

# PALM SUNDAY

April 29, 2025



*ELW SETTING 5*

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

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Lincolnshire, IL

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# Welcome to **WORSHIP**

WITHOUT EXCEPTION,  
LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT WELCOMES YOU  
TODAY!

Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit welcomes all to worship, to hear the Good News, to celebrate the sacraments, and to share in fellowship and service.

We welcome new visitors, old friends, and our members;

We welcome single, married, widowed and divorced;

We welcome all regardless of age, sex, race, or national origin;

We welcome all people of any sexual orientation or gender identity or gender expression;

We welcome all people of any ability or challenge;

We welcome all regardless of socio-economic status;

We welcome all who are happy, sad, rejoicing, grieving, celebrating or recovering;

We welcome all who are seeking justice and peace among all peoples and nations;

We welcome all who are seeking God's love and God's grace.

## **We are glad you are with us today.**

We are a family of faith living and growing together in Christ. As we worship and celebrate communion this morning we remind you that this is the Lord's table. Jesus is the host. We are his guests. God welcomes everyone to come and eat and be nourished, fed and forgiven. Come and eat and live! Please extend your hand to receive the bread, then take a cup from the tray. Please indicate if you prefer to receive a gluten-free wafer. Those not receiving communion are welcome to receive a blessing.

If you are interested in becoming a member of Holy Spirit, please see Pastor Tim. Membership comes through baptism or affirmation of faith. Welcome cards/envelopes are located in the pew rack. Please take a moment to fill out the information and return it to the offering plate. Various updates and additional church information, are posted each week on our website — [www.holyspirit-elca.org](http://www.holyspirit-elca.org).

Please let us know if we can be of service to you in any way!



**Welcome visitors to LCHS! Please scan this  
QR code to share your info with us.**



## SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

*The Congregation gathers in the fellowship hall for the beginning of the palm procession to the sanctuary. Branches are distributed before the service begins.*

*Today, we encounter the paradox that defines our faith: Jesus Christ is glorified king and humiliated servant. We too are full of paradox: like Peter, we fervently desire to follow Christ, but find ourselves afraid, denying God. We wave palms in celebration today as Christ comes into our midst, and we follow with trepidation as his path leads to death on the cross. Amid it all we are invited into this paradoxical promise of life through Christ's broken body and outpoured love in a meal of bread and wine. We begin this week that stands at the center of the church year, anticipating the completion of God's astounding work.*

### PRELUDE

“All Glory, Laud and Honor”

arr. M Parks

Trumpet: Patrick Cantagallo

### BLESSING AND PROCESSION OF PALMS

P Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

C **Hosanna in the highest.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

### PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL

Matthew 21:1-11

A The Processional Gospel according to Matthew the twenty first chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

A <sup>1</sup> When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup> saying to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. <sup>3</sup> If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” <sup>4</sup> This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:

<sup>5</sup> “Tell the daughter of Zion,  
Look, your king is coming to you,  
humble and mounted on a donkey,  
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

<sup>6</sup> The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; <sup>7</sup> they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. <sup>8</sup> A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup> The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!

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

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

<sup>10</sup> When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” <sup>11</sup> The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

A The Processional Gospel for this day.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **BLESSING OF THE PALMS** (*raise palms*)

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

### **PROCESSION**

P Let us go forth in peace,

C **in the name of the Lord.**

*Refrain*

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re - deem - er, king,

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.

1 You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,  
 2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais - ing you on high;  
 3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;  
 4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.  
 5 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

*Refrain*

now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One.  
 cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.  
 our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.  
 To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.  
 great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

*Once all are standing at their places in the sanctuary the greeting is offered.*

P Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C **Hosanna in the highest.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

### **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**Pastor Tim Linstrom**

### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

**“No Burden Is He“**

**LYFE Choir**

*(The beasts of burden are herded into the sanctuary)*

All: I have carried the load, carried the load,  
And borne the burdens  
Of Mankind for centuries gone by  
I have carried the load, carried the load, in times uncertain  
And I've pulled you right here to testify  
‘Cause of all the things I've carried  
Whether water, bread, or wine  
Whether building stones or firewood  
On my back, I tow the line!  
Yes, of all the things I've carried  
There is none that is so fine, “no!”  
No burden is he.....

