

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH 319 South 5th Street, Albion, Nebraska 68620 www.zionalbion.org + office @zionalbion.org+ 402-395-2043 Office Hours: Mon-Thurs: 9am-4pm; Fri: Office Closed

April 13, 2025 🕂 Palm Sunday

Today is Palm Sunday and marks the beginning of Holy Week. We begin this week by welcoming Jesus as he enters Jerusalem as our king, ready to overthrow sin, death and the devil.

+ GATHERING +

Prelude

(The prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for worship.)

Welcome

Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church in Albion! We offer a warm welcome to all who are worshipping in person or by way of Vyve Cable Channel 21 and Facebook Live. We hope that you encounter a word of God's grace and love in this worship service.

Holy Communion will be celebrated today. At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. All who are baptized and believe in the real presence of Christ are welcome to share in the Lord's meal. Holy Communion will be distributed in person or by pre-packaged elements. If you are uncomfortable coming forward, please pick up the communion elements as you enter worship. We will partake of the sacrament as directed by the pastor within the worship service. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with an usher. Gluten Free wafers are available on request.





Welcome

Bells Prelude

O Happy Morning

Procession with Palms

(based on John 12:12-19)

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

Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!

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

Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!

The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!"

And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!"

His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. Let us pray... (A brief silence is kept.) O Lord, God Almighty, bless these branches and the people who bear them that you would be praised and your name be glorified. As we trace the journey of Jesus into Jerusalem, and ultimately to the cross and empty tomb, remind us that through these holy acts you have opened the door for us to everlasting life. Amen.



Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Music: Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635 Public Domain

Confession and Absolution

Save us, King Jesus, from all sin and condemnation – **from all that threatens to cut us off from our friendship with you.**

Let us confess our sins to Jesus, our Savior, Servant, and Friend. Silence for meditation and self-examination.

Almighty King Jesus,

we have wrongly sought to save ourselves

through our own strength and deeds,

and through our own efforts and power.

We have wrongly assumed that we rule over our own lives and control all things.

We have lorded our power and love, words and deeds over others rather than loving our neighbors as ourselves. We have failed to protect those under our care and cared more for ourselves than anyone else. We have departed from the kingdom of God and become ensnared by sin, death and the devil. We have traded in King Jesus for all sorts of idols and false gods. Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!

Hosanna! Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Your Friend and King — Jesus has not forsaken you on account of your sin.

Rather, your Friend and King forgives you and welcomes you into his kingdom through faith.

Friends, your hope and joy, your Savior and Lord,

comes to you righteous and having salvation.

By the promise and power of King Jesus, your sins are forgiven! Amen. What a friend we have in Jesus.

Call to Worship

Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever. (Psalm 118:1)

Out of my distress I called on the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me free. (Psalm 118:5) The Lord is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me? (Psalm 118:6)

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! We bless you from the house of the Lord. (*Psalm 118:26*)

Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever! (*Psalm 118:29*)

The Greeting

The grace and mercy of God, who in Christ Jesus, bears our burdens and saves us from sin, be with you all. **And also with you.**

Hymn of	Praise	He'll be Ridir	ng on a Donkey	SS Choir
He'll be riding on a donkey when he comes.				
He'll be riding on a donkey when he comes. He'll be riding on a donkey, He'll be riding on a donkey,				
		0	lonkey when he come	
2		U	2	
v. 2	we will d	all come out to	meet him when he co	mes.
v.3	We will	lay our coats be	efore him when he con	mes.
v. 4	We will we	ave our palms to	o greet him when he c	comes.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray... (A brief silence is kept.) Lord Jesus, our King and Friend, enter into our midst and enter into our hearts just as you entered into Jerusalem on that very first Palm Sunday. Grant us your Holy Spirit so that we might be humble and lowly in heart, and always ready to receive you as our King. We pray this in your name. Amen.



+ WORD +

Old Testament Reading

Zechariah 9:9-11

The coming Messianic King will inaugurate an era of disarmament and prosperity. Because of God's covenant with Israel, the people are designated as "prisoners of hope."

A reading from Zechariah.

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!
Lo, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
¹⁰He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war-horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall command peace to the nations;
his dominion shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.
¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.
The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Hebrews 12:1-3

In the way of the cross, Jesus has blazed the trail for our salvation. With faithful perseverance, we follow in his footsteps.

A reading from Hebrews.

