

*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.*

## **WELCOME MEMBERS, FRIENDS AND VISITORS.**

- **IN-PARKING LOT WORSHIPERS**, please park in the first few spaces closest to Dock Street, and set your radio to **90.1 FM**. Bulletins will have been given to you on entering the lot, and your offering will have been gathered in a basket by an usher. For Sunday Communion, please hold onto the wafers in plastic bags that you will have been given until the consecration and invitation to commune takes place later in the service. Pastor will try to lead part of the service from outside. Rest rooms are available in the church building.
- **IN-PERSON WORSHIPERS**, please park at the far side of the front lot, the back lot, or one of the handicap spaces. Bulletins and communion wafers will have been distributed when you entered the lot, and your offering will have been gathered. Masks will be worn in the building, or outside when talking to others, and everyone needs to stay six feet away from people in other households. Because speaking and singing can spread the virus even when wearing masks, we will not speak the responses out loud or sing – the assisting minister will speak the responses in the service and a cantor will sing on our behalf.
- **VISITORS**, we welcome you! In this uncertain time of a pandemic, we believe that that grace-filled love of God made known in Jesus Christ, and proclaimed in scripture, prayer, and worship sustains us even now – and so we are glad that you are here with us, so that together, we all can receive the Good News of Jesus Christ, and then be strengthened in daily love for God and our neighbors.

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

**Sunday of the Passion (Palm Sunday) – March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**252 Dock Street, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972**

**570-385-2657 \* [www.jerusalemmlutheran.com](http://www.jerusalemmlutheran.com)**

**FIND US ON FACEBOOK!**

## PREPARATION

### PRELUDE

*All Glory, Laud, and Honor*  
and

*Hosanna Loud Hosanna*

arr. Mary McDonald

### ANTHEM

*Hosanna!*

Mark O'Hearn, soloist

Anna Laura Page

*A prerecorded anthem is available to view in Sunday's recorded service on our website, Facebook page, and YouTube Channel.*

*The bell rings calling us to worship.*

## GATHERING

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

### PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL

**Mark 11:1-11**

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, [Jesus] sent two of his disciples <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" <sup>4</sup>They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, <sup>5</sup>some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" <sup>6</sup>They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. <sup>7</sup>Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. <sup>8</sup>Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. <sup>9</sup>Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna!

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

<sup>10</sup>Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

<sup>11</sup>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.

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

### **BLESSING OF PALMS**

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

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 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.**

### **PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

*All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

**#344**

#### **Refrain**

All glory, laud, and honor  
to you, redeemer, king,  
to whom the lips of children  
made sweet hosannas ring.

- 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*
- 2 The company of angels  
are praising you on high;  
creation and all mortals  
in chorus make reply. *Refrain*
- 3 The multitude of pilgrims  
with palms before you went;  
our praise and prayer and anthems  
before you we present. *Refrain*
- 4 To you, before your passion,  
they sang their hymns of praise.  
To you, now high exalted,  
our melody we raise. *Refrain*
- 5 Their praises you accepted;  
accept the prayers we bring,  
great author of all goodness,  
O good and gracious King. *Refrain*

*Text: Theodulph of Orleans, 760-821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

## WORD

### GOSPEL

**Mark 14:1--15:47**

*Today's Gospel is the passion narrative from the Gospel of Mark. Keep in mind that the chief priests, who figure prominently in the plot against Jesus, were appointed by Pontius Pilate and retained their positions of power at his pleasure. Pilate and the Temple authorities were in far greater collusion than the Gospels might suggest. The fact that Jesus was crucified as a pretender king with two other insurgents indicates that he was seen as a threat to Roman rule. His popularity with the Jewish people at large, which prompted his arrest in a secluded garden at night, only added to this perception.*

*Mark stresses that Jesus was utterly forsaken. His disciples desert him, one of them even flees naked in order to make his escape. Peter denies his friendship with Jesus with a curse, and Judas betrays him with an embrace. His final words on the cross are a scream of abandonment. [From Proclaiming Shalom by Philip A. Cunningham, reprinted with permission] Please participate in the gospel narrative by reading the bold parts.*

The holy gospel according to Mark.

