

Palm Sunday – March 29, 2026



Mt. Tabor Lutheran Church



Welcome to God's Service of Praise, Prayer, Meal and Song

Our Mission

Mount Tabor is a welcoming, compassionate community, living God's love through faithful worship and active service in the world.

Our Values

Grace: *We seek to proclaim God's promises of love, grace, and salvation for all humankind.*

Welcome: *We seek to welcome all to walk with us in Christ's love, hope, and joy; we strive to include others, especially those who have felt excluded or rejected in the past.*

Music and Worship: *We seek to gather in worship and song—to celebrate with those who rejoice, to mourn with those who sorrow, and to share together in God's love.*

Service: *We seek to serve our community and the world, offering up our time, talents, and treasures to bring about God's healing and justice in the world.*

Mount Tabor is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and a *Reconciling in Christ* congregation of the ELCA. This means that all are welcome and affirmed, especially our LGBTQ+ siblings, and that we are connected to the world. We all have a place here at God's round table just as we are!

If this is your first time here, a special welcome to you! We are mask optional and mask friendly. Please sign the guest register in the narthex (along with your e-mail and cell) so we can be in touch, put on a name tag, and join us for refreshments after the service.

The twelve parking slots on the north side of the parking lot have been leased to students living in Unite Student Living for their use 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. **The slots are numbered 1 to 12. Do not park in these slots as your vehicle may be towed. All other spots** – aside from handicap spaces – **are also rented between 9pm-9am.** Please plan accordingly.

Holy Communion is open to all. Children of all ages are always welcome in the sanctuary. We are blessed to be part of their faith formation through worship! With parents' or guardians' permission, children are invited to receive communion. Gluten-free bread & grape juice are available options. If you would like a blessing, come to the altar with your arms folded. Come when you are ready.

Prayer slips are available from the ushers. Write your prayers and then leave them in the offering plates to be added to the prayer chain around the altar.

Please turn off cell phones in the sanctuary before worship begins.

Visit our web site at www.mttaborslc.org

Holy Week & Easter Schedule

In Front of the Cross

Palm/Passion Sunday – March 29th – 10:30 am

Maundy Thursday – April 2nd – 7:00 pm

Good Friday – April 3rd – 7:00 pm

At the Empty Tomb

Easter Vigil at St. Matthew's in Taylorsville – April 4th – 6:00pm

Easter Morning – Sunday – April 5th – 10:30am

Our Easter Journey

Sundays – Beginning April 12th – 10:30 am

PALM SUNDAY – MARCH 29, 2026

ACS Setting 12

*Please stand as you are able until you are directed to be seated.

Prelude

Bob Brown

Greeting & Preparation for Worship

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit Calls Us Together as the People of God.

***Call to Worship**

Will you follow?

Will you lay down your coat?

Inspiring us to act Will you lay down something important?

Will you shout “Hosanna”?

Will you join the parade?

Will you sing, even if your throat is hoarse?

Will you cut down a palm branch?

Will you wave it in the air?

Will you follow the one riding on a donkey?

Will you let this good news inspire you to act?

We will. We will sing.

We will pay close attention.

We will worship.

We will follow.

Hosanna in the highest!

Hosanna in the highest!

***Call to Confession**

The very first Palm Sunday was a day of action.

It was a day of movement, of crowded city streets, and cries of "Hosanna!"

It was a day of peaceful protest and dreams for a better world.

The first Palm Sunday was a day of peaceful, hopeful action.

So friends, on this Palm Sunday, let us join the saints before us in an act of faith.

Let us begin with an act of prayer, an act of honesty, an act of transformation.

Let us begin by drawing close to God and sharing the truth of our lives.

Let us begin with confession. Join me in prayer:

Prayer of Confession

Jesus of Nazareth, we know that you spent your days teaching and healing.

You marched through the streets and walked on water.

You laid hands on the sick and broke bread at crowded dinner tables.

Your good news was not confined to conversation.

It was not confined to the Temple.

Your good news was an act of love, alive in the world.

Holy God, we long for a faith like that.

Forgive us for the times when we confine our faith

to something we think about, as opposed to something we act upon.

Inspire us to love as you loved.

Inspire us to act.

With hope for tomorrow we pray.

Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Church family, whether or not you wave your palm branch,

whether or not you live out your faith,

whether or not you allow this good news to inspire your actions,

God will never stop loving you.

Jesus will never stop marching for you.
The Spirit will never stop listening to you.

We are claimed, loved, and held in grace.
What good, good news.
Amen!

Gathering Song

Pave the Way With Branches

ACS 928



*Je - sus is com - ing. Pave the way with branch - es.



Je - sus is com - ing. Ho - san - na. san - na.



