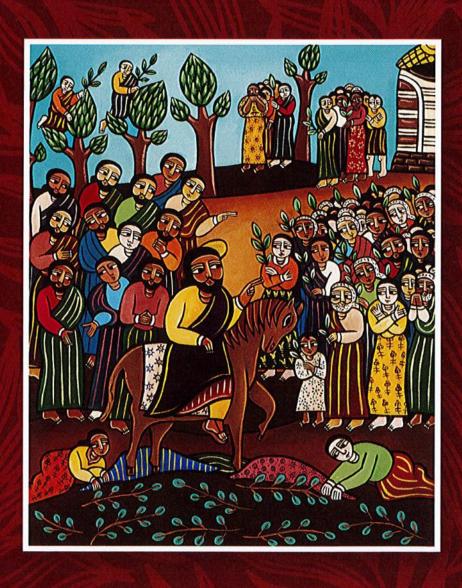
Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!

LUKE 19:38



Sunday of the Passion—Palm Sunday April 13, 2025 9:15 a.m.

PRELUDE

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

J. Wayne Kerr

Stand

PALM PROCESSION ACCLAMATION

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. **Hosanna to the Son of David.** The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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. **Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL: Luke 19:28-40

²⁸After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

²⁹When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" ³²So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴They said, "The Lord needs it." ³⁵Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, ³⁸saying,

"Blessed is the king

who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven,

and glory in the highest heaven!"

³⁹Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." ⁴⁰He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

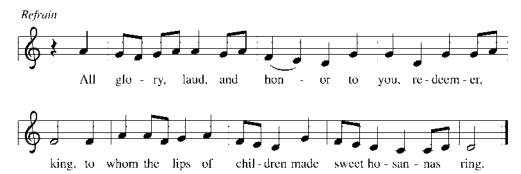
We praise and thank you, O God, for the great acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was acclaimed Son of David and King of kings by those who scattered their garments and branches of palm in 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

Please raise your branches. The branches are sprinkled with water.

HYMN All Glory, Laud, and Honor

The flute introduces the Refrain then it is sung by all The Congregation joins in the refrain each time it is sung. The verses are sung by the choir.



Text: Theodulph of Orleans, tr. John Mason Neale

Music: GLORIA, LAUS, ET HONOR, Plainsong mode 1, 10th cent.; ver. Schola Antiqua, 1983 Music version © 1984 Schola Antiqua, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by pennission.

Permission is granted for reproduction of this item for non-sale local use only, provided that each copy carries the copyright notice.

1 Res	You are the king of Israel and David's royal Son, now in the Lord's name coming, our King and Blessed One. frain	2 Re	The company of angels are praising you on high; creation and all mortals in chorus make reply.		The multitude of pilgrims with palms before you went; our praise and prayer and thems before you we present.
4 Re	To you, before your passion, they sang their hymns of praise. To you, now high exalted, our melody we raise. frain			5	Their praises you accepted; accept the prayers we bring, great author of all goodness, O good and gracious King. Refrain

APOSTOLIC 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY.

Let us pray. Almighty God, you sent your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take our flesh upon him and to suffer death on the cross. Grant that we may share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Sit

HOMILY Pastor Reep

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO LUKE

Luke 22:14-38

¹⁴When the hour came, (Jesus) took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. ¹⁵He said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; ¹⁶for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." ¹⁷Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves; ¹⁸for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." ¹⁹Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁰And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. ²¹But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table. ²²For the Son of Man is going as it has been determined, but woe to that one by whom he is betrayed!" ²³Then they began to ask one another which one of them it could be who would do this.

