



THE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSOURI SYNOD

St Matthews Service

Rev. Christopher LaBoube

March 28, 2021

"Trust in the Lord with all our heart, and lean not on our own understanding. In all you ways, acknowledge him and he will direct your path." **(Proverbs 3:5-6)**

ACTIVE

CHRISTIANS

TOGETHER

IN

OUTREACH

&

NURTURE



St. Matthew Lutheran Church

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Palm Sunday
28 March 2021

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Mapleton, IA
Zechariah 9:9–12 / Psalm 118:19–29 / Philippians 2:5–11 / John 12:20–43

Sermon Title: Lord in Your Mercy. Hear Our Prayer
Sermon Text: Zechariah 9:9-12

“Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father, and our LORD Jesus Christ.” (2 Tim. 1:2) Amen.

Today is Palm Sunday and today we celebrate our Lord Jesus grand entrance into Jerusalem. Today we also begin the countdown to Jesus’ death and finally to his victorious resurrection from the dead. But let’s not get ahead of ourselves.

Today we wrap up our sermon series on submitting to God in prayer, with the familiar prayer response: Lord, in your mercy. Hear our prayer. This is a really short form of a longer prayer in the hymnal called “The Litany” on p. 288.

The Litany is a long, responsive prayer lifting up our prayers and requests and thanksgiving and then recognizing all that God has done in our lives. When we pray the prayers of the church, we use this responsive form: Lord in Your Mercy. Hear Our Prayer.

This responsive prayer form is a perfect example recognizing that you need to come to God with a humble heart—that you need to submit to God in prayer. When you submit to God in prayer, then you acknowledge that God truly knows what is best in your life. So, a perfect response is: Lord in Your Mercy. Hear Our Prayer.

Today is the first day of Holy Week. It’s Palm Sunday, and it’s the day in the Scriptures where Jesus rides on a donkey into Jerusalem to a festive throng. So, as we celebrate with the thousands of other people in Jerusalem on this Palm Sunday, we would hear people praying: Lord in Your Mercy. Hear Our Prayer

Our text from the Prophet Zechariah sets the stage for this festive event on Palm Sunday.
“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 [Euphrates] River to the ends of the earth.” (Zechariah 9:9-10)

Here we see the Prophet Zechariah talking about the Messiah, who will be sent by God to reconcile our broken relationship with God. This Messiah will ride into Jerusalem on a donkey, unhindered by weapons or shield or sword. This Messiah will come and give us “...*the fruit of the Spirit* [which] *is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, [and] self-control.*” (Galatians 5:22-23)

This Messiah will not enter Jerusalem like a king or the pope dressed in a spectacular outfit and his horse decorated with bright cloth. God said through the Prophet Zechariah: *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 [Euphrates] River to the ends of the earth.*”

This Messiah will wield no weapons. He will not need to carry a sword or a spear. He will not need to ride on a war horse. This Messiah will be like no other person. This Messiah has power unimaginable. *“and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the [Euphrates] River to the ends of the earth.”*

Jesus came to give you and me and all people a new life. Jesus came to give us the ministry of reconciliation to restore broken relationships with your family, coworkers and friends. Jesus came to give us his peace which surpasses all understanding. The Prophet Zechariah said this Messiah will come and *“his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the [Euphrates] River to the ends of the earth.”*

This is what we confess in the creeds. 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 sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.”

The Bible teaches us that Jesus now sits at the right hand of God the Father, and he will come one last time and judge the living the dead. Jesus will invite all those who are righteous in his eyes to join him in heaven for all eternity. Sadly, Jesus will send all those who are unrighteous, who have turned away from God, into his absence which Scripture calls hell.

But the Prophet Zechariah doesn’t want to see anyone go to hell. The Prophet Zechariah preaches what God has said all along, that God *“...desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.”* (1 Timothy 2:4-5)

The Prophet Zechariah continues with more encouraging words: *“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. 13 For I have bent Judah as my bow; I have made Ephraim its arrow. I will stir up your sons, O Zion, against your sons, O Greece, and wield you like a warrior’s sword.”* (Zechariah 9:11-13)

Zechariah talks about *“the blood of my covenant with you,”* and he is talking about the covenant God made with his people from the beginning of time—that he would send a Savior to rescue them from going to hell.

This *“blood of my covenant”* refers to the blood that the Messiah would shed to give you and me new life. Jesus shed his blood on the cross to give you and me and all people new life. Jesus also refers to the covenant of his own blood when he modifies the Passover meal.

“Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, ‘Take, eat; this is my body.’ And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, ‘Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.’” (Matthew 26:26-28)

When Jesus modifies the Passover meal into our modern-day Holy Communion, he is doing so in order to help us focus solely on him alone. Jesus is the reason for the Passover meal. Jesus is the reason for Holy Communion. Jesus is the reason for our entire worship service.

After all, we gather in worship to receive from God all that he wants to give us. Worship is not about worshipping you and me and everyone, who attends the service. Worship is about receiving from God. All parts of the worship service are opportunities to pray. Hence our response: Lord in Your Mercy. Hear Our Prayer

So as Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a donkey—in a very lowly state—though treated with the prayers, praise and thanksgiving that he deserves—he prepares for a tumultuous Holy Week—including a last meal with his disciples—his crucifixion—his death—and then the ultimate victory—his resurrection from the dead! It's very appropriate that as Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a donkey that the crowd shouts: Lord in Your Mercy. Hear Our Prayer. Amen.

Now, may the peace of God which transcends all understanding guard and keep your hearts in Christ Jesus. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hot Beef Lunch Was a great success and we appreciate all who help and participated in any way. Marilyn Hamann

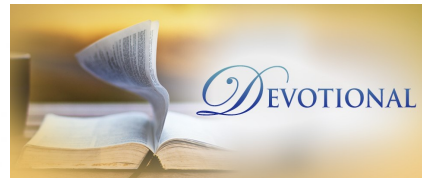
Don't forget Holy Week: Maundy Thursday services are at 7 pm and everyone is invited to come and bring a friend along, and Good Friday Services are at 7 pm and bring a friend also, to hear the events leading up to the cross, and to our Salvation in Jesus.

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES 04-04-21 at 7 am Breakfast following: "The Elders will be hosting a Breakfast for everyone in the church basement following the Easter Service. The 'free-will offering' breakfast will include scrambled eggs with ham, mixed fruit cups, and cinnamon rolls. Drinks will include juice, milk, water and coffee. All are welcome. Social distancing will be observed and mask-wearing required except for when seated to eat. All are welcome, so please come join in on safe, enjoyable fellowship on that joyous day honoring the Lord's resurrection!"



The Church will have a Congregational Voter's Meeting on 25 April. An election will be held to vote for new Board Members for several key billets on the Board of Directors. Please ensure that you exercise your right to vote and be a voice. See you on the 25th."

Risen Lord



THE APOSTLES' CREED—THE SECOND ARTICLE

I believe in Jesus Christ, . . . He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead.

What does this mean? That I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness.

"Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 15:55–57)

FOR SHARING

1. What was the most exciting victory you have witnessed?
2. Jesus' descent into hell was an announcement of His victory over sin, death, and Satan. In what ways did He defeat each of these enemies?
3. Without the resurrection of Christ from the dead, St. Paul writes, "Your faith is futile; you are still in your sins" (1 Corinthians 15:17). Explain Paul's words.
4. Tell about the righteousness, innocence, and blessedness Christ has brought to your life.
5. Tell of a time when Christ's victory over death was especially meaningful for you.

PRAYER

Lord Jesus, thank You for the victory You won over sin, death, and Satan. You have called me to be Your child in my Baptism. Help me to see Your death and resurrection as my anchor in life. Give me Your strength that I might live as Your new creation. In Your name I pray. Amen.

“SUBMITTING TO GOD IN PRAYER”

Lent 2021

Ash Wednesday, February 17—
Palm Sunday, March 28, 2021



One challenge that a lot of people struggle with these days is being humble. Sometimes we think the word “humble” means to be treated like a doormat. That is far from the definition. That’s a false definition.

Instead, being humble is all about letting other people go first—acknowledging that the ideas of other people might be better than your own. Being humble is also about letting other people praise you for something you have done, instead of you boasting and bragging about your actions.

In the adult Bible class, Christina continues leading some great discussions from the Book of James. In this book, James offers a lot of encouragement to submitting to God in prayer—acknowledging that God’s ways are truly the best ways.

As we near the end of this Lenten Season, I want to challenge you to continue to think about how you can regularly submit yourself to God in prayer—even beyond Holy Week and Easter.

When you submit yourself to God in prayer, then you are humbling yourself before God. When you submit yourself to God in prayer, you are acknowledging that God knows best for your life and you trust God with everything you have.

I would like to encourage you to attend as many worship services as possible to learn more about how many different people submitted themselves to God in prayer. After all, God wants to hear from you.

