

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

Member congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (clclutheran.org)

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March 24, 2024 ✝ Palm Sunday



We Welcome Our Visitors who are with us this morning.

We hope that you are uplifted by the Gospel at our worship service.

We invite you to join us every Sunday. Please sign our guestbook in the entry.



Our Worship Services will be Posted to Our Website Each Sunday Evening.

To Watch our Worship Service Online Please Click This Link:

<https://www.sslcwest.org/worship.html>

Opening Hymn: 441 *Ride On, Ride On in Majesty*

LSB 441



1 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! Hark! All the
2 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly
3 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! The an - gel
4 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! Thy last and
5 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly



tribes ho - san - na cry. O Sav - ior meek, pur -
pomp ride on to die. O Christ, Thy tri - umphs
ar - mies of the sky Look down with sad and
fierc - est strife is nigh. The Fa - ther on His
pomp ride on to die. Bow Thy meek head to



sue Thy road, With palms and scat - tered gar - ments strowed.
now be - gin O'er cap - tive death and con - quered sin.
won - d'ring eyes To see the ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.
sap - phire throne A - waits His own a - noint - ed Son.
mor - tal pain, Then take, O God, Thy pow'r and reign.

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

Tune: Musicalisch Hand-Buch der Geistlichen Melodien, 1690, Hamburg, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

Invocation

We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P Beloved of God: Let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him, in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

C Almighty God, Merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our sins and pray that You would be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

P Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven! With boldness and confidence we may approach God's throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord!

P O Lord, open my lips,

C And my mouth will declare Your praise!

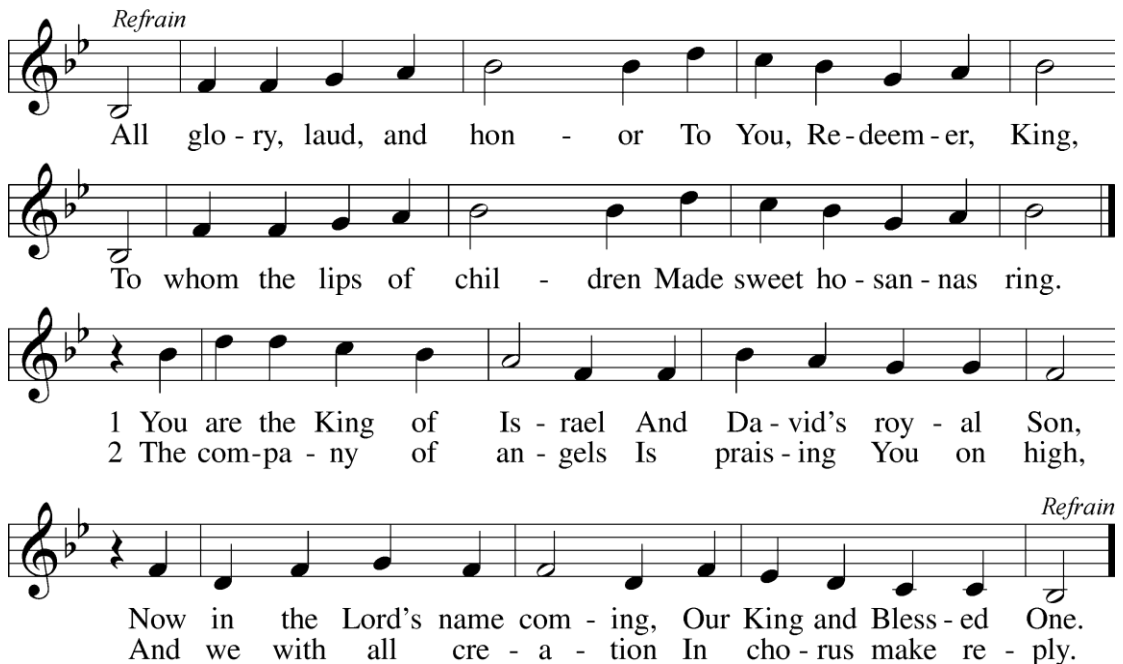
P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C Make haste, to help me, O Lord!

442 v. 1-2 All Glory, Laud, and Honor

LSB 442 v. 1-2

Refrain



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or To You, Re - deem - er, King,
To whom the lips of chil - dren Made sweet ho - san - nas ring.
1 You are the King of Is - rael And Da - vid's roy - al Son,
2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels Is prais - ing You on high,
Refrain
Now in the Lord's name com - ing, Our King and Bless - ed One.
And we with all cre - a - tion In cho - rus make re - ply.

Prayer of the Day

P We pray:

Almighty and everlasting God, You have sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross that all people might be saved from their sins. Mercifully grant that we may both follow the example of His great humility and also be made partakers of His resurrection through faith in Him. We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

First Reading

Zechariah 9:9-10 (EHV)

⁹ ***Rejoice greatly, Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem!***

Look! Your King is coming to you. He is righteous and brings salvation.

He is humble and is riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

¹⁰ ***I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the horse from Jerusalem.***

The battle bow will be taken away, and he will proclaim peace to the nations.

