

Palm/Passion Sunday

Sunday, April 13, 2025 (10:30 a.m.)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
215 N. Warren St.
Orwigsburg, PA
570-366-2316

www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org

GATHERING

PRELUDE "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" M.McDonald

OPENING PROCLAMATION

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. **Hosanna in the highest.**

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁸After [Jesus] had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" ³²So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴They said, "The Lord needs it." ³⁵Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, ³⁸saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" ³⁹Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." ⁴⁰He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."
(Luke 19:28-40)

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

THE BLESSING OF THE PALMS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.

[Please lift your palms.] Bless these palms and those who lift 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.**

GATHERING HYMN

“The Palms”

J. Faure

1. O'er all the way green palms and blossoms gay
Are strewn this day in festive preparation,
Where Jesus comes, to wipe our tears away,
E'en now the throng to welcome Him prepare.

Refrain:

Join all and sing His name declare,
Let ev'ry voice resound with acclamation,
Hosanna! Praised be the Lord!
Bless Him, who cometh to bring us salvation!

2. His word goes forth, and people by its might
Once more their freedom gain from degradation,
Humanity doth give to each his right,
While those in darkness find restored the light. *[Refrain]*

3. Sing and rejoice, O blest Jerusalem,
Of all thy sons sing the emancipation,
Thro' boundless love, the Christ of Bethlehem
Brings faith the hope to thee forevermore. *[Refrain]*

CLOSING PROCLAMATION

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

As we now enter into the contemplation of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and meditate on the salvation of the world, let us pray.

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

WORD

A READING FROM ISAIAH

⁴The 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. ⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. ⁷The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ⁹It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

(Isaiah 50:4-9a)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 31:9-16 (read responsively)

⁹Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble;

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

¹⁰**For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing;**

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

¹¹I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors,

a dismay to those of my acquaintance;

when they see me in the street they avoid me.

¹²**I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind;**

I am as useless as a broken pot.

¹³For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around;

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

¹⁴**But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD.**

I have said, “You are my God.

¹⁵My times are in your hand;

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

¹⁶**Make your face to shine upon your servant,
and in your lovingkindness save me.”**

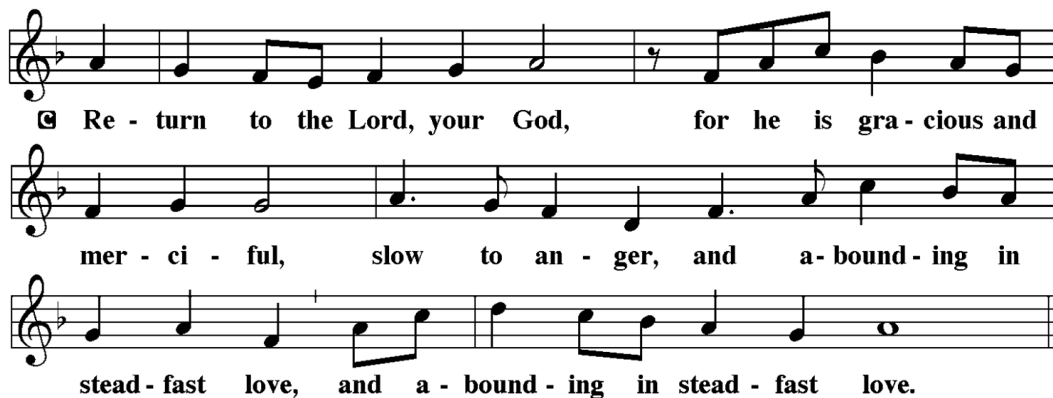
A READING FROM PHILIPPIANS

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:5-11)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

PASSION READING

The Passion of Our Lord according to St. Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

*[The congregation is invited to read aloud the **boldface** portions of this narrative.]*

NARRATOR: Now the festival of Unleavened Bread, which is called the Passover, was near. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to put Jesus to death, for they were afraid of the people. Then Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot, who was one of the twelve; he went away and conferred with the chief priests and officers of the temple police about how he might betray Jesus to them. They were greatly pleased and agreed to give him money. So he consented and began to look for an opportunity to betray Jesus to them when no crowd was present. Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying,

JESUS: Go and prepare the Passover meal for us that we may eat it.