Oxen: Well I've carried the load, carried the load  
I am the oxen!  
To the pyramids I pulled each brick and stone!

Camel: Yes, I've carried the load, carried the load  
I am the camel!  
Across deserts, all your treasures I have towed!

All:                   But with every ox and camel,  
                          Every burro, every yak  
                          There is not another mammal  
                          With a burden on her back  
                          Like the one who carries Jesus  
                          To Jerusalem today, “nay!”  
                          No burden is he!

                          And I heard that donkey say:

Chorus:            With a HEE-HAW, HEE! HO-SANNA in the highest!!  
                          I’ll carry him down the mountain with my head high in the air!  
                          With a HEE-HAW-HEE! Our Savior is the finest!  
                          Of all the divinest burdens that I bear!

Bridge:             Well see that mountain over there?  
                          It’s called the Mount of Olives  
                          And I’m galloping to the top to see my Lord  
                          We will ride down to the city  
                          With disciples who will follow  
                          And Christ shall bear our burdens evermore!

Chorus:            With a HEE-HAW, HEE! HO-SANNA in the highest!!  
                          Take off that yoke and bridle,  
                          and shake off your fears and woes!  
                          Yes, a HEE-HAW-HEE! Christ Jesus is the finest!  
                          Of all the divinest burdens that I bear!

No burden is he.....

No burden is he.....

No burden is he.....

No burden is he.....

## FIRST READING

**Isaiah 50:4-9a**

<sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. <sup>6</sup>I 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. <sup>7</sup>The 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; <sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. <sup>9a</sup>It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

- A The Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

**Philippians 2:5-11**

<sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, <sup>7</sup>but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup>he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

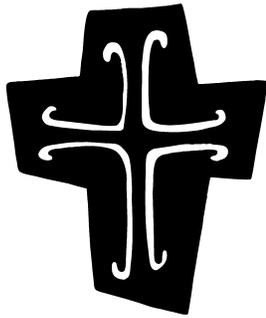
- A The Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

## THE PASSION OF OUR LORD ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

- P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh chapters.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

*Due to the length of the passion reading, all are seated until the appropriate time when, by tradition, the congregation stands as the passion narrative concludes.*

# The Passion of the Lord According to Luke.



The congregation is invited to participate by reading allowed in unison the part of the People, which is in bold type and marked by the palms icon.



*Mathew 26:1-27:66*

## *The Anointing of Bethany*

**Narrator:** When Jesus had finished saying all these things, he said to his disciples,

**Jesus:** ‘You know that after two days’ the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified.’

**Narrator:** Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas, and they conspired to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. But they said,



**People:** **Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.**

**Narrator:** Now while Jesus was in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, a woman came to him with an

alabaster jar of very costly ointment, and she poured it on his head as he sat at the table, but when the disciples saw this, they were angry and said,



**People** “**Why this waste? For this ointment could have been sold for a large sum, and the money given to the poor.**”

**Narrator :** But Jesus aware of this, said to them,

**Jesus:** ‘Why do you trouble the woman? She has performed a good service for me. For you will always have the poor with you; but you will not always have me. By pouring this ointment on my body, she has prepared me for burial. Truly I tell you, wherever this good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.’

**Narrator:** Then one of the Twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said,

**Judas:** ‘What will you give me if I betray him to you?’

**Narrator:** They paid him thirty pieces of silver, and from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

### *The Last Supper with the Disciples*

**Narrator:** On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus saying,



**People:** “Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?”

**Narrator:** He said,

**Jesus:** ‘Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, ‘The teacher says, “My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.”’”

**Narrator:** So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover. When it was evening, he took his place with the Twelve; and while they were eating, he said,

**Jesus:** “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.”

**Narrator:** And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another,



**People:** “Surely it is not I, Lord?”

**Narrator:** He answered,

**Jesus:** “the one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes, as it is written of him, but woe to the one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.”

