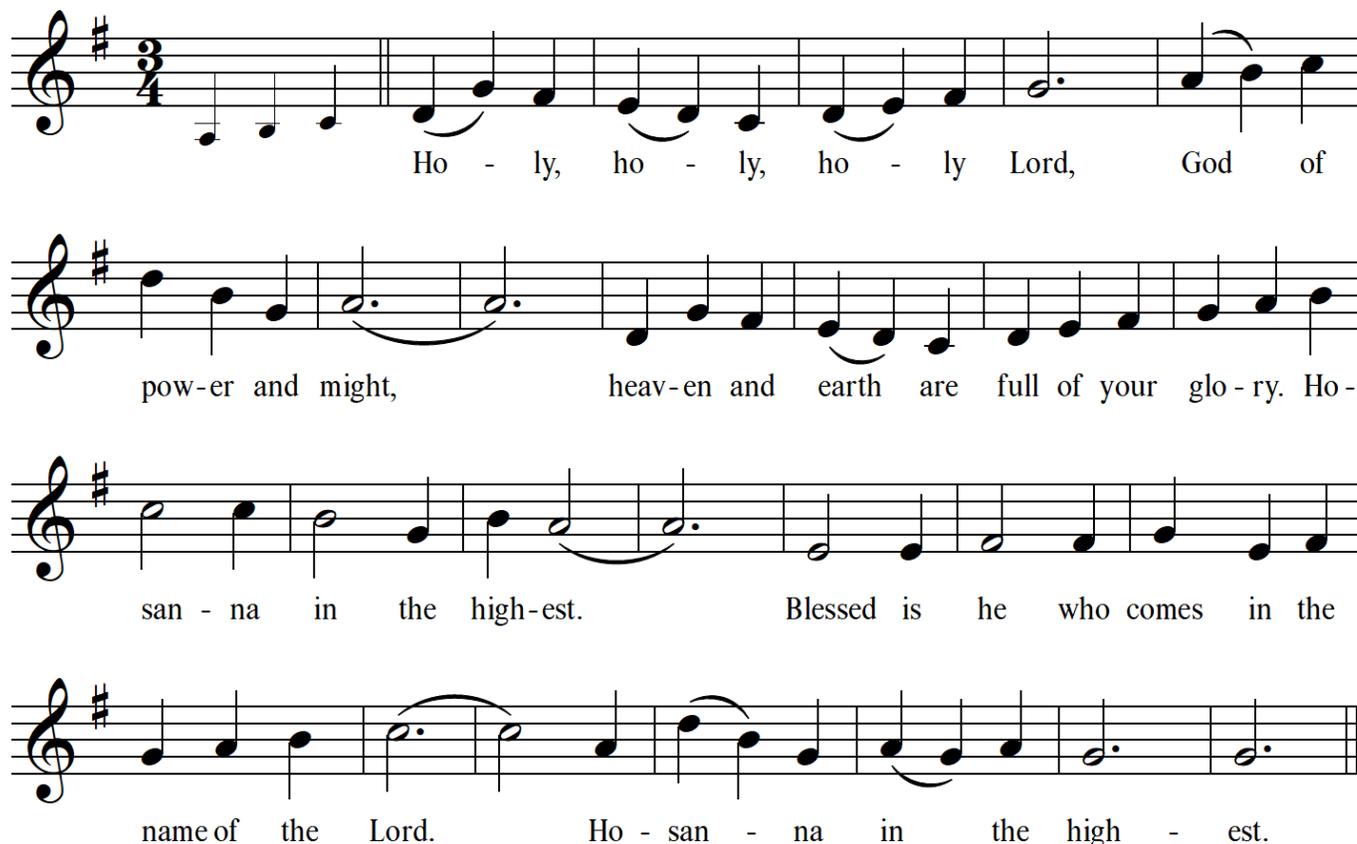
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Page 107



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

SHARING OF COMMUNION

All are welcome who come trusting in the gift of God's presence in the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation shared in this meal. "The body of Christ, broken for you", and "the blood of Christ shed for you", include the promise of forgiveness, life and salvation in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Hear these words and partake of the bread/cracker and wine/juice, giving it to each other, if possible:

