

Sending well-equipped disciples of Jesus into the world—compassionate, generous, resilient, and wise



# Welcome!

Jesus Christ and our faith community welcome you to worship today.

# **Today's Service**

# Palm Sunday

The first Sunday of Holy Week is commonly called Palm Sunday, referring to Christ's entry into Jerusalem to shouts of "Hosanna!" This is the day on which Jesus entered the city in triumph, but as part of his journey to the cross. This is the week in which the crowd's cried of "Hosanna" would soon turn to "Crucify him!"

The Revised Common Lectionary scriptures assigned for today are Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:2-6 and Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29.

Cover: L'entrata in Gerusalemme, 1305, painting by Giotto

# **Worship Participants**

Rev. Jon Wasson Rev. Kristie W. Finley Dr. Robert McConnell Jack Reeder Sanctuary Choir Lakeminster Ringers Chancel Bells Rick Day Ryder Gamrath Georgia Sottosanto-Sorenson



#### Give

Give online or fulfill your pledge: scan the QR code or go to FirstChurchLF.org/give.

**Nursery** children up to 3 years Opens at 9:00 AM, Room 212

**Sunday School** ages 3 and up During worship, Rooms 213, 214, 215, 219 On Communion Sundays, children will go to the Chapel and return for Communion.

#### **Fellowship**

10:30 AM, Great Room

#### **Visiting First Pres?**

If you would like us to get in touch with you, please provide your information on the visitors card in your pews. An usher will collect them later in the service.

#### **Joys & Concerns**

We are a community that prays for and with one another. We invite you to fill out a Joys & Concerns card to share your prayer request.

### **Prelude**

Toccata on *The King's Weston* Matthew Compton



Our Sanctuary sound system is equipped to broadcast directly to T-Coil-equipped hearing aids. If your hearing aid is so equipped, switch it into this mode. If you do not have this type of hearing aid, assistive listening devices are available from the ushers.

#### The Welcome

## \*Call to Worship

Leader: Awake to the day of triumph for our Saviour! **People:** Give thanks for this day that leads to the cross!

Leader: Come with your branches, hosannas, and songs!

People: Fill the air with welcome to the Lord!

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

## \*Processional Hymn No. 196

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

#### Call to Confession

## **Prayer of Confession**

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, how well you know our hearts,

People: and still you love us— you have loved us to the end.

Leader: We have denied you,

People: and we have denied our calling to serve one another.

Leader: We have betrayed you,

People: and we have betrayed your commandment to love one another.

(silent confession...)

Leader: Pour out your Spirit of grace upon us.

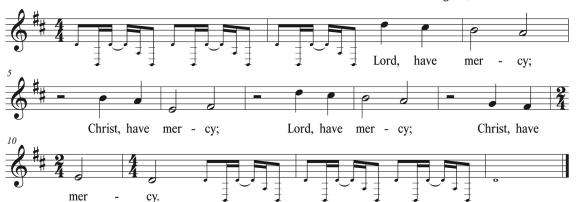
People: Teach us to love and serve you faithfully and to love and serve one

another by the example you have set for us; in your holy name we pray.

Amen.

# **Kyrie**

John Arndt, David Gungor, Ian Cron, Ben Kilgore, and Evan Wickham



<sup>\*</sup> PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE.

## **Assurance of Forgiveness**

## \*Gloria Patri No. 581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

# \*Passing the Peace of Christ

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

## **Old Testament Reading**

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Old Testament, page 565 in pew Bible

#### **Anthem**

Greater Love Hath No Man

John Ireland

Many waters cannot quench Love, neither can the floods drown it. Love is strong as death.

Greater Love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Who His own Self bare our sins in His own Body on the tree,

That we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness.

Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified in the Name of the Lord Jesus;

Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation,

That ye should show forth the praises of Him

Who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God,

That ye present your bodies, a living sacrifice,

Holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

—Song of Solomon 8:7, 6; John 15:13; 1 Peter 2:24; 1 Corinthians 6:11; 1 Peter 2:9; Romans 12:1

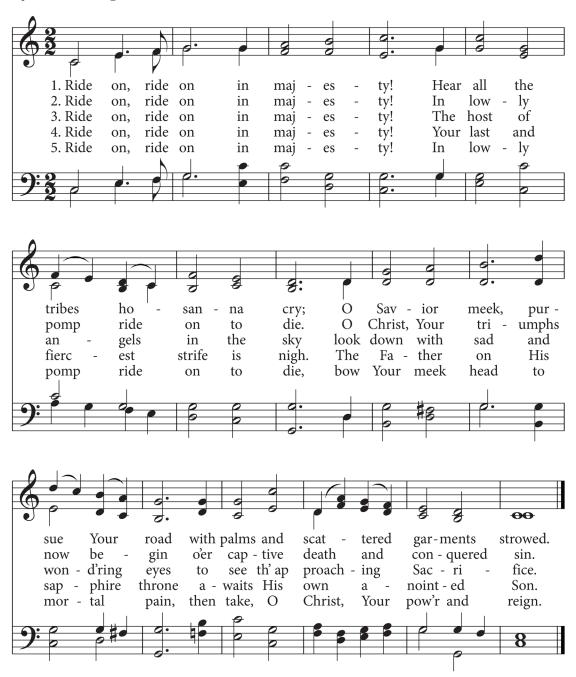
# **New Testament Reading**

John 12:2-6

New Testament, page 106 in pew Bible

Sermon Jon Wasson

"The Donkey and the Palms"



<sup>\*</sup> PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE.

# Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

# Invitation to the Offering



You may give online or fulfill your pledge by scanning the QR code with your mobile phone, or go to firstchurchlf.org/give. Thank you for your generosity!

# Offertory

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

# \*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

# \*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

\*Hymn of Sending No. 826

Lift High the Cross

# \*Charge and Benediction

\*Choral Response

Choral Amen
James MacMillan

\*Postlude

Fantasia super: Valet will ich dir Geben

Johann Sebastian Bach

# **Joys & Concerns**

#### Joys

Celebrating the start of spring break and Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem this Palm Sunday!

#### Concerns

Beth Miller beginning cancer treatment.

Lee Enz and his family on the death of his wife, Marilyn Enz, on March 10. A memorial was held on Saturday, March 23.

Jan McNicholas and her sister Jenny, on the death of Jenny's husband Fred McCahey.

### Prayers for the Country and the World

Dear God, we long to draw closer to you. We struggle with broken hearts, burdens that seem too heavy to carry, your hurting creation, and the violence we witness daily: the wars between Ukraine and Russia, Israel and Hamas, within Haiti, and the gun violence in our nation. We are grateful for your presence in our lives, your sharing in our joys and celebrations as well as our sorrows. You give our lives meaning. During this Lenten season help us to follow the teachings of Jesus that call us to care for every neighbor, near and far, in every way. Amen.

We are a church that prays for each other, celebrating life's joys and supporting each other in time of need. You may email your prayers requests to pastoralcare@firstchurchlf.org or call 224.544.1967.

Prayer requests will be removed from this listing after two weeks. Please let us know if prayer continues to be requested.

**Prayer Chain** For confidential prayers, you may email prayerchain@firstchurchlf.org. Please know that your prayers will be held in strict confidence.

### Serve, Learn, & Connect

**Engagement & Membership**Diane Quinn

engagement@firstchurchlf.org

Arrange a Wedding or Baptism Sarah Seccombe

sseccombe@firstchurchlf.org

Join our Music Ministry

Robert McConnell rmcconnell@firstchurchlf.org

Mission & Outreach

Stewart Kerr skerr@firstchurchlf.org

# **Weekly Ministries**

For details or to join our small groups, contact Sarah Seccombe at sseccombe@firstchurchlf.org.

#### **SUNDAYS**

Middle School Youth Group 5:00 PM, Youth Lounge

Senior High Youth Group 7:00 PM, Youth Lounge

#### **TUESDAYS**

**Learn It and Live It Bible Study** 9:30 AM, Parish House

Prayer Shawl Ministry 1:00 PM, South Parlor

Adult Bible Study 1:00 PM, Zoom

#### **WEDNESDAYS**

Wednesday Women's Bible Study 10:00 AM, South Parlor/Zoom

Wednesday Night Supper 5:30 PM, Great Room

#### **THURSDAYS**

Daybreakers Men's Bible Study 6:30 AM, South Parlor/Zoom Mom's Small Group

#### FRIDAYS

Men of Corinth Bible Study 7:00 AM, South Parlor/Zoom

7:00 PM, Youth Lounge

#### **Announcements**

# **Holy Week**

Holy Week Labyrinth March 22 – April 2 South Lawn

Maundy Thursday March 28 5:30 PM Great Room

Good Friday March 29 7:00 PM Tenebrae, Sanctuary

EASTER SUNDAY
March 31

#### **Sunrise Service**

6:30 AM, South Lawn Join us for coffee and a light breakfast in the Great Room following worship.

### **Traditional Services**

9:00 and 11:00 AM, Sanctuary

#### **Easter Egg Hunt**

10:00 AM, South Lawn Bring your Easter baskets!

#### Holy Week Labyrinth

You are invited into the practice of walking the labyrinth on the South Lawn this Holy Week. Walk with an intention or meditate on Jesus' journey to the cross. However you show up, be present and open to where God is meeting you right now. The labyrinth will be available for you whenever you are.

#### **Easter Flowers**

As we look forward to Easter, offerings for flowers are welcomed in memory or honor of a loved one to beautify the sanctuary and remind us of the glory of God's creation and Christ's resurrection. If you would like for the names of your loved ones to be printed in the Easter bulletin, please have your donations in by March 26. firstchurchlf.org/flowers

#### Maundy Thursday

Join us on Thursday, March 28, in the Great Room at 5:30 PM, when we gather around the table for supper, worship, and communion as we reflect on the Last Supper of Jesus and his disciples. RSVP: firstchurchlf.org/dinner

#### Parents Paddle Night Saturday, April 6, 7:00 – 10:00 PM

Parents with children up to 4<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to a night of paddle and fellowship at The Winter Club! Dinner will be included. No paddle background is needed, or you can come for the fellowship! Registration: firstchurchlf.org/paddle

### **Associate Pastor Search Updates**

First Pres is actively seeking an Associate Pastor for Faith Formation who will have the responsibility for overseeing and leading the faith formation efforts with special emphasis on children, youth, and their families. For more information, you may read the full job description at firstchurchlf.org/apnc. For updates from the APNC, go to firstchurchlf.org/updates.

For the full church calendar, schedule of ministries, and more: www.firstchurchlf.org
Find us on Facebook and Instagram: @firstchurchlf

