



## **ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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Supply Pastor: Pr. Joseph A. Veres

### **Sunday Of the Passion/Palm Sunday**

**April 5, 2020**

**Welcome and Blessings!** Palms...today it's not a leaf, but our hands we raise. In Lent, we walk as Jesus did where our hands reach out to our broken and sinful humanity that needs the cross. We welcome everyone, especially those who may be visitors. We give you thanks and thank our gracious God for your presence.



**Communion** We will be doing communion today. **We ask you have a slice of bread (or gluten free alternative) ... or cut a portion sufficient for all who are in your household, plus, as available, have either grape juice or wine.** We will give instructions during the time the meal is instituted. We teach to receive either element (bread or the cup) is sufficient to receive Christ's presence... so you may wish to have only bread if adding grape juice or wine may be difficult to obtain due to the current COVID 19 virus restrictions.

**Offering Envelopes** We encourage to send your regular offering to the church at the above listed address. You may also wish to consider "Simply Giving" which automatically remits your chosen offering amount to the church; contact the Church Office, 570-223-9422 if you have questions.

### **St. Paul's Mission Statement**

**We are a community of faith called to share the good news of Jesus as our model of life.**

**We seek spiritual maturity through worship, learning and serving.**

**We invite and welcome all who desire to share this journey of faith active in love.**

### **Introduction to Palm Sunday**

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.

## **THE SERVICE**

**10:00 AM**

**(Please join the Zoom meeting by 9:40 AM since there will be an orientation on the format being used.)**

**Sharing plus giving instructions re the service, use of Zoom, and music.**

### **Gathering**

**\*Liturgy for Palm Sunday**

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

**C** Hosanna in the highest.

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

**C** Hosanna in the highest.

### **\*Blessing and Distribution of Palms**

**P** The Holy Gospel According to St. Matthew the twenty-first chapter.

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

### **\*Processional Gospel**

**Matthew 21:1-11**

*Jesus enters Jerusalem*

<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, saying,

<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."

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **Blessing of Palms**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. 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 hands lifted to you and the palms that are turned in praise of your name. As we hold them to you, remind us of the gift we have in Christ so that by grace we follow our Lord in the way of the cross and are joined to his death and resurrection, to boldly enter into new life with you. Bless then also our palms to serve those in need and in obedience to you will; these things we ask through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen**

### **\* Response/ Procession**

**P** Let us shout in praise of our Lord,

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



**\*Hymn**

*"All Glory, Laud, And Honor"*

*LBW p. 108*

**>> See next page for hymn music and words <<**

## All Glory, Laud, and Honor

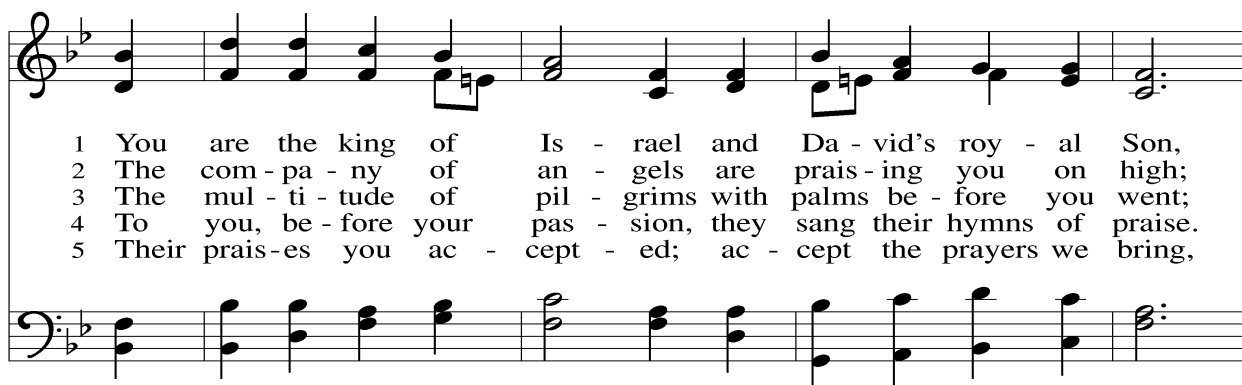
*Refrain*



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.