NARRATOR: They asked him,

DISCIPLES: Where do you want us to make preparations for it?

NARRATOR: He said to them,

JESUS: Listen: when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him into the house he enters and say to the owner of the house, 'The teacher asks you, "Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?"' He will show you a large room upstairs, already furnished. Make preparations for us there.

NARRATOR: So they went and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal. When the hour came, Jesus took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. He said to them,

JESUS: I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.

NARRATOR: Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said,

JESUS: Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.

NARRATOR: Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying,

JESUS: This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

NARRATOR: And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying,

JESUS: This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table. For the Son of Man is going as it has been determined, but woe to that one by whom he is betrayed!

NARRATOR: Then they began to ask one another, which one of them it could be who would do this. A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. But he said to them,

JESUS: The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

JESUS: You are those who have stood by me in my trials; and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel. Simon, Simon, listen! Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.

NARRATOR: And Simon Peter said to Jesus,

PETER: Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death!

NARRATOR: Jesus said,

JESUS: I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day, until you have denied three times that you know me.

NARRATOR: Jesus said to them,

JESUS: When I sent you out without a purse, bag, or sandals, did you lack anything?

NARRATOR: They said,

DISCIPLES: No, not a thing.

NARRATOR: He said to them,

JESUS: But now, the one who has a purse must take it, and likewise a bag. And the one who has no sword must sell his cloak and buy one. For I tell you, this scripture must be fulfilled in me, 'And he was counted among the lawless'; and indeed what is written about me is being fulfilled.

NARRATOR: They said,

DISCIPLES: Lord, look, here are two swords.

NARRATOR: He replied,

JESUS: It is enough.

NARRATOR: He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them,

JESUS: Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.

NARRATOR: Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed,

JESUS: Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.

NARRATOR: Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground. When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, and he said to them,

JESUS: Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial.

NARRATOR: While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said to him,

JESUS: Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?

NARRATOR: When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked,

DISCIPLES: Lord, should we strike with the sword?

NARRATOR: Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said,

JESUS: No more of this!

NARRATOR: And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him,

JESUS: Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!

NARRATOR: Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said,

SERVANT GIRL: This man also was with him.

NARRATOR: But he denied it, saying,

PETER: Woman, I do not know him.

NARRATOR: A little later someone else, on seeing him, said,

SECOND SERVANT: You also are one of them.

NARRATOR: But Peter said,

PETER: Man, I am not!

NARRATOR: Then about an hour later still another kept insisting,

THIRD SERVANT: Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean.

NARRATOR: But Peter said,

PETER: Man, I do not know what you are talking about!

NARRATOR: At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, 'Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times.' And he went out and wept bitterly. Now the men who were holding Jesus began to mock him and beat him; they also blindfolded him and kept asking him,

SOLDIERS: Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?

NARRATOR: They kept heaping many other insults on him. When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought him to their council. They said,

PRIESTS: If you are the Messiah, tell us.

NARRATOR: Jesus replied,

JESUS: If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I question you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God.

NARRATOR: All of them asked,

PRIESTS: Are you, then, the Son of God?

NARRATOR: He said to them,

JESUS: You say that I am.

NARRATOR: Then they said,

PRIESTS: What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!

NARRATOR: Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying,

PRIESTS: We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king.

NARRATOR: Then Pilate asked him,

PILATE: Are you the king of the Jews?

NARRATOR: He answered,

JESUS: You say so.

NARRATOR: Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds,

PILATE: I find no basis for an accusation against this man.

NARRATOR: But they were insistent and said,

PRIESTS: He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.

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

PILATE: You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him.

NARRATOR: Then they all shouted out together,

CROWD: Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!

NARRATOR: (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting,

CROWD: Crucify, crucify him!

NARRATOR: A third time he said to them,

PILATE: Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him.

NARRATOR: But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said,

JESUS: Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?

NARRATOR: Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said,

JESUS: Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.

NARRATOR: And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying,

PRIESTS: He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!

NARRATOR: The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying,

SOLDIERS: If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!

NARRATOR: There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.' One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying,

FIRST CRIMINAL: Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!