**Narrator:** Judas, who betrayed him, said,

**Judas:** “Surely not I, Rabbi?”

**Narrator:** He replied,

**Jesus:** “You have said so.”

**Narrator:** While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it, he broke it, gave it to the disciples and said,

**Jesus:** “Take, eat; this is my body.”

**Narrator:** Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying,

**Jesus:** “Drink from it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

**Narrator:** When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them,

**Jesus:** “You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.”

**Narrator:** Peter said to him,

**Peter:** “Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.”

**Narrator:** Jesus said to him,

**Jesus:** “Truly I tell you, this very night before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.”

**Narrator:** Peter said to him,

**Peter:** “Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.”

**Narrator:** And so said all the disciples.

### *Gethsemane*

**Narrator:** Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples,

**Jesus:** “Sit here while I go over there and pray.”

**Narrator:** He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated . Then he said to them,

**Jesus:** “I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here and stay awake with me.”

**Narrator:** And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed,

**Jesus:** “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.”

**Narrator:** Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter,

**Jesus:** “So you could not stay awake with me for one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

**Narrator:** Again he went away for the second time and prayed,

**Jesus:** “My Father, if it is cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.”

**Narrator:** Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy.

So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them,

**Jesus:** “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.”

### *Arrest and Caiaphas*

**Narrator:** While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, who had come from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying,

**Judas:** “The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.”

**Narrator:** At once he came up to Jesus and said,

**Judas:** “Greetings, Rabbi!”

**Narrator:** and kissed him. Jesus said to him,

**Jesus:** “Friend, do what you are here to do.”

**Narrator:** Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to him,

**Jesus:** “Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But then how would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say that it must happen in this way?”

**Narrator:** At that hour Jesus said to the crowds,

**Jesus:** “Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled.”

**Narrator:** Then all the disciples deserted him and fled. Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. Now chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At Last two came forward and said,

 **People:** “This fellow said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.’”

**Narrator:** The high priest stood and said,

**High Priest:** “Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?”

**Narrator:** But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him,

**High Priest:** “I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you Are the Messiah, the Son of God.”

**Narrator:** Jesus said to him,

**Jesus:** “You have said so. But I tell you: From now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.”

**Narrator:** Then the high priest tore his clothes and said,

**High Priest:** “He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy, what is your verdict?”

**Narrator:** They answered,

 **People:** “He deserves death!”

**Narrator:** Then they spat in his face and struck him, and some slapped him, saying,

 **People:** “Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?”

### *Peter's Denial of Jesus.*

**Narrator:** Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said,

**Maid:** "You also were with Jesus the Galilean."

**Narrator:** But he denied it before all of them, saying,

**Peter:** "I do not know what you are talking about!"

**Narrator:** When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him and she said to the bystanders,

**Another Maid:** "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth."

**Narrator:** Again he denied it with an oath,

**Peter:** "I do not know the man!"

**Narrator:** After a little while the bystanders came up to Peter and said,

 **People:** "Certainly you are also one of them; for your accent betrays you."

**Narrator:** Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath,

**Peter:** "I do not know the man."

**Narrator:** At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: 'Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.' And he went out and wept bitterly.

### *Jesus Brought Before Pilate*

**Narrator:** When the morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate, the governor. When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders. He said,

**Peter:** "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood."

**Narrator:** But they said,

 **People:** "What is that to us? See to it yourself."

**Narrator:** Throwing the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and went and hanged himself. But the chief priests taking the pieces of silver, said,



**People:** “It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money.’

**Narrator:** After conferring together, they used it to buy the potter’s field as a place to bury foreigners. For this reason that field has been called Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet, Jeremiah , ‘And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one on whom a price had been set,

On whom some of the people of Israel had set a price, and they gave them for the potter’s field, as the Lord commanded me.’

Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him,

**Pilate:** “Are you the King of the Jews?”

**Narrator:** Jesus said,

**Jesus:** “You say so.”

**Narrator:** But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him,

**Pilate:** “Do you not hear how many accusations they made against you?”

**Narrator:** But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge so that the governor was greatly amazed. Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them,

**Pilate:** “Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas, or Jesus who is called the Messiah?”

**Narrator:** For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgement seat, his wife sent word to him, ‘Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.’ Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them

**Pilate:** “Which of the two do you want me to release to you?”

**Narrator:** And they said,

**People:** “Barabbas!”

**Narrator:** Pilate said to them,

## *The Crucifixion.*

**Pilate:** “Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?”

**Narrator:** All of them said,



**People:** “Let him be crucified!”

**Narrator:** Then he asked,

**Pilate:** “Why? What evil has he done?”

**Narrator:** But they shouted all the more,



**People:** “Let him be crucified!”

**Narrator:** So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying,

**Pilate:** “I am innocent of this man’s blood. See to it yourselves.”

**Narrator:** Then the people as a whole answered,



**People:** “His blood be on us and on our children.”

**Narrator:** So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

**Narrator:** Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor’s headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying,



**People:** “Hail, King of the Jews!”

**Narrator:** They spat on him, took the reed and stuck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe, and put his clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of the Skull), they offered him wine to drink mixed with gall., but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him there. Over his head they put the charge against him which read, ‘This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.’

Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and the one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, “You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself.! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.”

In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders were mocking him saying,



**People:** “**He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the king of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, ‘I am the God’s Son.’”**

**Narrator:** The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

### ***Death and Burial***

**Narrator:** From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o’clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice,

**Jesus:** “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?”

**Narrator:** that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,



**People:** “**This man is calling for Elijah.”**

**Narrator:** At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said,



**People:** “**Wait, let us see whether Elijah comes to save him.”**

**Narrator:** Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice, and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the Temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection, they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified, and said,



**People:** “**Truly, this was the God’s Son!”**

**Narrator:** Many women were also there, looking on from a distance, they had followed Jesus from Galilee, and had provided for him. Among them were Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

**Narrator:** When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus.

He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. Then he rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there sitting opposite the tomb. The next day that is after the day of preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said,



**People:** “Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, ‘After three days I will rise again.’ Therefore command that the tomb be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, ‘He has been raised from the dead.’ and the last deception would be worse than the first.”

**Narrator:** Pilate said to them,

**Pilate:** “You have a guard of soldiers; go make it as secure as you can.”

**Narrator:** So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.



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

**GOSPEL RESPONSE**

Pastor Tim Linstrom

*Please stand*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**“Beneath the Cross”**

ELW 338

1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;  
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see  
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;

the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,  
the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.  
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;

a home with - in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,  
And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:  
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,

from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.  
the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.  
my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

## **NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.**

**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**A** Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray  
for the world and its needs.

A O God, you announce words of grace and truth. Give wisdom to all preachers in your church both globally and locally. Open our hearts to encounter the infinite life you offer in Jesus. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A You hold the whole universe. Gather sun and moon, clouds and stars, land and sea, and plants and animals around the cross, so that all creation bears witness to your saving love. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Your power is sure. Destroy inequity and division in every place, and build your beloved community among all people. Guide judges, attorneys, and juries so that they act with justice and fairness. We pray for those serving in the military and their families, especially **Amelia Eastman, Thomas Menter** (grandson of Louise), **Dylan Utterback** (son of Julie & Joel), **Jim Detjen** (brother of Mary), **Dylan Glenner, Hannah Best** (son and daughter of Anne-Marie Glenner), **Luke Livingston** (grand-nephew of Scott and Jan Schwanke). Hear us, O God

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Your heart breaks open at our pain. Send healing and vindication to all who, like Jesus, know the sting of betrayal, denial, abuse, or false accusations. Be with those experiencing pain or loss this day. We especially pray for **Carol Bertrand, Ruth Berman, Gordy Duprey, Elizabeth Falato, Marian McBride, Cathy Nathan, Tom Weglarz, Allison Wittich, Valerie Farran** (friend of the Wittichs), **Deb Fedro** (friend of Robin Saydak), **Kat David, Michael Gombar, Jacob Gombar** (cousins and uncle of Jeanne Nelson), **Mick Garrison** (family friend of the Fencs), **Laura Hansel** (sister of Mary Detjen), **Tobey Lannert** (sister-in-law of Carol Duprey), **Vic Larson** (former member), **the Chase Petersen family** (friends of Amy Dohler), **Gary Ringham** (friend of Nila and Arnie Bilstad), **Kari, Sydney, and Luke Stocks** (daughter in-law and grandchildren of Dorothy and Ron Stocks), **Michael Ungari, Lenita Spears**, (relative & friend of the Labellarte family), **Coco & Lukas** (grandchildren of JoAnne Schwarcz), **Jim Wahlund** (brother in-law of Chris Miller), **Dana Zingrone** (friend of Jeanne Nelson), **Jean Goodale, Sandy Sturt, and Alex Trachtenberg** (friends of the Roehls). Hear us, O God

