Sunday of the Passion April 13, 2025

Today we follow Christ from triumphal entry to the cross, each waypoint of the journey marked by Jesus' compassion for those who would betray, mock, accuse, or do violence to him. Though persecuted and beaten, Jesus the Son of God is not disgraced; instead, he asks forgiveness for those who put him to death. We have walked the Lenten pathway these forty days, each of us invited through baptism to "let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus." We enter this holy week accompanying Jesus to the cross with both grief and thanksgiving in our hearts, trusting in God's redeeming love.

GATHERING - The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

QUIET MEDITATION & PRELUDE

WELCOME

Please stand as you are able and face the back of the sanctuary **P** - Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. **Hosanna in the highest.**

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL: Luke 19:28-40

The holy gospel according to Luke, the 19th chapter

²⁸ After he had said this, [Jesus] went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

²⁹ When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰ saying, "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. ³¹ If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.' " ³² So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴ They said, "The Lord needs it." ³⁵ Then they brought it to Jesus, and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ Now as he was 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, ³⁸ saying,

"Blessed is the king

who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven,

and glory in the highest heaven!"

³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." ⁴⁰ He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

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

CHOIR ANTHEM Blessed Is He Who Cometh

BLESSING OF PALMS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

P - Let us pray.

We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these branches those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the 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 forever.



Amen.

Let us go forth in peace, in the name of Christ. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN All Glory, Laud and Honor ELW 344

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

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.

Please be seated.

WORD - God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a

⁴ The Lord GOD has given me a trained tongue, 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.

⁵ The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious;

I did not turn backward.

⁶ I 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.

⁷ The 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;

⁸ he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?

Let us stand in court together.

Who are my adversaries?

Let them confront me.

^{9a} It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM Take Up Thy Cross

Robert Carlton

NARRATION OF THE PASSION ACCORDING TO LUKE

(see insert)

Please stand as you are able.

NICENE CREED

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,

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary

and became truly human.

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,*

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who 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 THE CHURCH (assisting minister)

A- 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 this Holy Week as we follow in the servant way of Jesus. Protect those who face hostility or oppression for their faith. Humble those who would use faith to dominate others and reinforce their own power. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Make your creation a living witness to Christ's passion and resurrection. Make us attentive to your holy presence in the world, that we may care for the earth you love. 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, so that those with the most power may humble themselves to serve the most vulnerable among us. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Sustain the weary with a word. Grant perseverance to political prisoners around the world and to any who are exploited, unjustly accused, or wrongly convicted. Abide with all who are in jails, detention centers, or prisons. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Console all who experience times of trial or suffering. Bring healing to those who suffer in mind, body or spirit. Bring relief to those who are hungry or homeless. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

We give thanks to you for our beloved dead, trusting that as the cross of Jesus led to the empty tomb, so you welcome those who have died into the paradise of your presence. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

P - 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.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

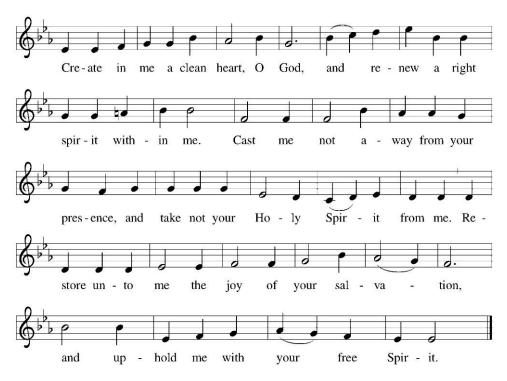
Please be seated after sharing the peace.

OFFERING & CHOIR ANTHEM Thy King Cometh Unto Thee R. Johnston An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING SONG

Create in Me a Clean Heart



Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, 1670-1739

OFFERING PRAYER (assisting minister)

A - Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world.

As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those

treasures with others,

through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

MEAL - God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

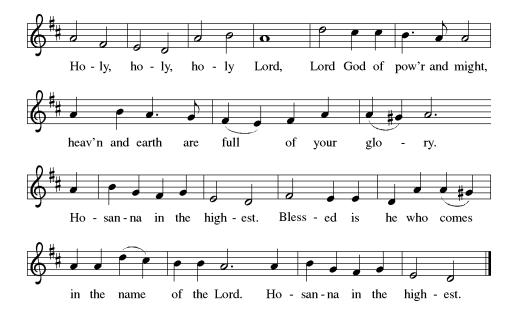
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

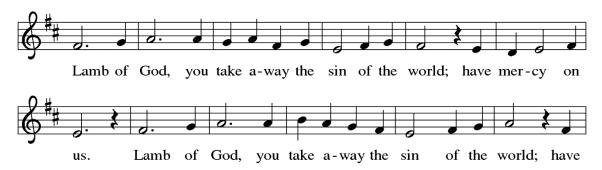
LORD'S PRAYER

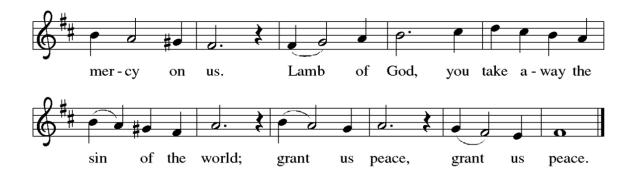
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.





Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

All Christians baptized in the name of The Holy Trinity and who believe by faith that the elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Christ are invited to commune. Gluten-free wafers are available as an alternative. All may come forward for God's blessing.

Please stand as you are able.

TABLE BLESSING

P - May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (assisting minister)

A - Generous Host,

you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

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. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING HYMN Ride On, Ride On, in Majesty

ELW 339

(Sung to Tune: Winchester New)

DISMISSAL

A - Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. **Thanks be to God.**

Soli deo Gloria!