¹Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. ³Consider him who endured such hostility against himself from sinners, so that you may not grow weary or lose heart.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



Holy Gospel

Luke 19:28-40

Jesus triumphantly enters Jerusalem. He is welcomed by all but not for long.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 19th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁸After he had said this, [Jesus] went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.
²⁹When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" ³²So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴They said, "The Lord needs it." ³⁵Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, ³⁸saying,

"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" ³⁹Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." ⁴⁰He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Time Sermon

Hymn of the Day Ride On, Ride On in Majesty (SBH #73) ma - jes-ty! Hark! all the tribes Ho - san 1. Ride on, ride on in - na cry; 2. Ride on, ride on low - ly pomp ride in ma - jes-ty! In on to die! ma - jes-ty! The wing-ed squad-rons of 3. Ride on, ride on the sky in palms and scat-tered gar-ments strowed. Sav-iour meek, pur - sue thy road With Christ, thy tri-umphs now be - gin O'er cap - tive death and con-quered sin. Look down with sad and wondering eyes To see the ap-proach-ing sac-ri - fice. 4 Ride on, ride on in majesty! 5 Ride on, ride on in majesty! Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh: In lowly pomp ride on to die! The Father on his sapphire throne Bow thy meek head to mortal pain. Expects his own anointed Son. Then take, O God, thy power and reign.

> Text: Henry H. Milman, 1791-1868, alt.; Music: John Bacchus Dykes, 1823-1876 Public Domain

Apostle's Creed

Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith... I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

King

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

Prayers of the People

- P Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.
- A brief silence. A Guide your church this Holy Week as we follow in the servant way of Jesus. Protect those who face hostility or oppression for their faith. Humble those who would use faith to dominate others and reinforce their own power. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**
- P Make your creation a living witness to Christ's passion and resurrection: in waving palms, shouting stones, fragrant vineyards, murmuring wheat, and revealing fire.
 Make us attentive to your holy presence in the world, that we may care for the earth you love.
 God, in your mercy, receive our prayer.
- A Let your face shine upon the leaders of nations and let the same mind be in them as was in Christ Jesus, so that those with the most power may humble themselves

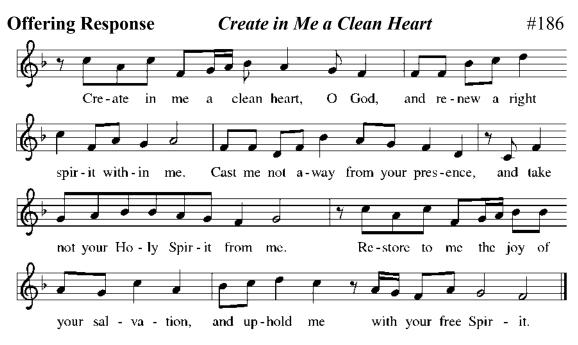
to serve the most vulnerable. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

- P Sustain the weary with a word.
 Grant perseverance to political prisoners and to any who are exploited, unjustly accused, or wrongly convicted.
 Abide with all who are in jails, detention centers, or prisons.
 Console all who experience times of trial or suffering, especially...
 God, in your mercy, receive our prayer.
- A Give strength to those who will lead worship during Holy Week: Pastors and vicars, deacons and altar guilds, musicians and assisting ministers, ushers, and office staff. Instill in them awe and joy, that their service may reflect the love of Jesus. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**
- P Here other intercessions may be offered either aloud or in silence. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**
- A We give thanks to you for our beloved dead, trusting that as the cross of Jesus led to the empty tomb, so you welcome those who have died into the paradise of your presence. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**
- P Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. **Amen.**

Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

+ OFFERING +



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+ MEAL +

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

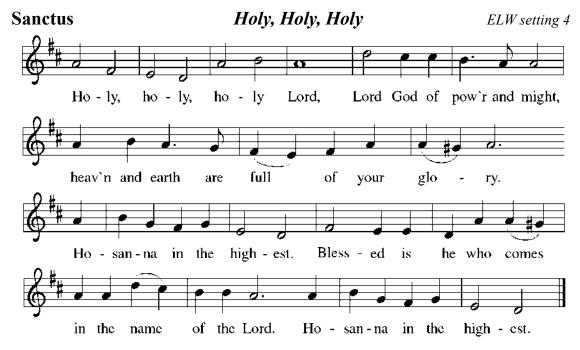
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.