²⁴A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. ²⁵But he said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. ²⁶But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. ²⁷For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

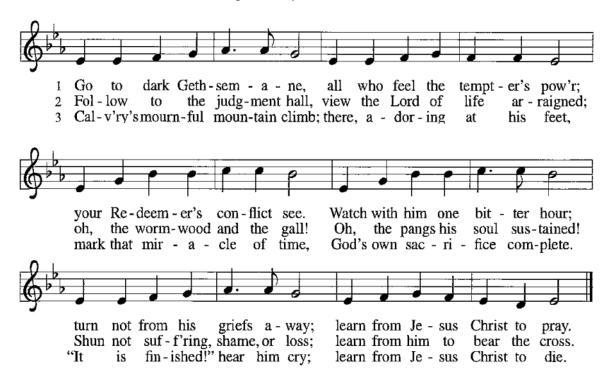
²⁸You are those who have stood by me in my trials; ²⁹and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom, ³⁰so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

³¹Simon, Simon, listen! Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat, ³²but I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned back, strengthen your brothers." ³³And he said to him, "Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death!" ³⁴Jesus said, "I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day, until you have denied three times that you know me."

³⁵He said to them, "When I sent you out without a purse, bag, or sandals, did you lack anything?" They said, "No, not a thing." ³⁶He said to them, "But now, the one

who has a purse must take it, and likewise a bag. And the one who has no sword must sell his cloak and buy one. ³⁷For I tell you, this scripture must be fulfilled in me, 'And he was counted among the lawless'; and indeed what is written about me is being fulfilled." ³⁸They said, "Lord, look, here are two swords." He replied, "It is enough."

Go to Dark Gethsemane ((LBW 109) stanzas 1, 2, 3 Accompanied by Brass Ensemble



Luke 22:39-71

³⁹(Jesus) came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. ⁴⁰When he reached the place, he said to them, "Pray that you may not come into the time of trial." ⁴¹Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, ⁴²Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done. [⁴³Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. ⁴⁴In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground.] ⁴⁵When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial."

⁴⁷While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; ⁴⁸but Jesus said to him, "Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?" ⁴⁹When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked, "Lord, should we strike with the sword?" ⁵⁰Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. ⁵¹But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him. ⁵²Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him, "Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? ⁵³When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!"

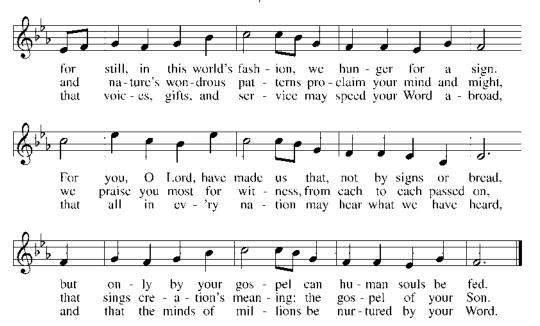
⁵⁴Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. ⁵⁵When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. ⁵⁶Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, "This man also was with him." ⁵⁷But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." ⁵⁸A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!" ⁵⁹Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, "Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean." ⁶⁰But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about!" At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. ⁶¹The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." ⁶²And he went out and wept bitterly.

⁶³Now the men who were holding Jesus began to mock him and beat him; ⁶⁴they also blindfolded him and kept asking him, "Prophesy! Who is it that struck you?" ⁶⁵They kept heaping many other insults on him.

⁶⁶When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought him to their council. ⁶⁷They said, "If you are the Messiah, tell us." He replied, "If I tell you, you will not believe; ⁶⁸and if I question you, you will not answer. ⁶⁹But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God." ⁷⁰All of them asked, "Are you, then, the Son of God?" He said to them, "You say that I am." ⁷¹Then they said, "What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!"

O Lord, Send Forth Your Spirit (LBW 392) Women accompanied by violin





Luke 23: 1-25

¹Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. ²They began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king." ³Then Pilate asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" He answered, "You say so." ⁴Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no basis for an accusation against this man." ⁵But they were insistent and said, "He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place."

⁶When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. ⁷And when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. ⁸When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. ⁹He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. ¹¹Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. ¹²That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies.