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Your ways show compassion. Let this same mind be in us as we enter Holy Week. Bless those here who will lead worship and tell the story of Jesus' death and resurrection. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A O God, your embrace is eternal. Praise and thanks to you for all the faithful departed who rest in your mercy. Deliver us all from death's power and raise us to life in you. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

C **Amen.**

### **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always

C **and also with you.**

*All the people greet one another through the sharing of the peace.*

*Please be seated*

### **THE OFFERING**

**MUSICAL OFFERING "Go to Dark Gethsemane" Matthew Armstrong  
Adult Choir**

*Please stand as the offering is brought forward*

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

A O God, maker of heaven and earth,  
your steadfast love embraces all creation.  
You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth  
and bring forth its bounty.

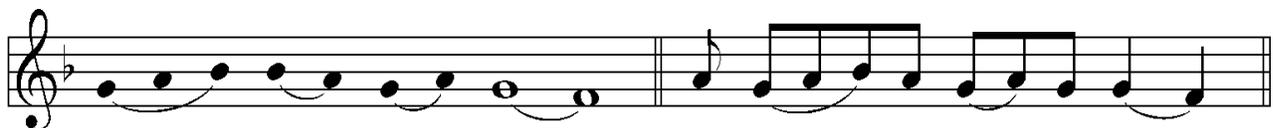
Through these gifts of bread and wine,  
draw us into the death and life of your Son,  
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work.  
We ask this in Jesus' name.

**C Amen.**

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



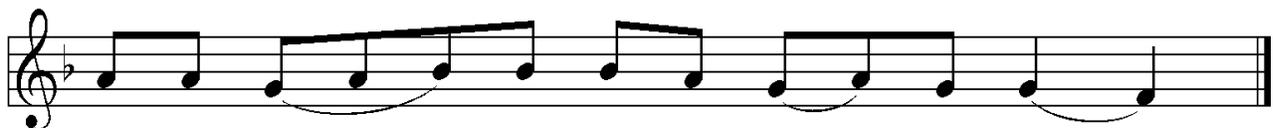
**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

**P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the saints, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
 Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
 Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
 Ho - san - na in the high - est.

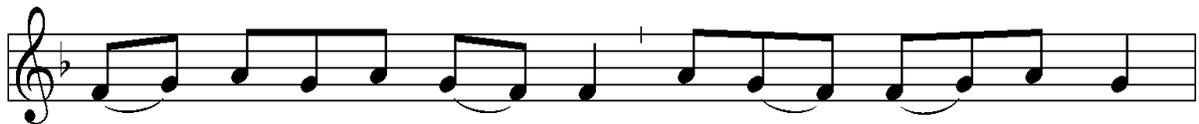
P Holy God, our living Water and our merciful Guide, together with rivers and seas, wells and springs we bless and magnify you. You led your people Israel through the desert, and provided them water from the rock. We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water, who joined us in our desert, pouring out his life for the world. 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. Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection, we await your salvation for all this thirsty world. Pour out your Spirit on this holy food and on all the baptized gathered for this feast: wash away our sin, that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.

P Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C Amen.

P All who believe in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, are welcome at the table of the Lord. Let us pray together as our Lord taught us.

### THE 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

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

P Come to the table.

Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

*Please be seated*

## COMMUNION CANTICLE

**C** 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. A - men

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

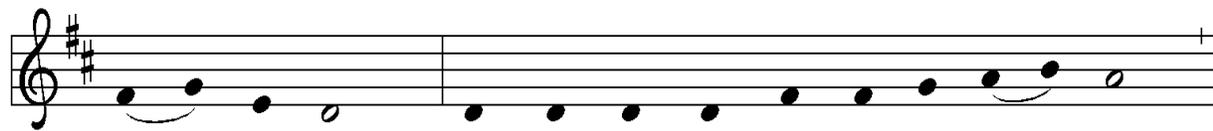
C Amen.