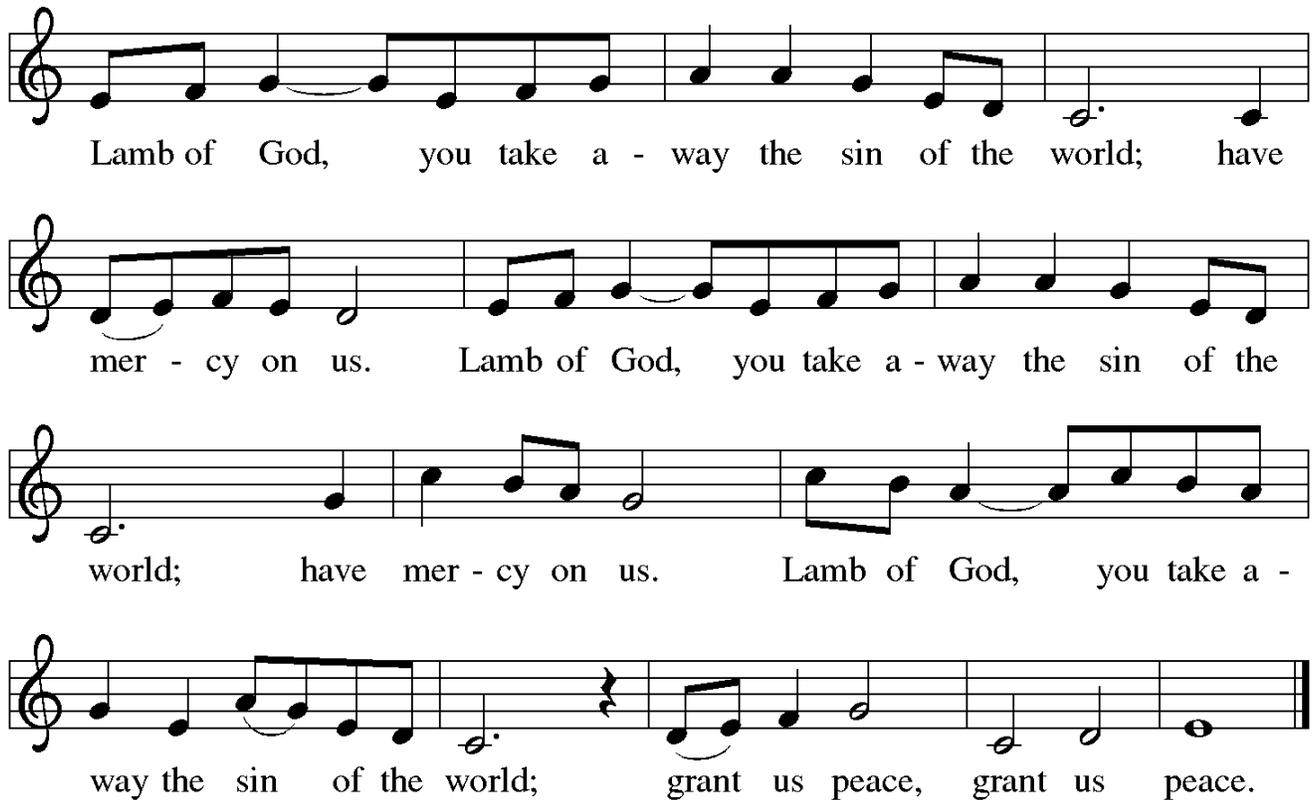
"The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you."

All are welcome who come trusting in the gift of God's presence in the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation, shared in this meal. "The body of Christ, broken for you", and "the blood of Christ shed for you", include the promise of the forgiveness of sin, life and salvation in Christ Jesus our Lord. The ushers will invite you to come forward

for communion. We invite everyone to receive communion if you so desire. The invitation to receive Holy Communion is from Christ Jesus; therefore "all are welcome". In our serving communion trays, wine is darker red on the outside, and grape juice is the lighter color in the center. We serve only gluten-free bread prepared in a kitchen excluding wheat flour, to include everyone regardless of wheat-gluten sensitivities. Come, taste and see, that the Lord is good.

LAMB OF GOD

PAGE 112



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS

<i>"Let Us Break Bread"</i>	ELW 471
<i>"As the Grains of Wheat"</i>	ELW 465
<i>"Eat This Bread"</i>	ELW 472

Let Us Break Bread Together

ELW 471

1. Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees; _____
 2. Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees. _____
 3. Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees; _____

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees. _____
 let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees. _____
 let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees. _____

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

sun, O Lord have mer - cy on me.