WORSHIP SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES:

Wednesday, March 24 @ 7 p.m.

Thursday, March, 25 @ 4 p.m.

Palm Sunday, March 28 @ 9:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 1 @ 7 p.m.

Good Friday, April 2 @ 7 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 4 @ 7 a.m.

*“Humble yourselves before the Lord,
and he will exalt you.” James 4:10*



The Forty-Day Lenten Bible Reading Plan

Feb. 17 — March 27, 2021



Forty-Day Lenten Bible Reading Plan Feb. 17--March 27, 2021	
DAY	TOPIC
1	Genesis 1-2
2	Genesis 3
3	Gen. 15; 17:15-27
4	Gen. 21:1-7, 22
5	Exodus 3-4
6	Exodus 20
7	Joshua 1
8	1 Samuel 16-17
9	1 Kings 3; 8:1-9:9
10	1 Kings 18
11	2 Kings 25
12	Daniel 2-3
13	Ezra 3
14	Isaiah 9, 53 & 61
15	Luke 1-2
16	John 1:1-18
17	Matthew 4:14-44
18	Matthew 5-6
19	John 3
20	John 5
21	John 11
22	John 15
23	John 17
24	Matthew 26-27
25	John 20

One way to prepare for Holy Week and finally Easter / Resurrection Sunday is to fast from one meal or for a whole day. You can then spend that time of fasting by praying and reading your Bible.

Forty-Day Lenten Bible Reading Plan Feb. 17--March 27, 2021	
DAY	TOPIC
26	Luke 24
27	Acts 2
28	Acts 9
29	Acts 16
30	Acts 26
31	Romans 3
32	Romans 7-8
33	1 Corinthians 13
34	1 Corinthians 15
35	Galatians 5
36	Ephesians 6
37	Phil. 1:18-2:18
38	Col. 3:1-17
39	James 1
40	Rev. 21-22

Lent is a season in the church year in which we take 40 days to prepare for the life, suffering, death AND resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus



PARAMENTS ON OUR ALTAR:

Color is everywhere. Color is God's way of filling his world with beauty and giving pleasure to those who live in this colorful world. Christians, for centuries, have used color in divine worship to emphasize the redemptive action of God through his Son. Color's Purpose However, color and its bright message can easily be taken for granted or mistaken in its purpose. The paraments, vestments, altar clothes, banners, traditionally employed each Sunday, must be seen as more than an attempt to decorate, or give accent to the chancel. That is, no doubt, the view of some. It's true; interior design and decoration are important. But a greater service is demanded of our liturgical colors than merely making the surroundings "pretty." Furthermore, when altar paraments are used year after year without much attention given to their message, as well as their care, the pastor, along with his faithful altar guild would do well to throw away the key to the sacristy and refrain from using those altar cloth "decorations." Frequent instruction about the church year and its corresponding colors must go hand in hand with its weekly use

Color, like music, plays an important role in the life of God's worshiping people. Just as music is the "handmaiden to theology," liturgical color complements the message of the seasons and occasions during the church year. Taking a familiar seat in the nave of his/her chapel preceding worship on any given Sunday, the worshiper's emotions and intellect are immediately engaged by color. Liturgical colors aid in establishing a climate in which Law and Gospel may be heard and received. Color allows us to see the Light of Life, Jesus Christ. It serves to communicate the message of salvation. And communicate it does when it reinforces a specific "colorful" chapter in the life of our Lord and his church, retold annually by the church calendar.

Symbolism of Colors It is appropriate, from time to time, to take a thoughtful and fresh look at the colors that are displayed throughout the church year. In the end, we admit, the use of paraments, vestments, altar clothes, banners is an adiaphoron. Even the symbolism behind the traditional colors is somewhat arbitrary and open to additional interpretations as generations pass. The primary source and guarantor of their meanings is tradition. However, the important thing to remember is why we retain this traditional liturgical standard. The value of the "Bg-BgsPwr" color scheme rests in their purpose: to serve God's worshiping community by assisting in communicating the holy faith from generation to generation. In every age, the beauty and symbolism of color in the church continues to serve us exceptionally well!

Red Palm Sunday

Finally, red completes the acronym, "Bg-Bgs-Pwr." Red is a power color and is appropriate for use on Pentecost Sunday. On this day we remember the power and fire of "the Lord and Giver of Life," who revealed himself as the promised one. The color red communicates the motif of strength-strength and power the Holy Spirit gives in order for God's people to call on the name of Jesus Christ and share that powerful name with others.

