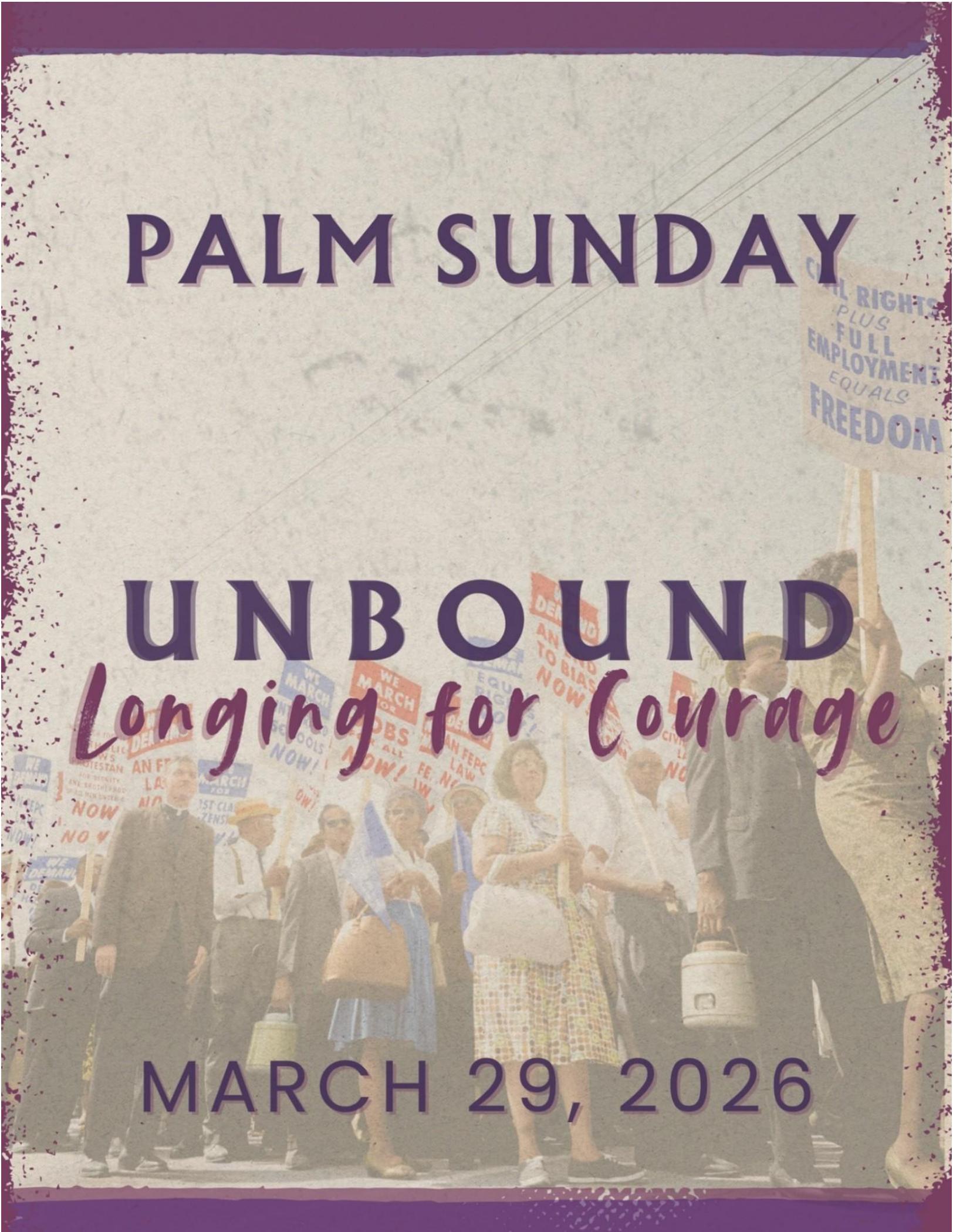


PALM SUNDAY

UNBOUND

Longing for Courage

MARCH 29, 2026



Sunday of the Passion / Palm Sunday: “Longing for Courage”

Sunday, March 29, 2026

(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

*Acclamation

L: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

A: Hosanna in the highest!

*Gospel of the Palms

Matthew 21:1-11

*Blessing of the Palms

*Processional Response

L: Let us go forth in peace

A: in the name of Christ. Amen!