NARRATOR: But the other rebuked him, saying,

SECOND CRIMINAL: Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.

NARRATOR: Then he said,

SECOND CRIMINAL: Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

NARRATOR: Jesus replied,

JESUS: Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.

NARRATOR: It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said,

JESUS: Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.

NARRATOR: Having said this, he breathed his last.

[- Silence -]

When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said,

CENTURION: Certainly this man was innocent.

NARRATOR: And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid.

It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was beginning. The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments. On the sabbath they rested according to the commandment. (Luke 23:1-56)

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”
[See back of bulletin]

THE NICENE CREED (Read in Unison)

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;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.
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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified,
He 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

Guide your church as we follow in the servant way of Jesus. Protect those who face hostility or oppression for their faith. Humble those who use your Word to manipulate and oppress others. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Your good creation is a living witness to Christ's passion and resurrection. Open our eyes to see your presence in the world, that we may better care for the earth and its creatures. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Let your face shine upon the leaders of nations and let the same mind be in them as was in Christ Jesus. May even the most powerful humble themselves to serve those who are most vulnerable. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Stand with those who are unjustly accused or wrongly convicted and abide with those who suffer in mind, body, or spirit. We especially pray for everyone on our prayer list. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Give strength to those who will lead or participate in our worship during Holy Week. Instill in them awe and joy, that their service may reflect the love of Jesus. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We give thanks to you for all our beloved dead, trusting that one day you will welcome all your children into the paradise of your eternal presence. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

(The Pastor concludes): Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. **Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Were You There"

Spiritual

OFFERTORY HYMN

"Come to the Table"

Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.

All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.

Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.

Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

The musical score consists of six systems of music. Each system includes a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Generous God, you do not feed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and all that you have given into our care that this feast that we share might be transformed into a bountiful feast that welcomes all, in the name of Jesus Christ, our host and our guest. **Amen.**

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

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

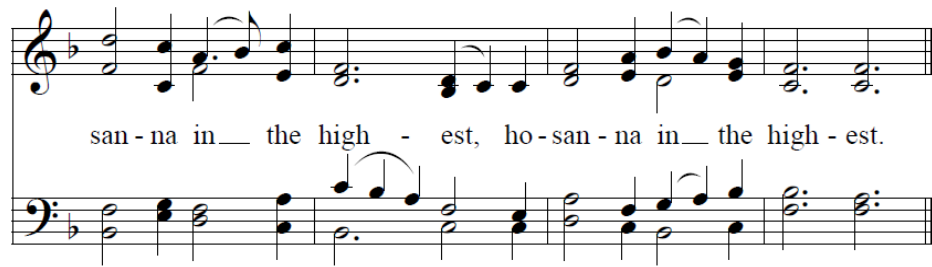
SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, —

heav'n 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-

The musical score consists of three systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The first system covers the first line of lyrics, the second system covers the second line, and the third system covers the third line. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving bass lines.



BLESSING AT THE TABLE

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (read in unison)

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

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Happy are those who are called to his supper.

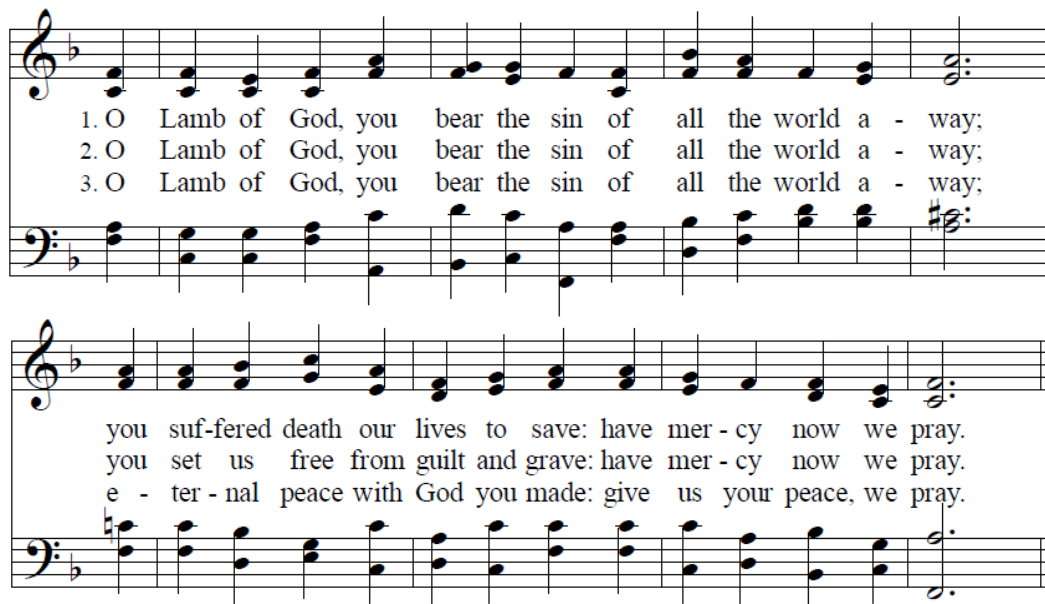
**O Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

