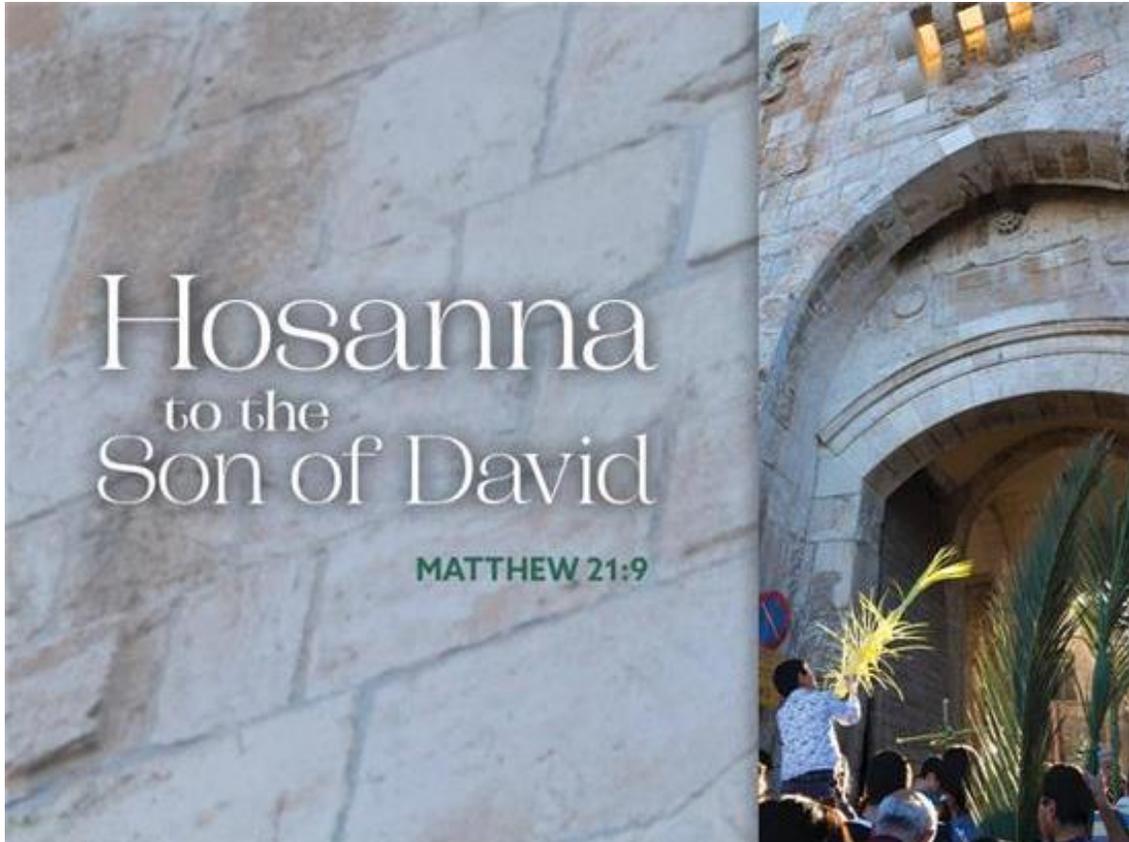


# Palm Sunday

ELW Holy Communion Setting Four  
Sunday, March 29, 2026

**Trinity-Bethel Partnership with Faith-Bethany Partnership**  
**Home together, at the Bethany Campus**

Two partnerships, four campuses within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



## **Introduction to the day**

Today, we encounter the paradox that defines our faith: Jesus Christ is glorified king and humiliated servant. We too are full of paradox: like Peter, we fervently desire to follow Christ, but find ourselves afraid, denying God. We wave palms in celebration today as Christ comes into our midst, and we follow with trepidation as his path leads to death on the cross. Amid it all we are invited into this paradoxical promise of life through Christ's broken body and outpoured love in a meal of bread and wine. We begin this week that stands at the center of the church year, anticipating the completion of God's astounding work.