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
 Music: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN, Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635

**P** Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
**C** **Hosanna in the highest.**

### Prayer of the Day

**P** Let us pray. O God of mercy and might, in the mystery of the passion of your Son you offer your infinite life to the world. Gather us around the cross of Christ, and preserve us until the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen**

### Sermon

The backside of praise

### Word

**Lector:** A Reading from Philippians

*Paul uses an early Christian hymn to help us comprehend Jesus' obedient selflessness on the cross and how God has made Christ lord over all reality. The perspective of the cross becomes the way we rightly understand God, Christ, our own lives, and fellowship within the community of Christ.*

### First 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.

**Lector:** The Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm

**Psalm 31:9-16 (Spoken)**

<sup>9</sup>Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble;

my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

<sup>10</sup>**For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing;**

**my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.**

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

<sup>12</sup>**Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind;**

**I am as useless as a broken pot.**

<sup>13</sup>For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around;

they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

<sup>14</sup>**But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD.**

**I have said, "You are my God.**

<sup>15</sup>My times are in your hand

rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

<sup>16</sup>**Let your face shine upon your servant;**

**save me in your steadfast love."**

**Anthem** *"Hosanna! Sing A Loud Hosanna!" (Composer: Mark Hayes)*

*May and Kathy Ertle*

### \*Gospel Acclamation

*Music LBW Page 63*

**C** **Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

### \*Gospel

**Matthew 26:14--27:66**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-sixth chapter.

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

*Spoken*

*In fulfillment of scripture and obedience to God's will, Jesus goes to the cross so that a new covenant in his blood may bring forgiveness of sins. Even the soldiers who crucify him recognize him to be the Son of God.*

**P** <sup>14</sup>One of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests <sup>15</sup>and said, "What will you give me if I betray him to you?" They paid him thirty pieces of silver. <sup>16</sup>And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

<sup>17</sup>On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" <sup>18</sup>He said, "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.'" <sup>19</sup>So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

<sup>20</sup>When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; <sup>21</sup>and while they were eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." <sup>22</sup>And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, "Surely not I, Lord?" <sup>23</sup>He answered, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. <sup>24</sup>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." <sup>25</sup>Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" He replied, "You have said so."

<sup>26</sup>While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." <sup>27</sup>Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; <sup>28</sup>for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>29</sup>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."

<sup>30</sup>When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

<sup>31</sup>Then Jesus said to them, "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.'

<sup>32</sup>But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee." <sup>33</sup>Peter said to him, "Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you." <sup>34</sup>Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." <sup>35</sup>Peter said to him, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And so said all the disciples.

<sup>36</sup>Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." <sup>37</sup>He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. <sup>38</sup>Then he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me." <sup>39</sup>And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want." <sup>40</sup>Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? <sup>41</sup>Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." <sup>42</sup>Again he went away for the second time and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." <sup>43</sup>Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. <sup>44</sup>So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. <sup>45</sup>Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "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. <sup>46</sup>Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

<sup>47</sup>While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. <sup>48</sup>Now the betrayer had given

them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him." <sup>49</sup>At once he came up to Jesus and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him. <sup>50</sup>Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you are here to do." Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. <sup>51</sup>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. <sup>52</sup>Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. <sup>53</sup>Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? <sup>54</sup>But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?" <sup>55</sup>At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, "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. <sup>56</sup>But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled." Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

**A/P** <sup>57</sup>Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. <sup>58</sup>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. <sup>59</sup>Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, <sup>60</sup>but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward <sup>61</sup>and said, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.'" <sup>62</sup>The high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?" <sup>63</sup>But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, "I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God." <sup>64</sup>Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you,

From now on you will see the Son of Man  
seated at the right hand of Power  
and coming on the clouds of heaven."