¹³Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, ¹⁴and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. ¹⁵Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. ¹⁶I will therefore have him flogged and release him."

¹⁸Then they all shouted out together, "Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!" ¹⁹(This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken

place in the city, and for murder.) ²⁰Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; ²¹but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!" ²²A third time he said to them, "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him." ²³But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. ²⁴So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. ²⁵He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended (LBW 123)
Accompanied by Brass Ensemble



Luke 23: 26-56

²⁶As they led (Jesus) away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. ²⁷A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. ²⁸But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' ³⁰Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' ³¹For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

³²Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [[³⁴Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴²Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Stand

⁴⁴It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, ⁴⁵while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last.

A brief silence is kept

⁴⁷When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent." ⁴⁸And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. ⁴⁹But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

⁵⁰Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, ⁵¹had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. ⁵²This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁵³Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. ⁵⁴It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was beginning. ⁵⁵The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. ⁵⁶Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments.

On the sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

Stand

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

O God, equip us, our synod, and other ministry organizations to proclaim your extravagant love for all. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Restore dignity to those who are scorned and persecuted for their religious beliefs, and deliver them from the hand of their enemies. Bring peace to places where conflict runs deep (*especially*). Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Watch over all who are incarcerated or awaiting trial, and stand with those who are unjustly accused. Be present with those feeling isolated, lonely, or fearful (*especially*). Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Comfort those who live with chronic illness or other sickness (*Especially we pray for*) Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give you thanks for your saints of old who embodied your servant love. As you came to their aid, so deliver us in times of trial, that every knee would bend in praise to you. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.

Sit

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY Create in Me a Clean Heart (ELW 188)

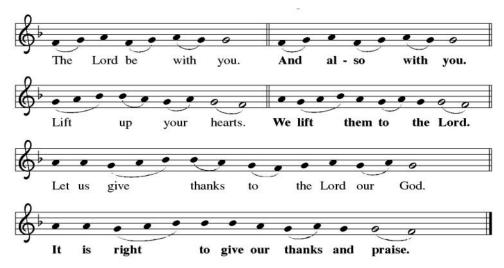


OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you,

O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

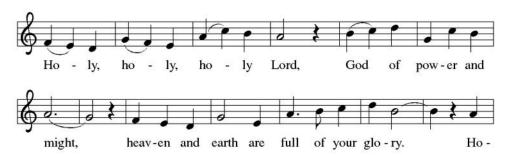
DIALOGUE

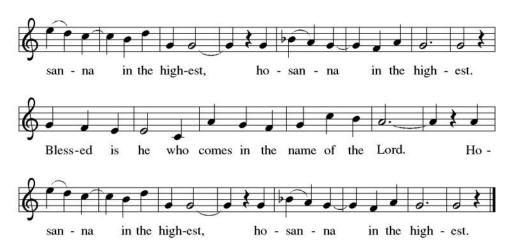


PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on the tree of the cross gave salvation to all, that, where death began, there life might be restored, and that he, who by a tree once overcame, might by a tree be overcome. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS





EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

In the night in 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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

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;

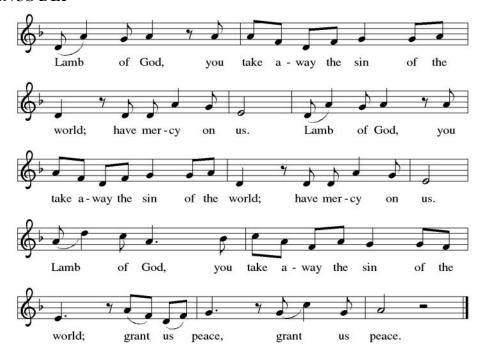
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

FRACTION

A brief silence is kept.

AGNUS DEI



Sit

COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

Holy Communion at St. Paul's Church is "open" to all believers who trust that the Risen Christ is present for his people in the Holy Eucharist.