[www.bethanyishpeming.org](http://www.bethanyishpeming.org) | [www.faithishpeming.weebly.com](http://www.faithishpeming.weebly.com) |  
[www.bethelish.org](http://www.bethelish.org) | [trinitylutheranishpeming.weebly.com](http://trinitylutheranishpeming.weebly.com)

715 Mather Avenue | 180 County Road PPO | 414 E Ridge Street | 333 Ridge Street  
Ishpeming, Michigan 49849

# Two Partnerships, Four Campuses

*Serving Ishpeming | ELCA, Northern Great Lakes Synod*

## *WELCOME*

We are **partnerships, worshipping across Ishpeming** – serving Ishpeming and its surrounding neighborhoods. Rooted in Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, we believe God’s grace is for all people and all creation, calling us into lives of compassion, justice, service, and hope.

**You are welcome here.**

Whoever you are, whatever your story or questions, you are free to listen, to join in as you are able, and to be met by the living presence of God.

---

## *ONE BODY*

From the earliest days of the Church described in Acts, God’s people gathered in different places while sharing one faith, one mission, and one Spirit. We claim that same invitation today.

**Our life together as one community is not something entirely new.** In the early decades of the 20th century, Lutheran congregations in this region often lived as shared or multi-point ministries, shaped by geography, population, and mutual care. Within that wider pattern, Bethany, Trinity, Bethel, and Faith share a remembered history of cooperation and pastoral connection, reflecting a long-standing trust that the Spirit’s work was not limited to a single building or neighborhood. What we are living into now is a faithful renewal of a way of being church that has served this place before.

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## *OUR SHARED CALLING*

Together, we live a simple and faithful commitment:

**Serving God, Community, and Individuals**

by developing, strengthening, and sharing a **witness to the message of the Gospel**; through an increased understanding of **our ministry and our daily living**, both individually and as a congregation.

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## *ROOTED IN PLACE, OPEN TO THE WORLD*

Our home is shaped by generations of people who built lives, families, and faith in Ishpeming; across changing industries, cultures, and seasons of challenge and renewal. As part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Northern Great Lakes Synod, we also join the wider church in ministries of mercy, justice, and accompaniment both within, and beyond, our local context.

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## *A PLACE FOR YOU*

Whether you are new to church, returning after time away, carrying faith or doubt, or seeking community; there is space for you here.

One community.

Four sacred spaces.

Many gifts.

One body in Christ.

**Grace and peace to you: welcome home.**

---

## *HONORING THE LAND*

With gratitude and humility, we acknowledge that we gather on the ancestral lands of the Anishinaabeg — the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi peoples — who have stewarded this region since time immemorial. We honor their enduring presence and commit ourselves to walk gently on the earth and seek right relationship with all our neighbors.

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## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

# Gathering

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

*You are invited to gather at the entry and in the Narthex, for our beginning, today.  
Please stand, as you're willing and able, in body or in spirit.*

## ACCLAMATION

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

## PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL

Matthew 21:1-11

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

<sup>1</sup> When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." <sup>4</sup> This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:

<sup>5</sup> "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."

<sup>6</sup> The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; <sup>7</sup> they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. <sup>8</sup> A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup> 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!"

<sup>10</sup> When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" <sup>11</sup> The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

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

## SERMON FOR THE YOUNG, AND YOUNG AT HEART

*The People are invited forward for an invitation to see themselves in God's story with us anew.*

## BLESSING OF PALMS

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

Let us pray, together.

We praise you, O God, **for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ.**

**Today he entered the holy city in triumph**

**and was proclaimed messiah and king**

**by those who spread garments and branches along his way.**

**Bless these branches and those who carry them.**

**Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross,**

**so that, joined to his death and resurrection,**

**we enter into life with you;**

**through the same Jesus Christ,**

**who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,**

**one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## PROCESSION SONG

*All Glory Laud and Honor (ELW 344)*

*Refrain*



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re - deem - er, king,



to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



- 1 You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,
- 2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais - ing you on high;
- 3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;
- 4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.
- 5 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,



*Refrain*

now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One.  
cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.  
our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.  
To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.  
great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

*Our youth are invited to depart the sanctuary for a time of learning dedicated to them, returning for communion.*

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Everlasting God, **in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to join with us, in our humanity. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and gather in your radical love, expressing who we are to one another, and Christ in us. In the name of Jesus we pray, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*The Prayer of the Day is born out of the lectionary (texts), and is the primary invitation to the radical love offered through the Gospel of the day, focused on the primary themes we might experience together, across the church and traditions.*

*Please, be seated.*

## Word

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

### FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:4-9a

A reading from Isaiah.

