

## Palm Sunday – April Newsletter

Dear Zion Family,

Spring is actually here, the sun is shining, the weather is gradually getting warmer, and we are just days away from being able to attend the Palm Sunday service in person. A rehearsal was held last Saturday and all is now ready. Communion will be celebrated using newly purchased individually wrapped little containers of the elements. **If you will be worshipping at home, you might want to provide your own wine/grape juice and bread so we all may commune together on this special Sunday.** Keep on reading to find out about the dates and times of worship opportunities and the necessary safety precautions that will be in place at Zion.

### PALM SUNDAY, HOLY WEEK, AND EASTER WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**Palm Sunday**, March 28, 2021 at 10:00 am: In-person worship at Zion, service on Zoom or livestreamed on Facebook with Pastor Jennifer DeWeerth.

*“The Passion of Our Lord According to Mark”* may be read at home between now until Holy Week.

**Maundy Thursday**, April 1, 2021 at 7:00 pm: Service on Zoom at Our Saviour with Pastor Anita Mohr.

**Good Friday**, April 2, 2021 at 7:00 pm: Service on Zoom at Our Saviour with Pastor Anita Mohr. (Links will be sent for these two Zoom services)

**Easter Sunday**, April 4, 2021 at 10:00 am: In-person worship at Zion, service on Zoom or livestreamed on Facebook with Pastor Jennifer DeWeerth.

### ACCESSING ZION'S PALM SUNDAY SERVICE

ONLINE OR BY PHONE: This is the Zoom link that should be used:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89852160637?pwd=TGR5VlVvVkFmTUplTYlJ4VkhzTm4vZz09>

Or you may go to Zoom, click “join a meeting” and enter the Meeting ID: 843-5484 0714 and Password: 022654.

\*\*\*Should you have any Zooming issues before or during Sunday's service, Jim Marscher will be the point person to call. His cell phone number is: (315) 794-6177. Keep in mind that you will be viewing the pastor and worship assistant from a distance, not up close as before.

By Phone: +16465588656, 84354840714#, 1#, 022654# US (New York).

If you would prefer to view the service via livestream on our YouTube channel, you can do so by visiting our page at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWzOtbfcE2z7-bIPvxp62IA>

### PROTOCOLS FOR ATTENDING ZION IN PERSON

*(Your church council, the Task Force for Return to In-person Worship, and the Worship & Music Committee want to keep you safe and well.)*

#### BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME

- Bring your mask (you will be required to wear it from the time you leave your car in the parking lot until you return to it)
- Please bring your own tissues
- Read over the following questions to be sure that your answers to all of them are NO

1. Are you experiencing any of these symptoms associated with COVID-19 and not caused by another condition? Fever, chills, a cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, congestion, sore throat, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, recent loss of taste or smell, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea

2. Within the past 14 days, have you had contact with anyone that you know had COVID-19 or COVID-like symptoms?
  3. Have you had a positive COVID-19 test for the active virus in the past 14 days?
  4. Within the past 14 days, has a public health or medical professional told you to self-monitor, self-isolate, or self-quarantine because of concerns about COVID-19 infection?
  5. In the past 14 days, have you traveled out-of-state to any currently restricted areas?
- If you cannot answer “no” to all five questions, please stay home and worship in another way.
  - Plan on arriving at church between 9:30 and 9:45

### WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT ZION

- Be sure to stay six feet apart on the way in from the parking lot
- A greeter will welcome you and take your temperature, which must be below 100 degrees F.
- The next greeter will ask you if you can answer “no” to all five questions.
- The third greeter will record your information and have you sanitize your hands
- Please keep your coat or sweater with you
- Please remember to social distance on your way up to the sanctuary, either by the stairs or the elevator (only two people at a time or one family unit)
- Use a tissue to push the elevator buttons, then discard it in the trash as you exit the elevator