His kingdom will extend from sea to sea, from the River to the ends of the earth.

Second Reading

Matthew 21:1-11 (EHV)

P Our second reading is from Matthew 21:1-11.

G Sanctify us by Your truth, O Lord. Your Word is truth.

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ² telling them, "Go to the village ahead of you. Immediately you will find a donkey tied there along with her colt. Untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, you are to say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once."

⁴ ***This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:***

⁵ ***Tell the daughter of Zion: Look, your King comes to you, humble, and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.***

⁶ ***The disciples went and did just as Jesus commanded them. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their outer clothing on them, and he sat on it. ⁸ A very large crowd spread their outer clothing on the road. Others were cutting branches from the trees and spreading them out on the road. ⁹ The crowds who went in front of him and those who followed kept shouting,***

***Hosanna to the Son of David!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest!***

¹⁰ When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, asking, "Who is this?" ¹¹ And the crowds were saying, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

P Here ends our Scripture readings.

C Praise to You, O Christ.



Confirmation & Reception Into Membership

Gary Fenton

Luke 9:24 (EHV)

**"For whoever wants to save his life will lose it,
but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it."**

Apostles' Creed *We boldly confess what we believe.*

LSB 207

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Confirmation Hymn: 861 *Christ Be My Leader*

LSB 861

1 Christ be my Lead - er by night as by day; Safe through the
2 Christ be my Teach - er in age as in youth, Drift - ing or
3 Christ be my Sav - ior in calm as in strife; Death can - not

dark - ness, for He is the way. Glad - ly I fol - low, my
doubt - ing, for He is the truth. Grant me to trust Him; though
hold me, for He is the life. Nor dark - ness nor doubt - ing nor

fu - ture His care, Dark - ness is day - light when Je - sus is there.
shift - ing as sand, Doubt can - not daunt me; in Je - sus I stand.
sin and its stain Can touch my sal - va - tion: with Je - sus I reign.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926

Tune: Irish Text: © 1964, renewed 1992 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 130003862

Tune: Public domain

Sermon Text: Matthew 21:12-17 (EHV)

¹² Jesus entered the temple courts and drove out all those who were selling and buying in the temple. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who were selling doves. ¹³ He said to them, "It is written, 'My house will be called a house of prayer,' but you are making it a den of robbers!" ¹⁴ The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he healed them. ¹⁵ But when the chief priests and the experts in the law saw the wonders he performed and heard the children calling out in the temple, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant. ¹⁶ They said to him, "Do you hear what they are saying?" "Yes," Jesus told them, "Have you never read, From the lips of little children and nursing babies you have prepared praise?" ¹⁷ He left them, went out of the city to Bethany, and spent the night there.

Sermon Theme: *Ironies of the Passion* –

"Do You Hear What These Children Are Saying?"

† *irony* = “a combination of circumstances or a result that is the opposite of what might be expected.”

† What were some of the “**wonders Jesus performed**” (v. 15) in our text?

† What was it about the praises of the children that was *ironic*? (v. 15-16)

† How can we apply these wonderfully “ironic” words of praise from the children to our own lives today, on Palm Sunday, and every day?

Offertory

LSB 956

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Text: Psalm 51:10-12 Tune: Johann Georg Winer, 1583-1651, adapt.
Text and tune: Public domain

Offering We offer our gifts to the Lord, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.
(† If you have an offering to give today, please place it in the plate in the church entryway. †)

Sermon Hymn: 444 *No Tramp of Soldiers' Marching Feet*

LSB 444

1 No tramp of sol - diers' march - ing feet
 2 And yet He comes. The chil - dren cheer;
 3 What fad - ing flow'rs His road a - dorn;
 4 Now He who bore for mor - tals' sake

With ban - ners and with drums, No sound of mu - sic's
 With palms His path is strown. With ev - 'ry step the
 The palms, how soon laid down! No bloom or leaf but
 The cross and all its pains And chose a ser - vant's

mar - tial beat: "The King of glo - ry comes!"
 cross draws near: The King of glo - ry's throne.
 on - ly thorn The King of glo - ry's crown.
 form to take, The King of glo - ry reigns.

To greet what pomp of king - ly pride
 A - stride a colt He pass - es by
 The sol - diers mock, the rab - ble cries,
 Ho - san - na to the Sav - ior's name

No bells in tri-umph ring, No cit - y gates swing
 As loud ho - san - nas ring, Or else the ver - y
 The streets with tu - mult ring, As Pi - late to the
 Till heav - en's raf - ters ring, And all the ran - somed

o - pen wide: "Be - hold, be - hold your King!"
 stones would cry "Be - hold, be - hold your King!"
 mob re - plies, "Be - hold, be - hold your King!"
 host pro - claim "Be - hold, be - hold your King!"

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926

Tune: English; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958, alt.

Text: © 1984 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 130003862

Tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Church / Prayer Requests *We bring our prayers to God.*

Lord's Prayer

LSB 209

- C** 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.