There is no question that red is a compelling festive color. Consequently, it serves well as the traditional color for the heroic martyrs of the church. The *Lutheran Service Book* church year calendar provides propers for sixteen martyr festivals and recommends red as the appropriate color. Their red blood shed in defense of the Gospel offers perpetual encouragement for God's people to be resolute in living the faith.

Additional uses of red are Reformation Sunday; Holy Cross Day (Sept. 14); on such festive occasions as dedications, anniversaries of a congregation and its physical structure; festive days celebrating the office of the public ministry, such as ordination and installation.

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAY

Name	Baptism
Brodersen Montana	Mar 21, 2004
Brodersen Brayden	Mar 24, 2018
Dose Carol	Mar 20, 1948
Fick Joan	Mar 27, 1945
Jahn Dennis	Mar 9, 1947
Lyon Barbara	Mar 29, 1952
Ohlmeier Mindi	Mar 24, 1985
Paulsen Drake	Mar 14, 2015
Pithan Derek	Mar 17, 2013
Schmidt Troy	Mar 1, 2009
Witzel Lavone	Mar 13, 1959

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY God's Blessings



Jim and Frances Brodersen	Mar 12, 1964	57
Alan and Kris Dale	Mar 21, 1997	24
Lester and Donna Goslar	Mar 21, 1970	51
Bryan and Betsy Scheer	Mar 8, 2014	7

	Week of Schedule 03-28 to 04-04
Mon (29)	Pastor's Family Day
Wed (31)	Confirmation Class 6 pm to 7 pm Helping Hands, at 1:00 to 4 pm
Thu	Maundy Thursday 7 pm
Fri	Good Friday Service 7 pm
Sun (4)	Easter Services 7 am Bible Class 10:45 am Sunday School 10:45 am



We are listing
Baptismal birthdays
to remember and celebrate
the day we were
adopted into the family of
God through the washing
of the
Holy Spirit.

BIRTHDAYS

Name	Birthday
BridgemanKirk	Mar 07, 1980
Hamann Kerensa	Mar 10, 2014
Laboube Rose	Mar 30, 2020
Lafrentz Rita	Mar 17, 1945
Meseck Amy	Mar 28, 1973
Muckey Dennis	Mar 31, 1950
Scott Lin	Mar 27, 1946

God's Blessings 80 +yr. Birthdays

Boysen Delores	Mar. 5, 1939	82
Fick Joan	Mar. 27. 1935	86

Faith Step: In prayer, spend some time thinking about the difference between your "being" in Christ and your "doing" in Christ. Ask Jesus to show you how to

NEEDED /WEEK	\$3,225.02
Sunday Giving 03-21-21	\$587.00
Sunday attendance 03-21-21	42
Children in Church 03-21-21	4
Visitors 03-21-21	6
Bible Class 03-21-21	7 w 2 vis.
Sunday School 03-21-21	0
Wednesday Giving 03-24-21	\$259.99
Wednesday attendance 03-24-21	6
Thursday Giving 03-25-21	\$50.00
Thursday attendance 03-25-21	7
Thursday Giving 03-18-21	\$30.00

<u>Give the office a call or the Pastor...</u>	Need a ride to a Dr's appt	Need of a visit
Before going to hospital	Address or name changes	Birth of your baby
Private communion	Entering armed services	Making wedding plans
Desire to serve your Lord through the Church	Death in the family	

Please continue to pray for our church leaders.
"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." **Romans 12:12**

Pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17)



PRAYER WARRIORS— The prayer warriors desire to hear from you as to how they can pray for you. We have 14 prayer warriors. We welcome more men and women to join us. if you need prayer call **Alice Miller** phone number 712-880-2380.

Members of St. Matthew with Special Needs and Concerns

Nazaria Kaderabek	Carol Dose	Selma Schrader	Alan Bruhn
Lavonne Witzel	Mark Witzel	Myrna Gosch	Mavis Skow

Family / Friends of Members with Special Needs and Concerns

Sheri Heilman— Sue Oberg's sister; **Ron Kraffle** friend of Marla & Joe Hogan; **Lynn Smith** friend of Marla and Joe Hogan; **Jazmin Mauch**, granddaughter of Marla and Joe Hogan; **Penny Mauch** friend of Marilyn & Duane Hamann; **Tammy Jean Bramley**, mother of Sam Kelm; ; **Cheri Moe**, niece of Dorothy Wessling. **Alan Nielsen** friend of Marilyn & Duane Hamann

THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Triston Twedt (great-grandson of Alice and the late Keith Miller) serving with the Army @ Ft. Lewis, WA
Ryan Trucke (son of Beth & Ed Trucke, Grandson of Kay and Richard Johnson) serving with U.S. Air Force @ FE Warren AFB in Wyoming.