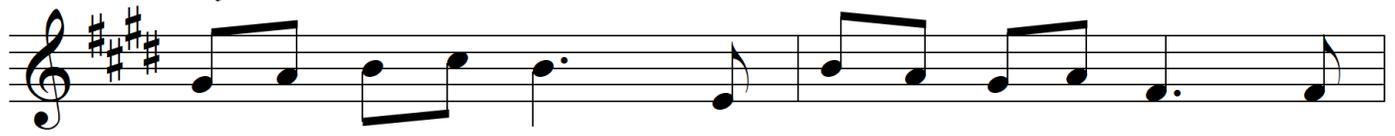
Text: African American spiritual
 Music: African American spiritual

BREAK BREAD TOGETHER
 10 10 and refrain

As the Grains of Wheat

ELW 465

Refrain



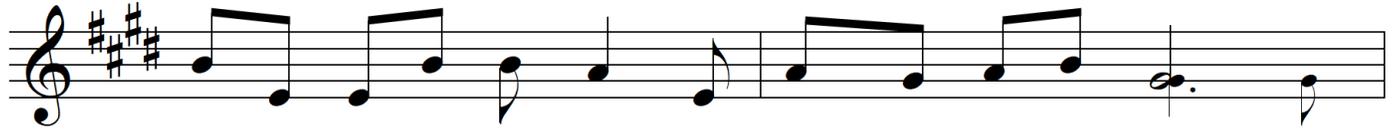
As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill were



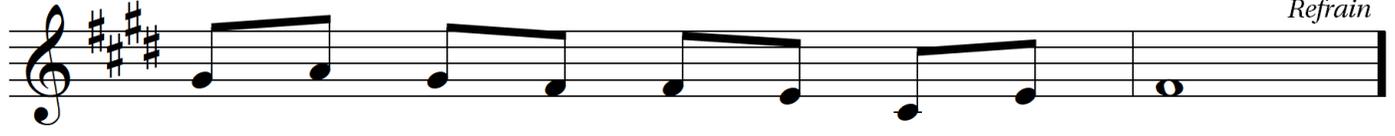
gathered in-to one to be-come our bread; so may all your people from



all the ends of earth be gathered in - to one in you.



1. As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst, _____
2. Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when



Refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Test: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931
Music: Carlton R. Young, b. 1926
Text and music © 1996 Hope Publishing Company

AS THE GRAINS
Irregular

Eat this Bread

ELW 472

"Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev-er be hun - gry.

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The lyrics are written below the staves, with hyphens under 'nev-er' and 'hun - gry'.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst."

The second system of music also consists of two staves in the same key signature and time signature as the first. The lyrics are written below the staves, with a double quote at the beginning and end of the line.

Text: Taizé Community

Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

Text and music © Les Presses de Taizé, admin GIA Publications, Inc.

BERHTIER

Irregular

COMMUNION BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of our salvation,

we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

"Ride On, Ride On in Majesty"

ELW 346

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Preacher/Presider	The Rev. Garrett Struessel
Worship Assistant	Deacon Korra Looschen
Council Hosts	Al Manley Rick Samson
Ushers	Vicki Hergott Holly Keenan
Reader	Barb Mohr
Acolyte	Issac Howell
Crucifer	Kaleb Howell
Communion Assistants	Barb Mohr Vicki Shiveley
Choir Director	Sally Campbell
Pianist/Organist	Gary Elmquist

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Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!

ELW 346



1 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! Hear all the
2 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly
3 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! The hosts of
4 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly



tribes ho - san - na cry; O Sav - ior meek, your road pur -
pomp ride on to die. O Christ, your tri - umphs now be -
an - gels in the sky look down with sad and won - d'ring
pomp ride on to die, bow your meek head to mor - tal



sue, with palms and scat - tered gar - ments strewed.
gin o'er cap - tive death and con - quered sin.
eyes to see the ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.
pain, then take, O Christ, your pow'r and reign!

Text: Henry H. Milman, 1791-1868, alt.

Music: THE KING'S MAJESTY, Graham George, 1912-1993

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