



Hosanna in the Highest!

*To the Savior we need—
humble and righteous!*

323 E. 1st St.

Fairmont, MN 56031

Sunday Worship: 9:30am

Sunday School and Bible Class: 10:45am

www.shepherdofthelakes.net

Pastor Jason Zuehlke

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Palm Sunday

April 5, 2020

Welcome to Shepherd of the Lakes

We're here to shepherd Christ's flock and seek the lost sheep by sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with all. Come, let us worship!

For Your Convenience...

A room for any parents with children in need of a quiet place is located in the back corner of the sanctuary. Restrooms are located on the lower level. Please ask if you have any further questions or concerns.

Prayer before worship

Heavenly Father, as I worship you today, curb my wandering thoughts. Speak to my heart. Encourage me with your Word, that my faith is strengthened, my confidence and hope renewed, and I am recommitted to serve you faithfully. In Jesus' name, amen.

PALM SUNDAY
ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING HYMN: CWS 230.....Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now

PLEASE STAND

GREETING

M: The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

C: Hosanna in the highest!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

M: Like those Palm Sunday worshippers, we have come into the presence of God, to worship Jesus, our Savior and our King. But we have disobeyed God and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you as I have done what I should not and failed to do what I should. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has sent his only Son to live a perfect life, die a humble death on a cross, and rise again from the dead. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father + and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen! Hosanna in the highest!

HYMN OF PRAISE: CW131 vv 4,5..... *All Glory Laud, And Honor*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: 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 palm branches 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.

C: Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED

GOD'S WORD FOR TODAY

FIRST LESSON: Zechariah 9:9,10

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.

¹⁰ 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.

PSALM OF THE DAY: CW Psalm 24

SECOND LESSON: Philippians 2:5-11

⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶ Who, being in very nature God,

did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

⁷ rather, he made himself nothing
by taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.
⁸ And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death—
even death on a cross!
⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,
¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

VERSE OF THE DAY:

The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. (John 12:23 cf. NIV)

PLEASE STAND

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 21:1-11

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.”

⁴ This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

⁵ “Say to Daughter Zion,
‘See, your king comes to you,
gentle and riding on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’”

⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. ⁸ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ The

crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!”

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

“Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹⁰ When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?”

¹¹ The crowds answered, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY: CW 133.....*Ride On, Ride On in Majesty*

SERMON—Matthew 21:1-11

PLEASE 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.

OFFERING

Offerings can be mailed to our church office at 517 Tilden Street, Fairmont, MN 56031

To our visitors: *Our offering is not a debt we owe God, but a way that we return to God a portion of what he generously gave to us. Our motivation, then, is not obligation, but love for God. Please do not feel obligated to contribute. We’re happy that you’re with us to hear about God’s love for you.*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

PLEASE BE SEATED

HYMN: CWS 702.....*Prepare the Royal Highway*

PLEASE STAND

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.

C: Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED

CLOSING HYMN: CW 130 vv 1,3.....*Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

Notes and News for April 5, 2020

~Special thanks to all our new online worshipping visitors! We're glad you joined us!

~Just a Reminder:

All in-person worship services and other in-person activities are cancelled at this time until further notice. This is not the first decision we wished to make. We rejoice with those who say "Let us go to the house of the LORD!" (Psalm 122:1) However, we also want to take into consideration both the fourth and fifth commandment. Therefore, taking into consideration our government's proposals with legitimate care for her citizens and the care of our own people and the people around us, we thought it wise to follow this line of action. This does not mean that we need to neglect our souls and the Word of God. At times like this, spiritual health is key for strength and comfort from God and his power and his gospel! But remember also that worship is not limited to a building, but takes place in spirit and truth (John 4:24). With this in mind, we want to continue to offer you care for your soul with suggestions of things you can do at home on your own along with actions we will be implementing.

We shall continue to strive to put our worship services online Sunday morning in a similar format as what you have used in this worship packet (remember your offerings can be mailed to the office as we continue to give to the Lord and keep our church operating). He is also experimenting with online options for continuing Bible Classes. Pastor will work to increase online presence on Facebook, YouTube, our website and podcast stations (iTunes and Stitcher) to offer extra spiritual encouragement. Our weekly email will continue to have a devotional thought along with any notes or updates for our congregation. Also, as Pastor also socially distances himself for both his health and the health of others, he will work on calling in on members from time to time to try and meet any needs they may have.

The synod also has many opportunities for you to take for your spiritual wellbeing. Should you wish for extra encouragement in the way of worship services, the synod has offered a list of churches which offer livestreaming (<https://yearbook.wels.net/streaming>). You can and would certainly benefit from continuing to read your Meditations at home. The WELS has daily devotions you can subscribe to online (and we shall also share them everyday on Facebook). And Time of Grace is always a wonderful option as well, offering their TV program, devotions, videos and the like (you can find their website by clicking this link: <https://timeofgrace.org/>). Also, don't forget the Lutheran Chapel Service on KNUJ (860am, knuj.net, 97.3FM) at 7:45am-8:30am on Sunday mornings. These are just a few of the opportunities our synod offers to you in such a time as this.

We pray these can help your spiritual health in this time when we are unable to gather, should it be just a week and half or should it go even longer. If you would find another way to grow helpful for you, don't hesitate to ask Pastor to try and take it into consideration and add it to this regiment. And should you need a pastoral visit, Pastor will still be available by phone and email to set up a private consultation on an individual basis. (Don't hesitate! Pastor wants to serve as you need!).

~A message from Pastor Renz on Camp Shetek

Dear Campers and Parents,

Out of concern for the pandemic that has gripped our country, Camp Shetek will not be held this summer in June, 2020. The State Park is expecting that camping will go on after May 1. But who knows for sure? Only God knows how and when this will end and when it will be safe for everyone.

I know we could "wait and see" how this all plays out and then decide, but then we would have a difficult time getting all of our activities planned. At least 3 of our counselors are teachers -- Heidi R., Mel B. & Michael M. -- all of whom are deeply involved with online teaching at this time for their students. Others are "essential" workers in other areas and are very busy.

And so we have decided to cancel Camp for 2020. If you have already registered, you will receive a full refund of the fees you have already paid, either by check or online. My son, Ben R. will be handling the online refunds.

We will plan for June 20 - 26, 2021 next year and pray that we have a vaccine and / or ways to control this kind of disease. If this would have been your last year at Camp, we will consider inviting you back if you wish to attend next summer.

We all pray that this finds you well, finding creative ways to practice "social distancing", learning lots via the online teaching that is going on and enjoying your time all together around the breakfast, lunch and dinner tables.

May God bless your Holy Week and Easter as you worship at home with family, around your computer as you are personally refreshed by your study of the Scriptures. Jesus is still risen, whether we can get together in person or not. And Jesus' Resurrection guarantees our heavenly home. Our sins are paid for. Jesus' perfection is ours. What a Great Exchange -- our sins for Jesus' perfection. Soli Deo Gloria!!

In Christ,
Pastor James Renz

~Bible Class

A shortened Bible Class will begin live on Facebook around 11:00am

~Holy Week and Easter:

Pastor is finishing up planning for this Holy Week and Easter. Be sure to watch for our services online at their regularly scheduled times:

Maundy Thursday 7:00pm

Good Friday 7:00pm

Easter Sunday 9:30am

Be sure to also check into the extra Easter opportunity provided by our Synod for Easter evening! Contact Pastor for more information!

~Suggestions?

If you have any comments on the online worship, constructive criticism is always welcome!

Remember in your Prayers this Week

+ Prayer requests: Gerald Urban who was notified that he has cancer in his leg