- <sup>4</sup> 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.
- <sup>5</sup> The Lord GOD has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious;  
I did not turn backward.
- <sup>6</sup> 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.  
<sup>7</sup> 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;  
<sup>8</sup> 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.  
<sup>9a</sup> It is the Lord GOD who helps me;  
 who will declare me guilty?

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

**PSALM**

31:9-16

*Spoken responsively, with the congregation following the lector, in the bold print, until the sung refrain.*

In - to your hands, O LORD, I com - mend my spir - it.

<sup>9</sup> Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble;  
 my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.  
<sup>10</sup> **For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing;  
 my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.**  
<sup>11</sup> I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to my acquaintances;  
 when they see me in the street they avoid me.  
<sup>12</sup> **Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind;  
 I am as useless as a broken pot. Refrain**  
<sup>13</sup> For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around;  
 they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.  
<sup>14</sup> **But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD.  
 I have said, "You are my God.**  
<sup>15</sup> My times are in your hand;  
 rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.  
<sup>16</sup> **Let your face shine upon your servant;  
 save me in your steadfast love." Refrain**



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

<sup>12</sup> Then Jesus entered the temple<sup>[c]</sup> and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. <sup>13</sup> He said to them, “It is written,

‘My house shall be called a house of prayer,’  
but you are making it a den of robbers.”

<sup>14</sup> The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he cured them. <sup>15</sup> But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the amazing things that he did and heard<sup>[d]</sup> the children crying out in the temple and saying, “Hosanna to the Son of David,” they became angry <sup>16</sup> and said to him, “Do you hear what these are saying?” Jesus said to them, “Yes; have you never read, ‘Out of the mouths of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise for yourself?’”

<sup>17</sup> He left them, went out of the city to Bethany, and spent the night there.

<sup>18</sup> In the morning, when he returned to the city, he was hungry. <sup>19</sup> And seeing a fig tree by the side of the road, he went to it and found nothing at all on it but leaves. Then he said to it, “May no fruit ever come from you again!” And the fig tree withered at once. <sup>20</sup> When the disciples saw it, they were amazed, saying, “How did the fig tree wither at once?” <sup>21</sup> Jesus answered them, “Truly I tell you, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only will you do what has been done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, ‘Be lifted up and thrown into the sea,’ it will be done. <sup>22</sup> Whatever you ask for in prayer with faith, you will receive.”

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

## SERMON



# HYMN OF THE DAY

*Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!* (ELW 346)



1 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! Hear all the  
2 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly  
3 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! The hosts of  
4 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly



tribes ho - san - na cry; O Sav - ior meek, your road pur -  
pomp ride on to die. O Christ, your tri - umphs now be -  
an - gels in the sky look down with sad and won - d'ring  
pomp ride on to die, bow your meek head to mor - tal



sue, with palms and scat - tered gar - ments strewed.  
gin o'er cap - tive death and con - quered sin.  
eyes to see the ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.  
pain, then take, O Christ, your pow'r and reign!

## CREED

*We join together in speaking these words, inviting the beginning of an understanding of our faith; across time and space, we join the saints of our past, and Siblings of our present, in these words that have offered comfort, confusion, curiosity and wonder through many centuries.*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the  
Father,**

**and he will come 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

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

*Prayers of intercession, or Prayers of the People, are prayers that ask God to intervene on behalf of people and causes in need. They can be used in worship services and for personal prayer.*

*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 the hearts of your church and communities 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.**

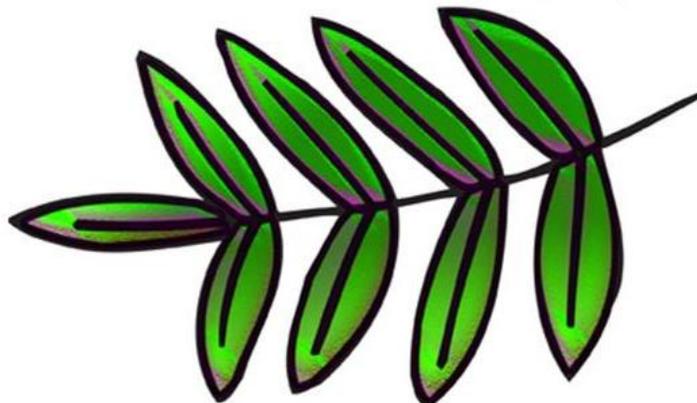
Your power is sure. Destroy inequity and division in every place, and build your beloved community among all people. Guide judges, attorneys, and juries so that they act with justice and fairness. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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. We lift up our Siblings who have invited us to walk with them through our prayer connections, either silently or aloud, now... .. 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

