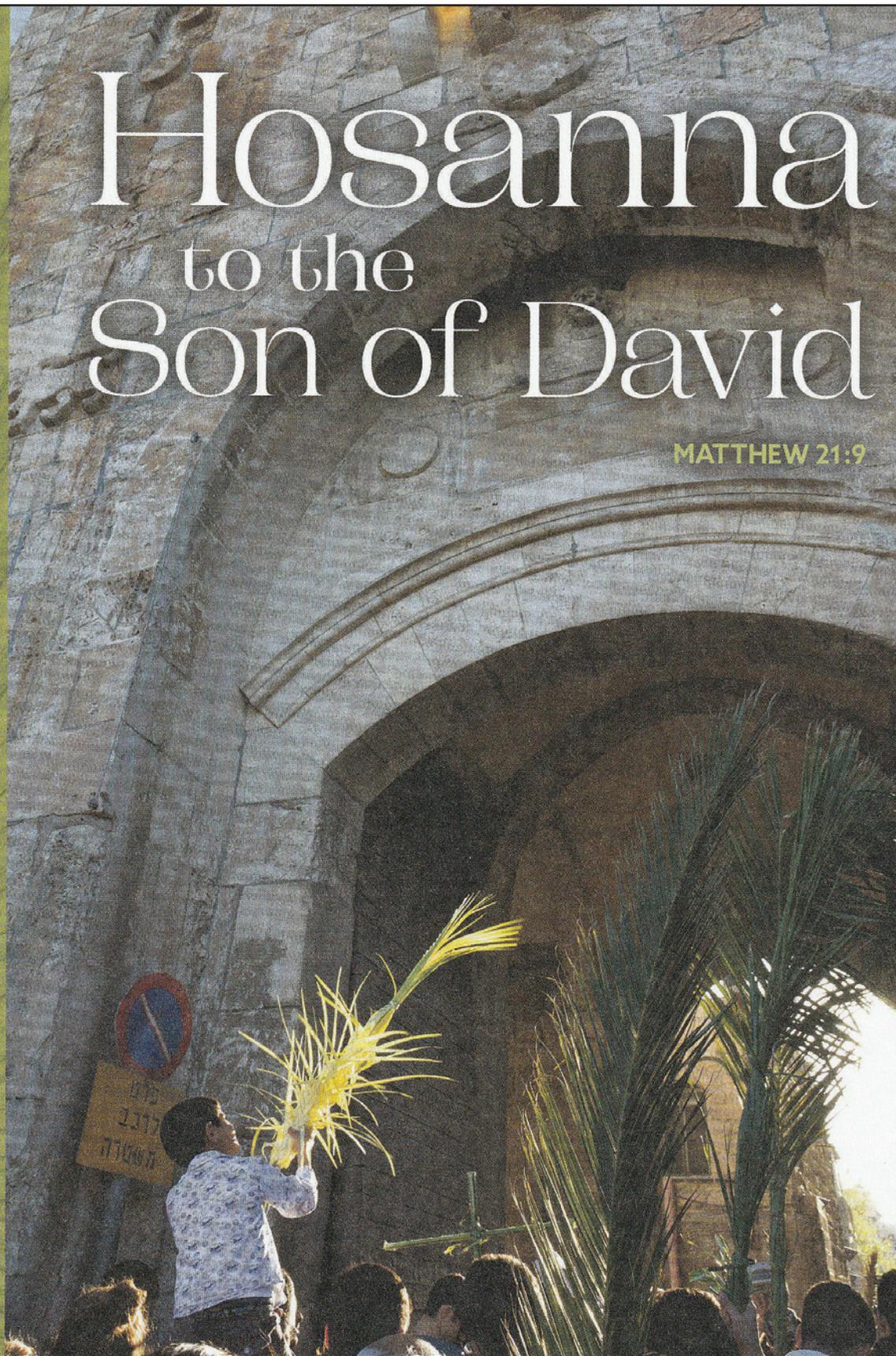


St. John Lutheran Church

Hosanna to the Son of David

MATTHEW 21:9



Cover: Palm Sunday procession from Mount of Olives, Jerusalem, Israel and the West Bank. Photo by Eitan Simanor. Copyright © Alamy Stock Photo. Used by permission.

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ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Rev. Tammy P. Harmer

Deacon Betsey Eley & Deacon Ken Weaver

THE PASSION • PALM SUNDAY • MARCH 29, 2026

Gathering

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

Acclamation:

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

C. **Hosanna in the highest.**



Processional Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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

Procession

Let us go forth in peace,

in the name of Christ. Amen.

