

SUNDAY OF THE PASSION/PALM SUNDAY

March 28, 2021—8:15 & 10:30



This week, the center of the church's year, is one of striking contrasts: Jesus rides into Jerusalem surrounded by shouts of glory, only to be left alone to die on the cross, abandoned by even his closest friends. Mark's gospel presents Jesus in his complete human vulnerability: agitated, grieved, scared, forsaken. Though we lament Christ's suffering and all human suffering, we also expect God's salvation: in the wine and bread, Jesus promises that his death will mark a new covenant with all people. We enter this holy week thirsty for the completion of God's astonishing work.

Living Springs Lutheran Church

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 Living Springs Lutheran Church

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

+ PALM SUNDAY LITURGY +

ACCLAMATION (3 Times)

Pastor: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: Hosanna in the highest.

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve. (Mark 11:1-11)

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

THANKSGIVING & PROCESSION

Pastor: The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Pastor: 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. **Amen.**

Pastor: Let us go forth in peace,

People: in the name of Christ. Amen

Pastor: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: Hosanna in the highest.

HYMN

"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.*

3. *The multitude of pilgrims
with palms before you went;
our praise and prayer and anthems
before you we present. (Refrain)*

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)*

All Glory, Laud, and Honor; Text: Theodulph of Orleans, tr. John Mason Neale;
Music: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN, Melchior Teschner

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: From God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, grace and peace be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: 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. **Amen.**

We are seated.

CHILDREN/YOUTH MESSAGE (10:30 only)

Adam Woodruff

BUCKET OFFERING: You may collect your coins or dollars at home for the bucket collection and bring them to worship or drop them off at the church office. Current collection is for the World Hunger 40 Days of Giving.

OLD TESTAMENT READING (10:30 only)

The image of the servant of God is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.

Lector: A reading from Isaiah.

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. 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 & spitting. 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; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty? (Isaiah 50:4-9a)

Lector: Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Christ did not act to attain status and glory but was obedient to God even to the point of death. Following Christ's example, we do not seek personal status or glory but care for others as God cared for us in Christ's death.

Lector: A reading from Philippians.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but 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, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:5-11)

Lector: Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

We stand as able.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Pastor: Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

+ Time of Silence — "Be still and know that I am God!" +

Pastor: In Jesus you came among us as a suffering servant. Give your church humility. Redeem your people from pride and the certainty that we always know your will. Heal us and empower us to confess Christ crucified. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Pastor: In creation, life springs from death. Redeem your creation awaiting resurrection: restore lost habitats and endangered species. Create new possibilities for areas affected by climate change, grant relief from natural disasters, and nurture new growth. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Pastor: Jesus was handed over to the powers of this world. In all nations, instruct the powerful, that they would not exploit their power but maintain justice. Sustain soldiers, and guide those who command them, that they serve those in greatest need. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Pastor: On the cross Jesus joined all who feel forsaken. Abide with those who are condemned to death. Defend those who are falsely accused. Console and strengthen those who are mocked or bullied. Accompany all who suffer with grief or illness. We pray especially for: *Bill Franck; Peter Creighton; Peggy Collins; Ann Lynn Caughman; Pat Bartucca; Nancy Baldwin; Vickie Crapps; Goldie/Delores Harmon; Ed Brennan; Debbie Smith; Charles Kauffman; Margaret Blank; Bunie Talbert; Emily Faile; Mary Gay; Bob Holmstrom; Kelly Koziol; Wilma Bracey; Vickie Meyers; Cristy Sanipre; Marilyn Leksander; and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud...*, Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Pastor: You called followers to tend Jesus' body in death. Sustain hospice workers and funeral directors. Bless all ministries at times of death: those who plan and lead funerals, those who prepare meals, all who offer support in grief. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Pastor: You inspired the centurion to confess Jesus as your Son. We praise you for the faith you have given to people of all places and times. Give us also such faith to trust the promises of baptism and, with them, to look for the resurrection of the dead. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Pastor: We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We are seated

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

"Bear the Cross and Journey On"

*May we ever follow Jesus
With a stumbling or a song
Let us ever follow Jesus*

*May we follow (May we follow)
Let us follow (Let us follow)
May we follow (May we follow)
Bear the cross and journey on.*

*Bear the Cross and Journey On; Text & Music: Justin Rimbo.
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THE PASSION OF OUR LORD ACCORDING TO THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Narrator: It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; for they said,

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

Narrator: While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. But some were there who said to one another in anger,

People: Why was the ointment wasted in this way? For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor.