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

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; <sup>2</sup> for they said, “**Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.**”

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. <sup>4</sup> But some were there who said to one another in anger, “**Why was the ointment wasted in this way?** <sup>5</sup> **For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor.**” And they scolded her. <sup>6</sup> But Jesus said, “*Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. <sup>7</sup> 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. <sup>8</sup> She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. <sup>9</sup> 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.*”

Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. <sup>11</sup> 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, **“Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?”** <sup>13</sup> So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, *“Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him,* <sup>14</sup> *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?’* <sup>15</sup> *He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.”* <sup>16</sup> 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. <sup>18</sup> And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said, *“Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me.”* <sup>19</sup> They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another, **“Surely, not I?”** <sup>20</sup> He said to them, *“It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me.”* <sup>21</sup> *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.”*

While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, *“Take; this is my body.”* <sup>23</sup> Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. <sup>24</sup> He said to them, *“This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many.”* <sup>25</sup> *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.”*

When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. <sup>27</sup> And Jesus said to them, *“You will all become deserters; for it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.’*

<sup>28</sup> *But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.”* <sup>29</sup> Peter said to him, **“Even though all become deserters, I will not.”** <sup>30</sup> Jesus said to him, *“Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.”* <sup>31</sup> But he said vehemently, **“Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.”** And all of them said the same.

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, *“Sit here while I pray.”* <sup>33</sup> He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. <sup>34</sup> And said to them, *“I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.”* <sup>35</sup> And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. <sup>36</sup> He said, *“Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.”* <sup>37</sup> He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, *“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.”* <sup>39</sup> And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. <sup>40</sup> And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. <sup>41</sup> He came a third time and said to them, *“Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.”* <sup>42</sup> *Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer*

*is at hand.”*

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. <sup>44</sup> Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, **“The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard.”** <sup>45</sup> So when he came, he went up to him at once and said, **“Rabbi!”** and kissed him. <sup>46</sup> Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. <sup>47</sup> But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. <sup>48</sup> Then Jesus said to them, *“Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? <sup>49</sup> Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled.”* <sup>50</sup> 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, <sup>52</sup> 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. <sup>54</sup> 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. <sup>55</sup> Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. <sup>56</sup> For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. <sup>57</sup> Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying, <sup>58</sup> **“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.’”** <sup>59</sup> But even on this point their testimony did not agree. <sup>60</sup> Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, **“Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?”** <sup>61</sup> But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him, **“Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?”** <sup>62</sup> Jesus said, *“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.’”*

<sup>63</sup> Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, **“Why do we still need witnesses? <sup>64</sup> You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?”** All of them condemned him as deserving death. <sup>65</sup> 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.

While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by. <sup>67</sup> When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said, **“You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth.”** <sup>68</sup> But he denied it, saying, “I do not know or understand what you are talking about.” And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed. <sup>69</sup> And the servant-girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders, **“This man is one of them.”** <sup>70</sup> But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, **“Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean.”** <sup>71</sup> But he began to curse, and he swore an oath, “I do not know this man you are talking about.” <sup>72</sup> 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. <sup>2</sup> Pilate asked him, **“Are you the King of the Jews?”** He answered him, *“You say so.”* <sup>3</sup> Then the chief priests accused him of many things. <sup>4</sup> Pilate asked him again, **“Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.”** <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. <sup>8</sup> So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. <sup>9</sup> Then he answered them, **“Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?”** <sup>10</sup> For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. <sup>11</sup> But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. <sup>12</sup> Pilate spoke to them again, **“Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?”** <sup>13</sup> They shouted back, **“Crucify him!”** <sup>14</sup> Pilate asked them, **“Why, what evil has he done?”** But they shouted all the more, **“Crucify him!”** <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>17</sup> And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. <sup>18</sup> And they began saluting him, **“Hail, King of the Jews!”** <sup>19</sup> They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. <sup>20</sup> 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.