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

*Please, be seated.*

*"Passing the peace" is a ritual where members share God's peace with one another, typically through a handshake or other gesture, symbolizing unity and reconciliation before receiving communion. The practice of "passing the peace" is rooted in scripture, where Jesus greets his disciples with "Peace be with you" and the apostle Paul begins his letters with "Grace and peace be with you".*

## Meal

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## OFFERING

Ways to support the ministry here in Ishpeming with either Trinity, Bethel, Faith, or Bethany, or all:

- Certainly, you are welcome to take part in our “noisy offering” collection, by placing your gifts **in the containers passed** by our Usher Team, each Sunday during this time. Noisy Offering supports the work and outreach of the Social Ministry Team.
- You are invited to set up a one-time or recurring donation by **texting ASSIST to 844-920-4105**; be sure to have your preferred method of sharing ready.
- Use this **QR Code** (to the right). Open your camera app on your phone, place the QR code in the center of your camera’s view-field, and select the Vanco link that appears!
- Offerings will be assigned to the campus you name, or by the affiliated envelope you use. You may designate a specific partnership building online; or designate offerings by applying a note of intent, or reaching out to the office, by phone or email, and expressing your intent with your name and amount offered.



*We give thanks for your sharing of gifts and generosity!*



Please stand, as you're willing and able, in body or in spirit.

Create in Me (ELW 186)

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right  
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take  
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of  
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray, together.

God our provider, **you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



*The service of Holy Communion is at the heart of Christian faith and life. In this sacrament, two essential realities occur for the benefit of God's people. First, God gives us his Son's true body and blood, through which we receive the forgiveness of sins. Second, the people of God's church are joined with one another as we share a mysterious and intimate bond as fellow members of Christ's body. This sacrament, together with the proclamation of God's Word, lies at the core of Christian worship. We Lutherans often describe our ministry as "Word and Sacrament". Both elements of worship are essential. There have been periods in the history of the Lutheran church where the frequency of Holy Communion waxed and waned. In the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, a liturgical renewal began, and one of the results was the restoration of weekly Communion. At Bethany, we follow that cadence.*