Jackie Cardwell (niece of Jeff & Karen Krusen) serving U.S. Airforce @ Shepard Air Force Base, Burkburnett

Please drop them a line or two, they love getting mail and they would love hearing from their church family.

TX

Those on our prayer list:

Nazaria Kaderabek
310 S. 6th St.
Mapleton, IA 51034

Selma Schrader
21 Ohm Drive
Mapleton, IA 51034

Sheri Heilman
(Sue Oberg's sister)
1721 Lincoln Street
Great Bend, KS 67530

Tammy Bramley
42715 210th St.
Ute, IA 51060

Lavonne Witzel
36252 Co. Hwy E 34
Castana, IA 51010

Alan Bruhn
14535 Walnut Ave
Mapleton, IA 51034

Mark Witzel
100 N. Hwy 183
Pisgah, IA. 51564

Mavis Skow
102 North 6th Apt #1
Mapleton, IA 51034

Bonnie Banks 86 yrs. Jun 2, 1934

Main Street Apartments
516 Main Street Apt 2
Mapleton, IA 51034

George Koithan 88 yrs. Sept. 2, 1932

1726 Marcella Heights
Carroll, IA 51040

****Delores Boysen** 81 yrs. Mar. 5, 1939

3903 S.W. Hollowbrook St.
Bentonville, AR 72712

Delbert Kroll 87 yrs. Jun. 1, 1933
Ring Street
Mapleton IA 51034

** indicates a new address

Phyllis Fick 92 yrs. Jun 3, 1928
Willow Dale Care—Assisted Living
404 1st St.

Battle Creek, IA 51006

Carol Dose 86 yrs. Jan. 22, 1934
Sunrise Ave.
Maple Heights Nursing Home

Myrna Gosch 79 yrs. Jan 9, 1941
Pleasant View Care Center
200 Shannon Dr. Rm #108
Whiting, IA 51063

**Hold on,
Jesus is with you,
Never let go
His hand.**



Spread the Fruits of the Spirit:

*Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Gentle-
ness, Kindness, Self-Control, Good-
ness, and Faithfulness.
You will be rewarded*



St Matthew Lutheran Church
504 Walnut Street
Mapleton, IA 51034

LET'S STAY CONNECTED OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU TO CONTINUE TO FILL UP WITH JESUS BY READING AND LISTENING TO THE BIBLE: St. Matthew Lutheran Church Service at 9:30 am e very Sunday am at the church. Facebook page-.St. Matthew Lutheran-Mapleton— Our services at 9:30 am every Sunday website: www.stmatthewmapleton.org— Our services posted weekly **Mission Central...** www.missioncentral.us **Lutheran Family Service:** www.lfsiowa.org **WEB SITES:** Iowa District West—www.idwlcms.org Camp Okoboji – www.campokoboji.org **“THY STRONG WORD”** is a daily devotion airing at 6:25 am Monday through Saturday on KDSN (104.9 FM) **“THE LUTHERAN HOUR”** can be heard every Sunday on radio station—KDSN -FM (104.9) at 6:30 am and 1530 at 10:30 am. It is available 24 hours a day on the internet in Real Audio. Visit www.lhm.org and click on the Lutheran Hour on the left side of the page **“THE GOOD SHEPHEARD HOUR** airs on the following stations every Sunday: 8 am Fort Dodge-KVFD 1400 AM; 8 am Sioux City—KSCJ 1360 AM; 10:30 am Storm Lake—KAYL 101.5 FM **Lutheran Family Services:** www.lofsiowa.org **MainStreet Liv-**
ing— is a Television Program that is endorsed by the Iowa West District of the LCMS This program is broadcast on KCAU, the ABC network affiliate in Sioux City on Sunday morning, starting at 10:00 AM. The first 30 minutes are remastered episode of “This is the Life” The second half of the program is a modified Lutheran worship service that features a different Pastor each week, from the area.



Dear God, Today, together with our church family, on Palm Sunday we begin this holy week by welcoming our Messiah. So, like the people of long ago, let us welcome Jesus and follow him to the cross. Amen