<sup>65</sup>Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. <sup>66</sup>What is your verdict?" They answered, "He deserves death." <sup>67</sup>Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, <sup>68</sup>saying, "Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?"

<sup>69</sup>Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean." <sup>70</sup>But he denied it before all of them, saying, "I do not know what you are talking about." <sup>71</sup>When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth." <sup>72</sup>Again he denied it with an oath, "I do not know the man." <sup>73</sup>After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you." <sup>74</sup>Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, "I do not know the man!" At that moment the cock crowed. <sup>75</sup>Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: "Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.<sup>27:</sup>

<sup>1</sup>When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. <sup>2</sup>They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor.

<sup>3</sup>When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. <sup>4</sup>He said, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." But they said, "What is that to us? See to it yourself." <sup>5</sup>Throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself. <sup>6</sup>But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money." <sup>7</sup>After conferring together, they used them to buy the potter's field as a place to bury foreigners. <sup>8</sup>For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. <sup>9</sup>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, <sup>10</sup>and they gave them for the



potter's field, as the Lord commanded me."

**P** <sup>11</sup>Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You say so." <sup>12</sup>But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. <sup>13</sup>Then Pilate said to him, "Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?" <sup>14</sup>But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

<sup>15</sup>Now, at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. <sup>16</sup>At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. <sup>17</sup>So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?" <sup>18</sup>For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. <sup>19</sup>While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, "Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him." <sup>20</sup>Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. <sup>21</sup>The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas." <sup>22</sup>Pilate said to them, "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" All of them said, "Let him be crucified!" <sup>23</sup>Then he asked, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified!"

<sup>24</sup>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, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." <sup>25</sup>Then the people as a whole answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!" <sup>26</sup>So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

<sup>27</sup>Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. <sup>28</sup>They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, <sup>29</sup>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, "Hail, King of the Jews!" <sup>30</sup>They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. <sup>31</sup>After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

<sup>32</sup>As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. <sup>33</sup>And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), <sup>34</sup>they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. <sup>35</sup>And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; <sup>36</sup>then they sat down there and kept watch over him. <sup>37</sup>Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews."

<sup>38</sup>Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>39</sup>Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads <sup>40</sup>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." <sup>41</sup>In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, <sup>42</sup>"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. <sup>43</sup>He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, 'I am God's Son.'" <sup>44</sup>The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

<sup>45</sup>From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. <sup>46</sup>And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" <sup>47</sup>When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." <sup>48</sup>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. <sup>49</sup>But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." <sup>50</sup>Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last.

**A BRIEF SILENCE IS MAINTAINED FOR REFLECTION**

**A/P** <sup>51</sup>At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. <sup>52</sup>The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. <sup>53</sup>After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. <sup>54</sup>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, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

<sup>55</sup>Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had provided for him. <sup>56</sup>Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

<sup>57</sup>When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. <sup>58</sup>He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. <sup>59</sup>So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth <sup>60</sup>and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. <sup>61</sup>Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

<sup>62</sup>The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate <sup>63</sup>and said, "Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' <sup>64</sup>Therefore command the tomb to 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." <sup>65</sup>Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can." <sup>66</sup>So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

