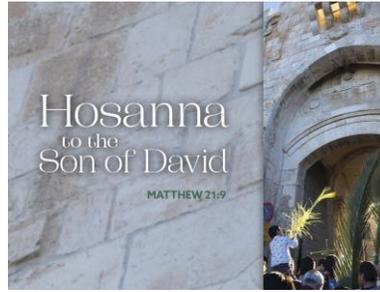


**Grace Lutheran Church**  
1300 Kishwaukee Valley Road  
Woodstock, IL 60098  
www.gracewoodstock.org



**March 29, 2026; 9:00 A.M.**  
**Palm Passion Sunday**



## **GATHERING**

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

### **OPENING MUSIC**

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

setting, Paul Manz (One License)

*Please stand as you are able.*

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

### **PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL**

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Matthew 21:1-11**, Pew Bible, New Testament, pg. 23

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

### **BLESSING OF PALMS**

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept.*

We praise you, O God, for entering into Jerusalem, and for entering into Woodstock today. Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow Jesus throughout this Holy Week, that we, too, might follow the way of the cross and live in newness of life, for us and for all creation. We pray this in the name of the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

### **PROCESSION**

Leader: Hos-ANN-a, Hos-ANN-a, Hos-ANN-a IN the HIGH-est!

**All: Hos-ANN-a, Hos-ANN-a, Hos-ANN-a IN the HIGH-est!**

Leader: Re-LEASE for the CAP-tives!

**All: Re-LEASE for the CAP-tives!**

Leader: HOPE for the DOWN-trod!

**All: HOPE for the DOWN-trod!**

Leader: LAND for the LAND-less!

**All: LAND for the LAND-less!**

Leader: DEBTS are for-GIV-en!

**All: DEBTS are for-GIV-en!**

## **HYMN**

### **"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"**

ELW 344 (Public Domain)

*As the procession reaches the front of the worship space, worshipers may lay their signs, palms, in front of the table or go stand at their seats.*

*The presiding minister concludes the procession.*

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*Please be seated.*

## **WELCOME**

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

*Children are invited to come forward during the message.*

## **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## **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. 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.**

## **WORD**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

## **FIRST READING:**

**Isaiah 50:4-9a**, *Pew Bible, Old Testament, pg. 681*

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM:**

**Psalms 31:9-16**

*The Psalms are found in the ELW, in the front section, beginning on page 339. We will read them responsively together.*

## **SECOND READING:**

**Philippians 2:5-11**, *Pew Bible, New Testament, pg. 197*

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please remain seated.*

## **THE PASSION STORY & REFLECTION**

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**I. The betrayal of Judas**

**II. The last supper**

**III. The Mount of Olives**

## **HYMN**

**"Stay with Me"**

ELW 348 (One License)

**IV. Gethsemane**

**V. Trial before Caiaphas**

**VI. Peter's denial; Judas's death**

**HYMN "Now Behold the Lamb"**

ELW 341 (CCLI)

**VII. Jesus before Pilate**

**VIII. Golgotha**

**HYMN "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"**

ELW 338 (Public Domain)

**IX. Jesus' death**

**X. Burial**

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**HYMN "Great God, Your Love Has Called Us"**

ELW 358, vs. 1-3 (One License)

**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. 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 those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts \_\_\_\_\_. 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.**

O God, your embrace is eternal. Praise and thanks to you for 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.**

**PEACE**

*After praying for the whole world, we receive and extend to one another the gift of Christ's peace. We invite you to share a sign of God's peace with one another.*

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

## MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

*Please be seated.*

### 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.**

### OFFERING

*Thank you for your generous offerings and commitment to Grace's mission and ministry. You are invited to place your financial offerings in the offering plate. Additional ways to give include mailing your offering to the church office, or by giving online: by texting the amount you would like to give to 877-698-3604, through the Vanco Mobile App, or online at Grace's website (Use the QR code provided). You are also invited to call the church office to learn more about the automatic withdrawal Electronic Giving Program.*



### OFFERING ANTHEM

"Hosanna!"

Victor C. Johnson (One License)

*Please stand as you are able.*

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

#### LORD'S PRAYER

ELW pg. 145, left column

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*All are welcome at the Lord's table.*