### IN THE NARTHEX

- Sanitize your hands again
- Be mindful about staying six feet apart from all of the friends you have not seen in so long
- Ushers will be sure you have a bulletin, palm, and Communion packet
- The nursery will not be open

### IN THE SANCTUARY

- Offering plates will be by the door for you to give your offering
- Find a seat as quickly as possible—look for blue tape in front of the places where you may sit
- An usher will be happy to help you find a seat
- Two air filtering machines and open windows will help to circulate the air, thus reducing the chance of aerosols being transmitted
- We will be allowed to *quietly* recite the Creed, the Lord’s Prayer, and other refrains
- There will be no singing

### LEAVING THE CHURCH

- When the service concludes, please remain in your pew and wait for the ushers to allow one row at a time to leave the sanctuary by the middle aisle
- Please keep six feet between you and the person in front of you
- REMEMBER: please take everything with you when you leave the sanctuary. Please deposit your empty communion cup in the trash can in the Narthex. Please do not leave anything in the pews.
- Move quickly toward the stairs or the elevator so there is no back-up of people waiting to leave the sanctuary
- Be safe in the parking lot by keeping masks on, social distancing, watching for cars, and moving to the outskirts to connect with others

## FOUR VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO STAFF EACH SERVICE

Two greeters at the front door will welcome congregants, take temperatures, ask health questions, and record answers. Two ushers will direct people to take the communion elements and a bulletin and to place their offering in the offering plate just inside the sanctuary. They may also assist people in finding seats and give directions for departing from the sanctuary. Please call the office (315-732-4110) to let Sara know if you are willing to staff either the Easter service (we have 2 so far) or the next scheduled in-person worship service on April 25, 2021. We also may be looking for someone to facilitate the joyful chaos on Zoom.

## GRATITUDE, REMEMBERING, BELONGING

Thank you to Cheryl and Ben Edmiston for covering the cost of Zion's Zoom account for another year. Their generous gift ensures that we will continue to gather together online for meetings, worship, sharing, and creating "joyful chaos."

The lovely flowing music of "Kyrie" by John Leavitt reminded us on Sunday of spring and the words, "Lord, have mercy upon us." Thank you, Kelli Watson for playing this beautiful anthem for us.

All of us in the Zion Lutheran Church Family are ever so grateful to Bob and Bonnie Loomis for sending us Palm Crosses given to the glory of God in honor of Kristen Burson and Mark Thompson. Thank you for reminding us that we are loved by God. We love you, too.

Thank you to Rev. Janet Hoover for another wonderful sermon, "A Change of Heart." In these times, there are so many things to remember: wear your mask, follow the arrows in the grocery store aisles, stay six feet apart...Over and over, Pastor Janet repeated for us a more important message to REMEMBER—YOU BELONG TO GOD. I always love hearing what God declared in Jeremiah 31:33, "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people."

In gratitude and love,  
Laurel McCurdy, church council co-president

Zion Lutheran Church  
New Hartford, NY

Palm Sunday



March 28, 2021

P: Pastor

A: Assistant

C: **Congregation**, recite quietly

**PRELUDE** *In the Garden*, Roger C. Wilson -Kelli Watson

*Please stand*

**WELCOME TO PALM SUNDAY**

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

C. **Hosanna in the highest.**

P. The Lord be with you.

C. **And also with you.**

P. Let us pray.

Mercifully assist us, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts whereby you have given us life everlasting; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C. **Amen**

**BLESSING OF PALMS**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P: We praise and thank you, O God, for the great acts of which you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was claimed Son of David and King of kings by those who scattered their garments and branches of palm in his path. We ask that you bless these branches and those who bear them, and grant that we may ever hail him as our Lord and King and follow him with perfect confidence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Opening Hymn:** *All Glory, Laud and Honor vs. 1 & 4 Hymn #344* -Kelli Watson

**Vs. 1** All glory, laud, and honor to you, redeemer, king, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring. You are the king of Israel and David's royal Son, now in the Lord's name coming, our King and Blessed One.