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

*Spoken*

**\*Hymn of the Day**

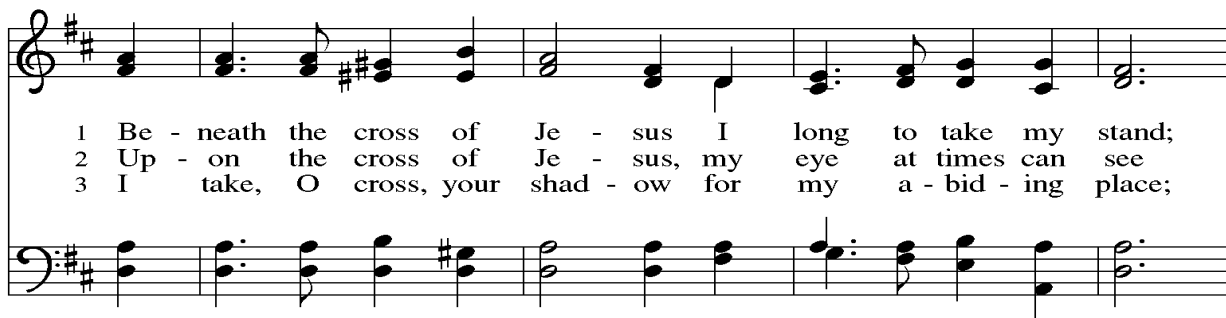
**Beneath the Cross of Jesus.**

**LBW p. 107**

**>> See next page for hymn music and words <<**



## Beneath the Cross of Jesus



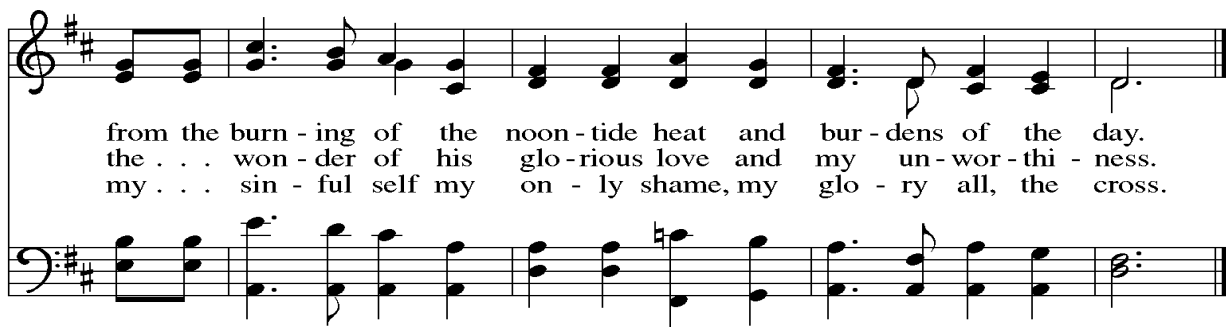
1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;  
 2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see  
 3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



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.

Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830–1869  
 Music: ST. CHRISTOPHER, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

### \*Apostles' Creed

P With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**C 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**

**\*Prayers of Intercession**

**P** Trusting in Christ's passover from death to new life, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*A brief silence.*

**A/P** God, most holy and humble, plant in your church Christ's spirit of humility. Remove any barriers preventing us from seeing his saving work on the cross. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

**P** You reveal your will for all creation through stones, seas, mountains, and meadows. In the splendor of what you have made, show us your care for everything, both great and small. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

**A/P** Rescue those who suffer and free those unjustly held captive. Bring to light the hidden systems that perpetuate injustice among your people. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

**P** Give courage and hope to all people who feel fear and anxiety in this time of world crisis. Lift those that are in distress, those who are ill, and those who are grieving (*especially*). Restore their trust in you, even as you meet their every need. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

**A/P** Gather your saints into the new covenant that Christ has established for all creation. When we fall into sin, renew us until Christ dwells with us again in fullness. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

**P** Attend to the needs of the whole world with your saving grace, and lead us all into new life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen**

**\*Peace**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

**>>> Congregational Sharing of Peace**

**Meal**

**\*Offertory "Create in Me A Clean Heart"**

*Music LBW Page 63*

***Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and uphold me with your free Spirit.***

**\*Offertory Prayer**

**P** Merciful Father,

**C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—  
ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love.  
Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ  
our Lord. Amen**

**\*The Great Thanksgiving**

**(Spoken)**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also 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 our thanks and praise.**

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**P** Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

**P** 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.

**P** With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C** **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

**P** O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

**C** **Come, Holy Spirit.**

**P** Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

**C** **Come, Holy Spirit.**

**P** With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

**C** **Amen**

**\*Lord's Prayer**

**P** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, knowing God's love and mercy in Christ, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C** **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**

**The Banquet**

*(We invite everyone who believes in the real presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Sacrament of Holy Communion and who is eligible to receive the Sacrament in their own congregation to commune with us today.*

## Hymn for Communion

*"Eat This Bread"*

WOV p. 107 (sung twice)

### Eat This Bread *Jesus Christ, Bread of Life*

*Refrain*

“Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry.  
OR Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun - ger.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.”  
Je - sus Christ, ris - en Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst.