Ho - san - na, Je - sus is com - ing. Ho -



san - na to the Prince of peace. Prince of peace.

**Additional verses ad lib.:*
Release for the captives . . .
Hope for the downtrod . . .
Land for the landless . . .
Debts are forgiven . . .

Text: Bret Hesla, b. 1957
Music: PAVE THE WAY, Bret Hesla
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Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also, with you.

Kyrie



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.



Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Song of Praise



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;



yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.



Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;



ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.



Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;



yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

Prayer of the Day

Holy One, if we've heard this story before,
the story of Jesus entering Jerusalem riding on a donkey,
then help us to hear it again.

And if we've never heard this story before,
if we've never heard the story of Palm Sunday

or the cries of "Hosanna," then give us the wisdom to follow along.
Give us the wisdom to hear these words.
Give us the wisdom to take them into our hearts.
Give us the wisdom to act on their truth.
We are listening.

Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

God Speaks to Us in Scripture Reading, Preaching and Song

1st Reading

Zechariah 9:9-10

⁹ Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!
See, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
¹⁰ He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall command peace to the nations;
his dominion shall be from sea to sea
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Special Music From All the Earth Send Up the Song
Mount Tabor Singers

Robert J. Weaver
William A. Pasch

Psalm 118:20-29

- ²⁰ This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.
- ²¹ **I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.**
- ²² The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.
- ²³ **This is the LORD's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.**
- ²⁴ This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- ²⁵ **Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!
O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!**
- ²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.
We bless you from the house of the LORD.
- ²⁷ **The LORD is God,
and he has given us light.**
Bind the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar.
- ²⁸ **You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God; I will extol you.**
- ²⁹ O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

*Gospel Acclamation



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep-a-rate us from the love of God.



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep-a-rate us from the love of God.

The Gospel

Mark 11:1-11

The Gospel is announced.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples ² and said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³ If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this: ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.’ ” ⁴ They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵ some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” ⁶ They told them what Jesus had said, and they allowed them to take it. ⁷ Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. ⁸ Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹ Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰ Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!” ¹¹ Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple, and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Message

Pastor Christine Higuera-Street

A time of silence follows the sermon for reflection on the message

***Hymn of the Day** Ride On, Ride On in Majesty

ELW 346

Affirmation of Faith

Please join me in professing our Christian faith.

**I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.
It sounds like welcome and feels like home.
It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy.
It sounds like love and feels like a seat at the table,
so I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.
I have seen it alive in the world.
And even when my heart aches, even when wars rage,
even when mercy feels out of reach,
I remember the one who welcomed the children and led with nonviolence.
I remember the one who cared for the vulnerable and inspired
those around him.
I remember that the good news really is good news,
for I have seen it alive in the world.
Thanks be to God!
Amen.
Please be seated.**

The Prayers of the People

God of the peaceful parade,
God of the humble entry,
God of the people and the song,
we come to you today with the prayers of our hearts.

**We come to you today because we know that you are a God who listens.
You are a God who walks with us.
You are a God who acts, and for that, we are grateful.**

So today, Holy One, we pray for guidance.
Like Jesus, we want to act upon our beliefs.
We want to allow the good news of the gospel to move through us.

We want to gather people together.
We want to move toward something good,
but we admit, we are often unsure of what to do.
**We are unsure of the steps to take.
We are unsure of the road before us.**

So today we pray— give us strength.
Give us the strength to live like the crowds that day in Jerusalem.

Where they held palm branches,
may we hold a hand out to our neighbor.
**May we hold open the door for each other.
May we hold onto hope.**

We pray for our friends and family who we name now aloud or within the silence of our hearts.

Silence is kept.

We lift our prayers for

Travis and Nathan Jelsma-Beery
Family and Friends of Charlie Clapp
Presley Vann

Brenda Wardle
Camille Cochran
William Simpson and his parents

Where they cried “Hosanna,” may we cry out for justice.

May we cry out with joy.

May we cry out to you.

Where they laid down their coats,
**may we lay down our resources—
our energy, our creativity, and our time—
so that we can build your promised day here.**

Prayer movement – the congregation is invited to fill out prayer slips, bring food for Crossroads, and provide alms for ELCA World Hunger as part of our Lenten practice of prayer, fasting and alms.

We do not want to simply talk about our faith.

We want to act on it, so may this prayer be the first step.

May this prayer, and the earnestness in our hearts, move us closer to you.

With cries of “Hosanna!” on our tongues,

we join our voices together to pray for your justice and peace on earth.

Amen.

Sharing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God Feeds Us with the Presence of Jesus Christ.

Gratitude plants the seed for Abundance

God is abundantly able to do more than we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us. *Ephesians 3:20*

“This is what we are about.

We plant the seeds that one day will grow.

We water the seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.

We lay foundations that will need further development.