**Vs. 4** All glory, laud, and honor to you, redeemer, king, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring. To you, before your passion, they sang their hymns of praise. To you, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

## Prayer of the Day

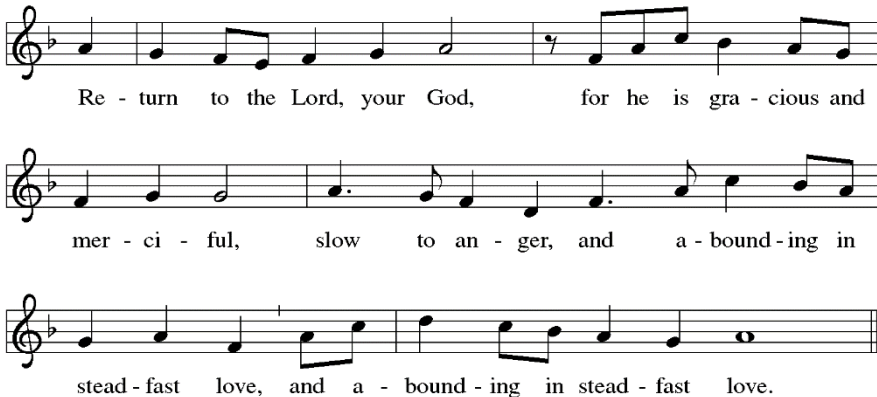
Sovereign God, you have established your rule in the human heart through the servanthood of Jesus Christ. By your Spirit, keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues confess Jesus as Lord and with their lives praise him as Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**First Reading:** Isaiah 50:4-9

**Second Reading:** Philippians 2:5-11

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION,** *Those who are able to stand comfortably, please do so*



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

**Gospel:** Mark 11:1-11

The holy gospel according to:

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

**Sermon:** *Palm & Passion Sunday -Rev. Jennifer DeWeerth*

**Apostles' Creed,** *Those who are able to stand comfortably, please do so*

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.**

*Please be seated*

**ANTHEM:** *Sweet Hour of Prayer/Little is Much When God is In It/In the Garden arr. by Marcia Wells -Kelli Watson*

**Prayers of Intercession,** *Those who are able to stand comfortably, please do so*

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

In Jesus you came among us as a suffering servant. Give your church humility. Redeem your people from pride and the certainty that we always know your will. Heal us and empower us to confess Christ crucified. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

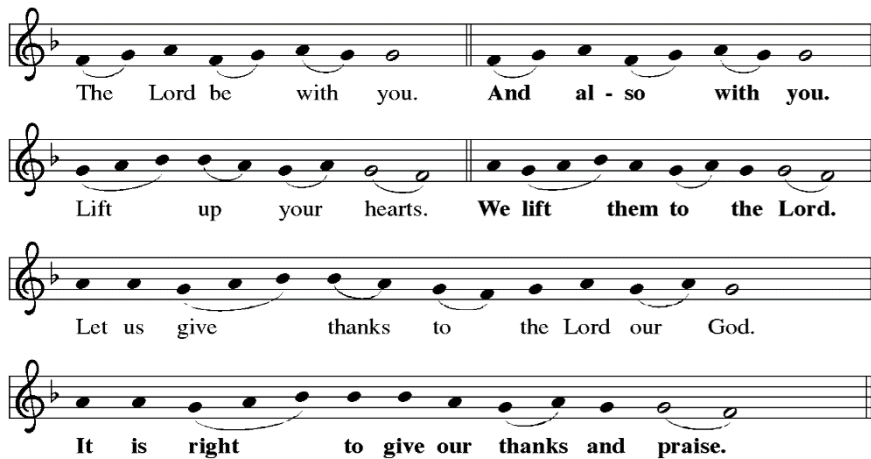
Jesus was handed over to the powers of this world. In all nations, instruct the powerful, that they would not exploit their power but maintain justice. Sustain soldiers, and guide those who command them, that they serve those in greatest need. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