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. <sup>22</sup> Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). <sup>23</sup> And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. <sup>24</sup> 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. <sup>26</sup> The inscription of the charge against him read, **“The King of the Jews.”** <sup>27</sup> And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>29</sup> Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, **“Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, <sup>30</sup> save yourself, and come down from the cross!”** <sup>31</sup> In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, **“He saved others; he cannot save himself. <sup>32</sup> Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.”** Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. <sup>34</sup> At three o’clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, *“Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?”* which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken

me?” <sup>35</sup> When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, “**Listen, he is calling for Elijah.**” <sup>36</sup> And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, “**Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.**” <sup>37</sup> Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. <sup>38</sup> And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. <sup>39</sup> Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, “**Truly this man was God’s Son!**”

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. <sup>41</sup> 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, <sup>43</sup> 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. <sup>44</sup> Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. <sup>45</sup> When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. <sup>46</sup> 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. <sup>47</sup> Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where the body was laid.

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

## **HOMILY**

**Pastor David Rowe**

*The assembly inside is seated. Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY      JESUS, REFUGE OF THE WEARY    LBW #93**

- 1      Jesus, refuge of the weary,  
        blest redeemer, whom we love,  
        fountain in life’s desert dreary,  
        Savior from the world above:  
        often have your eyes, offended,  
        gazed upon the sinner’s fall;  
        yet upon the cross extended,  
        you have borne the pain of all.
- 2      Do we pass that cross unheeding,  
        breathing no repentant vow,  
        though we see you wounded, bleeding,  
        see your thorn-encircled brow?  
        Yet your sinless death has brought us  
        life eternal, peace, and rest;  
        only what your grace has taught us  
        calms the sinner’s deep distress.



3 Jesus, may our hearts be burning  
with more fervent love for you;  
may our eyes be ever turning  
to behold your cross anew;  
till in glory, parted never  
from the blessed Savior's side,  
graven in our hearts forever,  
dwell the cross, the Crucified.

*Text: Girolamo Savonarola, 1452-1498; tr. Jane F. Wilde, 1826-1896, alt.*

## **APOSTLES CREED**

*We confess our faith with the whole church using the ancient baptismal creed that summarizes the teaching of the scripture and the apostles.*

**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**

*As a local assembly of believers, we pray for the whole world and church, as well as our local congregation and neighborhood.*

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

*A brief silence.*

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.**

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.**

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. Comfort the families in Boulder Colorado whose loved ones have been killed by a mass shooter. Accompany all who suffer from illness, and all whom we now raise in prayer before you.... Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

In your creation we see and experience its brokenness in these days of pandemic. Give insight to researchers; patience to parents; clarity to vaccination planners and staff; strength to exhausted medical personnel; endurance to teachers and child care staff and their students and children; shelter to essential workers; comfort to those who are lonely, depressed and anxious; and hope for all people. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You called followers to tend Jesus' body in death. Sustain hospice workers and funeral directors. Bless this congregation's 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.**

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.**

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

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

*The assembly inside stands. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Kneel/Stand. Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son,**

**Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### **PASSING THE PEACE**

*We greet each other with a nod or gesture of Christian fellowship from a distance, and we also invite you to text or email a word of peace to someone who cannot be here!*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **MEAL**

### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

*The presiding minister invites the assembly to give thanks.*

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 God thanks and praise.**

*The presiding minister continues with the communion preface; then the assembly responds with the “Holy, Holy, Holy.”*

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and Earth are full of your glory,  
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

### **THANKSGIVING AND CONSECRATION**

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,

...be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

### **COMMUNION**

Taste And See That The Lord Is Good.

*The communion wafers that have been distributed and now consecrated, are eaten.*

The body of Christ given for you. **Amen.**

### **POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

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

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*The assembly stands. The assisting minister leads the prayer.*

God of steadfast love,

at this table you gather your people  
into one body for the sake of the world.

