

# Sunday, March 24, 2024

## Palm Sunday



### **BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO**

21590 State Highway 47, Isle, MN 56342

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Church Web Site: [blcmalmo.org](http://blcmalmo.org)

### **Pastor James Muske**

**320-583-5796**

Parish Nurses: Darlene Christensen, RN 320-279-0097

Kathy Berland RN ANP 218-838-6181

Prayer Chain Contacts: Char Berg 320-684-2102 or Darlene Christensen 320-279-0097

Church Secretary: Mary Braun

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

### ***MISSION STATEMENT***

*We will LIVE and SERVE through FAITH*

*we will ACT with LOVE and KINDNESS*

*we will GIVE hope and SUPPORT to all.*

**Hearing Assistance is available during the service.**  
**Please notify usher if you would like assistance**

## **CALL TO WORSHIP: “Come Bring Your Burdens to God” on screen**

### **XHOSA x 2**

Woza nomthwalo wakho;  
woza nomthwalo wakho;  
woza nomthwalo wakho,  
Uyes'akasozi hayi.

### **ENGLISH x 4**

Come, bring your burdens to God;  
come, bring your burdens to God;  
come, bring your burdens to God,  
for Jesus will never say no.

### **XHOSA**

Woza nomthwalo wakho;  
woza nomthwalo wakho;  
woza nomthwalo wakho,  
Uyes'akasozi hayi.

Text: South African; English text Barbara Clark, Mairi Munro, and Martine Stemerick

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRAYER & CARE LIST:** Dean Malotky, Mary Swanson, Jim Schmidt,  
Ellianna Houle

**ISLE COMMUNITY LENTEN CANTATA** Performance on Good Friday,  
March 29, 2024, at 7:30pm. See poster in Narthex for more information.

**LECTORS NEEDED** we need lectors for weekly Sunday readings. Sign-up  
sheets are on the table in the Narthex heading into the Fellowship Hall and  
include the weekly readings.

**JOIN THE CHOIR!** Calling all Choir Members & anyone who would like to  
join the choir. I am requesting your presence at Bethesda Lutheran Church on  
Tues., April 2nd at 5:30 pm for our first practice of the year. All are welcome!

**COFFEE SERVERS NEEDED** Please sign up so we may continue to  
enjoy coffee & fellowship after service. The signup sheet is on the  
bulletin board mounted in fellowship hall next to the serving window.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** a special congregational meeting will be  
called on Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup> after worship to vote on spending money on updating  
the fire alarm system. As the cost is more than 10% of our annual budget, we

need the congregations' approval.

**RAFFLE BASKET** Worship & Music has a raffle basket available to buy chances on. Check out the items from Clear Lake Gardens in the Fellowship Hall; \$1/ticket. Enter as many times as you like.

**ECOFAITH SUMMIT 2024** Saturday, April 6, from 9am-4pm at First Lutheran Church in Duluth. For more information, see the poster on the bulletin board in Narthex for more information.

**TRAIL CLEANUP** is scheduled for Wednesday, March 27 at 10:00am. Come work outdoors if you can.

**HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICE**

**March 28**, Maundy Thursday – Dinner Church at 5:30pm (no live stream)

(Potluck & Worship together in Fellowship Hall)

**March 29**, Good Friday one service 9:00am in person & live stream.

**March 31**, Easter two services 8:30am & 10:00am in person and live stream.

**THIS WEEK AT Bethesda**

**March 25, 2024 – March 31, 2024**

|           |      |          |   |
|-----------|------|----------|---|
| Monday    | 3/25 | 11:30 am | Cards   |
|           |      | 7:00 pm  | AA/Alanon   |
| Tuesday   | 3/26 | 9:00 am  | Chair Yoga  |
|           |      | 9:00 am  | Quilters  |
|           |      | Noon     | Healthy Habits Meeting  |
| Wednesday | 3/27 | 9:00 am  | Women's Bible Study   |
|           |      | 10:00 am | Trail Cleanup   |
| Thursday  | 3/28 | 8:00 am  | ROMEOS  |
|           |      | 9:15 am  | Chair Yoga  |
|           |      | 5:30 pm  | Maundy Thursday Potluck Dinner Church<br>Worship in person (No Live Stream) |
| Friday    | 3/29 | 9:00 am  | Worship in person & online  |
|           |      | 7:30 pm  | ISLE COMMUNITY LENTEN CANTATA   |
| Sunday    | 3/31 | 8:30 am  | Easter Worship in person & online   |
|           |      | 10:00 am | Easter Worship in person  |