*Processional Hymn (see page 4)

“All Glory, Laud and Honor”

*Prayer of the Day

Anthem

“The Holy City”

Adams arr. C. Linforth

Word

First Reading

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalms 31:9-16 (see page 5)

(sung responsively)

Second Reading

Philippians 2:5-11

*Gospel Acclamation

“Let your steadfast love”

p. 189

*Gospel Reading

Matthew 27:11-54

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day 343

“My Song is Love Unknown”

*Prayers of Intercession

A: Your mercy is great.

*Peace

Meal

*Offering Music *“Prelude No. 4 in E minor, Op. 28”* F. Chopin

*Offering Hymn 188 *“Create in Me a Clean Heart”*

*Offering Prayer

*Great Thanksgiving p. 190

*Holy, Holy, Holy p. 190

*Thanksgiving at the Table II

*Lord’s Prayer (*Our Father in heaven...*) p. 191

Lamb of God p. 191

Communion Hymns 463, 339, 471

Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

Sending

General Announcements

*Blessing

*Hymn 338 *“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”*

*Dismissal **A: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *“Grand Jeu”* D. Bédard

Cover image and Liturgy from Sundays and [Seasons.com](https://www.Seasons.com). Copyright 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB142079. © Church Anew. Used with Permission.

Notes on today’s service:

Our service will begin in the Lower Level and move into the Sanctuary during the Processional Hymn. **Please bring your Guides to Worship with you downstairs.**

Palm Sunday reveals a crowd longing to be unbound from oppression, crying out for a messiah who will make them whole through power. Yet Jesus enters not with force, but with a courage shaped by humility, choosing a path that exposes the fragility of every earthly claim to dominance.

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Refrain

- All glory, laud, and honor
to you, redeemer, king,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.
- 1 You are the king of Israel
and David's royal Son,
now in the Lord's name coming,
our King and Blessed One. *Refrain*
- 2 The company of angels
are praising you on high;
creation and all mortals
In chorus make reply. *Refrain*
- 3 The multitude of pilgrims
with palms before you went;
our praise and prayer and anthems
Before you we present. *Refrain*
- 4 To you, before your passion,
they sang their hymns of praise.
To you, now high exalted,
our melody we raise. *Refrain*
- 5 Their praises you accepted;
accept the prayers we bring,
great author of all goodness,
O good and gracious King. *Refrain*

Church Fire Plan - For everyone's awareness, a copy of the Church Fire Plan for safe exit from the Sanctuary appears in the back of the worship books. Please take a moment to review for your own safety. The AED and a first aid kit are in the hallway by the office.

Psalm 31:9-16

Tone 9



⁹Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble;
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

¹⁰For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing;
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.

¹¹I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to my acquaintances;
when they see me in the street they avoid me.

¹²Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind;
I am as useless as a broken pot.

¹³For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around;
they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

¹⁴But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD.
I have said, "You are my God.

¹⁵My times are in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

¹⁶Let your face shine up- on your servant;
save me in your steadfast love."

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

Assisting Minister: Bob Loeb sack

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Communion Server: Jeanette Harrop

Readers: Noah Bell and James Meadows-Helmer

Choral Scholars: Nicole Hamilton, Hannah Swiderski, Lindsay Scott, Dylan Siebert, Drew Aarssen

Soprano Solo: Corey Linforth

Piano: Mikala Hunt

Broadcast: Andrew Weber

Building Monitor: Steve Dickin (519-580-8407)

Worship Notes

In our prayers, Marjorie, Kevin, Betty, Anneke, Judy, Yvonne, Jeanette, Meaghan, Henry, Maureen, and John.

All are welcome at the meal where Jesus is present loving and forgiving us. For the wine, there is a common cup station and a pouring chalice station (please take an empty small glass). There is also a small tray of pre-poured grape juice glasses. Gluten-free wafers are also available; please indicate this request to the Pastor. If you would (also) like to receive a blessing, please approach the Pastor with your arms crossed over your chest. If you'd like to receive Communion in your pew, the pastor will come to you. Please let an usher or the pastor know before worship if possible.

