



**A SERVICE FOR THE BURNING OF THE PALMS**  
**February 17, 2026**

**MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
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**Welcoming all  
Reaching out in love  
Growing together in Christ  
Worshiping and serving in Jesus' name**

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# The Burning of Palms

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: We gather here to turn these palms from our celebration of the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem into ashes that we may be reminded of our mortality and our need of God.

*While the responsory psalm is read, the palms are lit and burned.*

## PSLAM 40

**<sup>1</sup>I waited patiently for the LORD;**

he inclined to me and heard my cry.

**<sup>2</sup>He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog,  
and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.**

**<sup>3</sup>He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.  
Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the LORD.**

**<sup>4</sup>Happy are those who make the LORD their trust,  
who do not turn to the proud, to those who go astray  
after false gods.**

**<sup>5</sup>You have multiplied, O LORD my God, your wondrous deeds  
and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you.  
Were I to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than  
can be counted.**

**<sup>6</sup>Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, but you have given  
me an open ear.**

**Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required.**

**<sup>7</sup>Then I said, "Here I am;  
in the scroll of the book it is written of me.**

**<sup>8</sup>I delight to do your will, O my God;  
your law is within my heart."**

**<sup>9</sup>I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great  
congregation;**

**see, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O LORD.**

**<sup>10</sup>I have not hidden your saving help within my heart, I have  
spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;  
I have not concealed your steadfast love and your  
faithfulness from the great congregation.**

<sup>11</sup>Do not, O LORD, withhold your mercy from me;  
    let your steadfast love and your faithfulness keep me safe  
    forever.

<sup>12</sup>**For evils have encompassed me without number; my  
    iniquities have overtaken me, until I cannot see;  
    they are more than the hairs of my head, and my heart  
    fails me.**

<sup>13</sup>Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me;  
    O LORD, make haste to help me.

<sup>14</sup>**Let all those be put to shame and confusion who seek to  
    snatch away my life;  
    let those be turned back and brought to dishonor who  
    desire my hurt.**

<sup>15</sup>Let those be appalled because of their shame  
    who say to me, "Aha, Aha!"

<sup>16</sup>**But may all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;  
    may those who love your salvation say continually,  
    "Great is the LORD!"**

<sup>17</sup>As for me, I am poor and needy, but the LORD takes thought  
    for me.

You are my help and my deliverer; do not delay, O my God.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, you became obedient to death and  
your name was exalted above all others. Teach us always to do  
the Father's will, so that, made holy by your obedience and  
united to your sacrifice, we can know your great love in times of  
sorrow and sing a new song to our God now and forever.

**People: Amen**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

**People: Living God, in their life these palms drew life from  
    the earth and gave it back to our air and the animals they  
    hosted and sheltered; in the worship of our community,  
    they helped us offer festive joy:**

**Grant now, O God, that these palms, reduced to ashes,  
    may be for us a sign of your power to purify our hearts,  
    that we may recognize death at work in us, and replant our  
    lives in the sure and humble soil of your truth and grace.  
    Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with  
    you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.**

Pastor: Go in peace.

And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all and remain with you always.

People: Thanks be to God!

We welcome you to join us inside for refreshments and to watch the movie *“Faith of Angels”*.



Please join us tomorrow, Wednesday, February 18th for our Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00 pm.