Proper Preface

It is our joy and destiny to praise you, Lord God, for in wondrous love you cast stars into space, and in meek obedience your Son surrendered to cruel nails. With loving-kindness you called your people in Abraham, and in covenant with Moses you bound up your life in theirs.
Through exile you stayed close to them, and in Jesus you came among them bearing the fullness of grace and truth.
Your Son Jesus faced rejection, cruelty, and death, yet in resurrection you exalted him, and in sending your Spirit you shed glory on all people.
And so we rejoice with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, singing the song of your unending praise.



Eucharistic Prayer & Words of Institution

Hosanna is our cry, Blessed One.

Your Son comes on a donkey in your name.

As Jesus entered Jerusalem to bear our sorrows and suffer for our sins, enter our hearts and confront our waywardness today.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us,

that we may be your Son's crucified and risen body.

Send your Spirit upon this bread that it may be living bread,

and on this wine that it may be the cup of salvation, that together

they may be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ; who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks;

broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

After supper, Jesus took the cup,

again he gave you thanks,

and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup

we remember our Lord's passover from death to life

as we proclaim the great mystery of faith:

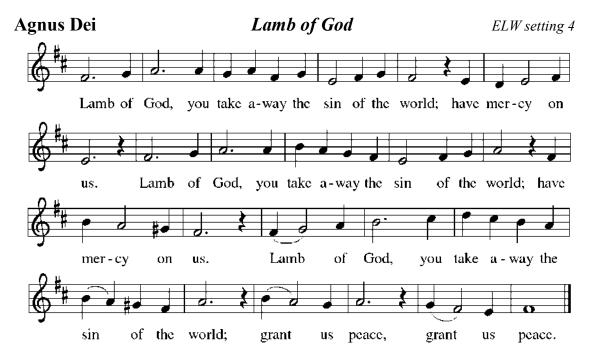
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Humble God, your Son did not exploit his status but emptied himself.
Pour out your Spirit on all who are exploited, in world or church, on all who are humbled, by state or employer or family member, on all who are emptied of hope, faith, or love.
As you highly exalted your Son who had become a slave, highly exalt your children who suffer for righteousness, or grieve those they have cherished, or bend the knee to one who does not honor them.
Fill the earth with your justice and peace, until every heart shall sing and every tongue confess that you are the joy of their desiring, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, ever one God, in all ages and forevermore. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to 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, forever and ever. Amen.



Distribution with silence for meditation

If you are joining us from home or are taking communion from your seat: The body of Christ, given for you. Amen. The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.

Table Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and preserve you unto eternal life. **Amen.**

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray... *(A brief silence is kept.)* Generous Host,

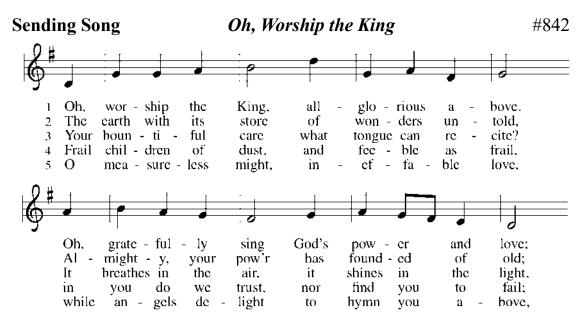
you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

+ SENDING +

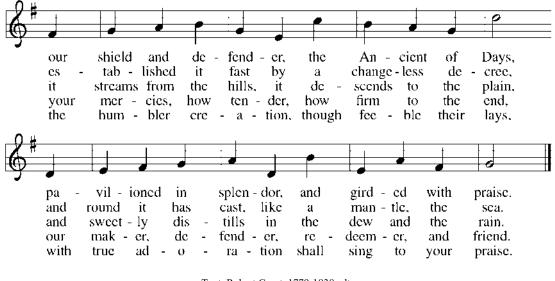
Announcements

Benediction

Friends, your King comes to you righteous and having salvation, humble and mounted on a donkey. Be blessed by your King and Friend, Jesus Christ our Lord! May King Jesus bless you and keep you as he comes to overthrow sin, death and the devil. Hosanna! What a friend we have in Jesus!



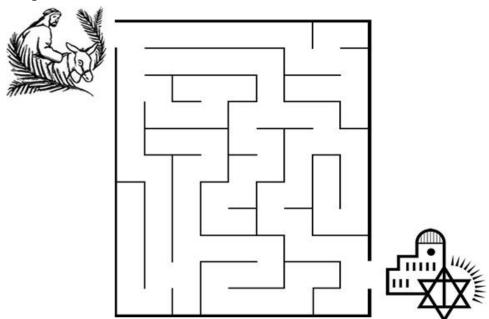
(Hymn continues on the next page)



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Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.



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