

# Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church



Rethinking Real Strength

Palm Sunday      March 24, 2024



*“Learning and sharing the gospel of Christ the Prince of Peace.”*

Prince of Peace  
Evangelical Lutheran Church  
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## **WELCOME!**

Welcome to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. We pray that the time spent here in God's house helps you to appreciate how dearly God loves you! May God bless our worship today! If you are visiting with us for the first time, please take a moment to fill out one of the information cards found in the pews next to the hymnals. You can either place the completed card in the offering plate or give it to the usher when being ushered out at the end of the service. We look forward to getting to know you better in order to serve you fully with God's word!

## **THEME FOR TODAY**

Most people who believe in God say he is powerful. So, naturally they assume that God will use that power and strength for the benefit of his followers. It is a logical assumption, but, one must understand: what is real strength? It is easy to assume that real strength means exerting your will over another by using any means necessary, including force. But this week we see Jesus Christ demonstrate a different kind of strength. We have come to Holy Week. It begins with Jesus humbly riding a donkey colt straight into the hands of his enemies. As the week progresses, it will appear that Christ's adversaries are the ones in a position of power and Jesus is in a position of weakness. Yet what Christ does this holy week—setting his divine strength aside, being passive in the face of death—would change the world. To do what Christ did for us and our salvation took real strength.

*Remain seated*

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

### **Confession**

Our Savior Jesus Christ commanded Baptism when he said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

All of us are born into this world with a deep need for Baptism. From our parents we inherit a sinful nature; we are without true fear of God and true faith in God and are condemned to eternal death. But while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. He took away our sin by giving his life on the cross. In Baptism, he clothes us with the robe of his righteousness and gives us a new life. We recall what Baptism means for our daily lives:

**Baptism means that the sinful nature in us  
should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance,  
and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death.  
It also means that a new person should daily arise  
to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.**

As baptized children of God, we confess our sins:

**Holy God, gracious Father,**

**I am sinful by nature**

**and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and forever.**

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins**

**with his innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

God saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit and united us to the death and resurrection of Jesus. Every day God forgives your sins, removes your guilt, and strengthens you to defeat Satan's power. His promise is for you and your children, and he will never forsake you. Your sins are forgiven. You are clothed with Christ. You are at peace with God now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The Rite of Baptism continues at the font.*

## **Sacrament of Baptism**

The Gospel according to St. Mark:

People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

*Evelyn Iris Babcock*, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Receive the sign of the cross on the head and heart ✝ to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has given you the new birth of water and the Spirit and has forgiven all your sins. May he strengthen you with his grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

Let us pray.

We give thanks, most merciful Father, that you have received this child as your own child and made her a member of Christ's body, the church. Now, we pray, grant to her and to all your church on earth that, being dead to sin, we may live to righteousness and, being buried with Christ into his death, we may also share in his resurrection, so that, with all your saints, we may inherit eternal life; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

# The Word

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

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

We praise you, O God, for the great acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ. As he was acclaimed by those who scattered their garments and branches of palms in his path, so may we always hail him as our King and follow him with perfect confidence; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Choir

*Hosanna, Blessed Is He*

## First Reading

*Zechariah 9:9–12*

*The prophet Zechariah foretold a king who is both infinitely strong and perfectly humble. He would enter Jerusalem riding on the colt of a donkey.*

<sup>9</sup>Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion!

Shout, Daughter Jerusalem!

See, your king comes to you,  
righteous and victorious,  
lowly and riding on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

<sup>10</sup>I will take away the chariots from Ephraim

and the warhorses from Jerusalem,  
and the battle bow will be broken.

He will proclaim peace to the nations.

His rule will extend from sea to sea  
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

<sup>11</sup>As for you, because of the blood of my covenant with you,

I will free your prisoners from the waterless pit.

<sup>12</sup>Return to your fortress, you prisoners of hope;

even now I announce that I will restore twice as much to you.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# 24H Let the LORD Enter; He Is the King of Glory

Psalm 24H

## Refrain



## Tone



The earth is the LORD's, and every- / thing in it,  
the world, and all who / live in it;  
for he founded it / on the seas  
and established it on the / waters.  
Who may ascend the mountain / of the LORD?  
Who may stand in his / holy place?  
The one who has clean hands and a / pure heart,  
they will receive blessing from God their / Savior. *Refrain*

Lift up your heads, you gates; be lifted up, you / ancient doors,  
that the King of glory / may come in.  
Who is this King of / glory?  
The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in / battle.  
Lift up your heads, you gates; lift them up, you / ancient doors,  
that the King of glory / may come in.  
Who is he, this King of / glory?  
The LORD Almighty—he is the King of / glory.  
**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son  
and to the Holy / Spirit,  
as it was in the be- / ginning,  
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

Text: Lectionary for Mass (refrain)

Tune: Richard T. Proulx

Setting: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

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## Second Reading

Hebrews 12:1-3

*Jesus demonstrated strength for us by enduring the cross.*

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, <sup>2</sup>fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup>Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

John 12:23



*Refrain*



Praise to you, Lord Je - sus Christ, king of end - less glo - ry.