Benediction *We hear God's blessing to us. The "Apostolic Blessing" (2 Corinthians 13:14)*

- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God the Father and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!



Closing Hymn: "The King of Glory" - Choir (v. 1-2) & Congregation (v. 3-4)

Words adapted from **PSALM 118**
by **LLOYD LARSON**


Incorporating the hymn tune **ELLACOMBE**
Music by **LLOYD LARSON**

Verse 1: Who is the King? Who is the King of glory? He is the Lord, my strength and song!
(Choir only) Who is the King? Who is the King of glory? He has become my salvation!
Hear the shouts of joy and victory: The Lord's own hand is lifted high
for He offers new life, this exalted One: "He is our King," the people cry!
Who is the King? Who is the King of glory? He is the Lord, my strength and song!
Who is the King? Who is the King of glory? He has become my salvation!

Verse 2: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna!
(Choir only) Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna!
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna!
Who is the King? Who is the King of glory?
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna!
Who is the King? Who is the King of glory? Hosanna!

Verses 3 & 4: CHOIR & CONGREGATION

(Words by **Jeannette Threlfall** [1821-1880])

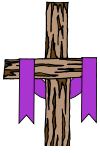


3. Ho - san-na, loud ho - san - na, The lit - tle chil - dren sang; Through
4. "Ho - san-na in the high - est!" That an - cient song we sing, For
pil - lared court and tem - ple The love - ly an - them rang. To __
Christ is __ our Re - deem - er, The Lord __ of heav'n, our King. O __
Je - sus, who had blessed __ them Close - fold - ed to His breast, The
may we ev - er praise __ Him With heart and life and voice, And
chil - dren sang their prais - es, The sim - plest and the best.
in His bliss - ful pres - ence E - ter - nal - ly re - joice!

Postlude: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna!
(Choir only) Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna! Hosanna!

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sufficient quantity of copies is purchased for performance by the choir.

Acknowledgments



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**A warm welcome to all of you today, especially to our guests and visitors!
Please sign our guest book in the entryway. May our Savior Jesus richly
bless your worship and personal meditations on His Word during
Holy Week and Easter.**

Please join us for our special worship services on Good Friday and Easter Sunday!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: **Reception for Gary Fenton & Refreshments** (Fellowship Hall) - **11am**
 Women's Auxiliary – (After refreshments)

This Week: *Holy Week*
 Tuesday – **Board of Education Meeting** (Zoom) (Mt. View) – **6pm**
 Wednesday – **Church Council & Elders Meeting** (Zoom) (Mt. View) – **7pm**
 Thursday – *Maundy Thursday* - **Stockton Worship** (Oakmont) – **2pm**
 Sacramento Worship (Forever Easter House) – **4:30pm**
 Friday- *Good Friday* - **Worship w/ Communion** – **Hayward** – **1pm**
 Mountain View – **7pm**
 Saturday – **Easter Decorating & Set Up** (Mountain View) – **10am**

Next Sunday: *Easter Sunday*
3/31/24 **Joint Easter Worship Service** (Mountain View) – **10am**
 Easter Brunch / Children's Easter Egg Hunt – **11am**

 Online Worship Services - <https://www.sslcwest.org/worship.html>

Reception & Refreshments in the Fellowship Hall - Today @ 11am -

Please join us for refreshments in the Fellowship Hall after the worship service today as we welcome Gary Fenton into our fellowship here at St. Stephen. Please join us!

***"Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above."
(Hymn 649 LSB)***

Women's Auxiliary Meeting – Today - After Refreshments – The Women's Auxiliary will have their meeting in the Fellowship Hall after the reception and refreshments for Gary Fenton.

Easter Brunch Sign-Up Sheet – We will be having an Easter Brunch after our **10am Easter Worship service in Mountain View** next Sunday, **Easter Sunday, March 31st**. If you'd like to help with the brunch or bring a dish to pass, please sign the sheet in the church entryway. Thank you!

Holy Week & Easter Worship Service Schedule – Holy Week begins today (Palm Sunday). Please join us this week for Good Friday services and our joint-congregation Easter Service and brunch. The schedule is as follows:



Good Friday w/ communion (3/29) – St. Stephen – East Bay (Hayward) – 1pm
St. Stephen – West (Mt. View) – 7pm

Easter Sunday (3/31) – Easter Joint Worship Service (Mt. View) – 10am
Easter Brunch / Children's Easter Egg Hunt – 11am

NOTE: Choir – Please arrive at **6:30pm on Good Friday** and **9:30am on Easter Sunday** so that we can run through our songs for these services. Thank you!

CLC News - Teacher Ross Kok of Holy Cross Lutheran in Phoenix, AZ *has received a call* to Berea Lutheran Church and School, Inver Grove Heights, MN. < > Wendy Greve Abbott of Phoenix, AZ *has received and returned* the call from Luther Memorial School in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. < > Teacher Quinn Sprengeler, Redeemer Lutheran, Lynnwood, WA, *plans to retire* from the teaching ministry at the end of this school year.