INSTRUCTIONS

All who are baptized and seek forgiveness of their sins and the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion by intinction. You may dip a wafer of bread (the Body of Christ) into a chalice of wine (the Blood of Christ) before consuming it. If you (or your child) would like to receive a blessing rather than the Sacrament, come forward and say, "A blessing," or cross your arms over your chest.

If you are unable to come forward to receive the Sacrament, please raise your hand. We will share the Sacrament with those on the pulpit side of the nave followed by those on the lectern side.

AGNUS DEI



1. O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2. O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3. O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer - cy now we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer - cy now we pray.
e - ter - nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION HYMN

“Were You There”
[See back of bulletin]

TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and as a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

May Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!”
[See back of bulletin]

THE DISMISSAL

Go now in peace. Trust in God’s mercy and love. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

"Behold the King"

F. Ritter

Our Liturgy and Music are used by permission through Augsburg Fortress License #20611.

Altar flowers are presented in honor of our daughter, Victoria Spitler, by her parents, Tina and Scott Butler.

Chancel flowers are presented in honor of Juli’s birthday, 4/15, by Sue and Kurt Schenck.

Bulletins are presented in memory of Corrinne Shoener by daughter, Kathleen and family.

Introduction to the Day: Today we follow Christ from his triumphal entry to the cross, each step in this journey is marked by his compassion for those who would betray, mock, accuse, or harm him. Despite his suffering, Jesus, the Son of God, is not shamed or disgraced, but instead he asks forgiveness for even those who put him to death. Through these forty days of Lent, we have been invited to “let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus.” As Holy Week begins, let us walk with Jesus to the cross, with both grief and thanksgiving in our hearts, trusting in God’s redeeming love.

LOOKING FOR A CHURCH HOME?

Please worship with us again. Take a copy of our newsletter. Check out our webpage. Visit us on Facebook. Watch our weekly video on YouTube and get to know us better! We have a rich Lutheran tradition, but we are not old-fashioned. Everyone is invited to worship with us and work together to the glory of God.

“SECOND SUNDAY” SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Second Sunday School class is **TODAY** Sunday, April 13. Children ages 1 through 6 are invited to join us for Bible stories, crafts, a snack, fun, and fellowship during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Young people aged 7 through 12 are invited to a youth group with Bible study and activities from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. Our final Sunday School class is Sunday, May 11.

SERVING PALM SUNDAY (4/13/25)

8:00 AM

GREETER: Krista Harding; USHER: Pastor Mike
LECTOR/COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Connie Teter

10:30 AM

GREETER: Jill Krewson; USHER: Wayne Lutsey
LECTOR: Eric Eger; COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Doug Travor
ALTAR GUILD: Joyce O'Rourke and Becky Smoot
COUNTERS: Rosalie Wingle and Diane Brobst

SERVING MAUNDY THURSDAY (4/17/25 at 7:00 PM)

GREETER: Deb Bolinsky; USHER: Jeff Ritschel
LECTOR: Deb Bolinsky; COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Jeff Ritschel
ALTAR GUILD: Kathy Miller and Connie Teter

SERVING GOOD FRIDAY (4/18/25 at 7:00 PM)

GREETER: TBD; USHER: Elinda Lado
ALTAR GUILD: Kathy Miller and Connie Teter

SERVING EASTER SUNDAY (4/20/25)