Procedure for receiving Communion:

- 1. Come to communion using the center aisle.
- 2. Take a communion glass from the tray of glasses.
- 3. Take your place along the chancel step.
- 4. The ministers will bring the bread and wine to you.
- 5. Place the used cup in an empty tray located on a credence table at the side aisle.
- 6. Return to your pew using the side aisle

HYMNS O Bread of Life from Heaven (ELW 480) Accompanied by Brass Ensemble



Beneath the Cross of Jesus (LBW 107)

Accompanied by Brass Ensemble



Stand

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

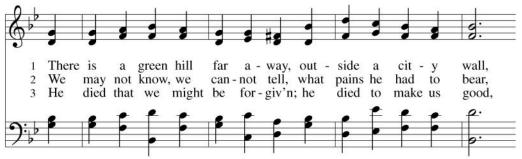
Let us pray (a brief silence).

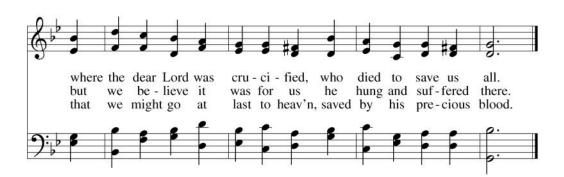
Heavenly Father, by His death on the cross our Son freed us from the bondage to sin and death. Watch over your Church, and all who celebrate these Holy Mysteries. In this Sacrament, give us food for our journey from death to life. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen**

HYMN There is a Green Hill Far Away (LBW 114)





DISMISSAL

Go in Peace, Serve the Lord

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE All Glory Laud and Honor Dale Wood

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

25 W. Springettsbury Ave., York, PA 17403

Church Office 717-843-8155 www.stpaulsyork.org
Email: st.paulsyork@comcast.net www.stpaulspreschoolyork.com

Facebook: St. Paul's Lutheran Church York PA on Springettsbury & George YouTube: St. Paul's Lutheran Church - South George St. York

WELCOME Thank you for being with us.

We are a Christian church within the Lutheran tradition (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America) and we welcome people of all Christian traditions as well as people of other faiths and people of little or no faith. Christian worship has been offered to God in this congregation for 189 years. By worshipping with us today, you become part of that living tradition.

Offerings Offerings are received during the liturgy. They are presented along with gifts of bread and wine at the altar. You may also donate via our website at www.stpaulsyork.org or use the QR Code provided.

Postlude It is our tradition to remain seated for the postlude. If you need to leave we ask that you do so reverently. This tradition developed as a result of our livestream. We want anyone viewing to be able to listen to the postlude without unnecessary distraction. Thank you.

Restrooms are available in the Good Shepherd Room (Springettsbury lobby) and the narthex (George St). Baby changing stations are provided in these restrooms as well as in the nursery.



Lutheran Church in York, PA - St. Paul's Lutheran...

stpaulsvork.org

An AED/Defibrillator unit is located in the Good Shepherd room. It is placed on the wall left side of the Springettsbury door exit.

The Nursery is accessed through the front right double doors. The liturgy is live-streamed into the Nursery. Parents are asked to stay with their children. Quiet activities are also available in the Narthex for infant through preschool children to use with an adult.

Parents, please do accompany your child to the restroom during the liturgy and wait with them. This is a way for us to practice good safety protocol within our building.

Our instrumentalists this morning:

Isabella Lehr

Richard Auen Harrison Palmer James Palmer Allen Reep Amelia Reep Michael West

Andrew Jones Mona Ledbetter French



The Palms are sponsored by Joe Kinkella and family.