## Great Thanksgiving

### DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.**

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

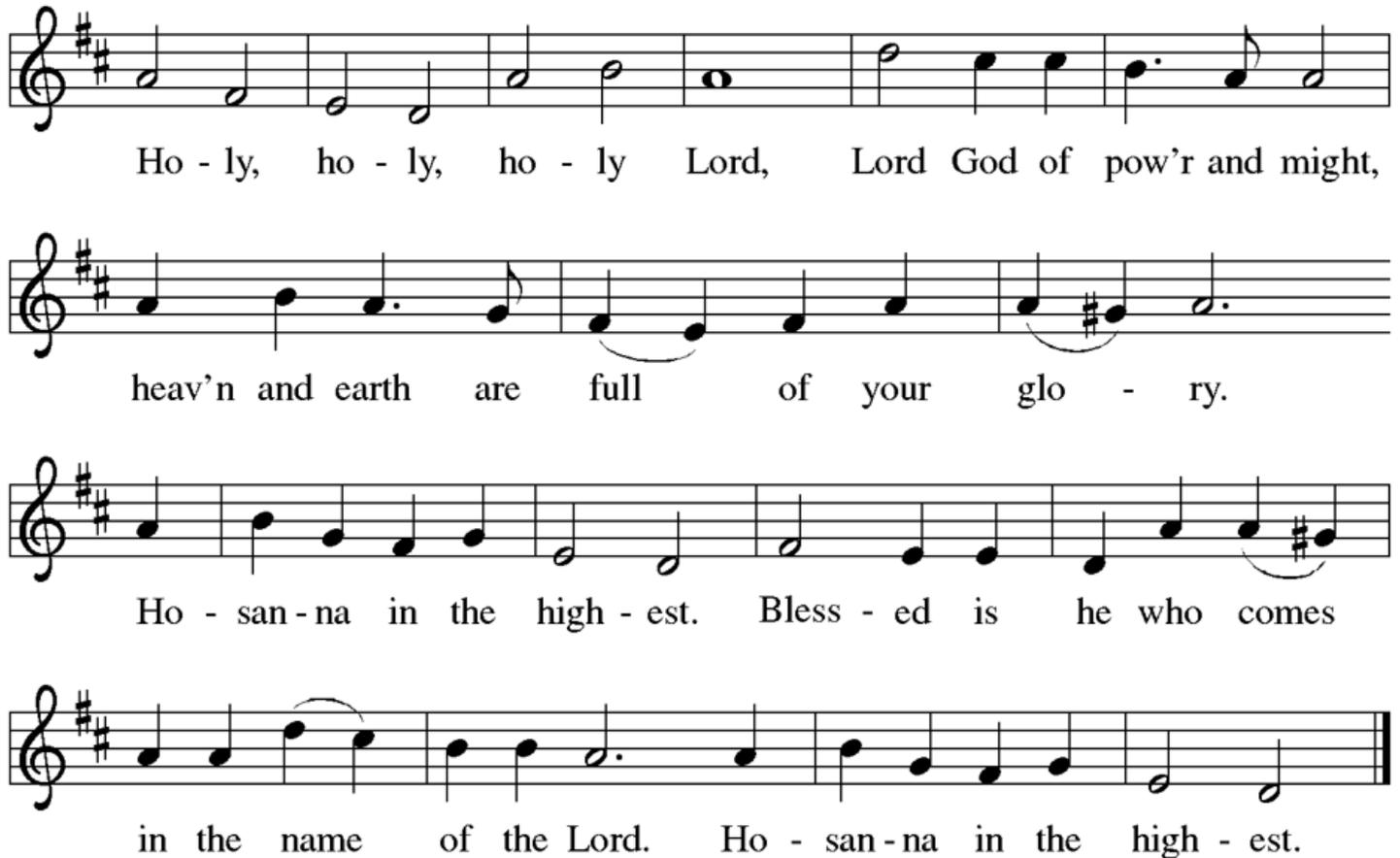
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### PREFACE

*...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*

*The Preface introduces us to the next part of the service, where we are invited into God's presence for the sharing of the meal. It is an ancient aspect of Christian liturgy. St. Hippolytus mentions that in the early 3rd century, Christians were using a preface in worship. This exchange has survived for centuries almost word-for-word in our liturgy!*

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

O God most mighty...

...Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. **Amen.**

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. **Amen.**

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. **Amen.**

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal...

...the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior, life in you, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

We invite you to use the words of the Lord's Prayer that speak loudest to you, and experiencing the rhythms of the Spirit that speak to each of us, creating both dissonance and resonance. Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

**Fader Vår, som är i himmelen  
Helgat varde ditt namn.  
Tillkomme ditt rike. Ske din vilja,  
såsom i himmelen så ock på jorden.  
Vårt dagliga bröd giv oss idag,  
och förlåt oss våra skulder,  
såsom ock vi förlåta dem oss skyldiga äro,  
och inled oss icke i frestelse utan fräls oss  
ifrån ondo.  
Ty riket är ditt och makten och  
härligheten i evighet.  
Amen.**

**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.**

**O Great Spirit, our Father from above,  
we honor your name as sacred and holy.  
Bring your good road to us, where the  
beauty of your ways in the spirit-world  
above is reflected in the earth below.  
Provide for us day by day—the elk, the  
buffalo, and the salmon. The corn, the  
squash, and the wild rice. All the things  
we need for each day. Release us from the  
things we have done wrong, in the same  
way we release others for the things done  
wrong to us. Guide us away from the  
things that tempt us to stray from your  
good road, and set us free from the evil  
one and his worthless ways. Aho! May it  
be so!<sup>1</sup>**

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<sup>1</sup> Wildman, Terry M.. First Nations Version: An Indigenous Bible Translation of the New Testament (p. 10). InterVarsity Press. Kindle Edition.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