*Please stand*

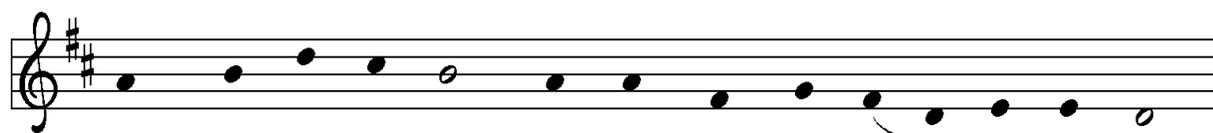
## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



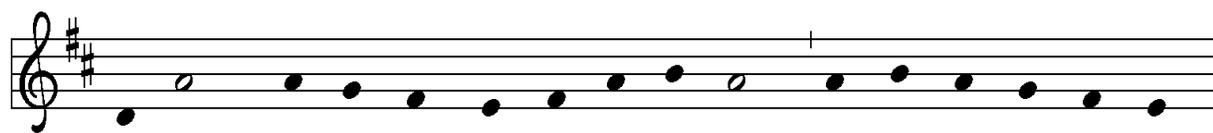
Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace: your word has



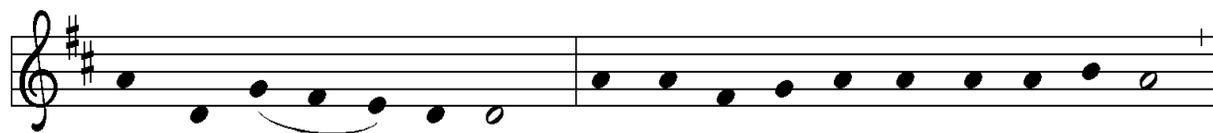
been ful-filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion



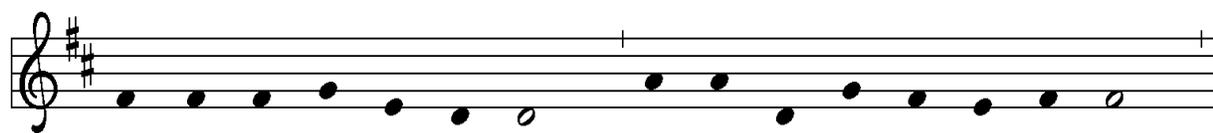
which you have pre-pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple:



a light to re-veal you to the na-tions and the glo-ry of your



peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son,



and to the Ho - ly Spir - it, as it was in the be - gin - ning,



is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A 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.

C Amen.

## BENEDICTION

P God our tender parent,  
God the crucified one,  
God the reconciling Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

## SENDING HYMN "When I Survey the Wonderous Cross" ELW 803

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the  
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the  
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and  
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I  
death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that  
love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and  
pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss and pour contempt on all my pride.  
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748  
 Music: HAMBURG, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### DISMISSAL

- A Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.  
 C **Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

**“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”**

**Burkhardt**

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Sanctuary flowers were donated by the Fencels, thanks be to God.

**EASTER BREAKFAST** — A special tradition at Holy Spirit is the gathering of the community for breakfast on Easter morning. You are invited to join us from 9:30-10:30 a.m. It’s always an incredible breakfast and a great way to celebrate Easter with your church family.

**EASTER BREAKFAST VOLUNTEERS** — Volunteers are needed on Saturday April 4 at noon to help setup/prepare food for easter brunch. Sign up sheet is in the gathering space as well as on the church website at [www.holyspirit-elca.org/help](http://www.holyspirit-elca.org/help).

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN 2026** — Every three years we make a specific appeal to our Building Fund that allows us to meet our mortgage payments and to complete a number of capital improvements to our property and grounds. The mission and ministries of Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit are dependent on the financial support and personal involvement of our dedicated members. This capital campaign theme is “Open Doors, Strong Roots.” As we recommit to another three year plan, we will need your help to make this appeal a successful one. Please look for opportunities to get involved and support this effort.

