

**Stewardship 2025
United in Christ**



**Yesterday,
Today and
Tomorrow**

Psalm 46:7 "The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold."

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Sunday of the Passion

April 13, 2025

9:15 a.m. Worship Express

Pastor: Paula Geister-Jones **Lay Ministry Administrator:** Jenny Hoffman

Organist/Pianist: Linda Kunz

Acolyte: Greta Hanson & Autumn Wendorf

Lector: Marti Conant

Technical Support: Thomas Lehr & Roger Slack

This coming week is a roller coaster of emotions from the highest of high to the lowest of lows. Today the crowd shouts "Hosanna! Blessed be God's King!" but on Friday the same people shout "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

CALL TO WORSHIP: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

Stand

PALM SUNDAY LITANTY

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: Hosanna to the Son of David.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also, with you.

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL: Luke 19:28-40

Lector: After saying these things, Jesus headed straight up to Jerusalem.

When he got near Bethphage and Bethany at the mountain called Olives, he sent off two of the disciples with instructions:

Jesus (All): Go to the village across from you. As soon as you enter, you'll find a colt tethered, one that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it. If anyone asks, "What are you doing?" say, "His Master needs him."

Lector: The two left and found it just as he said. As they were untying the colt, its owners said, "What are you doing untying the colt?" They said,

Disciples (Women and Girls): His Master needs him.

Lector: They brought the colt to Jesus. Then, throwing their coats on its back, they helped Jesus get on. As he rode, the people gave him a grand welcome, throwing their coats on the street. Right at the crest, where Mount Olives begins its descent, the whole crowd of disciples burst into enthusiastic praise over all the mighty works they had witnessed:

Disciples (Men and Boys): Blessed is he who comes, the king in God's name! All's well in heaven! Glory in the high places!

Lector: Some Pharisees from the crowd told him, "Teacher, get your disciples under control!" But he said,

Jesus (All): If they kept quiet, the stones would do it for them, shouting praise.

PROCESSIONAL SONG: "King of Kings"

After the Sunday School Children have entered the sanctuary with their decorated wagons and instruments, the congregation is invited to walk around the sanctuary, waving their branches. The congregation returns to their pew and the children remain up front.

King of kings and Lord of lords; Glory! Hallelujah! (2 times)

Jesus, Prince of Peace; Glory! Hallelujah! (2 times)

Sit

GATHERING SONG: "He'll Be Riding on a Donkey When He Comes"

Vs. 1: He'll be riding on a donkey when he comes. HE-HAW! (2x)

He'll be riding on a donkey, he'll be riding on a donkey,

He'll be riding on a donkey when he comes. HE-HAW!

Vs. 2: And we'll all go out to meet him when he comes. HOW-DY! (2x)

And we'll all go out to meet him and we'll all go out to meet him

And we'll all go out to meet him when he comes. HOW-DY!

Vs. 3: And we'll all wave palm branches when he comes (2 x)

And we'll all wave palm branches and we'll all wave palm branches

And we'll all wave palm branches when he comes.

Vs. 4: And we'll all shout "Hosanna" when he comes. HOSANNA! (2x)

And we'll all shout "Hosanna" and we'll all shout "Hosanna"

And we'll all shout "Hosanna" when he comes. Hosanna!!!

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 22:14 – 29

Lector: When it was time, he sat down, all the apostles with him, and said,

Jesus (All): You've no idea how much I have looked forward to eating this Passover meal with you before I enter my time of suffering. It's the last one I'll eat until we all eat it together in the kingdom of God.

Lector: Taking the cup, he blessed it, then said,

Jesus (All): Take this and pass it among you. As for me, I'll not drink wine again until the kingdom of God arrives.

Lector: Taking bread, he blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them, saying,

Jesus (All): This is my body, given for you. Eat it in my memory.

Lector: He did the same with the cup after supper, saying,

Jesus (All): This cup is the new covenant written in my blood, blood poured out for you. Do you realize that the hand of the one who is betraying me is at this moment on this table? It's true that the Son of Man is going down a path already marked out—no surprises there. But for the one who turns him in, turns traitor to the Son of Man, this is doomsday.

Lector: They immediately became suspicious of each other and began quizzing one another, wondering who might be about to do this. Within minutes they were bickering over who of them would end up the greatest. But Jesus intervened:

Jesus (All): Kings like to throw their weight around and people in authority like to give themselves fancy titles. It's not going to be that way with you. Let the senior among you become like the junior; let the leader act the part of the servant. Who would you rather be: the one who eats the dinner or the one who serves the dinner? You'd rather eat and be served, right? But I've taken my place among you as the one who serves...