Information for today's worship

- **Offering:** Offering plates will be passed out today during the Offering solo.
- **Please join us for Fellowship Time** after worship in the Community Hall. Use any of the staircases (Narthex, west stair tower, parking lot tower) to go down.
- **Downstairs Washrooms** can be accessed via any of the staircases. There is one wheelchair accessible washroom, and the rest are all-gender washrooms. A further all-gender washroom is also available via the west stair tower door (front left of the Sanctuary) on the same level. Turn right at the hallway.

General Announcements

Help Us Make Easter Sunday Coffee Hour Special.

Learning and Sharing & Caring are planning a special coffee hour on Easter Sunday. We would love to have your help.

Please bring special treats (coloured eggs, baking, hot cross buns, etc.) before Church on Easter and drop them off in the Community Hall. Also, we will need helpers to set up, serve, and clean up. There will be a sign-up sheet (for helpers) in the Community Hall, or you can email Bev at roeder@netflash.net. Thank you!



Join us on Maundy Thursday for soup and bread being served in the Community Hall @ 5:30 prior to the service.

**SOUP
SUPPER**

Thursday, April 2
5:30 pm
Community Hall

To everyone who submits expense receipts, please read the following message:
The Finance Committee along with our bookkeeper, Rick Kitchen, are in the process of creating an Excel version of the Expense Reimbursement Form. This is just a friendly reminder to everyone the importance of submitting your expenses promptly and correctly so as to ensure timely reimbursement and appropriate budget allocation. Things to remember:

- Please submit your expenses monthly. Holding on to receipts for long periods of time can often fade them, making auditing these expenses very difficult.
- Submitting large amounts of receipts at a time can cause additional time in the accounting process.
- Please ensure the appropriate expense account is allocated to each expense. The chair submits a budget by expense account and will know what expense is drawn from what budget line.
- Make sure the total matches the receipts submitted.
- Also remember the Reimbursement Form must be approved by the individual requesting the reimbursement as well as the chair of the committee incurring the expense.
- When submitting expenses for more than one committee, please remember separate Reimbursement Forms are to be submitted

To ensure the reimbursement can be processed, please ensure your submissions are completed in full to avoid them being returned for proper completion. Thank you for your continued support of St Matthews.

Contact Information

Office: 519-742-0462 stmattskw.com

Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer	Ext. 3	pastorcarey@stmattskw.com
Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer	Ext. 2	pastorsebastian@stmattskw.com
Deacon Scott Knarr	Ext. 4	deaconscott@stmattskw.com
Leanne Vanderhout	Ext. 6	lvanderhout@stmattskw.com



[Facebook](#)



[Instagram](#)



[YouTube](#)



[Donate](#)

Upcoming Events at St. Matthews

Thursday, April 2: Maundy Thursday Soup Supper, 5:30 pm in Community Hall

Thursday, April 2: Maundy Thursday, 7 pm

Friday, April 3: Good Friday, 9:30 am

Sunday, April 5: Easter Sunday with Craft for Children

Wednesday, April 8: St. Matthews Presents: Organ Recital (noon), and Soup (12:30)

Wednesday, April 15: Spring Social at Noon. RSVP to the office.

Wednesday, April 22: St. Matthews Presents: Organ Recital (noon), and Soup (12:30)



Organ Recitals and Soup

Wednesdays at 12 noon

April 8

Sherry Coman, spoken word
Scott Knarr, organ

April 22

Sebastian Meadows-Helmer, Lana Moses, violins
Scott Knarr, organ

ST. MATTHEWS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Spring Social

WEDNESDAY APRIL 15TH

11:30 AM GUEST SPEAKER WRPS
FRAUD & SCAMS AFFECTING SENIORS

LUNCH AT NOON

COMMUNION

RSVP TO
THE
OFFICE

The St. Matthews Centre, our community hub, has a website which links all upcoming events, especially concerts of the KW Symphony and the Grand Philharmonic Choir.

Scroll down to “Upcoming Events” at www.stmatthewscentre.ca.

The St. Matthews Centre also has a Facebook page, which you can “follow” to get updates.



Holy Week 2026

PALM SUNDAY

March 29 at 9:30 am

MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 2 at 7:00 pm

GOOD FRIDAY

April 3 at 9:30 am

EASTER SUNDAY

April 5 at 9:30 am

UNBOUND

Longing for Wholeness



St. Matthews Lutheran Church

54 BENTON STREET

KITCHENER

N2G 3H2

519.742.0462

stmattskw.com

info@stmattskw.com