It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord’s grace to enter and do the rest.

We are prophets of a future not our own.” *Excerpt from The Romero Prayer*

Mount Tabor is grateful for your generosity. We provide several ways of sharing your financial blessings:

- Offering plates located at the doors of the sanctuary
- eGiving online using a credit card or ACH.

Visit: <https://mttaborslc.org/give> or contact office@mttaborslc.org



Prayer of Gratitude

Table-setting God,
this Lent we do not want to miss your invitation. We do not want to be so caught up in our own business that we miss the holiness right in front of us. So settle our hearts, and open our spirits to hear your word anew. Help us hear your good news today. With hope we pray,
Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The table is prepared as the assembly sings:

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

***Dialogue**

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

Table Prayer

Holy God, our living Water... his life for the world.

The Words of Institution

In the night.... in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer



Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-lowed be your name,
your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav-en.
Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as we
for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of tri-al
and de-liv-er us from e-vil. For the king-dom, the pow'r,
and the glo-ry are yours, now and for-ev-er. A-men.

Invitation to Communion

The Distribution *Come when you are ready, children are always welcome!*

Communion Songs

My Song is Love Unknown

ELW 343

Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup.

ELW 492

***Post Communion Blessing**

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray.

God of our salvation,
**we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls,
reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey.
Through the body and blood of your Son,
may we become Christ's body in the world,
bearing witness to your love for all creation,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

Please be seated.

SENDING

God Blesses Us and Sends Us in Mission to the World.

Our Life Together (pg. 21)

***Blessing & Benediction**

As you leave this place, when you meet anger, speak with love.
When you meet fear, speak with hope.
When you meet pain, speak with gentleness.
But no matter what, speak this good news.
For the good news of the gospel is love and justice for all.
It is joy that surprises, and nonviolence that transforms.
The good news of the gospel is alive in the world, so go forth speaking.
For if you won't, then who will?
Thanks be to God for this good, good news.
Amen.

Sending Song All Glory Laude and Honor

ELW 344

Dismissal

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Bob Brown

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Palm Sunday: March 29, 2026

Assisting Minister: Kylie Jones-Greenwood

Lector: Becki Kaiser

Usher: Dannie Gavros

Counters: N/A

Greeter: Leslie Carey

Altar Ministry: Lanea Brown

AV Technicians: Duane Lee, Lee Kreutzer

Presiding Minister: Rev. Christine Higuera-Street

Music Minister: Bob Brown

Administrative Assistant: Kristin Jensen

Our Life Together Announcements

Utah Food Bank – We will be sorting food at the Utah Food Bank on **Saturday April 4 from 10am to Noon.**

Easter Brunch Join us after worship on **Easter Sunday, April 5th** for our Easter Brunch, hosted by the Council. There will be a free will offering to benefit the Food Assistance and Emergency Assistance Ministry. There will be ham, quiches, fruit and more to enjoy. Bring your friends and family to church and stay afterwards for this delicious event.

First Things, First Mondays rally at the Federal Building 125 State Street, SLC at noon are continuing **Monday, April 6 at noon.** We are standing in solidarity with our immigrant and LGBTQIA+ neighbors who are being targeted in the legislature and in the streets. For any questions, please contact Pastor Brigette Weier at weierbrigetter@gmail.com.

The Worship and Music Ministry will meet on Sunday **April 12th** immediately following worship.

"Dinner At Vinnies" service opportunity is Tuesday, April 14th from 4:30-6:30pm at the St Vincent DePaul Dining Hall at the Weigand Center downtown. Come and share Tabor's gracious and loving hospitality with our hungry neighbors living on the streets. We always have room for more volunteers! Please see Casey White if you have any questions.

The Council will meet on **Sunday, April 19**, directly after worship.

Family Promise dinner dates for 2026: Mount Tabor will be providing dinners on Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Friday and brunch on Saturday for the following weeks at **Christ United Methodist Church (2375 E 3300S):**

April 26 - May 2; September 13 – 19. This is a great opportunity to show God's love to **unhoused Families**. If you have any questions about being a volunteer, please let me know. ~Chris Jensen, Family Promise Coordinator

Announcements for the bulletin are **due by Wednesdays at noon**.

You may add names to the prayer list by sending a request to Kristin Jensen (office@mttaborslc.org), or Pastor Christine (pastor@mttaborslc.org). Names added to the prayer list will remain there for one month. You may request that they stay on longer or come off sooner by contacting the same people. Please note that **names submitted after Weds at 12PM noon will be included in the following week's bulletin**.

Pastor Christine is available by text and is the best way to communicate with her. Her contact information is 801-215-9208 or 619-459-8879 which you may text, call and leave voicemails. Emails can be sent to pastor@mttaborslc.org.