Send us in the power of your Spirit,  
that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new  
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **SENDING**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **BLESSING**

*The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.*

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.**

### **SENDING SONG**

*Christ the Life of All the Living*

**# 339**

- 1 Christ, the life of all the living,  
Christ, the death of death, our foe,  
Christ, yourself for me once giving  
to the darkest depths of woe:  
through your suffering, death, and merit  
life eternal I inherit.  
Thousand, thousand thanks are due,  
dearest Jesus, unto you.
- 2 You have suffered great affliction  
and have borne it patiently,  
even death by crucifixion,  
fully to atone for me;

for you chose to be tormented  
that my doom should be prevented.  
Thousand, thousand thanks are due,  
dearest Jesus, unto you.

- 3 Then, for all that bought my pardon,  
for the sorrows deep and sore,  
for the anguish in the garden,  
I will thank you evermore;  
thank you for the groaning, sighing,  
for the bleeding and the dying,  
for that last triumphant cry,  
praise you evermore on high.

*Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605-1681; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.*

## **DISMISSAL**

*The assisting minister sends the assembly into mission.*

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

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## **MINISTRY NEWS**

### **PRAYER LIST**

Joyce Freed, Shirley Foose, Lee Miller, Joanna Sirianni Edwards, Ed Freed, Pauline Crawshaw, Karen Tropp, Diane Buffington, Jack Harnock, Marie Harnock, Keith Shoener, Tom Gerber, Kelly Carl, Cheryl Feeser, Leslie R., Mary Beth (Krater) Dinneen, Sam Huff, Stewart Haver, Sue Sigler, Donna Evans, Joan Heckrote, Robert Schwartz, Craig Bracken, Kenny Noecker, Nancy Reese, David Huff, Paul Calderone, Nicholas LaScala, Gail Kunkel, Lee Llewellyn, Dennis Heydt, Caroline Eister, Jeanette Stine, Christopher Payonk, Seth Ney, Renee Shade, Ben Moyer, Gaylene Ebling, Wally Foose, Craig Heffner, Jane Deibert, Judy Reihman, Tom Cook, Sylvia Edling, Joe Dewald, Ronald Bromwell, Carla Zelinsky, Lisa Weiser, Janest Yost, Anna Mae Berger, Madge Miller, Kathleen Kelleher, Melissa Focht, Jason Brown, Teagan Brown, Brenda Phillips, Family of Keith Ramsey, Cecelia Kacmar, Lois Pavelko, Edith Kriner, Melanie Hart, Janice Moore, Christie O'Dell, John Cooper, Florence Shay, Clarence Zweizig, Jayden Leiby, Melvin Rodriguez & family, Dorothy Moyer, Bruce Stees, JoAnn Baker Copley, Carlene Wenner, Christy Deaton Stocks, Maria Motto, Katharine Macnutt, Peter Spontak, Kim O'Donnell, Leslie Wagner, Mateo Thomas, Barry Heffner, Charlotte Moyer, Phyllis Trinca Czech, Ed Sirianni, Stephen Edwards, Lester Aungst III, Christa Miller, David Griffiths, Stanley Daniels, Beryl Zulick, Jim Heisler, Cathy Covach-Hale

**Those with Long-term health issues:**

Bonnie Jean Foose, Michelle Ochenrider, Rich & Sandy Moyer, Ethan Yost, Elizabeth Taylor, Carol Landes, Maureen Moyer, Janice Barr, Donna Direnzo, Jim Musico, John Krater, Fawn Goodman, Bob Yanek, Rebecca Marshall, Sapphire Schaeffer, Mark Wyllie, Krysta Kolbe, Shirley Emrich, Mark Noecker, Anna Heffner, David Wise, Joan Steficheck, Bill Everly, Donna Leashefski, Florence Clemens, Sara Berger, Chuck Copley, Jeff Kamar, Mary Sewalt, Pat Thomas, Nathan Resch, Casey Watson, Linda Bonfiglio-Boyer, Gemma Geary