April 13, 2025	Palm /Passion Sunday Combined Liturgy	9:15 AM
York College	Choir & Orchestra Rutter's Requiem	3:00 PM
April 14, Monday Hosted by St.	7:00 PM	
April 16, Wednesday	yConfession with Individual Absolution	7:00 PM
April 17, Thursday Institution of t	Maundy Thursday the Lord's Supper/Stripping of Altar	7:00 PM
April 18, Friday Passion of our	Good Friday Lord Jesus Christ from the Gospel of St. Jol	7:00 PM
April 19, Saturday With Sacrame	The Vigil of Easter ent of Holy Baptism	7:00 PM
April 20, Sunday	The Resurrection of Our Lord Combined liturgy is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!	9:15 AM

This Week at St. Paul's

Church office open Mon-Thurs 7:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

9:15 AM 10:45 AM 3:00 PM 6:30 PM Monday, A	-	Thursday, April 17 Maundy Thursday 6:15 PM Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service Friday, April 18 Good Friday 7:00 PM Good Friday Service Saturday, April 19 Holy Saturday 7:00 PM Easter Vigil			
7:00 PM Tuesday, A 9:30 AM	York Conference Vespers & Reception pril 15 Newsletter Deadline Pantry	Sunday, April 20 Easter Sunday 9:15 AM Combined Service			
6:00 PM CREATE—Preschool thru Grade 6 Wednesday April 16 10:00 AM Preschool with Pastor—Nave 10:30 AM Bible Study		6:30 AM Monday, A	AA Meeting—Community Rm pril 21 Office Closed		

Corporate Confession & Forgiveness

7:00 PM

Palm/Passion Sunday C, 2025

Luke 19:28-40

Time zones, tow away zones, loading zones, end zones; these are all rather self-explanatory. At airports there are zones for taxis and shuttlebuses. There are zones for arrivals and departures. Zones carry with them a designation to keep things open for some while simultaneously closing things off to others. Zones have a way of clarifying who's in and who's out. Zones heighten divisions. If it is the end zone and your team has possession of the ball, all well and good. If you are in the end zone and your team doesn't have possession of the ball, not good at all.

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, he passed through, across, and over a variety of zones. The zones were established through time to keep people apart. Keeping people apart was not part of Jesus' mission. Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem heightened those humanly created divisions. And by heightening divisions Jesus' divine purpose exposed the segregation that extended from the Temple out into the community.

Some zones were easy to identify. Jews and Samaritans, Jews and Gentiles, male and female. The religious elite and the commoner, the Emperor and governors. Then there were zones within zones, the Pharisees and the Sadducees and the scribes. And everyone knew in what zone they were permitted to traverse. Jesus moved across the zones as he made his way from Jericho, Bethphage, Bethany, to the Mount of Olives, into Jerusalem. A rich man owned the colt that Jesus needed to borrow identifying yet another zone; rich and poor.

We are about to hear the Passion Narrative. This is the story of how Jesus was arrested, was wrongly accused, was sentenced to death, and was executed by crucifixion. It is also the story of how he came to save all people from sin, from the things that were killing them, from the zones that were erected out or human sinfulness and the desire to segregate by nationality, wealth, religious affiliation, gender, occupation, all structured in zones to keep pathways open for some and closed off for others. Jesus arrives in Jerusalem decimating the status distinctions it embodied and propagated. It got him killed.

Jesus died so that we are saved from sin, from the things that are killing us, from the zones that are erected to keep us apart. Jesus is paving the way for mission that radiates outward into the world. We conclude with a dismissal "Go in peace, serve the Lord." God's gracious radiating love is working through you, out from this building, across the street, into neighborhoods, to capitols and states and nations. A new Zone is established through Christ Jesus our King, one of forgiveness and love for all humanity. This Zone has no boundaries, this Kingdom extends eternally, opening up rather than closing off, offering hope and future for all people.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a

The Lord God has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens—
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.

The Lord God has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backward.

gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the

beard;
I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.

⁷The Lord God helps me;

therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame;

8he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries?

Let them confront me.

9It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

Psalm 31:9-16

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,

⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

*he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of
death—
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

GOSPEL: Luke 22:14—23:56 or Luke 23:1-49 [not printed]