Procession Hymn: All Glory Laud and Honor (#344)

- P. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
- C. **Hosanna in the highest.**

Confession and Forgiveness

- P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
- C. **Amen.**
- P. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C. **Amen.**
- P. Most merciful God,
- C. **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**
- P. In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for his sake God forgives us all our sin. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C. **Amen.**
- P. The Lord be with you.
- C. **And also with you.**

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.

Psalm 31:9-16

Response: "Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit."

- ⁹ Have 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.**
- ¹¹ I 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. R**
- ¹³ For 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.**
- ¹⁵ My 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." R**

Prayers of Intercession

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

A brief silence.

O God, you announce words of grace and truth. Give wisdom to all preachers in your church both globally

and locally (here local bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay preachers may be named). Open our hearts to encounter the infinite life you offer in Jesus.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You hold the whole universe. Gather sun and moon, clouds and stars, land and sea, and plants and animals around the cross, so that all creation bears witness to your saving love.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your power is sure. Destroy inequity and division in every place, and build your beloved community among all people. Guide judges, attorneys, and juries so that they act with justice and fairness.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your heart breaks open at our pain. Send healing and vindication to all who, like Jesus, know the sting of betrayal, denial, abuse, or false accusations. Be with those experiencing pain or loss this day (especially).

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your ways show compassion. Let this same mind be in us as we enter Holy Week. Bless those here who will lead worship and tell the story of Jesus' death and resurrection.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for peace throughout the world: in our nation, Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, Sudan, and all war-torn areas. We pray for our military and their families.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

O God, your embrace is eternal. Praise and thanks to you for (Hans Nielsen Hauge and) all the faithful departed who rest in your mercy. Deliver us all from death's power and raise us to life in you.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Anthem

Great Thanksgiving

P. The Lord be with you.

C. **And also with you.**

P. Lift up your hearts.

C. **We lift them to the Lord.**

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Preface

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

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

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. p. 153

Lord's Prayer

Let us 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Communion p. 154

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion Hymns: Blessed Assurance (#638)
Shepherd Me O God (#780)
Let Us Break Bread Together (#471)

Prayer after Communion

The Passion of Our Lord According to Matthew —

Presentation
(See Booklet)

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following in your prayers for healing:

Jen Bailey	Tracey Drew	Ed Kagen	Renate Murray	Carol Taylor
Krystal Booras	Indie Fisher	Tracey Kelly	Erica Polito	Henry Tesone
Michael Botti	Stephanie Friant	Carl Knopp	Samantha Reed	Bill Todt
Brian Byrnes	Rhea Fryor	Deb Kuhn	Kimberly Rickert	George Vaneman, Sr.
Meadow Cantoral	Ashley Fuhrman	Donna Leek	Ashley Rosser	George Van Wagner
Randy Cantoral	Bob Garner	Bob Lindamood	Dorcas Schellhas	Beverly Warming
Janet Cappuccio	Angela Guedes	Tim McCarthy	Jean Schlotz	Mary White
Joe Condoli	Stan Harmer	Joanne McVelli	Finn Schureman	Helen Yezusko
Sandra DeRitis	Michelle Walk Hewitt	Melanie Miles	Gladys Sheppard	Bob Zielsdorf
Helen Dominic	Valerie Hoffmann	Kent Montford	Frank Siderio III	
Frank Donovan	Makenzie Jack	Sue Murphy	Eric Sprengel	
Marie Lentine Douglas	Quincy Jones	Bill Murray	Bill Steel	

Please notify the office if you want to add or remove a person from this list.

ALTAR FLOWERS DEDICATION FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 29th

Dedicated by John Muller in memory of his brother, Leon Francis on his Birthday.

Dedicated by the Kuhn Family in memory of Walt Trout.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	9:30 am	Sunday Morning Worship Service
	10:30 am	Band Rehearsal
	10:45 am	Sunday School/CIA
	11:15 am	Youth Chime/Vocal Choir
	11:30 am	Bell Choir (<i>every other Sunday</i>)
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Band Rehearsal
Thursday	7:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Ongoing		Shelf Stable Milk Collection Diaper Collection for Pantry, Holy Communion, Berlin
Thursday, April 2nd	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Communion Service
Friday, April 3rd	11:30 am	Good Friday Unity Service and Procession First United Methodist
Friday, April 3rd	7:00 pm	Good Friday Tenebrae Service
Sunday, April 5th	6:30 am	Easter Sunrise Worship Service at New Brooklyn United Methodist
Sunday, April 5th	9:30 am	Easter Worship Service
Tuesday, April 7th	7:00 pm	Bible Study in the Parish House
Saturday, April 11th	11:30 am	Community Luncheon in the Ed. Building
Wednesday, April 15th	7:00 pm	Grief Gathering in the Parish House Tea Room
Saturday, April 18th	9:00 am	Council Retreat in the Parish House
Sunday, April 19th	2:00 pm	Faith250 Workshop

Please note: All activities, dates and times are subject to change.