The hour has come, the hour has come  
for the Son of Man to be glorified.

*Refrain*

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## Gospel

Mark 11:1–10

*The almighty Son of God demonstrates real strength by humbly riding into Jerusalem knowing he will soon be put to death.*

<sup>1</sup>As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, <sup>2</sup>saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. <sup>3</sup>If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ say, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.’”

<sup>4</sup>They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, <sup>5</sup>some people standing there asked, “What are you doing, untying that colt?” <sup>6</sup>They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. <sup>7</sup>When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. <sup>8</sup>Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. <sup>9</sup>Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted,

“Hosanna!”

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

<sup>10</sup>“Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!”

“Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

## 411 Ride On, Ride On in Majesty

CW 411

## Sermon

*Fix Your Eyes on Jesus*

*Hebrews 12:1–3*

*Stand*



## **Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

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

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

*Be seated*

## **Prayer of the Church**

*Brief intercessory prayers may be added in a fitting place.*

Lord Jesus Christ, blessed are you, the King who comes to set your people free.  
**Reign over us in your abundant mercy.**

While we long for your final coming, we rejoice that you lengthen these end times so that many may hear of your saving work and believe.

**Send your Spirit on us that we may use the gift of time to share our faith with others.**

Lord and King, defend all who are imprisoned or insulted because of your name. Come to help those whose Christian faith is mocked as foolish or naïve, and rescue those who are straying from the faith.

**Lead us to those who need help, guide us in our works of service, and strengthen us with a firm resolve to follow you in obedience.**

Lord of the Church, develop in us a new awareness of the gifts you give us to use in our callings, that your kingdom of grace may flourish.

**Bless and preserve Christian churches everywhere and raise up another generation of faithful workers.**

Both in humiliation and glory you extended your loving hand to the weak and the hurting. Speak to those who are confused and wondering. Defend those who are oppressed and put down. Comfort those who are enduring pain or struggling with sadness. Abide with the aged who are alone as they die and protect pregnant mothers and their unborn children.

**Move us to see your face in them, Lord Jesus and to help them as we serve you.**

Mighty King, look with mercy on this land, its government, and all the kingdoms of the world. Relieve us from war, bloodshed, and rebellion.

**Grant us wisdom as we deal with a changing economy. Provide for the unemployed and their families. Open the hearts of those who prosper to be generous and willing to share.**

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

*Silent prayer.*

Coming King and Savior of the world, keep us faithful to the end as we watch and wait for your return.

**Amen.**

## **Offering**

*Our offerings are freely given as a response to God's gracious outpouring of love upon us.*

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

CW 412

*Stand*

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

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.

## Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.  
Amen.

## 413 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

CW 413

## Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship

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## THE WEEK AHEAD

<b>MONDAY</b>	6:30 pm Catechism
<b>TUESDAY</b>	6:30 pm Outreach Committee Meeting
<b>THURSDAY</b>	6:30 pm Holy Thursday Worship w/Lord's Supper
<b>FRIDAY</b>	6:30 pm Good Friday Worship
<b>SUNDAY</b>	9:00 am Easter Breakfast 10:30 am Worship

### CHANCEL FLOWERS

Jimmy and Carol Fronck are celebrating their 45<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary! The Fronck's have provided the flowers to thank God for all the blessings God has showered on their marriage! The Prince of Peace family joins them in offering our prayers of gratitude to our Father's throne of grace on behalf of Jimmy and Carol. Happy 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary Jimmy and Carol!



### LILIES!



You may sign up for your own Easter Lily plant on the bulletin board. The cost for the Lilies this year will be **\$10.25** each. Those who sign up and purchase the plants may take them home following the Easter Sunday worship service.

### EASTER BREAKFAST

There is a sign-up sheet regarding Easter Sunday Breakfast on the bulletin board across from Pastor's office.



### BUNCO



Please join us for Bunco on Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Come one, come all for a night of fun and fellowship—no experience required! A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board across from Pastor's office.

Operating Offerings		Attendance		Mortgage Progress	
3/17/24	\$ 3,237.00	3/17/24	49	3/17/24	\$ 115.00
Month to Date	\$ 10,441.00			Month to Date	\$ 2,895.00
YTD	\$ 53,679.00			YTD	\$ 6,765.00
Budget YTD	\$ 45,384.00			Budget YTD	\$ 7,884.00
2023 YTD	\$ 49,446.00			2023 YTD	\$ 9,004.00

**Weekly needs February Operating Offering**  
**Monthly Mortgage Payment**

**\$ 3,863.00**  
**\$ 2,867.00**