Paradise Lutheran Church - Thomasville, PA Palm/Passion Sunday March 24, 2024 10:15 a.m.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Liturgy of the Palms

Please stand.

Gospel: *Mark* 11:1-11

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

All: Hosanna in the highest.

Pastor: The holy Gospel according to Mark.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Pastor: ¹When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, [Jesus] sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.' "⁴They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. ⁷Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

¹¹Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Blessing of the Palms

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: 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 branches 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. All: Amen.

Pastor: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

All: Hosanna in the highest!



Greeting and Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: 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. All: Amen.

Please be seated.

Anthem

"Blessed Is He"

Sanctuary Choir

Reflection

Please stand.

Offertory Response "Create in Me a Clean Heart"



Offering Prayer

Assisting Minister: Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered so that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

All: Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you. (Please feel free to move around and share the peace of Christ with each other with a sign, handshake, or hug.)

Please be seated.

Liturgy of the Passion

A Reading from Mark's Passion (14:1-21)

¹It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; ²for they said, "Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people."

³While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. ⁴But some were there who said to one another in anger, "Why was the ointment wasted in this way? ⁵For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor." And they scolded her. ⁶But Jesus said, "Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. ⁷For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. ⁸She has done what she

could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. ⁹Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her."

¹⁰Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. ¹¹When they heard it, they were greatly pleased, and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

¹²On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to him, "Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" ¹³So he sent two of his disciples, saving to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, ¹⁴and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks, Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' ¹⁵He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there." ¹⁶So the disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal. ¹⁷When it was evening, he came with the twelve. ¹⁸And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." ¹⁹They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another, "Surely, not I?" ²⁰He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. ²¹For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born."

Please stand.

Prayer of Preparation

Pastor: Let us pray. We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather

up the crumbs under your table. But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation, and you share your bread with sinners. So cleanse and feed us with the precious body and blood of your Son, that he may live in us and we in him; and that we, with the whole company of Christ, may sit and eat in your kingdom. **All: Amen.**

Dialogue

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you. Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks ... praise your holy name.

Words of Institution (Mark 14:22-25)

Pastor: People of God, hear the words of the holy gospel according to Mark. ²²While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." ²³Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. ²⁴He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. ²⁵Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

All: 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

This is Christ's table, and he is the host of this meal. So come: you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a while; you who have tried to follow Jesus and you who have failed. Come; receive Christ, the One who renews your heart.

Jesus invites you to his feast! Come forward, as you are able, to receive his body and blood in the bread and wine. (If you need to receive communion in your pew, you can alert us by holding up your hand after the line has gone through, and we will be glad to come to you.). Please be seated.

Distribution

Communion Hymn "My Song is Love Unknown"



- 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!

A Reading from Mark's Passion (14:26-38)

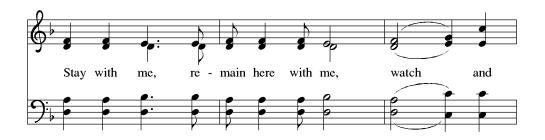
Pastor: ²⁶When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ²⁷And Jesus said to them, "You will all become deserters; for it is written,

'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.'

²⁸But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." ²⁹Peter said to him, "Even though all become deserters, I will not." ³⁰Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." ³¹But he said vehemently, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And all of them said the same.

³²They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." ³³He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. ³⁴And he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake." ³⁵And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. ³⁶He said, "Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want." ³⁷He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? ³⁸Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Hymn "Stay With Me" sing three times





Prayers of the People

Assisting Minister: Let us pray.

A brief silence for prayer follows each petition.

Mighty God of mercy, we thank you for the resurrection dawn, bringing the glory of our risen Lord who makes every day new.

Especially we thank you—

for the sustaining goodness of your creation . . .

for the new creation in Christ and all gifts of healing and forgiveness . . .

for the gifts of relationship with others . . .

for the communion of faith in your church . . .

Merciful God of might, renew this weary world, heal the hurts of all your children, and bring about your peace for all in Christ Jesus, the living Lord.

Especially we pray—

for those who govern nations of the world . . .

for the people in countries ravaged by strife or warfare . . .

for all who are suffering from illness, injury, or grief...

for all who work for peace and international harmony . . .

for all who strive to save the earth from carelessness and destruction . . .

for the church of Jesus Christ in every land . . .

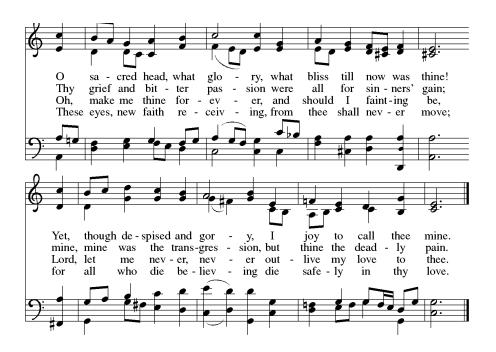
We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior. All: Amen.

A Reading from Mark's Passion (14:39—15:47)

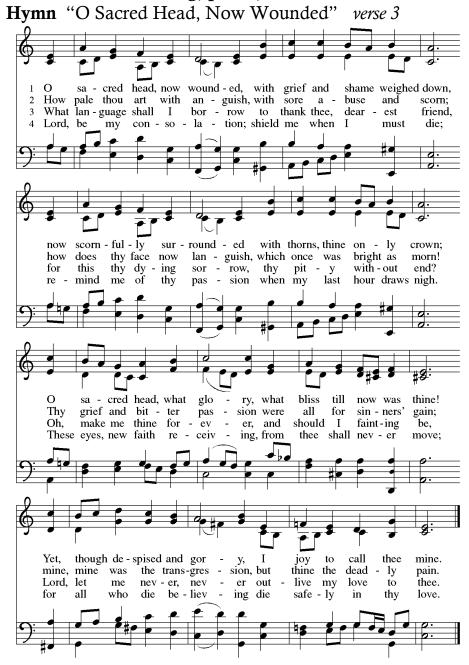
Dramatic reading part 1, then...