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# OPENING HYMN: "Pave the Way with Branches"

#928 ACS



1. Je - sus is com - ing. Pave the way with branch - es.  
2. Release for the cap - tives.  
3. Hope for the down - trod,



1. Je - sus is com - ing. Ho - san - na. san - na.  
2. Release for the cap - tive.  
3. Hope for the down - trod,



Ho - san - na, 1. Je - sus is com - ing. Ho -  
2. Release for the cap - tive.  
3. Hope for the down - trod.



san - na to the Prince of peace. Prince of peace.

## CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

**Amen.**

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,

**we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.**

Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us,

breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through † Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Sovereign God,

**you have established your rule in the human heart through the servanthood of Jesus Christ. 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.**

## **PRAISE TEAM ANTHEM:**

### **FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a**

<sup>4</sup> The 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.

<sup>5</sup> The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward.

<sup>6</sup> I 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.

<sup>7</sup> The 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;

<sup>8</sup> he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.

<sup>9</sup> It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God**

## **PSALM: Psalm 31:9-16**

<sup>9</sup> Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

<sup>10</sup> **For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.**

<sup>11</sup> 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.

<sup>12</sup> **Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind; I am as useless as a broken pot.**

<sup>13</sup> 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.

<sup>14</sup> **But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. I have said, "You are my God.**

<sup>15</sup> My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

<sup>16</sup> **Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love."**

## **SECOND READING: Philippians 2:5-11**

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

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and 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**

## **GOSPEL: Mark 11:1-11**

### **Glory to You, O Lord**

<sup>1</sup>When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples <sup>2</sup>and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" <sup>4</sup>They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, <sup>5</sup>some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" <sup>6</sup>They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. <sup>7</sup>Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. <sup>8</sup>Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. <sup>9</sup>Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna!

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

<sup>10</sup>Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

<sup>11</sup>Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

The gospel of the Lord ~ **Praise to you, O Christ**

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: "All Glory Laud and Honor"**

**#344 ELW**


*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.

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

*A brief silence.*

Blessed One, today the church sings glad hosannas as we enter Holy Week. Prepare us to bear witness to Christ's suffering and death endured for our sake. Gather your people around the cross and comfort us with resurrection hope. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Renew your good creation and protect the balance of life on earth. Encourage the work of foresters, scientists, arborists, gardeners, and river keepers. We pray for the health of pollinating insects, songbirds, and native plants. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Establish peace and justice among the nations (*regions in conflict may be named*). Hold to account any with authority to judge others. Grant that courts, legislatures, and local governments will serve with integrity and compassion. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Bring hope to any who feel forsaken or forgotten. Make a way for refugees and asylum seekers. Reunite families enduring separation. We pray for any who are incarcerated, institutionalized, or in foster care, that they may know your love. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Give energy and joy to our pastor/s, deacons, worship leaders, and musicians. Bless baptismal candidates, their sponsors, confirmands, and teachers (*individuals preparing for baptism and confirmation may be named*). Watch over those who travel. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Blessed One, our times are in your hand. Sustain us in discipleship throughout our lives and receive us into everlasting life. (*We give thanks for the courage of Oscar Arnulfo Romero, bishop and martyr, whom we commemorate today.*)

**Your mercy is great.**

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.



**And also with you.**

**OFFERING** - *Please be seated as the Ushers pass the offering plate.*

*Please stand as the ushers bring the offering to the altar.*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Jesus,

**you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Bread for the journey.

A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Generous God,

**at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and ✝ give you peace. **Amen.**

### **CLOSING HYMN: "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross" #335 ELW**



1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;  
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;  
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;  
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,

free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.  
 there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.  
 help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.  
 till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

*Refrain*

In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;

till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

**DISSMAL**

Go in peace. Share your bread.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Visitors! It has been great having you join us for worship!  
 Please come again.**

**THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK**

Greeters: Carolyn Morris & Sherry Whipple

Ushers: Mark & Mary Vukelich

Lector: Vicki Vossen

Hospitality: Julie Swaggert & Dennis Hennessy, Mary Braun

**Thank you for your service!**

Response to God's Word Last Week:

Sunday, March 17, 2024: In Person: 9:00am 64 Online: 26

Wednesday, March 20, 2024: In Person: 6:30pm 33 Online: 6