Narrator: And they scolded her. But Jesus said,

Jesus: Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.

Narrator: Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. When they heard it, they were greatly pleased, and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him. On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to him,

People: Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?

Narrator: So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them,

Jesus: Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks, Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.

Narrator: So the disciples set out and went to the city, and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

When it was evening, he came with the twelve. And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said,

Jesus: Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me.

Narrator: They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another,

People: Surely, not I?

Narrator: He said to them,

Jesus: It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.

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

Jesus: Take; this is my body.

Narrator: Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them,

Jesus: This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.

We stand as able

WORDS OF INSTITUTION & LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: 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 & 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.

Pastor: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
People: **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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Pastor: Jesus draws the whole world to himself. Come to this meal and be fed.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

ALL ARE WELCOME to partake of Holy Communion, for we believe this is the Lord's Meal (not ours) and open to Christians of any background, denomination, or tradition. As Lutheran Christians, we believe in the full presence of Christ in, with, and under the elements. Children are welcome to receive communion at as early age as desired (parent may consult with pastor), and communion instruction is provided as scheduled. For children (or others) not receiving the elements, a special blessing is offered.

OUTSIDE - Please remain in place. Communion will be brought to you on the lawn or at your vehicle.

*INSIDE - Ushers will direct you to the front. **Please maintain at least 6-ft spacing while waiting & returning.***

*ELEMENTS: During Covid, we continue to temporarily use sanitary-packaged individual communion elements. The wafer is located under the plastic film on top of the sealed cup - you can pull back the plastic film for the wafer, and then peel off the aluminum seal to open the cup. Feel free to either eat the wafer or drink the grape juice first, depending on which is easier for you to open. Separate individually-packaged GLUTEN-FREE wafers are also available. *For INSIDE WORSHIP, we also have available an individual wine glass & traditional wafer at a separate station. Please commune at the station and return the plastic holder/glass to the container provided at the table.*

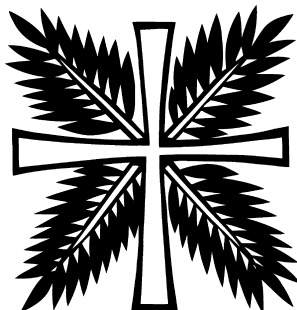
PALM SUNDAY OFFERING

INSIDE: Offerings may be placed in the offering plate on the table in the Holy Communion line. OUTSIDE: Offerings may be placed in the offering plate at the welcome table or given to a parking lot attendant. You may also drop off your offerings at the office during the week or send through mail/bank transfer. For those who wish to give electronically, you may use the secure Givelify app.

Google Play



App Store



COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION SONGS *"Bread of Life from Heaven"*

Refrain

*Bread of life from heaven,
your blood and body given,
we eat this bread and drink this cup
until you come again.*

*1. Break now the bread of Christ's sacrifice;
giving thanks, hungry ones, gather round.
Eat, all of you, and be satisfied;
in Christ's presence the loaves will abound.
(Refrain)*

*2. Seek not the food that will pass away;
set your hearts on the food that endures.
Come, learn the true and the living way,
that the fullness of life may be yours.
(Refrain)*

Bread of Life from Heaven; Text: Susan R. Briehl;
Music: ARGENTINE SANTO, VREAK NOW THE BREAD, Argentine traditional, refrain, Marty Haugen;
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"Lamb of God" by Twila Paris

*Your only Son, no sin to hide,
but you have sent him from your side
to walk upon this guilty son,
and to become the Lamb of God.*

*Your gift of love they crucified,
They laughed and scorned him as he died,
The humble King they named a fraud,
And sacrificed the Lamb of God.*

*O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God;
I love the holy Lamb of God.
O wash me in his precious blood.
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.*

Lamb of God; CCLI Song #11402641
Words and Music: Twila Paris © 1985 Mountain Spring Music.
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After all have communed, we stand as able...