HOLY COMMUNION: "Remember Now, My Children"

While "Remember Now, My Children" is sung, people are invited to either commune in the pews or come forward to the communion railing, kneel and receive the bread and wine.

**Vs. 1: The night of his betrayal, our Lord took bread.
He blest it as he broke it, and then he said,
"My body broken for you, is what this means.
Remember now, my children, what you have seen".**

**Vs. 2: And then he took the chalice and raised it high.
"My blood is given for you, a full supply,
a covenant, a promise, a cleansing stream.
Remember now my children, what you have seen".**

**Vs. 3: We share this food together, remembering Christ,
we share a common treasure and know the price,
we share it without measure a gift of love,
we share our life forever with God above.**

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace till life everlasting.

C: Amen.

HYMN AND OFFERING: "Go the Dark Gethsemane" #347 ELW

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

**Vs. 2: Follow to the judgement hall, View the Lord of life arraigned;
Oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun no suff'ring, shame and loss; Learn from him to bear the cross.**

3 YEAR OLDS RECEIVE BIBLES

We take a look into the 3 Year Old Bible to see what happens after supper.

HOMILY

Stand

APOSTLES CREED

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

All: 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.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

All: 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.

Sit

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 23: 1- 25

Lector: Then they all took Jesus to Pilate and began to bring up charges
against him. They said,

Scribes and Pharisees (Men and Boys): We found this man undermining
our law and order, forbidding taxes to be paid to Caesar, setting
himself up as Messiah-King.

Lector: Pilate asked him,

Pilate (Women and Girls): Is this true that you're 'King of the Jews'?

Jesus (All): Those are your words, not mine.

Lector: Pilate told the high priests and the accompanying crowd,

Pilate (Women and Girls): I find nothing wrong here. He seems harmless enough to me.

Lector: But they were vehement.

Scribes and Pharisees (Men and Boys): He's stirring up unrest among the people with his teaching, disturbing the peace everywhere, starting in Galilee and now all through Judea. He's a dangerous man, endangering the peace.

Lector: When Pilate heard that, he asked,

Pilate (Women and Girls): So, he's a Galilean?

Lector: Realizing that he properly came under Herod's jurisdiction, he passed the buck to Herod, who just happened to be in Jerusalem for a few days. Herod was delighted when Jesus showed up. He had wanted for a long time to see him, he'd heard so much about him. He hoped to see him do something spectacular. He peppered him with questions. Jesus didn't answer—not one word. But the high priests and religion scholars were right there, saying their piece, strident and shrill in their accusations. Mightily offended, Herod turned on Jesus. His soldiers joined in, taunting and jeering. Then they dressed him up in an elaborate king costume and sent him back to Pilate. That day Herod and Pilate became thick as thieves. Always before they had kept their distance. Then Pilate called in the high priests, rulers, and the others and said,

Pilate (Women and Girls): You brought this man to me as a disturber of the peace. I examined him in front of all of you and found there was nothing to your charge. And neither did Herod, for he has sent him back here with a clean bill of health. It's clear that he's done nothing wrong, let alone anything deserving death. I'm going to warn him to watch his step and let him go.

Lector: At that, the crowd went wild:

Crowd (All): Kill him! Give us Barabbas!

Lector: (Barabbas had been thrown in prison for starting a riot in the city and for murder.) Pilate still wanted to let Jesus go, and so spoke out again. But they kept shouting back,

Crowd (All): Crucify! Crucify him!

Lector: He tried a third time.

Pilate (Women and Girls): But for what crime? I've found nothing in him deserving death. I'm going to warn him to watch his step and let him go.

Lector: But they kept at it, a shouting mob, demanding that he be crucified. And finally they shouted him down. Pilate caved in and gave them what they wanted. He released the man thrown in prison for rioting and murder, and gave them Jesus to do whatever they wanted.

2nd GRADE TELLS THE REST OF THE STORY

HYMN: "They Crucified My Lord" #350 ELW

**Vs. 1: The crucified my Lord,
and he never said a mumbalin' word; (2 times)
Not a word, not a word, not a word.**

**Vs. 2: They nailed him to a tree,
and he never said a mumbalin' word; (2 times)
Not a word, not a word, not a word.**

**Vs. 3: He hung his head and died,
and he never said a mumbalin' word; (2 times)
Not a word, not a word, not a word.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

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

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