**Those serving in the Armed Forces:**

Major Michael Shay, Staff Sgt. Joseph Moyer, Senior Airman Matthew Nettles, Airman Jackie Nettles, 2nd LT Heather Strouse, Sgt. Travis D. Miller, Sgt. Anthony Cooper, Private 3rd Class Caleb Levan

**WORSHIP LEADERS FOR TODAY**

	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>10:30am</b>
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	<b>Lou Messina</b>	<b>Rob Baessler</b>
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Faith Batz</b>	<b>Don Boyer</b>
	<b>Bill Shay</b>	<b>Frank Mahoney</b>
	<b>Conner Roeder</b>	<b>Jane Mahoney</b>
<b>Cantor(s)</b>	<b>Mary Rowe</b>	<b>Lloyd Wertz</b>
<b>Sound Board</b>	<b>Paul Boyer</b>	<b>Rachel Kramer</b>
<b>Video Recorder</b>		<b>Joanne Wertz</b>
<b>Counters</b>	<b>Linda Collins &amp; Rob Baessler</b>	

**WORSHIP LEADERS FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY**

	<b>7:00pm</b>
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	<b>Krista Sausser</b>
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Frank Mahoney &amp; Jane Mahoney</b>
<b>Cantor</b>	<b>Audrey Christ</b>
<b>Sound Board</b>	<b>Gary Reager</b>

**WORSHIP LEADERS FOR GOOD FRIDAY**

	<b>7:00pm</b>
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	<b>Ellayna Boyer</b>
<b>Usher</b>	<b>Don Boyer</b>
<b>Cantor</b>	<b>Mary Rowe</b>
<b>Sound Board</b>	<b>Melissa Boyer</b>

**WORSHIP LEADERS FOR EASTER SUNDAY**

	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>10:30am</b>
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	<b>Karen Ochenrider</b>	<b>Lloyd Wertz</b>
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Faith Batz</b>	<b>Deb Reed</b>
	<b>Conner Roeder</b>	<b>Hunter Reed</b>
<b>Cantor(s)</b>	<b>Mary Rowe</b>	<b>Jim &amp; Linda Covert</b>
<b>Sound Board</b>	<b>Melissa Boyer</b>	<b>Rachel Kramer</b>
<b>Video Recorder</b>	<b>Kyle Nettles</b>	
<b>Counters</b>	<b>Linda Collins, Deb Reed, Marie Shay</b>	

## **WEEKLY NEWS**

***THANK YOU TO TODAY'S CANTORS***, Mary Rowe and Lloyd Wertz! Our pre-recorded anthem can be heard online and is sent to us by Mark O'Hearn.

***SUNDAY SCHOOL*** for ages 3 through fifth grade resumes TODAY at 9:15 AM. We look forward to seeing some of our younger sisters and brothers in Christ, especially as Holy Week begins. Children will maintain a social distance and wear masks.

***FAITH AND FAMILIES MINISTRY*** will share the good news that Jesus has risen by holding a drive through Easter Event on Saturday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10am – 11am. Please RSVP for the event by Wednesday, March 31<sup>st</sup> by visiting [www.jerusalem.lutheran.com/members](http://www.jerusalem.lutheran.com/members) and clicking the link for "COVID FRIENDLY EASTER GOODIE BAGS."

***HOLY WEEK WORSHIP*** – mark your calendars now!

- April 1, HOLY THURSDAY, we hear that Jesus takes the towel of a servant to wash the feet of his disciples, then instead of a Last Supper, he initiates a First Communion.
- April 2, GOOD FRIDAY, we hear and participate in Jesus' journey to the cross in the Gospel of John.
- April 4, EASTER DAY, we celebrate the light of the risen Christ, renew our baptismal vows, and in Word and Meal rejoice in Christ's forgiveness and life given for us.