EUCCHARISTIC BLESSING

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

People: **Amen**

We are seated for continuation of the Passion Reading

+ THE PASSION OF OUR LORD +

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

Jesus: You will all become deserters; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.' But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.

Narrator: Peter said to him,

Peter: Even though all become deserters, I will not.

Narrator: Jesus said to him,

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

Narrator: But he said vehemently,

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

Narrator: And all of them said the same.

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples,

Jesus: Sit here while I pray.
Narrator: He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them,
Jesus: I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.
Narrator: And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said,
Jesus: Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.
Narrator: He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter,
Jesus: Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.
Narrator: And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words.

HYMN (*seated*)

“Stay With Me” (sung twice)

*Stay with me,
remain here with me,
watch and pray.
Watch and pray.*

Stay With Me: Text: Taizé; Music: STAY WITH ME, Jacques Berthier;
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Narrator: And once more Jesus came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. He came a third time and said to them,
Jesus: Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.
Narrator: Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying,
Judas: The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard.
Narrator: So when he came, he went up to him at once and said,
Judas: Rabbi!
Narrator: and kissed him. Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to them,
Jesus: Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled.



Narrator: All of them deserted him and fled. A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked. They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying,

People: We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.'

Narrator: But even on this point their testimony did not agree. Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus,

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

Narrator: But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him,

High Priest: Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?

Narrator: Jesus said,

Jesus: I am; and 'you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power,' and 'coming with the clouds of heaven.'

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

High Priest: "Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?"

Narrator: All of them condemned him as deserving death. Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him, Prophecy! The guards also took him over and beat him.

HYMN (*seated*)

"Go to Dark Gethsemane"

*1 Go to dark Gethsemane,
all who feel the tempter's pow'r;
your Redeemer's conflict see.
Watch with him one bitter hour;
turn not from his griefs away;
learn from Jesus Christ to pray.*

*2 Follow to the judgment hall,
view the Lord of life arraigned;
oh, the wormwood and the gall!
Oh, the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun not suff'ring, shame, or loss;
learn from him to bear the cross.*

Go to Dark Gethsemane; Text: James Montgomery; Music: GETHESEMANE, Richard Redhead;

Narrator: While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said,

Servant: You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth.

Narrator: But he denied it, saying,

Peter: I do not know or understand what you are talking about.

Narrator: And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed. And the servant-girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders,

Servant: This man is one of them.

Narrator: But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter,
People: Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean.

Narrator: But he began to curse, and he swore an oath,
Peter: I do not know this man you are talking about.

Narrator: At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, "Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." And he broke down and wept. As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him,
Pilate: Are you the King of the Jews?
Narrator: He answered him,
Jesus: You say so.

Narrator: Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again,
Pilate: Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.

Narrator: But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed. Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them,
Pilate: Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?
Narrator: For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again,
Pilate: Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?
Narrator: They shouted back,
People: Crucify him!

Narrator: Pilate asked them,
Pilate: Why, what evil has he done?
Narrator: But they shouted all the more,
People: Crucify him!

Narrator: So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him,
People: Hail, King of the Jews!

Narrator: They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.



1 *Beneath the cross of Jesus
I long to take my stand;
the shadow of a mighty rock
within a weary land,
a home within a wilderness,
a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat
and burdens of the day.*

2 *Upon the cross of Jesus,
my eye at times can see
the very dying form of one
who suffered there for me.
And from my contrite heart, with tears,
two wonders I confess:
the wonder of his glorious love
and my unworthiness.*

Beneath the Cross of Jesus; Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane; Music: ST. CHRISTOPHER, Frederick C. Maker

Narrator: They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take. It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying,

People: Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!

Narrator: In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying,

People: He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.

