

... he **humbled** himself
and became **obedient**
to the point of **death** —
even **death on a cross.**

PHILIPPIANS 2:8, NRSV



PALM SUNDAY
Sunday of the Passion

April 13, 2025 | 8.00am and 10.30am

VISITORS

We welcome you in the name of Christ and hope his word of forgiveness and freedom finds you while you are with us this morning. If you are visiting or are new to our church, we ask that you complete a yellow Connection Card and pass it to the center isle for collection during the Entrance Hymn. We would like to be in touch with you and to let you know more about Grace Lutheran. We're glad you are here.

OUR WORSHIP

Lutherans think of worship not in terms of something we do for God, but rather what God does for us. We often call our worship a "service," and that means that God serves us in our need. At the end of his life in 1546, Martin Luther famously said, "We are beggars" before God. In our liturgy (order of worship), which includes hymns and songs, specially selected Bible readings, preaching, and Holy Communion, God serves us by delivering to us sinful human beings the good news of Jesus Christ as Savior, which we grasp by faith. In turn, we respond with prayer, praise, and thanksgiving, which carries over into our everyday lives.

PARENTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me." The presence of children in worship, even when they are noisy, is a gift to the Church and a reminder that our parish is growing. If you have to leave worship with your children, feel free to do so, but even more so, feel free to come back in!

PRAYER BEFORE HOLY COMMUNION

We do not presume to come to your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, and so to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen

ORDER FOR WORSHIP - LBW Setting 1

Watchword: And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

– John 3:14-15 ESV

PRELUDE | WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS | OPENING PRAYER

Grace Notes Handbell Choir (10:30 only): “The Arrival”



Gathering

THE PROCESSION

The people stand and turn to the back of the sanctuary.

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.

A: And when he had said these things, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, saying, “Go into the village in front of you, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ you shall say this: ‘The Lord has need of it.’” So those who were sent went away and found it just as he had told them. And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, “Why are you untying the colt?” And

they said, “The Lord has need of it.” And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples.” He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.” (Lk. 19:28-40)

The people raise their palm branches.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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 those who bear these branches, 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.

A: Let us go forth in peace,

C: in the name of the Lord.

The choir, acolytes, and ministers process. The people may raise and wave palm branches during the processional hymn.

HYMN: *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

Green Book 108



Confession and Absolution

INVOCATION

P: In the Name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

P: 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.
C: Amen.

CONFESSION

P: 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.

The people kneel for silent reflection and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,
C: 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.

ABSOLUTION

The pastor stands and addresses the assembly.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit..
C: Amen.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
C: Hosanna in the highest.
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, you sent your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take our flesh upon him and to suffer death on the cross. Grant that we may share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C: Amen.

The people may be seated.

Choir Anthem (10:30 only) "Lift up your voice" Trumpet - Grant McCallum"



The Liturgy of the Word

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 50:4-9a

L: A reading from Isaiah.

These Old Testament words are a part of the "suffering servant" speeches. In them, we get a glimpse of the future suffering of our Lord Jesus Christ, which we remember this week.

⁴The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting. ⁷But the Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a 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 is my adversary? Let him come near to me. ⁹Behold, the Lord GOD helps me; who will declare me guilty?

L: The Word of the Lord. **C:** Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY

Psalms 31:9-16

The psalm is chanted alternately by the cantor and the congregation



⁹Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I | am in trouble;* my eye is consumed with sorrow,
and also my throat | and my belly.

**¹⁰For my life is wasted with grief, and my | years with sighing;*
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones | are consumed.**

¹¹I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors, a dismay to those of | my acquaintance,* when they see me in the street | they avoid me.

**¹²I am forgotten like a dead man, | out of mind;* I am as useless
as a | broken pot.**

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.

¹⁴But 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 Make your face to shine up- | on your servant,* and in your loving- | kindness
save me.”**

THE SECOND LESSON

Philippians 2:5-11

L: A reading from Philippians.

