



Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday

April 2, 2023 - 10:00 AM - in the Gym



Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

As disciples of Christ seeking peace and justice in the world, we welcome, affirm, and include all people into the fullness of God's love. We celebrate people of all races, cultures, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical or mental abilities, socioeconomic statuses, appearances, family status and citizenship as equally loved and valued in the eyes of God and in this place. All are invited to join this community as we worship God, grow in faith, and strive to love and serve one another. All, without exception, are welcome in this place.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Bill Kleckley and Ron Williams by Heather Kleckley.

SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister & Preaching

Susan Crowell

Assisting Minister

Patrick Preacher

Pianist and Choir Director

Jim Parham

Gospel Readers

Melissa Kolb
Patrick Preacher

Lector

Samuel Godfrey

Cantor

Amanda Cook

Prayers

Angie Hager

Acolytes

Adaline McCormack
Ben McCormack

Communion Assistant

Paul Goldstein

Greeters

Mark Allen
Chad Brightwell
Julie Brightwell
Lani Ludian
Mary Beth Ridenhour
Andrew Weiner
Joyce Weiner

Ushers

Dale Hamann
Calvin Harmon
David Potts
Chris Wannemacher

Fellowship Hosts

Chris and Dean Nix
Rosa Waldrop

Video

Henry Wilcox

Audio

Gregg Alley

GATHERING

PRELUDE

What Wondrous Love Is This
arranged by Laura E. Wasson

WORDS OF WELCOME AND AFFIRMATION

Please stand as able

PROCESSION WITH PALMS

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

Hosanna in the highest.

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL

Mathew 21:1-11

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying 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. ³If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Rabbi needs them.' And they will send them immediately." ⁴This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, ⁵"Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your Ruler is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey." ⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and Jesus sat on them. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Heir to the House of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Most High! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" ¹⁰When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" ¹¹The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

BLESSING OF THE 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 palm branches and palm crosses 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.

Let us go forth in peace,

in the name of Christ. Amen.

*Everyone is invited to lift up or wave their palm branches
or crosses during the Processional Hymn.*

Prayer cards may be placed on the cross during the Processional Hymn.

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.**

**You are the king of Israel and David's royal Son,
now in the Lord's name coming, our King and Blessed One.** *Refrain*

**The company of angels are praising you on high;
creation and all mortals in chorus make reply.** *Refrain*

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

To you, before your passion, they sang their hymns of praise.

To you, now high exalted, our melody we raise. *Refrain*

**Their praises you accepted; accept the prayers we bring,
great author of all goodness, O good and gracious King.** *Refrain*

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

Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Sovereign God, you have established your rule in the human heart through the servanthood of Jesus Christ. By your Spirit, keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues, their acts of service, and deeds of love confess Jesus as Lord and Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

LITURGY OF THE PASSION

WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:4-9a

A reading from Isaiah.

⁴God most High has given me the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word.

Morning by morning God wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught.

⁵God most High 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.

⁷God most High 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.

^{9a}It is God most High who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

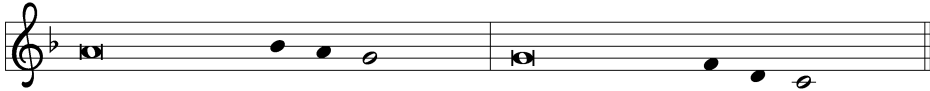
PSALM

The refrain is introduced by the cantor.

Psalm 31:9–16

*Thereafter, the congregation is invited to sing without introduction.*Psalm
Refrain

In - to your hands, O LORD, I com - mend my spir - it.

Psalm
Tone

- 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 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.
- ¹²**Like the dead I am forgotten, | out of mind;
I am as useless as a | broken pot. R**
- 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**Let your face shine up- | on your servant;
save me in your | steadfast love." R**

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mathew, the twenty-seventh chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹¹Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You say so." ¹²But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. ¹³Then Pilate said to him, "Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?" ¹⁴But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed. ¹⁵Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. ¹⁶At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. ¹⁷So 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?" ¹⁸For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. ¹⁹While 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." ²⁰Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. ²¹The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas." ²²Pilate said to them, "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" All of them said, "Let him be crucified!" ²³Then he asked, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified!" ²⁴So 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." ²⁵Then the people as a whole answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!" ²⁶So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. ²⁷Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. ²⁸They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, ²⁹and 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!" ³⁰They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. ³¹After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him. ³²As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. ³³And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), ³⁴they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. ³⁵And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; ³⁶then they sat down there and kept watch over him. ³⁷Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." ³⁸Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁹Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads ⁴⁰and 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."

continued on next page

⁴¹In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, ⁴²“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. ⁴³He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if God so desires; for he said, ‘I am God’s Son.’” ⁴⁴The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way. ⁴⁵From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ⁴⁶And 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?” ⁴⁷When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, “This man is calling for Elijah.” ⁴⁸At 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. ⁴⁹But the others said, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.” ⁵⁰Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. ⁵¹At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. ⁵²The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. ⁵³After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. ⁵⁴Now 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!”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Save Us Now!