Narrator: Those who were crucified with him also taunted him. When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice,

Jesus: Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?

Narrator: which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

People: Listen, he is calling for Elijah.

Narrator: And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying,

Bystander: Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.

Narrator: Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

(We STAND in silence. After the chime is sounded 7 times, the passion concludes:)

Narrator: And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said,

Centurion: Truly this man was God's Son!

Narrator: There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem. When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where the body was laid.

+ CONFESSION OF FAITH - APOSTLES' CREED +

People: I BELIEVE... in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I BELIEVE... in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I BELIEVE... in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you † that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity. **Amen.**

HYMN

"Ah, Holy Jesus"

(While we sing, we turn and face the processional cross as it is carried out.)

*1. Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended
that we to judge thee have in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,
O most afflicted.*

*2. Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee.
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee;
I crucified thee.*

Ah, Holy Jesus; Text: Johann Heermann, tr. Robert Bridges; Music: HERZLIEBSTER JESU, Johann Crüger

WE DEPART IN SILENCE

HOLY WEEK



Holy Monday - Good Friday - On-Line Pastors/Deacon Devotion (posted daily @ noon)

Maundy Thursday, April 1 - Noon (sanctuary) & 7:00 (sanctuary/online)

Good Friday, April 2 - Noon (sanctuary) & 7:00 (sanctuary/online)

Holy Saturday, April 3 - 7:30pm (lawn Vigil Service)

Easter Sunday, April 4 - 6:30am Son-Rise (lawn)

8:15am Worship (sanctuary)

10:30am Festival Worship (sanctuary/lawn/vehicle/online)

6pm Emmaus Communion (GoogleMeet from your home)

(*Lutheran Men will have Easter Breakfast "to-go" boxes available for pick-up after the Son-rise and 8:15 worship services)

EASTER FLOWERS

Due by Tomorrow, 3/29

If you would like to donate a flower in honor/memory of a loved one, please fill out the form in the narthex & return it to the office or place in the offering plate or call the office. The name of your loved one will be printed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. \$12 donation per plant is requested. Due 3/29

EASTER BREAKFAST "TO-GO"

LS Lutheran Men are providing Easter Breakfast "to-go" this year. Breakfast bags may be picked up from the parking lot after the Sun-rise & 8:15 services. All donations support the LS Legrand-Lowman Scholarship Fund.

40X40 LENTEN COLLECTION

Small blankets (shawls, lap blankets) for local nursing homes; paper goods (paper towels, napkins) for homeless shelter and Palmetto Place; and backpack individual food items (cereal, applesauce/fruit cups, juice). A basket is available in the admin building. Our goal is 40X40=1600 total items.

EMMAUS AT-HOME EASTER WORSHIP

Sunday, April 4 @ 6PM

Emmaus Easter Evening Worship remembers how the risen Jesus broke bread and ate in Cleopas' home in Emmaus on Easter evening (Luke 24:13-35). Join the GoogleMeet communion worship from home at 6pm (meet.google.com/gtk-ebxv-zjp

or call 484-544-3135 PIN: 164 292 357#). You may bring your bread & wine to church for any of the Easter morning services (place them on the special table by the Communion Altar before worship). You can then take it home afterward, for use during the Emmaus worship.

EASTER BUTTERFLY GARDEN - SEEDS OF HOPE!

We have 1500 packets of Easter Butterfly Garden flower seeds to share with others. The attached card includes a message of Hope, plus our Holy Week / Easter worship invitation. Pick up several to share with your neighbors, friends, co-workers, teammates, or strangers you meet anywhere. **Take a photo of your planted seeds and send it to:* GodAroundUs@LivingSpringsColumbia.org.

