

Messiah Lutheran Church

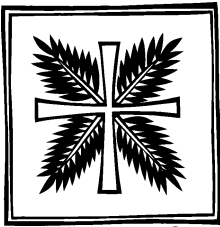
GATHER, EMPOWER, SERVE



✝ Holy Communion ✝

Sunday of the Passion

April 13, 2025



SUNDAY OF THE PASSION

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

PRELUDES

Hosanna to the Son of David..... Daniel Greig/ Jon Paige

Please stand and face the rear of the church.

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.**

P: Let us pray. Mercifully assist us, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts whereby you have given us life everlasting; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen**

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL: Luke 19:28-40

Entrance into the final days

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the nineteenth chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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 As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully

with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, 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.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

BLESSING OF THE PALMS

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: We praise and thank you, O God, for the great acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was acclaimed Son of David and King of kings by those who scattered their garments and branches of palm in his path. We ask that you bless these branches and those who bear them, and grant that we may ever hail him as our Lord and King and follow him with perfect confidence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

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

C: Hosanna in the highest.


PROCESSION TO RECEIVE PALMS

Congregation follows the choir to receive their palms.


PROCESSIONAL HYMN

***All Glory, Laud, and Honor*LBW 108**


Refrain



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re - deem - er, king,




to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



1 You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,
2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels is prais - ing you on high;
3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went.
4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.
5 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Refrain



now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One.
cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.
Our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.
To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760-821; tr. John M. Neale, 1818-1866, alt.
Music: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN, Melchior Teschner, 1584-1635

PRAYER OF THE DAY

[P]: Let us pray.
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.

[C]: Amen
Sit

WORD**FIRST READING: Philippians 2:5-11**

Paul quotes from an early Christian hymn that describes Jesus' humble obedience in his incarnation as a human being, even to death, and his exaltation and glory as Lord of all.

A: A Reading from Philippians:

⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶ who, though he was in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God

as something to be exploited,

⁷ but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave,

being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

⁸ he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of death—

even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him

and gave him the name

that is above every name,

¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus

every knee should bend,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue should confess

that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

P: The Passion of our Lord according to Saint Luke.

Turn to the Passion Reading contained in a separate booklet.

The congregation reads in unison the part of the people which is in bold type and is preceded by a stylized cross.

P: The Passion of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

My Song is Love Unknown, st. 1, 2, 5 and 7.....LBW 94



1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to me,
2 He came from his blest throne, sal - va - tion to be - stow;
3 Some - times they strew his way and his sweet prais - es sing;
4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?



love to the love - less shown, that they might love - ly be.
but men made strange, and none the longed-for Christ would know.
re - sound-ing all the day ho - san - nas to their King.
He made the lame to run, he gave the blind their sight.



Oh, who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail
But, oh, my friend, my friend in - deed, who at my need his
Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is all their breath, and for his death they
Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these them - selves dis - please, and



flesh and die? My Lord should take frail flesh and die?
life did spend; who at my need his life did spend!
thirst and cry, and for his death they thirst and cry.
'gainst him rise; them - selves dis - please, and 'gainst him rise.

5 They rise, and needs will have
my dear Lord made away;
a murderer they save,
the prince of life they slay.
Yet cheerful he to suff'ring goes,
that he his foes from thence might free.

6 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.

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

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–1683
Music: RHOSYMEDRE, John D. Edwards, 1806–1885

NICENE CREED

C: We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped
and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A brief silence is held after the introduction.

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

After each petition:

P: God, in your mercy,
C: receive our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

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.

C: Amen

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

*The pastor and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord.
Peace be with you. R: Peace be with you.*

Sit

MEAL

OFFERING

The Offering is received as the Lord's table is prepared.