On the cross, Jesus joined all who feel forsaken. Abide with those who are condemned to death. Defend those who are falsely accused. Console and strengthen those who are mocked or bullied. Accompany all who suffer; grant respite and renewal. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Listen to the cries of your people waiting patiently for your healing hand and comforting Spirit, especially those who suffer with chronic pain and all cancer patients, Pr. Mary Etta, Gail, Doris, comfort for Patsy, Claudia, Bill & Rusty, healing for Jeanette, Rani and family, Kelly, Claudia & Fran, Edie Marie, Ed and family, prayers for Michael Gilleece and family, Your Neighbors clients, Matt & Jen and family, Theresa, and our country, that the light of Christ may shine upon them with hope. Hear us O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE



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

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

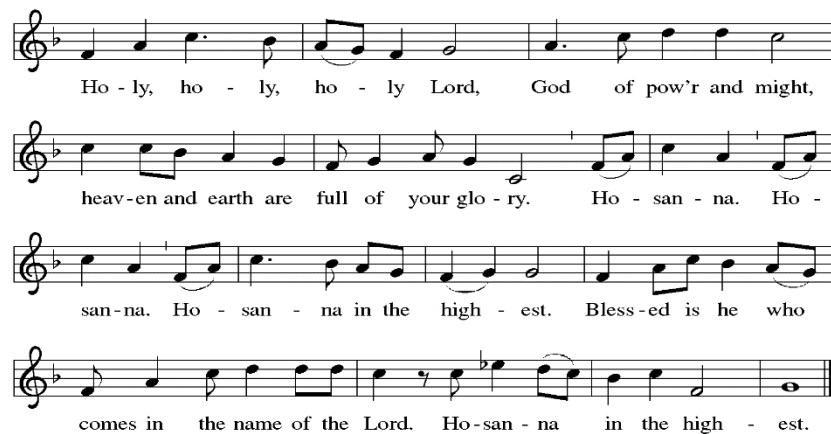
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy....  
and join in their unending hymn.

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. 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

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night on which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **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 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.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION, *Please be seated***

Jesus draws the whole world to himself. Come to this meal and be fed.

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### **Blessing**

You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity. **Amen.**

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

**Sending Song:** *Ride On, Ride On in Majesty Vs. 1 & 4 Hymn #346 -Kelli Watson*

**Vs. 1** Ride on, ride on in majesty! Hear all the tribes hosanna cry; O Savior meek, your road pursue, with palms and scattered garments strewed.

**Vs. 4** Ride on, ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die, bow your meek head to mortal pain, then take, O Christ, your pow'r and reign!

**Postlude:** *Lift High the Cross -Kelli Watson*

*The Palm Crosses are given to the glory of God in honor of Kristen Burson and Mark Thompson, by Bob and Bonnie Loomis.*



*April Birthdays – Happy Birthday from your Zion family!*

Darlene Hill	2	Elizabeth Thompson	17
Fran LaGase	8	Mark Thompson	18
Madison Midura	9	Diana Goewey	21
Abigail Schiller	9	Ethan Myers	21
Lorraine Dowd	10	Doris Hennings	23
Shawn McLennan	10	Daniel Loomis	25
Sarah Myers	11	Alexandria Belmont	28
Sarah Tompkins	11	Kaitlynn Belmont	28
Brittany Miller	17	Russell Holzberger	28