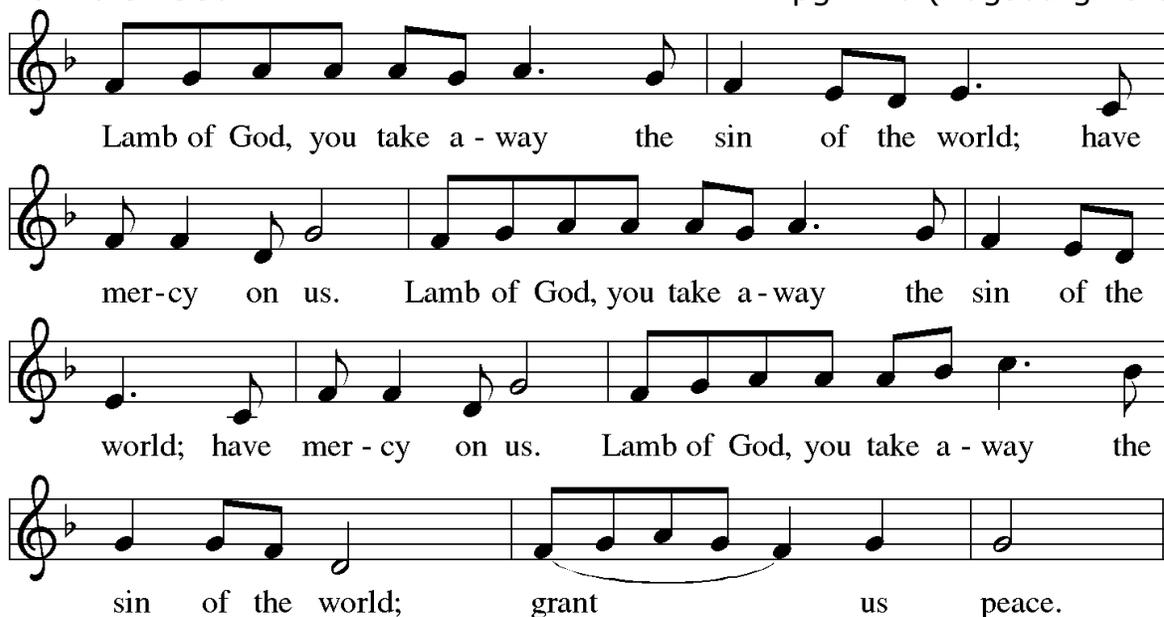
Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

*Please be seated. The congregation will then commune, beginning with the front pews, you are invited to come forward to receive the bread and wine or juice. Extend your hands to receive a wafer from the pastor or communion assistant. Then please pick up one cup from the trays (red wine or white grape juice), and then place the empty cup in a tray on the front pew before returning to your seat. Gluten free elements are available upon request. If you would like the communion elements to be brought to you, please notify an usher.*

### DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

#### "Lamb of God"

ELW pg. 146 (Augsburg Fortress)



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

## "Jesus, I Will Ponder Now"

ELW 345 (Public Domain)

*Please stand as you are able.*

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

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.**

### **COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

### **SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

### **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.**

### **SENDING HYMN**

"There in God's Garden"

ELW 342 (One License)

### **DISMISSAL**

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

### **CLOSING MUSIC**

"There in God's Garden" setting, Robert Buckley Farlee (Augsburg Fortress)



### **Worship Team**

A/V Team: Bill Nattress

Communion Assistants: Michelle Anderson, Sonia Brzezinski, Mary Noe,  
Mike Phillips, Sally Sheahan

Greeters: Sonia Brzezinski, Faith Metze

Procession Leaders: Clementine Arana, Josephine Arana, Maddy Emery,  
Maren Filetti, Annie Gibbs

Passion Readers: Lilli Klay, Remi Klay, Fletcher Klay, Kali Klay; Andy Bellavia, Janice Laird, Mary Beth Martin-Bellavia, Mike Phillips; Jon Bergstrom, Johanna Bergstrom, Pastor Amanda, Micah Bergstrom; Michelle Anderson, Brian Gerloff, Mike Liedtke, Mary Noe Annie Gibbs, Maddy Emery, Helen Emery, Robin Gibbs; Karen Reinhard, Al Beckman, Terry Aavang, Caryl Dierksen; Paul Lockwood, Sally Sheahan, Beth Miller, Anne Johnson; Brent Filetti, Maren Filetti, Carrie Filetti, Sheri Conover; Tim Nellessen, Kristy Nellessen, Grace Nellessen, Olivia Patterson

Acolyte: Cai Given, Braxton O'Leary, Ally Rychtytzkyj  
Reader: Janice Laird  
Ushers: Bill Kreznor, Nancy Kreznor, Robert Metze  
Children's Sermon: Brent Filetti  
Altar Guild: Mike Freeman, Jen Freeman, Laura Boal, Beth Miller  
Musicians: Jan Burns, Laudate, Carrie Filetti  
Lead Pastor: Pastor Amanda Bergstrom

**Presence Light Sponsor:**

In honor of my mom, Betty Kessinger's, 94<sup>th</sup> birthday; given by Nancy & Bill Kreznor.

**Bulletin Sponsors:**

To the Glory of God.



**Maunder Thursday**  
April 2

12:00 p.m. (Sanctuary)  
7:00 p.m. (Sanctuary & Livestream)

# Holy Week



**Good Friday**  
April 3

12:00 p.m. (Sanctuary)  
7:00 p.m. (Sanctuary & Livestream)



**Easter Sunday**  
April 5

8:00 a.m. (Sanctuary & Livestream)  
10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary & Livestream)

Thank you for sharing time to hear God's word and pray together. A video recording of worship will be posted to Grace's website later in the day. You are welcome to join Grace Lutheran Church's Facebook group for news & ministry opportunities. Peace be with you as you go forth to share God's grace.



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## **FAITH FACTORY FRIDAY**

**Play Bold. Love Big. Grow in Faith.**

**April 24th 5:30pm-7:30pm**



## *Rooted & Renewed*

*Who Are You When No-One Needs You?*

*April 29th*

*6:30pm-7:30pm*



*A Sincere Thanks to our Worship Volunteers!*