

ASCENSION
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Palm Sunday



WELCOME To all of you who are visiting our service this morning, we extend a most cordial welcome in Jesus' name. It is our hope that you will feel at home in our midst and will be blessed by our message of Christ crucified and risen for the sins of the world.

If you are looking for a church home or would like to know more about our beliefs and practices, please see the pastor. He will be glad to visit with you at your convenience. Be sure to join us again.



Member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession

4501 Waller Rd E, Tacoma, WA 98443

Tacoma.clclutheran.org

Pastor Jonah Albrecht

(507) 329-2641

jonaalbr@ilc.edu

President Scott Radcliffe

(425) 478-7018

scottrrad@yahoo.com

Pre-Service Meditation:

1 Peter 2:10 ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, You have shown Your love and mercy toward us through Your Son, who gave up His life for us. You called us to be Your people through faith in the Gospel. Preserve us in that faith, from now until we reach eternal life where our faith will be realized. In this week of Jesus' Holy Passion, give us contrite hearts that we may be filled with joy upon Easter's dawning. Through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the You and the Holy Spirit, One God now and forever. Amen.

Service of the Word

Opening Hymn

TLH 161 Hosanna Loud Hosanna

Examination

P The Bible is the Word of God

C All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, (2 Tim. 3:16)

P One of the main teachings of the Bible is the Law

C For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, (Rom. 3:20)

P The other main teaching of the Bible is the Gospel

C For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. (Rom. 1:16)

P The Christian Faith relies upon the doctrine of the Trinity

C We worship one God in Trinity, and Trinity in Unity, neither confounding the persons, nor dividing the substance. For there is one person of the Father, another of the Son, and another of the Holy Spirit. But the Godhead of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit is all one, the glory equal, the majesty coeternal. (Athanasian Creed)

P God created the world perfectly, but Adam and Eve fell into sin. Because of their sin, we all inherit original sin.

C Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. (Ps. 51:5)

P Rather than destroying the world and starting over, God loved us and had a plan.

C But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. (Gal. 4:4-5)

P Jesus died on the cross to pay for the sins of the whole world and rose again on the third day. What does His resurrection mean for us?

C Jesus resurrection assures us that: (1.) God has accepted His payment on our behalf. (2.) Jesus is who He claimed to be. (3.) We too will rise from the dead.

P How does the Holy Spirit bring us to faith and keep us in the faith?

C The means of grace, which is the Gospel in Word and Sacrament.

P What is Baptism?

C Baptism is not just plain water. It is water used by God's Command and connected with God's Word.

P What are the benefits of Baptism?

C Baptism works the forgiveness of sins, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe, as the words and promises of God declare.

P How can water do such great things?

C The water doesn't actually do anything by itself. The power is in God's Word, which is with the water, and the faith which trusts the Word of God in the water.

P What is the meaning of this baptism?

C It means that the Old Adam in us should be drowned by daily contrition and repentance and die with all sins and evil desires. It also means that a new Man should daily appear and arise, who lives eternally before God in righteousness and purity.

P What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

C It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, given to us Christians under the bread and wine to eat and to drink, as it was instituted by Christ Himself.

P What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?

C The words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," show us that God gives forgiveness of sins, life, and

salvation through the Sacrament. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

P How can simple eating and drinking do such great things?

C Eating and drinking actually do nothing. It is the words, “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins,” which do this. These words, together with the bodily eating and drinking are the main part of the sacrament. Whoever believes these words has exactly what they say: forgiveness of sins.

P When is an individual properly prepared to receive this sacrament?

C A person is truly worthy and well-prepared who has faith in these words, “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” Whoever does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared. The words, “for you,” require nothing but believing hearts.

Hymn: **TLH 337 O Lord and God, O Bless This Day**

Old Testament Lesson

Zechariah 9:9-12

⁹ Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰ I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. ¹¹ As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. ¹² Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Gospel Lesson

Luke 19:28-44

²⁸ And when he had said these things, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹ When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰ saying, "Go into the village in front of you, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' you shall say this: 'The Lord has need of it.'" ³² So those who were sent went away

and found it just as he had told them. ³³ And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴ And they said, "The Lord has need of it." ³⁵ And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶ And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ As he was drawing near-- already on the way down the Mount of Olives-- the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, ³⁸ saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" ³⁹ And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples." ⁴⁰ He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out." ⁴¹ And when he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it, ⁴² saying, "Would that you, even you, had known on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. ⁴³ For the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up a barricade around you and surround you and hem you in on every side ⁴⁴ and tear you down to the ground, you and your children within you. And they will not leave one stone upon another in you, because you did not know the time of your visitation."

Hymn: **WS 725 No Tramp of Soldiers Marching Feet**

Sermon: **1 Peter 2:1-10 NKJV**

¹ So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. ² Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation-- ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴ As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵ you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." ⁷ So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," ⁸ and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own

possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

God is Building You Up for Life

Offertory: **Speak, O Lord, Thy Servant Heareth**

Speak, O Lord, Thy servant heareth, To Thy Word I now give heed; Life and spirit Thy Word beareth, All Thy Word is true indeed. Death's dread power in me is rife; Jesus, may Thy Word of Life Fill my soul with love's strong fervor That I cling to Thee forever.

Precious Jesus, I beseech Thee, May Thy words take root in me; May this gift from heaven enrich me So that I bear fruit for Thee! Take them never from my heart Till I see Thee as Thou art, When in heavenly bliss and glory I shall greet Thee and adore Thee.

Hymn: **TLH 333 Blessed Savior, Who has Taught Me**

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Prayer

Lord's Prayer [Insert]

Words of Institution

Distribution

Benediction:

C: Amen

Hymn: **TLH 334 Let Me Be Thine Forever**

Silent Prayer

Acknowledgments

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Announcements

Upcoming Events:

- Holy Week Schedule:
 - Thursday Tenebrae Service at 6:30 pm
 - Easter Sunday service at 11:30 am
- **Voters Meeting:** April 27th will be the date for our 2nd Quarter Voters' Meeting

Call News:

- Pastor Wayne Eichstadt of Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Spokane Valley, WA ***has received the call*** to Messiah Lutheran Church of Eau Claire, WI
- Pastor Frank Gantt of Zion Ev. Lutheran Church of Loganville, GA ***has received the call*** to St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Mountain View, CA
- Pastor Paul Tiefel of Messiah Lutheran Church in Eau Claire, WI ***has announced his retirement*** effective August 2025.

Fruits of Faith at Ascension:

DATE	NEEDED	RECEIVED
3/13&16/2025	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 870.00
3/23/2025	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 745.00
3/27&30/2025	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 895.00
4/3&6/2025	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1405.00

Upcoming Schedule:

Sunday, April 20th Ascension Easter Sunday Service at 11:30

Sunday, April 27th Ascension Sunday Service at 11:30

Sunday, May 4th Ascension Sunday Service at 11:30