8:00 AM

GREETER: Krista Harding; USHER: Pastor Mike
LECTOR/COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Kay Weidensaul

10:30 AM

GREETER: Tina Butler
USHERS: Tina Butler, Victoria Spitler, Diane Brobst, and Mike Lado
LECTOR: Juli Schenck; COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Dave Krewson
ALTAR GUILD: Joanne Emerich and Gwen Wehr
COUNTERS: Joyce O'Rourke, Gloria Dierwechter, and Pat Davis

EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA

Our fourth annual "Easter Egg-stravaganza" will take place **TODAY from 12 noon to 2 p.m.** following Sunday School. Children up to age 10 are welcome to join the fun and fellowship. Please join us in Reidler Hall at any time during the event, to do crafts, play games, and enjoy snacks.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, April 13	PALM/PASSION SUNDAY Second Sunday 8:00 AM Worship with Holy Communion 9:15 AM Youth Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship with Holy Communion Children's Sunday School NOON - 2:00PM Easter Egg-stravaganza Crafters' Guild Open House in the basement after each service
Monday, April 14	7:00 PM Council
Wednesday, April 16	12 Noon Crafters' Guild 6:00 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Chancel Choir
Thursday, April 17	MAUNDY THURSDAY 7:00 PM Worship with Holy Communion
Friday, April 18	GOOD FRIDAY 7:00 PM Words from the Cross - Tenebrae Service
Saturday, April 19	HOLY SATURDAY 5:30 PM Silent Prayer, Meditation, and Reflection
Sunday, April 20	THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD (EASTER) 8:00 AM Worship with Holy Communion 10:30 AM Worship with Holy Communion

PLEASE FILL OUT A COMMUNION CARD

Members should confirm that they have received the Sacrament at least once during each calendar year. If you have not completed a Communion card this year, please fill one out and drop it into the offering plate before you leave the church today.

CRAFTERS' GUILD NEWS

Our Spring creations will be on display **TODAY** in the basement and available for purchase after the early and late services. The items will remain available through Mother's Day. Stop by to see our creativity "in bloom."

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

On Maundy Thursday, April 17, we will gather for worship at 7:00 p.m. This special service will focus on Jesus' command for His disciples to love one another and the events of the Last Supper. Holy Communion will be shared, and the altar will be ceremonially stripped.

For Good Friday on April 18, we will host a Tenebrae service, also known as a service of darkness, at 7:00 p.m. Together, we will reflect on Jesus' "Seven Words from the Cross" in a solemn and reflective atmosphere. The service will conclude in complete darkness and silence, symbolizing His entombment.

Finally, join us in celebration on Easter Sunday, April 20, for the Resurrection of Our Lord. Worship services will take place at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. We will rejoice with joyful alleluias, share in the body and blood of our risen Savior, and loudly proclaim the blessed news: "Christ is Risen! He is Risen, indeed!"

Please invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join you for these special services!

RESERVE SPACE IN THE CHURCH?

Reidler Hall and other spaces within the church are available for use by members, church groups, non-profit organizations, and others. To reserve a space, please visit our church office to pick up a copy of our "Rental Guidelines" and an "Application Form." Completed forms should be received by our office at least six weeks before the date of the event or activity. All applications will be reviewed and require approval from Church Council.

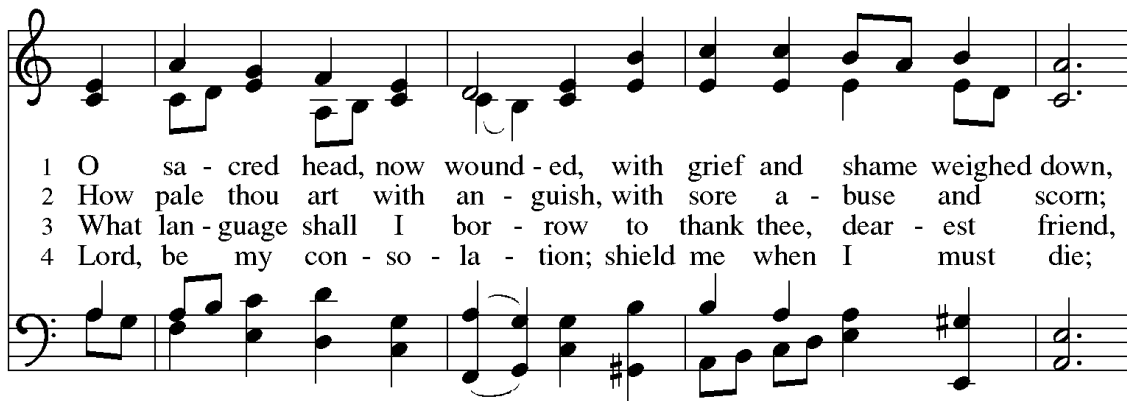
A MINISTRY OF ENCOURAGEMENT!