Stand as able

Prayer cards may be placed on the cross during the Hymn of the Day.

HYMN OF THE DAY

My Song Is Love Unknown

#343

**My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me,
love to the loveless shown that they might
lovely be. Oh, who am I that for
my sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die?**

**He came from his blest throne salvation to bestow;
the world that was his own would not its
Savior know. But, oh, my friend, my
friend indeed, who at my need his life did spend!**

**Sometimes we strew his way and his sweet praises sing;
resounding all the day hosannas
to our king. Then "Crucify!" is
all our breath, and for his death we thirst and cry.**

**We cry out, we will have our dear Lord made away,
a murderer to save, the prince of
life to slay. Yet cheerful he to
suff'ring goes that he his foes from thence might free.**

**In life no house, no home my Lord on earth might have;
in death no friendly tomb but what
a stranger gave. What may I say?
Heav'n was his home but mine the tomb wherein he lay.**

**Here might I stay and sing— no story so divine!
Never was love, dear King, never was
grief like thine. This my friend,
in whose sweet praise I all my days could gladly spend!**

APOSTLES' CREED

**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

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Save your church, O God. Enable us to boldly confess in every time and place that Jesus Christ is Lord. With the humility of a servant, equip congregations, synods, and other ministry settings to proclaim your extravagant love for all. Guide us in welcoming the stranger and the outcast with joy. Have mercy on us, O God,
according to your steadfast love.

Save your creation, O God. Every living being you have made has purpose. Give us renewed appreciation of farm animals who labor in the fields, service animals who accompany their human companions, and beloved pets who live alongside us. Bless and sustain creatures great and small, from guinea pigs to giraffes, as each are part of your magnificent creation. Have mercy on us, O God,
according to your steadfast love.

Save the peoples of the earth, O God. Restore dignity to those who are scorned and persecuted for their religious beliefs or political activism, and deliver them from the hand of their enemies. Bring peace to places where conflict runs deep. Be with our LBGQTQIA+ siblings, especially children and youth, amidst restrictive legislative actions among our state's lawmakers. Have mercy on us, O God,
according to your steadfast love.

Save those who cry to you in any need, O God. Watch over all who are incarcerated or awaiting trial, and stand with those who are unjustly accused. Be present with those feeling isolated, lonely, or fearful. We pray especially for those we name now on our lips or silently in our hearts ... Have mercy on us, O God,
according to your steadfast love.

Save us in your love, O God. Guide the work of church musicians, pastors, choirs, readers, deacons, technicians, acolytes, and all who assist in worship. Sustain them in their leadership as they accompany congregations through this Holy Week. Today this congregation gives special thanks for Henry and Gregg who work to make our livestream worship feel alive and vibrant. Sustain them in their leadership as they accompany your people worshipping online through this Holy Week. Have mercy on us, O God,
according to your steadfast love.

Save us in your justice, O God. We give you thanks for all those who gathered together for the first Nehemiah Action of GOAL this past week. Continue to guide local leaders to see the least of us in their decisions. Strengthen efforts to bring affordable housing and mental health resources to Greenville. Help each of the 1500+ people who gathered Tuesday evening to know their individual voices are valuable and important. Have mercy on us, O God,
according to your steadfast love.

Save us from ourselves, O God. We pray today for the students and staff at Covenant School in Nashville in the wake of more gun violence. Be with those who are grieving, traumatized, and fearful. We call out to you to bring an end to this senseless violence. Equip your church to be active advocates of gun safety in our country. Have mercy on us, O God,
according to your steadfast love.

Save us at the last, O God. We give you thanks for your saints of old who embodied your servant love. As you came to their aid, so deliver us in times of trial, that every knee would bend in praise to you. Have mercy on us, O God,
according to your steadfast love.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ is with you always.

And also with you.

Please share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

Please be seated.

MEAL

OFFERING

Let this Mind Be in You
by Craig Courtney
Text: Philippians 2:5-11

Adult Choir

Stand as able

OFFERTORY HYMN

Create in Me A Clean Heart

#186

**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 unto me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

Let us pray. God of good gifts,

**receive these and all our offerings
as we present them in faithful service
for the sake of your gospel.**

**Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal
as you pour out your very presence
through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.
Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