Text: Taizé Community

Music: BERTHIER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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#### \*Table Blessing

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

**C** Amen

#### \*Post-Communion Prayer

**P** Let us pray. Tender and merciful one,

**C** at your feast, you fed us who brought nothing, turning our emptiness into joy. Filled with your abundant grace, send us now to be ministers of reconciliation, mending broken hearts, working for justice, and striving for peace among all people, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen

#### Sending

#### \*Blessing

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father † and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen

#### \*Announcements and sharing time

#### \*Dismissal

**P/A** Go in peace, serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Maundy Thursday**

April 9, 2020 \*

**Good Friday Worship**

April 10, 2020 at 2:00 PM via Zoom

**Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day**

Sunday, April 12, 2020 \*

\* Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday will be announced in separate e-mail.

## ZOOM WITH US.

We will be using Zoom, an internet software that allows us to both see and hear each other for the Palm Sunday service and later. The procedure will be included in the email sending the link for each service and generally involves merely double clicking the noted link for the meeting, **THEN CHOOSING THE AUDIO AND VIDEO OPTION when prompted.** It also gives an audio only part where you can listen by phone.

**WE SUGGEST IN THESE EARLY USES TO COME TO CHURCH BY USING THAT LINK AT LEAST 20 MINUTES BEFORE THE START OF SERVICE.** AN ORIENTATION ON HOW WE WILL DO THE SERVICE, WHERE YOU FIND CERTAIN CONTROLS/BUTTONS, THE USE OF "GALLERY" v. "SPEAKER, VIEW, AND HOW WE WILL HANDLE MUSIC, ETC. WILL BE EXPLAINED SO WE CAN START THE SERVICE AT 10:00 AM. FELLOWSHIP CONVERSATION WILL FOLLOW THE SERVICE SO WE MAY CATCH-UP ON NEEDS AFFECTING YOU AND THE CONGREGATION.

## FOOD PANTRY—WE NEED YOUR HELP

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE FOOD PANTRY CONTINUES TO SERVE THOSE IN NEED. DONATIONS ARE CRITICALLY NEEDED. IF YOU HAVE ANY FOOD STUFF TO SHARE (AND EVERYTHING IS USEFUL FOR THE PANTRY THESE DAYS), PLEASE CALL LYNNE AT 570-223-7521 TO ARRANGE TIMING AND THE PROCEDURE THAT ASSURES WE SAFELY TRANSFER THE FOOD FOR THE PANTRY'S USE.

Any other questions, please contact Jackie McGhee at 570-460-3236. If you are able, please send in your Food Pantry offering to the church as early as convenient. Please note, we also need cereal that you can drop off on Tues. from 9:00 to 10:00.

**ALWAYS WASH YOUR HANDS THOROUGHLY FOR 20 SECONDS AFTERWARDS AND AVOID ANY CONTACT WITH YOUR FACE UNTIL THAT IS DONE.**

**THE NEXT DISTRIBUTION DATE FOR THE PANTRY IS THURSDAY, APRIL 9<sup>th</sup> FROM 9:30 AM – 12:00 NOON.**

**Pastoral Care Concerns:** Please call the church office to leave a message for an Evangelism member or call Pastor Deb Taylor direct at 570-350-5115.