Our Evangelism Committee loves sending cards to those who can't join us for worship. We regularly need updated information for military members and college students who are away from home. If you have new information or address changes, please contact any Evangelism Committee member or call the church office at 570-366-2316. Thank you for helping us stay connected!

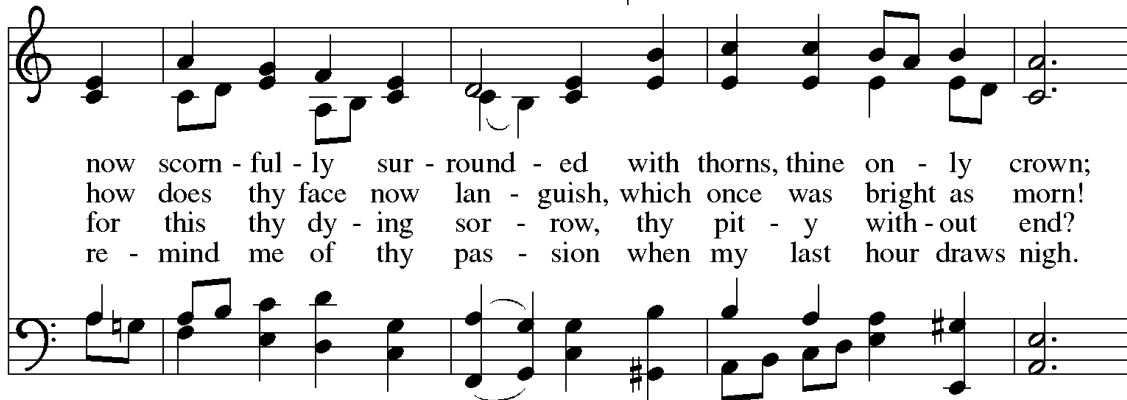
ADULT FORUM

Adult Forum will not meet TODAY, Sunday, April 13 or on Easter Sunday, April 20. We will resume our studies on Sunday, April 27.

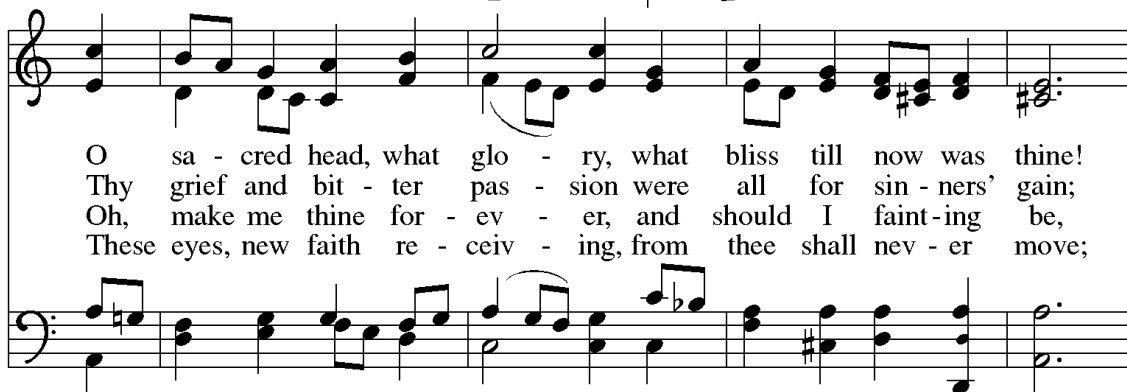
HYMN OF THE DAY "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"



1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,
2 How pale thou art with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;
3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; shield me when I must die;



now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!
for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?
re - mind me of thy pas - sion when my last hour draws nigh.