***AN EASTER "ZOOM SOCIAL"*** will be held on Monday, April 5, at 7:00 PM. If you have the Zoom application on your computer, table, or smartphone, this will be an opportunity to enjoy some online fellowship and catch up with each other. As we have been forced by the virus either to distance ourselves from each other at in-person or parking lot worship, or to worship at home through recordings of the service, we have not been able to enjoy the fellowship conversations that so naturally take place before and after worship – but here's our chance! If you want to be part of the Zoom Social, then please email Rachel at the office ([mail@jerusalem.lutheran.com](mailto:mail@jerusalem.lutheran.com)) or Pastor Rowe ([pastorrowe@jerusalem.lutheran.com](mailto:pastorrowe@jerusalem.lutheran.com)).

***AFTER MUCH RESEARCH AND DISCUSSION***, the church council recently decided to invest in an air purification system to upgrade our heating and air conditioning system. This addition makes ions (atoms with either an additional or a missing electron that then readily attaches to other atoms, particles, viruses, or bacteria) which destroy viruses and bacteria, and also cause much larger particles (like dust, pollen, and molds) to clump together to be more easily filtered out. Widely used by hospitals and schools, this method improves the quality of recirculating air, and reduces the danger of viruses like COVID-19 from being spread through the heating and air conditioning. While this will help lower this type of spread, it does not take away person to person transmission (so we still will need to wear masks and not sing), nor will it

prevent spreading through common surfaces (so we still need to wash and sanitize hands). What this will do, is make the recirculation of air less prone to spread viruses, which is especially important in a building like ours where opening windows as recommended by the CDC lets only a small amount of fresh air in, and at the same time decreases the efficiency of our HVAC system. The cost of the project is just over \$8,000 to upgrade all three units, and the money will be taken out of our savings. Council is taking this step to lessen one means of COVID-19 transmission in order to care for our worship, learning, childcare, and other ministry and community gatherings.

**WHY WE ARE WORSHIPING BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE.** Although the infectious surge from several months ago has subsided, the coronavirus is still spreading at significant rate. Using both health recommendations and sound worship practices, we are therefore offering both cautious in-person worship and parking-lot worship, because some people are more vulnerable than others.

**NOTES ABOUT PANDEMIC WORSHIP!** Here is why worship does not yet “look normal,” and may not seem normal for a long time:

- Because potential exposure time to the coronavirus is an important factor for its spread, the service continues to be short.
- We have resumed weekly Holy Communion so that once again we can not only hear, but also taste the promise that God in Jesus Christ is *for* us. However, rather than have people come forward to receive the host which not only would increase the length of the service but also would become an awkward break for people worshipping in cars, the communion wafers will be distributed in small plastic bags before the service, held until their consecration, and then we will all eat them together. Modelled on pew communion which is acceptable, but not widely practiced or preferred by Lutheran leaders, we do look forward to when we can all once again approach the altar to receive Christ and Christ’s promises in and with the bread and wine.
- Most of us love to sing, but the extra force behind singing expels aerosolized virus well beyond masks, and has been found when someone is infected, to spread COVID-19 to other worshipers even though they are wearing masks and distancing. Therefore the cantor will sing on our behalf, and likewise to avoid everyone speaking and putting an even larger quantity of aerosolized moisture in the air, we will whisper only the Apostles’ Creed and Lord’s Prayer, and leave it to the assisting minister to speak the rest of the service on our behalf.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** here are two of the resources that we are using:

- the most recent guidelines from an ecumenical of church and health leaders’ group (Baptist to Lutheran to Roman Catholic) working from Emory University and Divinity School (see: [https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Resuming\\_Care-filled\\_Worship\\_and\\_Sacramental\\_Life.pdf](https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Resuming_Care-filled_Worship_and_Sacramental_Life.pdf))



