

Our Father's Lutheran Church



March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday

WELCOME TO OFLC!

We are pleased that you decided to join us in worship this morning. We hope you'll feel at home here, and God's presence! We have a few helpful notes for you on the service to do that:

All hymns are in the red hymnal in the pew in front of you, or under your pew seat. You can find them using the number next to the hymn in the order of service.

The **bold** text indicates parts of the service where the whole congregation is invited to speak together.

Communion is celebrated at the front of the sanctuary at the communion rail. All are welcome to receive God's gift of grace, without exception. Those who do not wish to receive communion may come forward for a blessing. If you wish to receive communion, but not at the rail, please let the service coordinator know and they will assist you!

Offering is not required to be with us in worship today, but we greatly appreciate any contribution you wish to make!

Here at OFLC, we don't have pre-scheduled worship assistants. We allow folks to help out as the Spirit leads them, and that includes visitors as well! If you'd like to take part in worship, please see a service coordinator before the service and they'll be happy to involve you!

Acknowledgements:

- All copies of music are from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal, downloaded from www.sundaysandseasons.com, and authorized for use via copyright license.



Our Father's Lutheran Church

3903 Gilbert Ave SE, Rockford, MN 55373

Phone: 763-477-6300

Email: office@ourfatherschurch.org

www.ourfatherschurch.org

Dana Peterson, Interim Pastor

pastordana@ourfatherschurch.org

Nikki Nute—office@ourfatherschurch.org

Lora Nichols - lora@ourfatherschurch.org

Office Hours: Mon & Fri 11 am - 2 pm; Wed 1-4 pm

Tammy Jarvi, Director of Music

tammy.jarvi14@gmail.com or 763-732-8920 (cell)

Brittni Bronczyk, Nourishing Hope Coordinator

Brittni@ourfatherschurch.org

Dan Reed, Sunday School Coordinator

Shannon Sand and Angie Drummond,
Engage and Confirm Coordinators

MARCH 29 - APRIL 5



Sunday

PALM SUNDAY Worship - 9 am

Sunday School during Worship Service
Egg Bake Brunch after Worship Service

Monday

Office hours 11 am-2 pm
Old Den & Young Den - 6 pm (Education Room)
AA Meeting 7-8 pm (Conference Room)
BAS Troop 3490 - 7 pm

Tuesday

Wednesday

NO BIBLE STUDY

AFS House Quilt Group - 10 am (Education Room)
Office hours 1 - 4 pm

NO E & C

Thursday

Sewing/Quilting Ministry - 9 am
NO Let's Talk About It

MAUNDY THURSDAY Service - 7 pm

Friday

Office hours 11 am-2 pm
Twin Hearts Meditation - 6 pm (Prayer Room)

GOOD FRIDAY Service - 7 pm

Saturday

Men's Group 7:30 am

Sunday

EASTER SUNDAY Worship - 9 am

NO Sunday School

Coffee, yogurt and muffins after Worship Service



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.

In the name + of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

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."

PROCESSION WITH PALMS

PROCESSIONAL HYMN ALL GLORY, LAUD AND HONOR #344

CLOSING HYMN CHRIST, THE LIFE OF ALL THE LIVING #339
(Please stand as able)



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
 2 You have suf - fered great af - flic - tion and have borne it pa - tient - ly,
 3 Then, for all that bought my par - don, for the sor - rows deep and sore,



Christ, your - self for me once giv - ing to the dark - est depths of woe:
 e - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion, ful - ly to a - tone for me;
 for the an - guish in the gar - den, I will thank you ev - er - more;



through your suf - f'ring, death, and mer - it life e - ter - nal I in - her - it.
 for you chose to be tor - ment - ed that my doom should be pre - vent - ed.
 thank you for the groan - ing, sigh - ing, for the bleed - ing and the dy - ing,



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
 Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
 for that last tri - um - phant cry, praise you ev - er - more on high.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–1681; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
 Music: JESU, MEINES LEBENS LEBEN, *Das grosse Cantional*, Darmstadt, 1687

SENDING Go in peace. Believe the good news. **Thanks be to God!**

All are welcome to God's Table, without exception! We believe that when we gather together at the communion rail, Christ comes to be among us in the bread and wine. We experience God's grace together in a very real and powerful way that strengthens us for life's journey! If you do not wish to receive communion, or if you feel your child is not yet ready to receive communion, you are welcome to come to the communion rail to receive a blessing. **If you are unable to come to the communion rail and would like to receive communion, please let a communion assistant know and communion will be brought to you.**

LAMB OF GOD

#195

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.**

BLESSING

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into
existence,
Jesus Christ, who redeems us,
and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation
+ bless you now and always. **Amen.**

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.

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760-821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.
Music: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN, Melchior Teschner, 1584-1635

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For failing to recognize your coming reign,

and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,

and for disdaining the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For disregarding voices from the margin,

and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE (PLEASE RISE AS YOU ARE ABLE)

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.

Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering.

All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering, we are an offering.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table.

Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

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.

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

P. The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

During this time, if you wish to make a contribution to today's offering, you may do so by placing it in the offering plate. Service coordinators will collect the offering and bring to the front at the conclusion of the song. Electronic giving options: Simply Giving or Breeze. (Contact the church office for more information.)

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.**

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.

Through faith, the free gift of God,

you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead

dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts,

and gives you life and peace.

Amen.

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. By your Spirit, keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues confess Jesus as Lord and with their lives praise him as Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE GREETING: PSALM 31:9-16

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

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.

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."

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

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.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY
(Please stand as able)

MY SONG IS LOVE UNKNOWN

#343
(v 1, 2, 3 & 6)

1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to
2 He came from his blest throne sal - va - tion to be -
3 Some - times we strew his way and his sweet prais - es
4 We cry out, we will have our dear Lord made a -
me, love to the love - less shown that they might
stow; the world that was his own would not its
sing; re - sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas
way, a mur - der - er to save, the prince of
love - ly be. Oh, who am I that
Sav - ior know. But, oh, my friend, my
to our king. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is
life to slay. Yet cheer - ful he to
for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die?
friend in - deed, who at my need his life did spend!
all our breath, and for his death we thirst and cry.
suf - f'ring goes that he his foes from thence might free.

5 In life no house, no home
my Lord on earth might have;
in death no friendly tomb
but what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heav'n was his home
but mine the tomb wherein he lay.

6 Here might I stay and sing—
no story so divine!
Never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine.
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend!

EPISTLE READING: PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

Paul uses an early Christian hymn to help us comprehend Jesus' obedient selflessness on the cross and how God has made Christ lord over all reality. The perspective of the cross becomes the way we rightly understand God, Christ, our own lives, and fellowship within the community of Christ.

5 Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
6 who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,
7 but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness.
And being found in appearance as a human,
8 he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

9 Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name
that is above every other name,
10 so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
11 and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

MUSIC MINISTRY