**Thanks be to God!**

*Please be seated.*

## COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

*Holy Communion, also known as the Lord's Supper, or Eucharist, is a central practice where the crucified and risen Christ is believed to be truly present, offering his body and blood as food and drink, and is celebrated every Sunday and festival. We believe that the presence of Christ is in, with, through, around, and under the elements of bread and wine. We hold that there are two Sacraments (sacred acts of divine institution), Communion and Baptism, both outward and visible signs of an inward and spiritual grace coupling earthly elements with divine command.*

*We will celebrate the Meal together today, by intinction. At the invitation of an usher, you may come forward for the Eucharist or a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are available for the whole community. Both grape juice and wine are available in each chalice station; please take the option that best suits your expression and embodiment of this celebration at God's Table. All are welcome here.*

## LAMB OF GOD



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, grant us peace.

**SONG DURING DISTRIBUTION**

*Love Consecrates the Humblest Act (ELW 360)*



1 Love con - se - crates the hum - blest act and ha - loes mer - cy's deeds;  
2 When in the shad - ow of the cross Christ knelt and washed the feet  
3 Love serves and will - ing stoops to serve; what Christ in love so true



it sheds a ben - e - dic - tion sweet and hal - lows hu - man needs.  
of his dis - ci - ples, he gave us a sign of love com - plete.  
has free - ly done for one and all, let us now glad - ly do!

Additional hymns (please use the cranberry hymnal available in the pew):

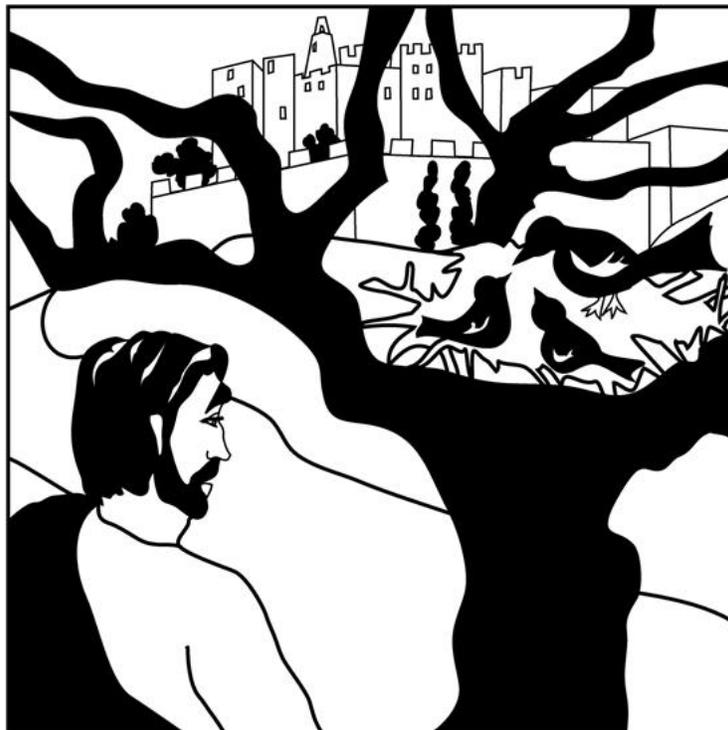
*Crashing Waters at Creation, ELW 455*

*Praise and Thanks and Adoration, ELW 783*

*Please stand, as you're willing and able, in body or in spirit.*

**POST-COMMUNION COMMENDATION**

May the body and blood of Christ, God with Us, strengthen ✚ and keep us. Amen.



**POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE**

Now Lord (S135b, ELW)



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful-



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -



pared in the sight of ev-'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the



na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray, together.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*Sending*

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**Amen.**

## SENDING SONG

*Pave the Way with Branches (ACS 928)*



\*Je - sus is com - ing. Pave the way with branch - es.



Je - sus is com - ing. Ho - san - na. san - na.



Ho - san - na, Je - sus is com - ing. Ho -



san - na to the Prince of peace. Prince of peace.

*\*Additional verses ad lib.:*

Release for the captives . . .

Hope for the downtrod . . .

Land for the landless . . .

Debts are forgiven . . .

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace-filled partnership; sharing the good news in all you are!

**Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE

*We have chosen to omit a postlude, during Lent.  
Please join us for fellowship through the rhythm of our  
movement from this shared sacred ground to the next.*

## UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

### **Hans Nielsen Hauge, renewer of the church, died 1824**

**Sunday, March 29, 2026**

Hauge was a layperson who wished to revitalize the church in Norway. As a result of a mystical experience, he felt called to preach. Many professionals in the church feared his motives and influence, and he was imprisoned for leading unauthorized gatherings.

### **John Donne, poet, died 1631**

**Tuesday, March 31, 2026**

After finishing his education at Oxford University, Donne seemed headed for a career in the English public service. But a series of circumstances led him into the ordained ministry. He is well known as a writer of both secular and sacred poetry.

### **Benedict the African, confessor, died 1589**

**Saturday, April 4, 2026**

Born into slavery on the island of Sicily, Benedict lived as a hermit until the pope ordered all hermits to attach themselves to a monastery, at which time Benedict joined the Franciscans. Though illiterate, he was highly respected as a confessor and later superior of his community.

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## COMMUNITY EVENTS



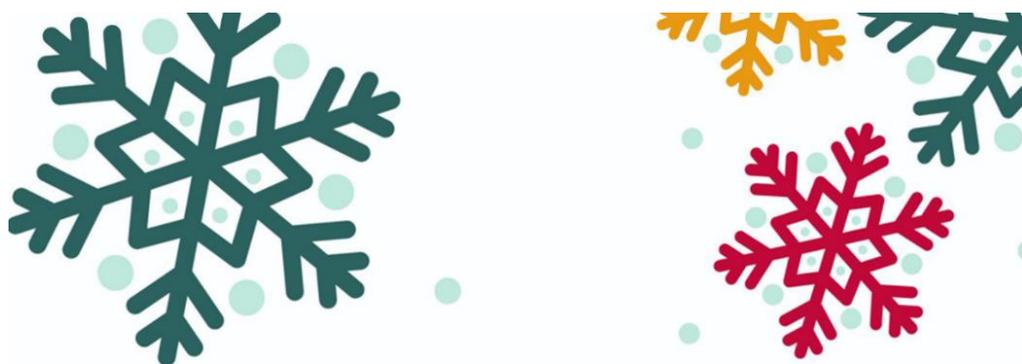
### **Bethel/Trinity 2ISH Easter Choir**

Choir practice for Easter Sunday will take place on March 29th following worship and on April 5th at 9:00 am.

**Thrivent clients** with membership: Don't forget to direct 2025 Choice Dollars® by March 31 at [thrivent.com/thriventchoice](https://thrivent.com/thriventchoice). 2025 Choice Dollars can help support ministry projects being explored by your teams and Councils!

## Easter Garden

We would like to invite our community to sponsor potted flowers, in honor of or in memory of someone you love (or some people; one plant per person, please and thanks!). Please enclose \$10.00 for one potted flowering plant in the provided envelope and include those that you would like to honor or memorialize. Deadline is our Palm Sunday worship, Mar 29, held at the Bethany Campus at 10AM. Names will be included in Easter Sunday's bulletin held at the Faith Campus, at both 8AM and 10AM. We invite you to take one of the plants home, for planting in your garden, after the final Easter Service on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Additional questions can be directed to Dede Caplett.



# Deck your Halls!

WITH A UNIQUE BIRCH TREE PAINTING

Gather for a creative afternoon painting autumn birch trees!

Sunday, March 29, 1:00 PM at  
Bethany Lutheran Church. Fee: \$20.  
For info, call JoAnn at 906-361-2523.

**A sign up sheet will be at each church**





**\*\*\*Holy Humor Sunday! - April 12, 10am** at the Faith Campus, 180 CR PPO, Ishpeming

Many churches are resurrecting an old Easter custom begun by the early Greek Christians - ‘bright Sunday’ or ‘Holy Humor Sunday’ celebrations on the Sunday after Easter. One thought about the origin of this tradition was the musings early church theologians had about God playing a practical joke on the devil by raising Jesus from the dead. For centuries, the week following Easter Sunday was observed by the faithful as ‘days of joy and laughter’ with parties and picnics to celebrate Jesus’ resurrection.

On April 12, bring a clean joke to share during the beginning or sending announcements or a mid-service ‘humor break.’ Children are invited to bring jokes to share during the children’s sermon.