**COOL PLANT SALE** — The 27th Annual Cool Plant & Flower sale is underway. Orders are due by **Tuesday March 31st**. Order forms can be found in the gathering space. Contact Terri Pedersen at [terripedersen@aol.com](mailto:terripedersen@aol.com) with any questions. Order pick up will be at the church on May 9th between 12:30 and 2pm.

**COOL FOOD PANTRY** — The April donation item is snack foods and pasta.

**QUILTERS** — The Quilting Ministry meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m.

**PRAYER GROUP** — Our prayer group meets at 9:30a.m. on Thursday mornings in room 3. If you'd like to pray with us, please come! We'd love for you to join us.

**WORSHIP RUNS ON VOLUNTEERS (and grace)** — We're looking for friendly faces to serve as Greeters, Ushers, Communion Deacons and Assisting Ministers. Training is provided, schedules are flexible and you'll never be thrown in without support. Whether this is your first time volunteering or you've been here for years, there's a place for you. If you enjoy welcoming others and helping worship run smoothly, this is a simple and meaningful way to serve. **Sign up at:** [www.holyspirit-elca.org/volunteer](http://www.holyspirit-elca.org/volunteer) Questions? Contact Allison Wyrwicz at 704-491-4446 or email [allison.wyrwicz@gmail.com](mailto:allison.wyrwicz@gmail.com).

**THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY** — Join us on Thursday mornings from 10:15 to 11:30 for a time of Biblical reflection and spirited conversation. We are taking a couple of weeks off and will resume meeting on April 16.

**ON-LINE GIVING AND TEXT TO GIVE** — Our secure online giving option makes it more convenient for members and visitors to donate. Giving is also as easy as sending a text with our text-to-give feature. Text the amount you want to donate to 844-573-1379. A registration link will be texted back for you to enter your information. Tap “Process” to complete your donation. Please scan this QR code with your phone to donate using our secure online giving page.



**LIVE STREAM** — Our services are live-streamed and archived on our Holy Spirit YouTube Channel at [www.youtube.com/@churchinthewoods-holyspirit](http://www.youtube.com/@churchinthewoods-holyspirit) or scan the QR code. Please reach out to Daaron Dohler or Ryan Hathaway if you have any questions.



## **HOLY WEEK & EASTER**

**Maundy Thursday, April 2 at 7:30 p.m. —**

On this night we hear Jesus' command "Do this for the remembrance of me" and respond by gathering as He did with His disciples.

**Good Friday, April 3 at 7:30 p.m. —**

A service that moves from light to darkness as we reflect on the meaning of Christ's last hours and words, His suffering and death.

**Holy Week Children's Event Saturday, April 4 at 11:00 a.m. —**

**Easter Morning Worship April 5 at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. —**Celebrate the resurrection and the promise of new life.

**Easter Breakfast, April 5 —**

You are invited to join us from 9:30-10:30 a.m. A special tradition at Holy Spirit is the gathering of the community for breakfast between Easter services.

## HOLY SPIRIT HAPPENINGS

<b>Sunday March 29</b>	9:30 am	Service of Holy Communion
	10:45 am	Bell Choir
<b>Thursday April 2</b>	9:30 am	Prayer Group
	7:30 pm	Maundy Thursday Service
<b>Friday April 3</b>	7:30 pm	Good Friday Service
<b>Saturday April 4</b>	11:00 am	Holy Week Children's Event
<b>Sunday April 5</b>	8:30 am	Easter Service
	9:30– 10:30 am	Easter Breakfast
	10:30 am	Easter Service

Pastor:  
Office Manager:  
Music Ministers:

Rev. Timothy C. Linstrom  
Ciara Crews  
Karen M. Jirsa, Bill Vaananen,  
Nancy Fencil  
Karen M. Jirsa  
Jennifer Williams

Organist:  
Children's Ministry Director:

Assisting Minister  
Ushers  
Greeters  
Communion Deacons  
Record

Andy Eastmond  
Jackie Murphy, Larry Brady  
Jerry Mason

Scott Schwanke

Church office hours:  
Church email:  
Church Phone number:

Weekdays. 8:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.  
lutheranholyspirit@gmail.com  
847-945-1550

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