

FAITH IN THE WORD

For the week of Passion Sunday, Palmarum
April 13 – April 19, AD 2025

If we would rightly understand the great significance of Good Friday, we must understand the seriousness with which God takes the Divine Law. None of the Commandments are optional. They are not simply suggestions for how to live a better life. They are absolutes. Each and every one of them cries out “DO THIS!” And if we do not, if we do not perfectly keep each and every commandment, if our whole heart, soul, body, and mind are not completely given to God and His Word, then we declare ourselves to be His enemies and usurpers. We, like Barabbas, are insurrectionists against the Divine Majesty, trying to assert again and again our own superiority to God. We will establish what is right and wrong, what is good and what is evil. But God will not give His glory to another - including any of us. The Law is a relentless task master, driving us constantly to do what is good and right and true but only revealing the truth that we are powerless to do such things and quite often don’t even want to. For this we should receive God’s eternal condemnation. Instead, that condemnation fell to the Lord Jesus Christ who offered Himself in your place so that your rebellion is covered in His humility, your hatred in His love, your greed in His generosity, your doubt in His perfect faith. Take the opportunity this week to consider your life in light of the Ten Commandments, to mourn your sin, and then lift up your eyes to Jesus who died to spare you from the punishment you deserved. God grant that having been forgiven, we may then rejoice to walk according to His will.

The Catechism

As the head of the family should teach it in a simple way to the household. Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

The Ten Commandment - The Close of the Commandments

What does God say about all these commandments?

He says I, the LORD, your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments. (Ex. 20:5-6)

What does this mean? God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these

commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him, and gladly do what He commands.

THE ORDER OF MEDITATION AND PRAYER

INVOCATION

In the Name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

APOSTLES’ CREED

Psalm 145:8 – The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Psalm 43

HYMN OF THE MONTH

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” (LSB 450)

LSB 450 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF PASSION SUNDAY, PALMARUM

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| ① SUNDAY | MATTHEW 27:11-54 | |
| ② MONDAY | MATTHEW 26:1—27:66 | HEBREWS 9:11-15 |
| ③ TUESDAY | MARK 14:1—15:47 | 1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-31 |
| ④ WEDNESDAY | LUKE 23:13-38 | PSALM 78:31-39 |
| ⑤ THURSDAY | JOHN 13:1-15, 34-35 | 1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-32 |
| ⑥ FRIDAY | JOHN 18:1—19:42 | ISAIAH 52:13-53:12 |
| ⑦ SATURDAY | MATTHEW 27:57-66 | 1 PETER 3:17-22 |

PRAYERS

COLLECT FOR THE WEEK

Most merciful God, as the people of Jerusalem, with palms in their hands, gathered to greet Your dearly beloved Son when He came into His Holy City, grant that we may ever hail Him as our King and, when He comes again, may go forth to meet Him with trusting and steadfast hearts and follow Him in the way that leads to eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

DAILY THEMES FOR PRAYER

SUNDAY: *The joy of the resurrection among us; true and godly worship throughout the world; and for the faithful preaching and hearing of God's Word; for our congregation's faithfulness to the Word of God.*

MONDAY: *Faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; our calling and daily work; the unemployed; the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; government; peace; for the leaders of our congregation.*

TUESDAY: *Deliverance against temptation; the addicted and despairing; the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with besetting sins.*

WEDNESDAY: *For marriage and family, that all may live together under the grace of Christ according to the Word of God; parents who must rear their children alone; for godly schools, our church schools, and seminaries.*

THURSDAY: *For the Church and her pastors; for missionaries; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood; for our congregation, our pastor and his family.*

FRIDAY: *For the preaching of the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for its spread throughout the whole world, especially in our community; and for the persecuted.*

SATURDAY: *For faithfulness to the end; the physically and mentally sick and those who are dying; the revival of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts for worship and study on the Lord's Day.*

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

- Those members and friends of our congregation who are serving in the military (and their families): Emma and Macarios Casanova (Army), Brandon Lowery (Navy), Ethan McCrillis (Marines), Ethan Sims (Air Force Reserves).
- Baptismal birthdays celebrated this week: Carol Long (14), Ken Lawrence (15).
- Birthdays celebrated this week: Pete Kun (17).
- Wedding anniversaries celebrated this week: Jared and Terri Wildenborg (15).
- The Wildauer family as they travel.
- Those experiencing unemployment: Matt, Michael, Greg.
- Susan Dickson, Amanda Needham (Todd Hauth's sister), Rachel Rojas, and Mariah Scholz for protection of mother and child in pregnancy.
- Dony Reaves, Connie Kimber, Tula Sheehan, Doug Drawe, Antonia, Deanna, Gary Sakko, Greg McClure, Dana Evans, Gaye, Georgette, Dan Kostoff, Jill, Rachel Preuss, Kristina Wishmeyer, Brandon Rhodes, Rush, JE Purcell, Dale Hackbart, Gloria Lawrence, Gene Obenhaus, John Gadberry, Robin Wildauer.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

LUTHER'S MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER

LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT WEEK

The Resurrection of our Lord – April 20, 2025

Catechism: The Apostles' Creed – The Second Article

Hymns: 461 (st 1-4), Page 155, 483, 627, 464, 487, 461 (5-8)

Readings: Job 19:23-27, I Corinthians 15:51-57, Mark 16:1-8