**Fortune Lake “Camperships”** – Interested in attending camp this year? Need some financial assistance? We’re proud to announce that “camperships” are available starting at 50% assistance for children or families that would like to attend FLLC this year. The Spiritual Education Team is fielding requests and can be reached via email at [FaithSpiritualEducation@BethanyIshpeming.org](mailto:FaithSpiritualEducation@BethanyIshpeming.org). When you register for camp, before the summer deadline (5Mar), you will be prompted to submit a campership form (available on the kiosk, or by email). After the registration deadline, we can offer assistance on a case by case basis. We celebrate our Partnered Leaders’ affirmation through action the opportunity for everyone to experience the joy and spirituality of the Fortune Lake gift.

**Social Ministry** – Interested in being part of the outreach ministries of this partnership? Looking for a way to make our gifts work to the benefit of our home-bound, neighbors in need, or collecting resources to make that manifestation of God’s Call to us happen? Have we got a deal for you! The Social Ministry Team meets on the second Tuesday of each month, 10:30AM, at the Bethany Campus and is always looking for additional voices to assist in ministry that loves our neighbor. Join us whenever you can *and* get coffee and sweet treats with the quilters if you arrive early! 😊

### **NORTH CAROLINA YOUTH TRIP**

In July around 25 youth and adults from around our synod will be going to North Carolina. This includes 5 youth and 2 adults from the 4 Ishpeming ELCA churches (Anders Johnston; Aly Hollinshead; Lily Peller; Allie Barron; Peter Lemire; Abbey Hollinshead and Pastor Tim). Your support for this youth trip is much appreciated. The following opportunities exist for you to support this effort:

- Thank you for your support during Lent mid-week meals- the meal offering went to combined youth efforts
- Palm Sunday (March 29) meal offerings
- Sunday April 12 (4ISH service at Faith) - take a numbered envelope, put that much into the envelope- all will go to the trip (for example, envelope number 10, put \$10 in the envelope)
- **Check your 2ISH bulletins for other noisy offering support opportunities**



What: **Card-making Event**, with instructions!

Where: **Faith Campus**, 180 County Road PPO, Ishpeming

When: **April 12, 2026, 1:00 pm** in the fellowship hall (use the lower parking lot entrance)

*The event and materials are free of cost, and you’re welcome to take cards home to use in your relationship-building if you promise to leave some for our use within ministry seasons at church. 😊*

Hosted by Karen Kasper and JoAnn Manty. Questions? Contact 906-361-2523

## MINISTERS OF THE DAY

Presider: Pastor J. Michael Mills

Preacher: Pastor Tim Johnston

Communion Assistant: Dede Caplett

Lector: Emily Kaare

Music Director: Donna Poirier

Organist/Accompanists: Carol Cox, Linda Hurrell, Marty Achatz

## CALENDAR

Today

*Palm Sunday*

9:00A Choir practice, Bethany campus  
10:00A 4ISH Worship/Online – Bethany campus  
12:00P Choir practice – Bethany campus  
1:00P Birch Tree Painting class, Bethany campus

Tuesday

9:00A Quilters, Bethany campus  
11:00A Quilters, Faith campus  
11:00A Bible Study at Bethel campus  
2:00P Teal Lake Senior Center Worship with Pastor J.

Wednesday

9:30A Weight Watcher Support Group, Bethany campus

Thursday

6:30P 4ISH Maundy Thursday Worship Service, Bethany campus

Friday

6:30P 4ISH Good Friday Tenebrae Service, Bethel campus

Saturday

6:30P 4ISH Easter Vigil Service, Bethany Campus

Sunday

*Easter Sunday*

8:00 A Partnership Worship, Faith campus  
9:00A Choir practice, Faith campus  
9:00A Fellowship between services in Fellowship Hall, Faith campus  
10:00A Partnership Worship/Online at Faith campus  
Fellowship following the service.  
12:00P Choir practice – Bethany campus

### Church office hours Bethany Campus

Monday Administration Closed  
Tuesday Administration Closed  
Wednesday 10:00A – 11:45A, 1:45P – 5:00P  
Thursday 10:00 – 5:00P  
Friday 10:00 – 5:00p

### Church Office hours Faith Campus

Thursday 12:00P – 4:00P  
Friday 12:00P – 4:00P

*Please contact the office if you would like to make an appointment to see Pastor J.*