



Sunday, March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday

**The East Koshkonong Lutheran Church
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Ministers of East Koshkonong ~ All the people of God
Presider ~ Pastor Eric Hanson
Organist ~ Judy Rusch
Trombone ~ Steve Lehr
Assisting Minister ~ Carolyn Lien
Acolyte ~ Josie Lund
Lector ~ Don Amundson
Greeter ~ Karen Hayes
Ushers ~ Ron & Nancy Knapwurst
Offering Counters ~ Brenda Schroeder, Leila Carl & Diane Ash

Sermon One; Palm Processional

Processional Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11

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.”

P: The gospel of the Lord. **C:** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Gathering Hymn All Glory, Laud, and Honor #344

Confession and Forgiveness

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 disdainning 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.

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. 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.

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

⁴ The Lord GOD has given me a trained tongue, 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.⁵ The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I did not turn backward.⁶ 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.⁷ 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;⁸ he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand in court together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.^{9a} It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

L: Word of God, word of life. C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 31:9-16

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

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

¹¹ I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to^l my acquaintances; when they see me in the street^l they avoid me.

¹² **Like the dead I am forgotten,^l out of mind; I am as useless as a^l broken pot. R**

¹³ For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is^l all around; they put their heads together against me; they plot to^l take my life.

¹⁴ **But as for me, I have trusted in^l you, O LORD. I have said, “You^l are my God.**

¹⁵ My times are^l in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who^l persecute me.

¹⁶ **Let your face shine up-^l on your servant; save me in your^l steadfast love.” R**

Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

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.

L: Word of God, word of life. C: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Two

Hymn of the Day Ride On, Ride On in Majesty! #346

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

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 Henny, Marlene, Kurt, Ron, Danelle, Ronald, Jackie, Judy, Mary Lou, Lisa, Landon, Ed, Kathy, Cherie, Gary, Barb, Lindsay, Betsy, Jim, Chris, Robert, Karen and the family of Ernie. 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.

Sharing of the Peace

Noisy Offering-For Sunday School Mission Project for ELCA

World Hunger

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**

Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue

P: The Lord be with you. **C:** **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C:** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Words of Institution

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C: **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.**

Invitation to Communion

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

Prayer after Communion

A: 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

P: 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.**

C: **Amen.**

Sending Song I Want Jesus to Walk with Me # 325

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Calendar

Wednesday, April 1 & April 8, 2026

No 5:30 Worship Service

Thursday, April 2, 2026

7:00p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship

Friday, April 3, 2026

12:00 Veteran's Park Community Worship Service

5:30p.m. Good Friday Worship Service

Sunday, April 5, 2026

6:30a.m. Sunrise Service - Upper Church

9:00a.m. Worship Service -Lower Church

Announcements

We are glad you joined us! We hope that you will experience the good news in mind, body, and spirit s we pray, listen, sing and share the peace of Christ and the meal of Holy Communion. You are invited to worship in as many ways as you are comfortable and able. In this bulletin, **bold print** indicates congregation's responses.

*** No 5:30 Wednesday Worship April 1 & 8, 2026***

Pie Auction at EKLC –April 19Join us in Fellowship Hall after services for a pie auction featuring our own Tyce Bettenhausen as the auctioneer. • Proceeds will go to the Camp Scholarship Fund. • If you would like to donate a pie or two (or any other baked goods) please sign up in the Narthex. • Thank you for your support of EKLC youth!

Our church will once again be hosting the Cambridge Community Meal. We will be hosting on Thursday, May 7th, at the Cambridge High School. The meal is served from 5:30 pm-6:30 pm. In addition to helping with food, we are needing volunteers to help set up, serve and clean up. This is a very enjoyable time to meet and visit with your neighbors and friends. If you have any questions, please contact Brenda Schroeder at 608-220-2008.

GIVE PLUS
EAST KOSHKONONG LUTHERAN CHURCH

You may make a secure offering/donation to EKLC by following the directions below. All donations are secured through Vanco. Thank you for your generous offering in this way! Online giving directions, you may set up recurring donations or make a one-time donation.

Go to www.eastkoshkonong.org and click on Donate. Create a profile through this secure website, if you haven't already, and complete the form on the website.

Option 2: Download the GivePlus app on your smartphone for either Android or iOS. If needed, create an account with your email address. Sign into your account and search for "East Koshkonong Lutheran Church." Select the plus "+" sign and complete the form.