Paul's words here are a quotation of an early Christian hymn. With it, he reminds us of the suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ. We are called to care for each other in the same way that Christ demonstrated his love for the world.

⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

L: The Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

THE VERSE

The people stand.

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 23:1-49

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 23rd chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

¹Then the whole company of them arose and brought him before Pilate. ²And they began to accuse him, saying, “We found this man misleading our nation and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king.” ³And Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” And he answered him, “You have said so.” ⁴Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, “I find no guilt in this man.” ⁵But they were urgent, saying, “He stirs up the people, teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee even to this place.”

⁶When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. ⁷And when he learned that he belonged to Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent him over to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. ⁸When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him,

and he was hoping to see some sign done by him. ⁹So he questioned him at some length, but he made no answer. ¹⁰The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. ¹¹And Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him. Then, arraying him in splendid clothing, he sent him back to Pilate. ¹²And Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before this they had been at enmity with each other.

¹³Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, ¹⁴and said to them, “You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people. And after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him. ¹⁵Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him. ¹⁶I will therefore punish and release him.”

¹⁸But they all cried out together, “Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas”— ¹⁹a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city and for murder. ²⁰Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, ²¹but they kept shouting, “Crucify, crucify him!” ²²A third time he said to them, “Why? What evil has he done? I have found in him no guilt deserving death. I will therefore punish and release him.” ²³But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed. ²⁴So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted. ²⁵He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus over to their will. ²⁶And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus. ²⁷And there followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. ²⁸But turning to them Jesus said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹For behold, the days are coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!’ ³⁰Then they will begin to say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us,’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’ ³¹For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?”

³²Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³³And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified

him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴And Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” And they cast lots to divide his garments. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!” ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, “Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!” ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴²And he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” ⁴³And he said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

⁴⁴It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, ⁴⁵while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!” And having said this he breathed his last. ⁴⁷Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, “Certainly this man was innocent!” ⁴⁸And all the crowds that had assembled for this spectacle, when they saw what had taken place, returned home beating their breasts. ⁴⁹And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance watching these things.

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

Musical notation for the phrase "Praise to you, O Christ." It is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a common time signature (C). The melody consists of a series of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics "Praise to you, O Christ." are written below the staff, aligned with the notes.

SERMON

Pastor Tom Jacobson

The people may be seated.

The people stand.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

After each petition: A: Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
C: Amen.

The Liturgy of Holy Communion

THE PEACE

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.
C: And also with you.

The people greet one another in the name of the Lord and then are seated.

OFFERING

Stationary plates have been placed in the sanctuary for giving offerings before or after service. Online giving through the church’s website is also highly encouraged. Music will play to provide a time for prayer and reflection.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

The people stand.

C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all his ben-e-fits to me? I will
of-fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv-ing and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will take the cup of sal-va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all his peo-ple,
in the courts of the Lord’s house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru-sa-lem.

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Blessed are you,
C: O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you. **C** And al-so 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 him thanks and praise.

THE PREFACE

P: It is indeed right we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

THE SANCTUS

C Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow’r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na. Ho-san-na.
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.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Almighty God, merciful Father: You are indeed holy, enthroned on the praises of your people. With Israel we bring our praises before you, as we behold the wonder of your goodness and your redemptive love for us. In that love you sent your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who was acclaimed King and Lord as he entered Jerusalem in triumph. By that same love, he was handed over by an act of betrayal and consigned to death, thereby taking every human struggle and the suffering of every age to the cross. By his holy wounds we have been healed.

We rejoice, Almighty Father, in our Lord's life and holy passion, his resurrection and his ascent into glory; and we trust in his promise to come again, when we, with all your people, shall sing our hosannas to him at our joyful resurrection
C: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: 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.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray,
C: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 FRACTION

P: Our Lord Jesus says, “Whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.”
C: **Lord, give us this bread always.**

The people may be seated.

LAMB OF GOD

☞ 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.