*Given to the Glory of God*

<u>In Memory of:</u>	<u>To:</u>	<u>Given by:</u>
Peggy Joslyn John Joslyn	Memorial Fund	Wendy Stevens
Norm Glista	Memorial Fund	Wendy Stevens
Carol Daly	Your Neighbors	Jim Daly
Peggy Joslyn	Roof Fund	Jeanne Gymburch
Louise Wurster	Roof Fund	Jeanne Gymburch
Peggy Joslyn	Roof Fund	Linda White & family
Peggy Joslyn	Memorial Fund	The Byrne Family
Peggy Joslyn	Memorial Fund	The Byrne Family
<u>In Honor of:</u>	<u>To:</u>	<u>Given by:</u>
Laurel McCurdy	Fair Trade	Bob & Bonnie Loomis
Mary Senn	Roof Fund	Linda White
Shawn Lockwood	Food Pantry	Linda White
Kim Marscher	Roof Fund	The Linda White Family

February 2021 Treasurer's Report				
	Feb 2021	Year to Date	Budget	Over/Under Budget
<b>Income</b>				
Giving	\$ 11,353.95	\$ 30,472.00	\$ 27,316.67	\$ 3,155.33
Other Income	\$ 1,419.02	\$ 3,730.01	\$ 4,866.34	\$ (1,136.33)
<b>Total Income</b>	\$ 12,772.97	\$ 34,202.01	\$ 32,183.01	\$ 2,019.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	\$ 16,368.63	\$ 27,803.54	\$ 37,179.32	\$ (9,375.78)
<b>Net Income</b>	\$ (3,595.66)	\$ 6,398.47	\$ (4,996.31)	\$ 11,394.78

**The Warming Center**

This link is for anyone to use. It is simple for anyone interested in the work of the Warming Center to request to join. An administrator then welcomes you in. When it asks what your interests are, just say you want to help: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/430038701543837/?ref=share>



### From the Pen of Mae Parker

Are these the last days  
That the Bible tells about  
Should we cringe in fear  
and trembling  
Or should we praise our  
God and shout?

In this time of tribulation  
Of earthquakes and entire destruction  
Shall we need the scriptures  
and hold the Lord's instructions?

Keep your faith until the end  
And you will get your due  
You'll get your just reward  
When Jesus comes for you

At the throne of Jesus  
Your sins will be revered  
The actions of a lifetime  
Will not be concealed

Wake up! Now is the time  
To live each day like it's your last

Turn your life over to Jesus  
Your future has been cast  
To live each day like it's your last  
Turn your future to the Lord

### **Notes of Gratitude:**

**Dear Zion Lutheran Church Endowment Fund,**

Thank you for your donation towards our summer bag program. That will help a lot.

-Bonnie Churcher

**Dear Wendy & Zion,**

We wish to thank you and the members of the Zion Lutheran Church for your generous donation of \$133.12 received in January. Your gift will be used to purchase food and/or supplies to benefit eligible needy patrons. May 2021 bring us all some relief and renewed spirit.

Sincerely,

Rick W. Kincaid, (For the Steering Committee)

**Dear Friends,**

We are so thankful for your grant award of \$1,000 to our Music Therapy Expansion Project! Thanks to your support, we will provide 20 free music therapy sessions in the Utica/New Hartford area. We are in awe of the love and support we received from so many amazing helpers, like YOU, during these unprecedented times.

With our heartfelt thanks,

Colleen & David Bennett, KEYS kids



*“When I opened the envelope with the palm cross, I cried. I’ve always kept my Easter cross over my mirror until I could replace it with the next one. I thought there wouldn’t be one this year. Please pass on my gratitude to all those involved.” -Shirley Eadline*

## Palm Sunday

On this day of great rejoicing,  
Lord Jesus Christ, when we welcome  
You as our King and Savior,  
we also walk in the shadow of Your cross.  
Hosanna! we cry.  
Blessed are You who come  
in God’s name to save us.  
Hosanna!

Strengthen our faith on this Palm Sunday  
so that when the time comes  
to carry the cross we might still  
call out to You with heartfelt praise.  
Give us the grace and the courage  
to follow You this Holy Week  
from death to resurrection,  
from darkness to the fullness of light.

We need You,  
Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
Hosanna!