- [www.covidactnow.org](http://www.covidactnow.org), the website referred to in the ecumenical guidelines as a standard, simple, and reliable source for information

### CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK:

**SUNDAY** 8:00 AM – Worship  
 9:15 AM – Confirmation/Sunday School  
 10:30 AM – Worship

**TUESDAY** 1:00 PM – Coronavirus Task Force Meeting Via Zoom

**THURSDAY** 6:30 PM – Holy Thursday (Maundy Thursday) Worship

**FRIDAY** **CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**  
 6:30 PM – Good Friday Worship

### STAFF AND LEADERS

Rev. David Rowe, <i>Pastor</i>	610 987 9798(H) 570-933-5511 (C) pastorowe@jerusalemmlutheran.com
Audrey Christ, <i>Music Director</i>	musicdirector@jerusalemmlutheran.com
Tanya Cartwright, <i>Director of Faith &amp; Families Ministries</i>	faithandfamilies@jerusalemmlutheran.com
Rachel Kramer, <i>Parish Administrator</i>	mail@jerusalemmlutheran.com
Jill McCloy, <i>Treasurer</i>	treasurer@jerusalemmlutheran.com
Karen Ochenrider, <i>Financial Secretary</i>	karenochenrider@comcast.net
Gina Cappel, <i>Child Care Director</i>	jcckkids@jerusalemmlutheran.com
Mike Sausser, <i>Sexton</i>	linknomad@hotmail.com
Deborah Reed, <i>President of Church Council</i>	dreed1955@comcast.net

**Contact the Schuylkill County Office of Senior Services at 570-622-3103 for information regarding the COVID Vaccine. Some sites you can register for the**

Site	Address	City	Contact Info.
Geisinger St. Luke's Hospital	100 Paramount Blvd.	Orwigsburg, PA 17961	Website: <a href="https://www.slnh.org/covid-19/protectyourself/covid-19-vaccine">https://www.slnh.org/covid-19/protectyourself/covid-19-vaccine</a> Phone: 1-866-StLukes(opt. 7)
Lehigh Valley Hospital Schuylkill	700 E. Norwegian St.	Pottsville, PA 17901	Website: <a href="https://www.LVHN.org/vaccines">https://www.LVHN.org/vaccines</a> Contact name: Luis Puentes Phone: 833-584-6283
Walmart Clinics	Fairlane Village Mall	Pottsville, PA 17901	Call 1-800-753-8827. Clinics run on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

**vaccine are:**



I/we \_\_\_\_\_(name(s))  
have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

# Easter Gifts



***IN LEIU OF EASTER LILIES*** “Designated Offering” envelopes are available in your Easter Newsletter, which can be used for an Easter gift for a special ministry. Suggested ministries include: Bear Creek Camp, Lutheran Disaster Relief (Texas), our Little Free Pantry, or the United Lutheran Seminary. If you would like your Easter gift to be in memory or in honor of a loved one, please include this note with your check and it will be printed in the Easter Sunday Bulletins.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

MINISTRY \_\_\_\_\_

IN MEMORY OF \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

IN HONOR OF \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Our congregation is proudly waving Eco-Palms in partnership with Lutheran World Relief. We are helping palm harvesters in Latin America, their families and communities find pathways out of poverty.

**Here's What Makes ECO-PALMS Different:**

**ECOLOGICALLY  
FRIENDLY**



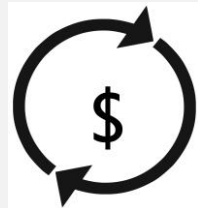
Fair prices for quality palms encourage sustainable harvesting, meaning better income long into the future.

**ECONOMIC  
OPPORTUNITIES**



Eco-Palms are sorted and packed within the harvesting community, extending income opportunities to even more people.

**SUSTAINABLE  
INCOME**



Eco-Palms harvesters often earn five to six times more per frond than traditional palms, and a portion of the purchase price goes directly back to the community.