O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;
Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,
These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall nev - er move;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.
Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.
for all who die be - liev - ing die safe - ly in thy love.

COMMUNION HYMN

“Were You There?”

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

Refrain

Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

SENDING HYMN

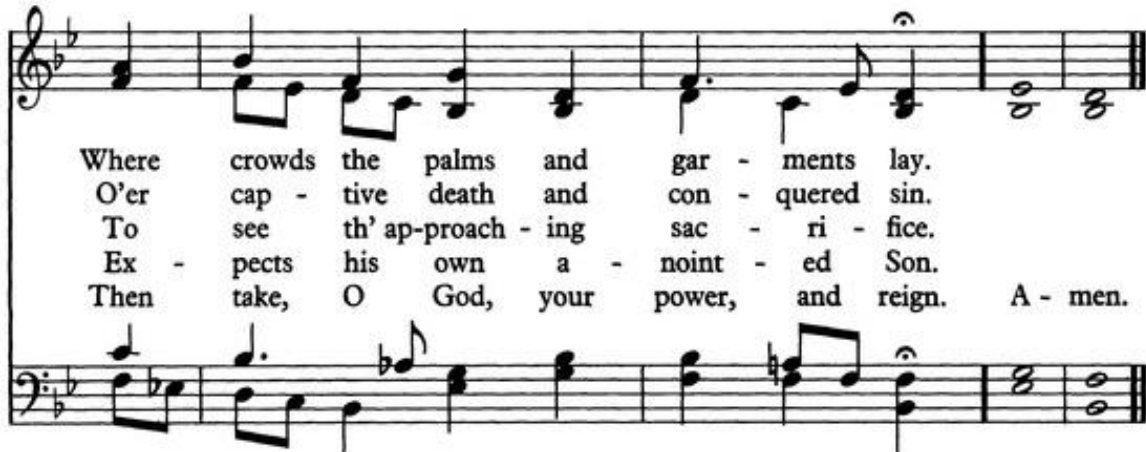
“Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!”



1. Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty! Hark! all the tribes ho -
2. Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly pomp ride
3. Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty! The wing - ed squad - rons
4. Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty! Your last and fierc - est
5. Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly pomp ride



san - na cry; Your hum - ble beast pur - sues his way
on to die: O Christ, your tri - umphs now be - gin
of the sky Look down with sad and won - dering eyes
strife is nigh; The Fa - ther on his sap - phire throne
on to die; Bow your meek head to mor - tal pain,



Where crowds the palms and gar - ments lay.
O'er cap - tive death and con - quered sin.
To see th' ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.
Ex - pects his own a - noint - ed Son.
Then take, O God, your power, and reign. A - men.

A CALL TO MORE FAITHFUL GIVING

Our church needs your support. Every donation, big or small, helps us gather new members, spread Christ's teachings, and serve our community. Your contributions keep our church running and aid those in need. Please consider increasing your giving to St. Paul's ministry.



Also consider the benefits of giving through Secure Plus. →

PALM DEDICATIONS

In memory of...

Our parents, Edgar and Edie Kriner by Kathie Frantz

Our parents, Kermit and Cathlene Krammes by Steve and Robin Zimmerman

Our siblings, Jody, Kevin, and Kirsten by Steve and Robin Zimmerman

To the Glory of God by Carl Heintzelman



OUR PASTOR & STAFF

Reverend Michael T. Petresky	570-366-2316 - Ext 11	pastormike@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Justin McClure, Organist/Choir Director	570-573-4076	justin@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Amy Dewald, Office Support Staff	570-366-2316	office@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Carl Heintzelman, Sexton	484-408-5152	No Email
Karen Travor, Treasurer	610-507-2797	karen@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Wayne Lutsey, Financial Secretary	570-617-9617	cwlutsey@gmail.com
Jessica Swick, Social Media Manager	936-648-6809	jessica@stpauls-orwigsburg.org

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY 9:00 A.M. to 12 NOON