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

Altar Flowers are available for dedication for \$30. Please fill out the envelope located in the pew rack at least one week before you wish to dedicate the flowers. The card may be placed in the offering plate or left in the office. Please be sure to note the date on the white board in the Narthex. Please leave payment in the Church Office.

WORSHIP BULLETIN DEDICATION

The cost (\$23) of the Weekly Worship Bulletin to fully cover the cost of paper and printing is donated by Henry and Marie Fickenscher in memory of their loved ones.

This Worship Bulletin is printed on paper that is made with renewable resources from third-party certified, sustainably managed forests.

Please place any Worship Bulletins to be discarded in the recycle bin in the narthex.

SAVE TIME . . . no need for checks or envelopes

ELCA-Endorsed Tithely giving platform enables you to tithe online or using the app.

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- For assistance or questions, contact Tom Schofield or Henry Fickenscher



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

1002 S. Main Street Williamstown, NJ 08094

Pastor: The Rev. Tammy Harmer

Phone Number: 1-856-875-8742 • Email: stjohnslutheran1002@yahoo.com

Website: www.stjohnselc1002.org

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

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 are prais - ing you on high;
 3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;
 4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.
 5 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Refrain

now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One.
 cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.
 our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.
 To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
 great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,

Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
 an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
 watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain

This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:

this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Refrain
All

Shep-herd me, O God, be-yond my wants, be-yond my fears, from

death in - to life. life.

Leader or All

1 God is my shep-herd, so noth-ing shall I want, I
2 Gent - ly you raise me and heal my wea - ry soul, you
3 Though I should wan - der the val - ley of death, I

rest in the mead-ows of faith - ful - ness and love, I
lead me by path-ways of righ-teous-ness and truth, my
fear no e - vil, for you are at my side, your

Refrain

walk by the qui - et wa - ters of peace.
spir - it shall sing the mu - sic of your name.
rod and your staff, my com - fort and my hope.

Leader or All

4 You have set me a ban-quet of love in the face of

Refrain

ha-tred, crown-ing me with love be-yond my pow'r to hold.

Leader or All

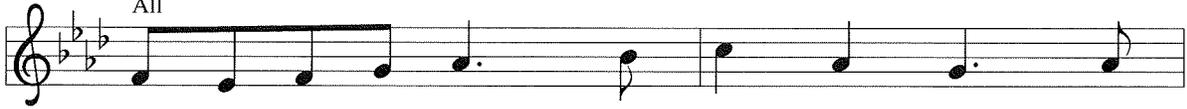
5 Sure-ly your kind-ness and mer-cy fol-low me all the days of my life;



I will dwell in the house of my God for-ev - er - more.

Final refrain

All



Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -



yond my fears, from death in - to life.

Let Us Break Bread Together

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.



LENTEN GIVING FOR 2026

Shelf Stable Milk for
Our Lady of Peace Food Bank.

Milk Carton Banks are in the Narthex.



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Maundy Thursday Worship Service
April 2nd at 7:00 pm



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF WILLIAMSTOWN
159 S. Main St. Williamstown, NJ

Good Friday Unity Worship Service
April 3rd • Noon to 3:00 pm

Good Friday Procession from St. John's Lutheran Church
to First United Methodist Church at 11:30 am



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Good Friday + April 3rd
Tenebrae Service at 7:00 pm

New Brooklyn United Methodist Church
1336 E. Malaga Rd. Williamstown, NJ

Easter Sunrise Service

April 5, 2026 + 6:30 am



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Easter Sunday Worship Service

He Is Risen! **April 5th at 9:30 am**



Easter Flowers Order Form

_____ **“To the Glory of God In Loving Memory of . . .”**

or

_____ **“To the Glory of God In Honor of . . .”**

Please specify and the number of plants you want beside the appropriate dedication and print the names below

Dedicated by

Price of Easter Flowers – \$11.00

Please specify: **Daffodils** **Tulips**

Dedications will be printed in the Worship Bulletin distributed on Easter Sunday.

Orders must be in by March 29th, 2026