

# Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church

Volume LXIX

April 2, 2023

No. 14



## Welcome to Alexanderwohl!

Jesus entered Jerusalem a week before his death on a humble donkey. He entered Jerusalem in peace, yet challenged the religious and political order. How would we have responded if we had been there?

## GATHERING TO WORSHIP

**Gathering** *Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates* ~Kerr Marcia Brubaker  
*Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* ~Burkhardt  
*Rejoice, for Christ is King!* ~Weber

**Welcome** Lynel Unrau

### Opportunities for Celebration and Service

**Call to Worship** (*Melody Zimmerman, The Soil & the Seed Project; Phil 2:5-11*)

Leader: King of the universe, in humility, you came down.  
Humiliated, you were lifted up, drawing all people to yourself.

**All: We confess that Jesus Christ is LORD!**

Leader: You took on flesh and your body was broken for us.  
You emptied yourself and your blood was poured out for us.

**All: We confess that Jesus Christ is LORD!**

Leader: *Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.*  
*Lord Jesus, come in glory!* (*Traditional Liturgical Text*)

**All: We confess that Jesus Christ is LORD!**

**Peace Prayer+** Rosi Reimer

**\*Procession of Palms** *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* VT 313

**Children's Story** Ann Hiebert

**Worship Music** Chancel Choir  
*Blessed Be the Name of the Lord* ~Dale Grotenhuis

**Morning Prayer** Pastor Lois Harder

**Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings** First Fruits Giving

**Offertory** *Draw Up the Water* ~James Clemens Chancel Choir

**\*Prayer of Dedication** Pastor Lois

**Psalm Reading** Psalm 31:9-16 Lynel Unrau

**Prayer of Confession** Pastor Caleb Yoder

**All: To you, Lord, we commit all our hope and all our worship. Amen.**

**Song of Faith**

*O God, Our Refuge* (omit v. 2)

VT 434

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

**Gospel Reading**

Matthew 21:1-11

Lynel Unrau

**Message**

*"A strange king"*

Pastor Caleb

**Song of Response**

*My Song Is Love Unknown* (vs. 1, 3, 5, 6)

VT 320

**Responding to the Gospel**

*(Open sharing)*

## SENT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

**Sending Song**

*Ride On, Ride On in Majesty* (omit v. 3)

VT 316

**\*Benediction**

Pastor Caleb

**\*Postlude**

Marcia Brubaker

\*You are invited to stand in body or in spirit.

+ The peace lamp is a visual reminder that we follow Jesus the Prince of Peace and believe in uncertain times that God's shalom will prevail.

This service made use of resources from *Leader*, Winter 2022-23; and *The Soil and the Seed Project*, Vol. 6.

**Song Leader and Chancel Choir Director:** Renae Peters

**Greeters:** North – Jason and Renae Peters

South – Myron and Ann Hiebert

**Visual Arts:** LaNae Unruh

**Nursery Staff:** Brittany Hiebert, Delaney Duerksen, Laura Voth

**Worship Technology:** Myron Goertzen, Levi Schrag, Delton Voth

**March 26 Attendance:** Sunday School – 106; Worship -- 132 in person, 7 Zoom households

**March 26 Offering:** Sunday School -- \$26.33; First Fruits – \$4,917.78

### Questions for Reflection (Matthew 21:1-11)

1. What was Jesus revealing about who he was when he chose to enter Jerusalem on a donkey?
2. How would you have responded to this Jesus if you had been in Jerusalem during his final week?
3. If Jesus turned the idea of kingship upside-down, what is Jesus asking us to turn upside-down?

**Next Sunday** is Easter, when we celebrate that God has raised Jesus! Pastor Caleb will preach from the account of the resurrection in Matthew 28:1-10.

## *Praying for our Congregation and Beyond*

- ❖ We pray for our congregation as we contemplate the death of Jesus and the hope of the new life of his resurrection.

- ❖ On this Palm Sunday, may we join Jesus, as he rides, fearlessly and with joy, into places of power and oppression on a donkey rather than a war horse. (From the Mennonite Mission Network *Prayer Vine*)
- ❖ We pray for the youth in the Faith Exploration class as they visit the Stations of the Cross on Friday.
- ❖ We pray for the families of the victims and the family of the shooter in Nashville, TN. Lord, have mercy.

**Please take note of this new prayer list in our bulletin.** The Board of Deacons invites you to remember these individuals and families in prayer this week. Eventually everyone in our church yearbook will appear on this weekly list. Some are actively worshipping with us; others received their faith foundation here at Alexanderwohl before moving on to other churches or places. We hope that this weekly list will help us be a blessing as we remember each other in prayer.

*This week pray for: Scott and Cindy Erb, Elaine Banman, Caiden Duerksen, Evan and Kelly Fast family, Lance and Kayla Hiebert family*

## THIS WEEK

### **Sunday, April 2** – Palm Sunday

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

### **Tuesday, April 4**

9:30 am – Staff Meeting

### **Wednesday, April 5**

5:30 pm – Board of Christian Education

7:00 pm – Board of Trustees, Conference Room

### **Thursday, April 6**

6:30 pm – Maundy Thursday Service, Fellowship Hall

### **Friday, April 7**

Good Friday – Church Offices Closed

### **Sunday, April 9** – Easter Sunday

9:30 am – Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship

## COMING EVENTS

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Apr 10    | Goessel Community Blood Drive          |
| Apr 14-15 | Kansas MCC Sale – Hutchinson           |
| Apr 21    | Senior Coffee, 10:00 am                |
| Apr 26    | Daughters of Grace Spring Salad Supper |

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Alexanderwohl provides a sabbatical leave to our pastors during their fourth year of service** for the purpose of study, renewal, continuing education or other activities that benefit the pastor and ultimately the congregation. For Pastor Lois, 2023 is sabbatical time! She has developed several three-week plans that have been approved by Church Council. Her

first sabbatical segment will be April 17-May 7. She will focus on reading books, listening to podcasts on leadership/ministry and self-care, social/cultural phenomena, and spiritual growth and wisdom literature. We pray that this will be a rich time of renewal and rest for her.

**Easter lily plants may be shared on Easter Sunday** morning in memory of a loved one. These plants will be part of the Easter display in the sanctuary on April 9. Please call or email the church office by **Tuesday, April 4**, with the name of the loved one that you are remembering.

**Thank you for the freezer meals!** They will be much appreciated by the recipients. The Pastors and Board of Deacons appreciate having these meals to offer as we try to support people through difficult or trying times.

**There are several packages of frozen BBQ pulled pork**, along with buns, left from last Sunday. Come to the kitchen after church. Suggested donation is \$20. Thank you in advance!

**Stop by the library and check out the new books** that have been added!

**Thank you for your generous support** of our College Scholarship Fundraiser last Sunday. Your contributions totaled \$3,220 and are greatly appreciated. ~Mennonite College Student Ministry Team

**Tabor Church Food Pantry:** Groceries are running low in the food pantry at this time. Your generous donations of non-perishable food items are welcome. Needed: Cereal, Oatmeal, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Ramen Noodles, Spaghetti Sauce, Rice Meals, Scalloped Potatoes, Tuna, Chicken and Canned Meats, Chili and Soups, Applesauce, Fruits, Vegetables, Canned Tomatoes, Canned Beans, Spaghettios / Ravioli, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Cake, Brownie, Cookie Mixes, Jell-o (some sugar free) Pudding, Breakfast Bars / Pop Tarts, Laundry Soap, Dish Soap, Shampoo, Toothpaste. Thank you for your help and generosity.