WALK THE JESUS WAY: STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING HOLY WEEK

Wednesday, March 31

The Stations of the Cross or the Way of the Cross is an ancient practice of embodied prayer. These ecumenical stations were patterned after the Via Dolorosa, the traditional walk to Calvary, using scripture from the four gospels. At SC Lutheran Retreat Centers, we are calling the trail, The Jesus Way! The Jesus Way is a new gentle trail that loops around Camp Kinard. Fourteen signposts have been installed around the moderate 1.5 mile loop around camp. Now is a perfect time to pray with our feet by worshipping outdoors, socially distanced, in God's beautiful creation! Invite friends from your congregation or your neighborhood walking buddies. Learn more here **Interested in Going as a Group?** Steve Bloss will lead a carpool to Camp Kinard on Wednesday, March 31. We will leave Living Springs at 9:30am. If you are interested in going with this group contact Steve Bloss at 803-467-8287, so he can determine a head count to make reservations for our group.

NEHEMIAH ACTION

Monday, April 26

"Let Justice roll down like the waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream" (Amos 5:24) The MORE Justice Rally on March 22 welcomed 350 Justice Network Members from Living Springs and 35+ other congregations, both online and drive-in, to lift up our community concerns for affordable housing, safe neighborhoods, mental health care, and education. What an uplifting evening! At the Rally we heard testimonies from those affected by these problems, received research updates, and prepared to ask our public officials for change at the Nehemiah Action. LS Network Members are inviting 3+ to the Nehemiah Action, Monday, April 26, 6:30 pm, online to bring justice and change to the Midlands. Join us! To find out more, talk with a Justice Team Leader: Gail Buchanan, Mike Davidson, Helen Doerpinghaus, Gwen Furcron, Wayne Kannaday, Jim or Peg Zieche.

RUSH HOUR MINISTRY - MOVED TO MONDAY!

Due to the rain, we moved our special Holy Week Rush Hour ministry to this Monday, 4:30-6:00. Come be a part of this joyful experience, as we hold up signs of hope and distribute our Hope Seeds to those waiting in Rush Hour traffic here in front of the church. Join us for as much time as you are able.



YOUTH MINISTRY EASTER EVE MOVIE NIGHT

The Sr. Youth are planning a special Easter Eve movie night on the church lawn. We will participate in the 7:30pm Vigil Service and then watch a movie on the lawn, while working on a special surprise Easter Hope project. Bring your snacks, blankets, or chairs. Contact Leslie Bloss for more info.

LIVING SPRINGS PEW BEAR MINISTRY

Each bear is a minister of God's love as they leave here to bless others. You may take a bear to anyone in need: hurting from illness, grief, loneliness, depression, or other reason. If you take a bear, please place \$10 or a free-will offering in a pew envelope and mark *Pew Bears*. Funds help replace the bears. Thank you for praying for this ministry.

March Book of the Month:

Gospel of Mark

April Books of the Month:

Philippians/Colossians

SUNDAY OF THE PASSION / PALM SUNDAY:

Blessing of the Palms

Congregations across the world were asked to refrain from worshipping in person during the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 to stem the spread of the deadly virus. For many, the loss was felt most sharply on Palm Sunday just as Holy Week services were scheduled to begin.

One congregation in Central Washington State worshiped in their homes that morning via conference call. They hadn't been able to distribute palms to one another, so pretending to wave imaginary branches in their own homes felt inauthentic and strange. Absent their usual practices, the pastor of the little church composed a non-traditional "Blessing of the Palms" for worship as they gathered in the safety of their homes. Instead of blessing palm branches on that Palm Sunday morning, the assembly was invited to bless the palms of their own outstretched hands.

The word hosanna, shouted by those witnessing Jesus' entry into Jerusalem in Mark's gospel, can be translated, "Help, please, now!" With this very word on our lips, today we are invited to lay down more than coats and leafy branches at the foot of Jesus. We are invited to lay down our very own palms just as they are.

Imagine today that the palms laid out at the feet of Jesus today are the very palms of hands we meet every day in our own community and in the world. Some of these will be cracked, old, and tired with work; others will be sweating and nervous with worry; still others might be hopeful and open, excited or twitching with anticipation. Today we are invited to lay every one of those things that excite, demand, and trouble us at the foot of Jesus with a word of "Hosanna!" on our lips.

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LIVING SPRINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH

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