ANTHEM

Via Dolorosa **Billy Sprague/Vilas Borop**
Soloist – Michael Yoder

Stand

OFFERTORY

As the gifts are presented, the Offertory is sung



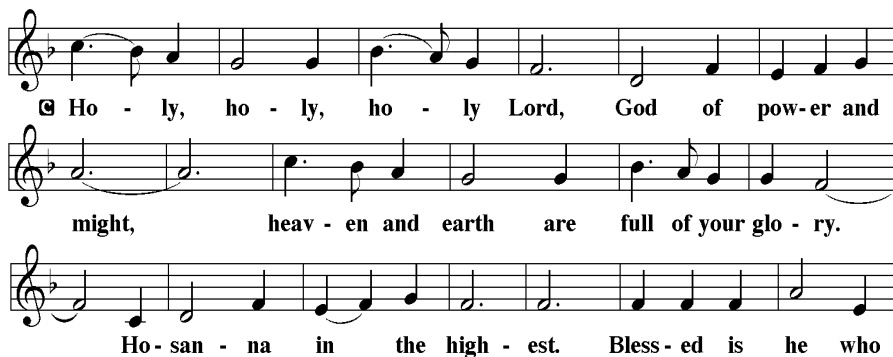
C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir -
it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the
joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

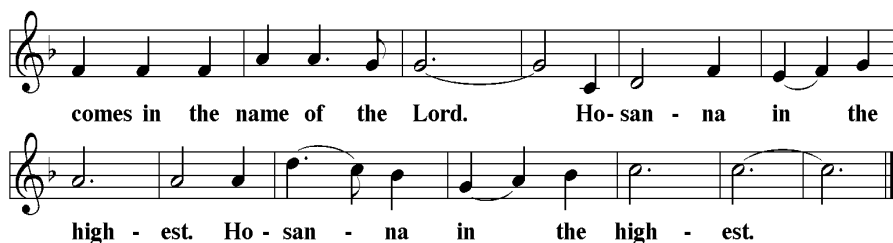
OFFERING PRAYER**A:** Let us pray.**C:** Gracious Provider,you set your immense treasures among us,
opening your heart to the world.As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,
deepen our commitment to sharing those
treasures with others,
through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING**P:** The Lord be with you.**C:** And also with you.**P:** Lift up your hearts.**C:** We lift them to the Lord.**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**C:** 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:





EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: 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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: 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.

C: Amen

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the banquet,
for all is now ready.


C: Thanks be to God.




C 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.

Sit

COMMUNION

All baptized believers are invited to this holy meal. Those not communing are invited for a blessing. Please follow the instructions of the ushers to gather at the altar table. As the ministers give the bread and wine, they say these words to each communicant:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
The communicant may say: Amen

COMMUNION HYMN

In the Hour of Trial..... LBW 106



1 In the hour of tri - al, Je - sus, plead for me,
2 With for - bid - den plea - sures should this vain world charm,
3 Should thy mer - cy send me sor - row, toil, and woe,



lest by base de - ni - al I de - part from thee.
or its sor - did trea - sures spread to work me harm,
or should pain at - tend me on my path be - low,



When thou seest me wa - ver, with a look re - call;
bring to my re - mem - brance sad Geth - sem - a - ne,
grant that I may nev - er fail thy hand to see;



Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854
 Music: PENITENCE, Spencer Lane, 1843–1903

Stand

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

C: Amen

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

SENDING

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen

SENDING HYMN**Christ, the Life of All the Living LBW 97**

1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
 2 You have suf - fered great af - flic - tion and have borne it pa - tient - ly,
 3 Then, for all that bought my par - don, for the sor - rows deep and sore,

Christ, your - self for me once giv - ing to the dark - est depths of woe:
 e - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion, ful - ly to a - tone for me;
 for the an - guish in the gar - den, I will thank you ev - er - more;

through your suf - f'ring, death, and mer - it life e - ter - nal I in - her - it.
 for you chose to be tor - ment - ed that my doom should be pre - vent - ed.
 thank you for the groan - ing, sigh - ing, for the bleed - ing and the dy - ing,

Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
 Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
 for that last tri - um - phant cry, praise you ev - er - more on high.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–1681; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
 Music: JESU, MEINES LEBENS LEBEN, *Das grosse Cantional*, Darmstadt, 1687

DISMISSAL**A:** Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.**C:** Thanks be to God.**POSTLUDE**

SERVICE ASSISTANTS

Ushers: Charles Luppert, Larry & Donna Britton, Rhonda Koch, Sylvia McCarty, Larry Solomon; **Lay Assistant:** Janet Stroble; **Communion Assistant:** Georgette Copp; **Acolyte/Crucifer:** Dylan Sherman; **Altar Guild:** Rita Strickler, Carol Winter; **Greeters/Presenters:** Carol Winter, Marilyn Winter
Flower Delivery: Charles Luppert; **Readers:** Carol Waltz, Dave Bausinger, Candy Watkins, Janet Stroble, Georgette Copp, Pam Eveleth, Anita Bair, Karrah Bair

IN BLESSED MEMORY

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of my parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde E. Smith by Vonnice Kaiser and family.