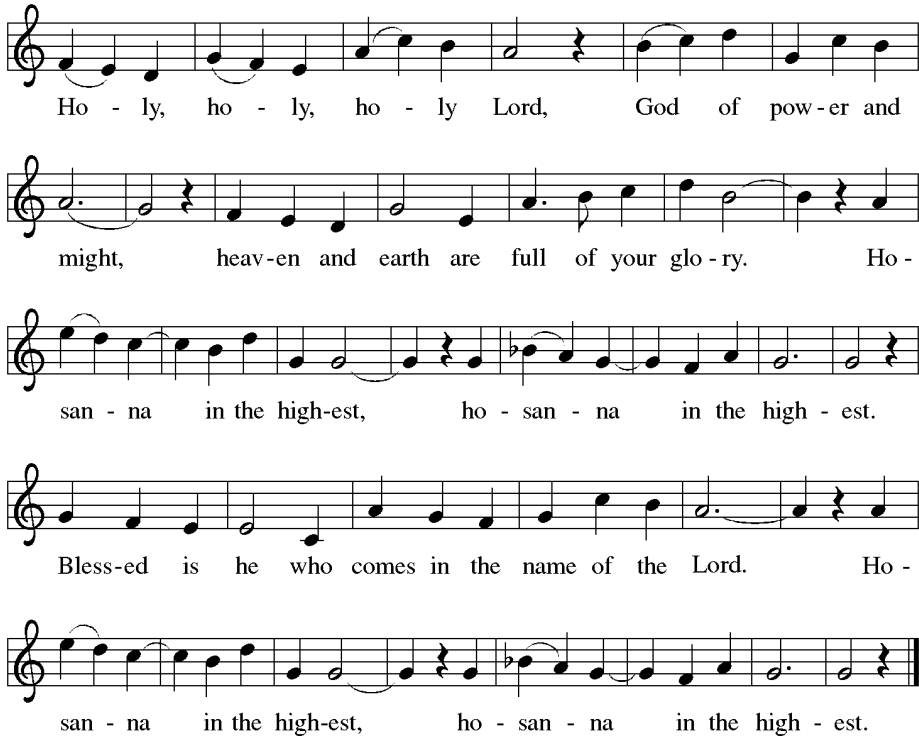
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
whose suffering and death gave salvation to all.
You gather your people around the tree of the cross,
transforming death into life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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 INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

Please be seated

All, without exception, are welcome at the table of God's grace and love. Anyone preferring not to receive the wine may receive only the bread, completely trusting that the full benefit of communion — Christ's grace and forgiveness — may be found in either the bread or wine.

*Worshippers will come forward to receive a wafer
and a small cup of wine.*

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Lenten Hymns arranged for Flute and Piano
by Mark Albrech

Jo Lewis, flute

*What Wondrous Love Is This
Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed
Go to Dark Gethsemane
Just As I Am, without One Plea*

**O sacred head, now wounded with grief and shame weighed down,
now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thine only crown;
O sacred head, what glory, what bliss till now was thine!
Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine.**

**How pale thou art with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn;
how does thy face now languish which once was bright as morn!
Thy grief and bitter passion were all for sinners' gain;
mine, mine was the transgression, but thine the deadly pain.**

**What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend,
for this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?
Oh, make me thine forever, and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to thee.**

**Lord, be my consolation; shield me when I must die;
remind me of thy passion when my last hour draws nigh.
These eyes, new faith receiving, from thee shall never move;
for all who die believing die safely in thy love.**

Please stand as able

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

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Blessed Jesus,
in this rich meal of grace,
you have fed us with your body, the bread of life.
Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope
to a world in need.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

God, the giver of love,
✠ Christ, the resurrection and the life,
and the Holy Spirit of rebirth
bless you in this Lenten journey.

Amen.

**There in God's garden stands the Tree of Wisdom,
whose leaves hold forth the healing of the nations:
Tree of all knowledge, Tree of all
compassion, Tree of all beauty.**

**Its name is Jesus, name that says, "Our Savior!"
There on its branches see the scars of suffering;
see there the tendrils of our human
selfhood feed on its life blood.**

**Thorns not its own are tangled in its foliage;
our greed has starved it, our despite has choked it.
Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not
destroyed it nor fire consumed it.**

**See how its branches reach to us in welcome;
hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye weary!
Give me your sickness, give me all your
sorrow, I will give blessing."**

**This is my ending, this my resurrection,
into your hands, Lord, I commit my spirit. This have
I searched for; now I can possess it.
This ground is holy.**

**All heav'n is singing, "Thanks to Christ whose
passion offers in mercy healing, strength,
and pardon. Peoples and nations, take it,
take it freely!" Amen! My Master!**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve in Love. Boldly follow Christ.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

There In God's Garden
by Nancy M. Raabe

*Everyone is invited to gather in the back of the Gym
following worship for refreshments and fellowship.*

CHURCH STAFF

Susan J. Crowell
Senior Pastor

James C. Parham, III
Associate Pastor for Worship and Music

Amy R. Brown, Deacon
Director of
Educational Ministries

Patrick D. Preacher
Queer and Justice Ministry Coordinator

Angie H. McCormack
Youth and Children's Ministry Coordinator

Kay M. Cook
Office Manager

Henry W. Wilcox
Accountant and
Digital Media Manager

Karen M. Craig
Administrative Assistant

Roy L. Cook
Facilities Manager

Beth C. Oswald
Nursery Attendant

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Chris Wannemacher