DISTRIBUTION

Lutherans teach that Holy Communion (the Lord's Supper) was instituted by Jesus Christ himself for us to eat and drink. As his words declare, with bread and wine, he imparts to us his body and blood, and with it the grace of God. This sacrament is God's way of giving us the good news of Jesus in a concrete, physical way as we continue our pilgrimage on earth. We are rightly prepared to receive this great gift when we come before God with humility and faith. All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.
To receive Holy Communion, come forward in two lines (10:30) or one line (8:00) as the ushers direct you. With open hands, you will receive the bread from the pastor or

assisting minister. For those not able to receive regular bread, some gluten free wafers are available. Then proceed to receive the wine from an assistant on your side of the sanctuary. Take an empty cup, which will be filled using a pouring chalice. For those not able to receive wine, there are some pre-filled cups of grape juice available. After receiving the Lord's Supper, the communicant may say "Amen" and return to your pew for prayer. Those choosing not to receive Holy Communion may come forward for a brief prayer and blessing. You may indicate that by crossing your arms over your chest.

Hymns during distribution: Green Book 95, 200, 94

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The people stand.

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

C: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

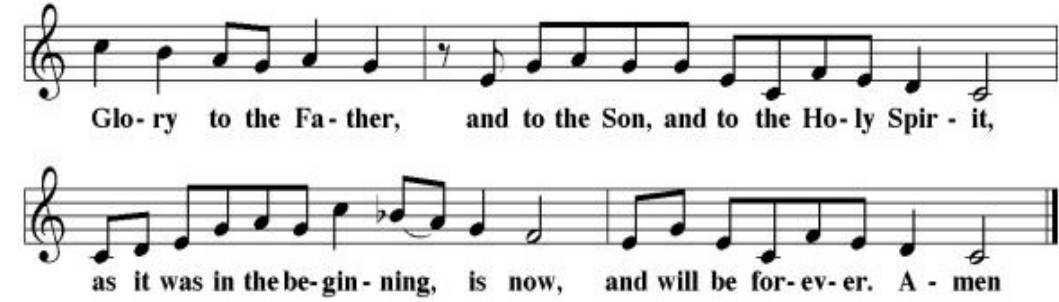


Lord, now you let your ser-vant go in peace; your word has been ful-filled.

My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the

sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re-veal you to the

na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.



Glo- ry to the Fa- ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho- ly Spir - it,

as it was in the be- gin - ning, is now, and will be for- ev- er. A - men

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

 *Sending*

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL



Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now . . . and for - ever. A - men

A: Go in peace. Christ is with you!

C: Thanks be to God!

SENDING HYMN*Christ the Life of All the Living*Green Book 97

THE POSTLUDE

Special Music: The Lord’s Prayer - sung by Valinda Arnold, read in Aramaic by
Pastor Tom Jacobson *Please, no applause!*

We are sent into the world to proclaim God's grace in word and deed.

PRAYER AFTER WORSHIP

Almighty God, grant that the words we have heard this day with our ears may be grafted
onto our hearts through your grace, that they may produce in us the fruit of a good life,
to the praise and honor of your name, through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord. Amen



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COMMEMORATIONS:

As Christians in the twenty-first century, we are called to remember that God's people of the past form a great "cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12:1). In that spirit, we commemorate memorable Christians of the past, usually on the day of their death. Though imperfect, their witness inspires us today as we run the race of faith. This week, the Church commemorates:

April 19 Olavus Petri, priest, 1552; Laurentius Petri, Archbishop of Uppsala, 1573; renewers of the Church

Holy Week Schedule:

April 17 – Maundy Thursday - Soup at 6:00pm; Worship at 7:00pm
April 18 - Good Friday - Worship at 7:00pm
April 19 - Easter Vigil - Worship at 7:00 pm
April 20 - Easter Sunday - Worship at 8:00 & 10:30am; Breakfast 8-10am

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR EASTER SUNDAY (APRIL 20)

Acts 10:34-43	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:19-26	Luke 24:1-12