The Basket of Flowers is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Marian E. Blackburn by her family.

The Palms are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Robert E. Hassler by his wife, Jane.



Maundy Thursday, April 17, 7:00 p.m.

Confession and Forgiveness, Holy Communion, Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday, April 18, 7:00 p.m.

Worship Service of Christ's Seven Last Words

The Resurrection of Our Lord – Easter Day, April 20

9:30 a.m. - Festival Service of Holy Communion

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Messiah Church! It is our joy to have you worship with us. If you are visiting, please make yourself known and leave your name & information to a congregation member. *We hope to see you again.*

Please join us after worship in Shaheen Hall for our Pie Social.

The Lenten self-denial banks are due today. You may place them in the offering plate or bring in to the church office. Thank you!

Put Saturday, April 26 (6:00 p.m.) on your calendar for **TRIVIA NIGHT** in Shaheen Hall, with George Jansson (we hope!) as our Quizmaster. Registration is \$8.00 per person; \$15.00 per couple to benefit Messiah Pre-School's Scholarship Fund. Bring food to share; pizza and beverages will be provided. Tables of six will compete for the evening's championship ... *may the best wits win!*

LIVE STREAM OPERATORS NEEDED! We are currently in need of a few more adults to facilitate the broadcast. Training will be provided. Please contact the church office if you are interested.

Sunday - May 4 The choir is inviting you to raise your voice with ours in an anthem about God's unending love for us. The anthem is based on "Amazing Grace" and is easy to learn. If you like to sing and would consider joining us, come to rehearsal: Sunday, April 27, following worship in the choir loft; Thursday, May 1, at 7 PM in the music room or Sunday, May 4, before worship at 8:45 in the choir loft. *We hope you will add your voice to our praise.*

Volunteers are needed to help with the May 3rd Kids in Mission. *If you are able to help, please contact Kathryn Pratt as soon as possible to let her know. Watch for more information to come!*

Lutheran World Relief School Kits

More fabric has been marked and cut. Fabric pieces as well as instruction sheets are available in the narthex or in the church office for those who wish to help by sewing at home ... either by simply sewing a hem around the edges or by sewing a complete bag. **We do plan to host another sew-a-thon this spring.** Having the edges sewn makes it so much easier and quicker to complete an entire bag ... *thank you to all who have been helping at home with this important prep step!*

Questions?? Call Sally Congdon at 570-547-6193 or Kathy Wither at 570-651-2802

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

REV. A. BRUCE AMME, PRESIDING AND PREACHING

JARED GIST, ORGANIST

324 South Howard Street | South Williamsport, PA 17702

(570) 326-9171 | www.messiahsouth.org

Remember Us

On this Sunday of the Passion, the gathered church remembers the final days of Jesus' life. Once the celebratory palm branches are set down, the mood shifts as the somber tones of betrayal and crucifixion take over. The Lukan narrative draws us into the details, and we remember the extent of God's passion for us as Jesus enters into the depths of suffering through divine selfless love poured out for the sake of the world.

There is power in remembering. To be sure, this is an exercise of memory and recall for us. Yet Holy Week is much more than that. In our remembering of Jesus' passion, our reality is re-membered with God's reality. Like members of a body, we are re-membered onto Christ, formed into one through the Spirit, and drawn into the reality of God's saving love. Through scripture, song, and prayer, the liturgy of this day re-members us as God's people as we bear witness to Jesus' remembrance of us.

In the culminating moment of the crucifixion, only Luke's gospel reports the exchange between the two criminals and Jesus. The one criminal chastises the other before he addresses the crucified Jesus, saying, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom" (Luke 23:42). The request is for more than an act of recall; the criminal is seeking to be re-membered in the dominion of God, seeking a fusion of realities—his with Jesus'. Without hesitation, Jesus responds, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise" (v. 43). The criminal will be *with* Jesus, re-membered to Jesus.

This Sunday we remember Jesus' passion as together we are joined to God's loving action for the world. Jesus' last breath on the cross is the moment when our reality is re-membered with God's, for Jesus remembers us, and paradise's reign is realized.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

Copyright © 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2006 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #24158. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Reprinted Hymns by permission of OneLicense.net #A-712396 and CCLI #11444333.