**For any questions please call the church office leaving a message with your name and phone number. Lynne will call you back or direct your call to another party. Please keep in mind that no one is in the office on most days however messages will be checked during the day.**

**Current Prayer Concerns:** John Einlenberger and family at the death of Dorothy, Krystalle (Daughter of David Paskiet), Don and Vicki Lishman, Michele Crompton, (Friend of Patsy Litts and John Young), Margo Kovacs, Don Killeen, Gloria Killeen, Ben Huffman, Jason Guzman, (Family of the Prides and Madeline McCarron), Family of Stacey Perryman, Robert (Mick) Perfetti (Brother-in-law of Kay and Faye), Lester Campbell, (Friend of the Clements Family), John Tufano, Charles Farley, Shane Balcik, John O' Connor, Jr., Jeffrey Wert, Jr., Javon Clements, Rosemary Gilchrist, (Friends of the Clements Family), Richard Rouzer, Kay Malinowitzer, Lori Osmun, (Friend of Carrie Strohl).

**Prayer Concerns:** Winnie Handel, Charlie and Alice Farley, Ken Brown, Charlie Roth (Brother-In-Law of Tom McGhee), Sonji Patrick, Sulai Malpica, Sarah and Felder Dorn (Friends of Madeline McCarron and Laura Pride), Marilyn Fackelman and Richard Sucky, (Mother and Father-in-law to Barbara Hart), Edith Patrick, Donald Killeen, Sr. (Don's Father), Joe Widmer (Son of Gloria Killeen), Sal Manda, Tatanisha Clements, Mario Vincenzino (Uncle of Stephanie Stephens), Stella Rouzer (granddaughter of Linda & Rich Rouzer), John Jones (brother of Madeline McCarron and uncle of Laura Pride), John Kennedy (father of Jackie McGhee), Shirly Bodine & Lou Costello (friends of Joan Carpenter), Bill Kilmurray (family of Kim Kilmurray), Donna Geilmann (sister of Marylee Rehm), Aaron Smith, Kristina Perfetti (niece of Faye Jones & Kay Malinowtizer), Robin Mason (daughter of John and Patsy Litts-Young), Lee Jennings and Ann Falzone, (friends of Sal and Noreen Manda), Ron & Mary Smith (cousins of Tom & Judy Smith and Frank & Emma Smith), Angel Berrios, Tiffany Bass (friend of Tracey Lasslett), Lois Morris, Doris Cramer, & Charlotte Jewell (friends of Ruth Ann Rumbold), Ken Werkheiser, and Sue Werkheiser (grandparents and aunt of Meredith Smith).

**Our Service men and women:** Nicholas & Ian Hopkins, Christina Perez, Raquel Berrios, Luke Biddulph, Corey Walton, Case Hofgen (cousin of Tim Lasslett), and Angela Anglada (niece of Lisa Dassaro).

**Those in Personal Care Homes:** Mary Hamlen.

### **Scripture Lessons for the Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day, April 12, 2020:**

<u>Acts 10:34-43</u>	<i>God raised Jesus on the third day</i>
<u>Jeremiah 31:1-6</u> (alternate)	<i>Joy at the restoration of God's people</i>
<u>Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24</u>	<i>This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Ps. 118:24)</i>
<u>Colossians 3:1-4</u>	<i>Raised with Christ to seek the higher things</i>
<u>Acts 10:34-43</u> (alternate)	<i>God raised Jesus on the third day</i>
<u>Matthew 28:1-10</u>	<i>Proclaim the resurrection</i>
<u>John 20:1-18</u> (alternate)	<i>Seeing the risen Christ</i>

### **CONGREGATION COUNCIL**

President: Laura Pride	570-807-6114	Vice President: Carrie Strohl	570-656-5600
	Secretary: Kay Malinowtizer	570-242-3157	
Laura Biddulph	570-369-0359	Patricia Clements	570-856-7433
Tom McGhee	570-994-4169	Dick Rehm	570-350-2615
Faye Jones	570-223-8035	Sal Manda	570-242-0401
Joy Donnelly	570-807-5592	Tracy Lasslett	570-234-4808

### **OFFICERS AND STAFF**

Treasurer: Don Carr	Financial Secretary: Dana Strohl
Church Secretary: Lynne Williams	Organist: Dave Libecap
Choir Director: Katherine Ertle	Junior Choir: May Ertle
Contemporary Music and Praise Band: Chris Matthy	