Hymn: "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" verse 1



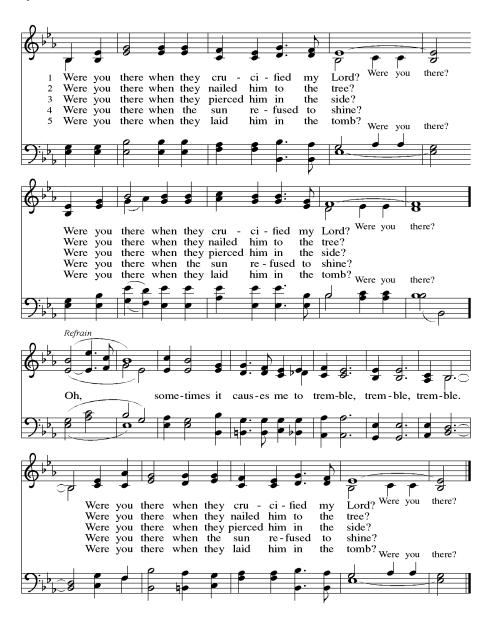


Dramatic reading, part 2, then...



Dramatic reading, part 3, then...

Hymn "Were You There" Verse 1

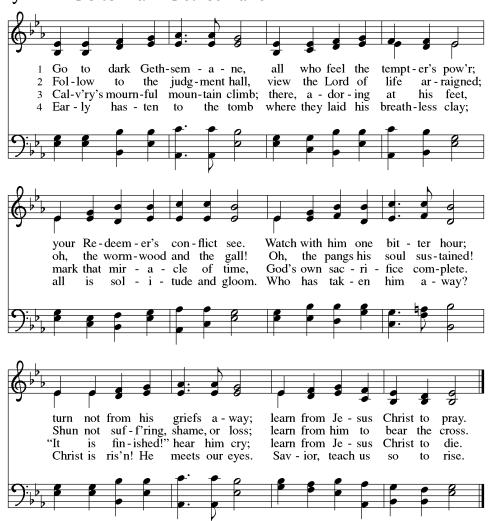


Dramatic reading, part 4, then...

Hymn "Were You There" *Verse 3*



Hymn "Go to Dark Gethsemane"



Prayer

Pastor: On the cross Jesus confronted our misery and carried our guilt. He carried our death to his grave, but all still grieve, all still weep, and all still die. Let us pray.

All: Do not turn your face from us, O God, and hear us when we pray. Raise the dying, O Jesus, and heal all the sick. Comfort the restless, O Holy Spirit, and share your welcome with the wandering. Forgive us for our sins. Take our death to your grave so dying, we might live.

Pastor: Hear us, O God. All: Your mercy is great. Amen.

Sending

Pastor: You came in celebration. You leave in solemnity. But still you carry the promise of God's love burning deep in your hearts. Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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WELCOME to Paradise! In this Holy Week, we lament the suffering of Jesus and of all humans, but we also rejoice because in the wine and bread, Jesus promises us that his death will mark a new covenant with all people.

IN OUR PRAYERS: Dolores Tavarez, Larry Luckenbaugh, Allison Trump, Ken Stambaugh, Donna Shaffer, Joyce Bentzel, Sherry Feeser, Gloria Krebs; Kaleb Trump, Nancy and Jerry Frey-Markell, Ron Schwartz, Bob Markle, Samantha Zorbaugh, Gwen Schnetzka, Angie Zepp, Erika Smith, Kim Culbert, Connie Keller, Heather Shoemaker, Judy Jarvis, Bernie Tucker, Sue Sell, Joe Pohlman, Linda Schreier, Connie McNeil, Christine Ruth Smith, Jen Miller, William Brady, Ryan Yingling

For those in prison, especially Patrick and Keith For those who mourn

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God by Jeff Fulton in memory of Deb Fulton's brother Todd Hanson.

THE PALMS are given to the Glory of God by Ray and Tracey Grudi in honor of their grandchildren.

THE BULLETINS are given to the Glory of God by Bob and Janet Coble in honor of their 59th wedding anniversary.

NOTES ABOUT WORSHIP:

- ✓ Large print bulletins are available in the binders in the narthex. We have one copy of each service in each of the four binders.
- ✓ Offering plates are located by the entrances. Please put your offering in before worship begins, as we will be bringing the offering forward to the altar during worship. (If you forget, there will be a plate still available at the back at the end of worship.)

- ✓ As you share the peace, you are welcome to move around and greet one another with Christ's peace with a sign, handshake, or hug.
- ✓ All the baptized are invited to receive Holy Communion. If we are communing by intinction, you will receive a wafer, which you can then dip in the wine. If we are communing with bread, you will receive a piece of bread from the pastor. Then proceed to pick up a cup, which a server will fill with wine. Gluten-free wafers are always available from the pastor's communion station.

✓ When you leave, please dispose of any trash with you. Bulletins may be taken with you or placed in the box either on the table shelf outside the office or in the narthex for recycling. Thank you!

MAUNDY THURSDAY and GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP: We hope you will continue your Holy Week experience by joining us for worship on Thursday, <u>March 28</u>, and Good Friday, <u>March 29</u>. Both services will be held at 7 p.m. Easter Sunday services will be held at the usual times, 8 and 10:15 a.m.

SKIT PRACTICES <u>today</u> after the early service and again after the late service.

ONE SERVICE AT 9 A.M. on Sunday, <u>April 7</u>, as we celebrate Holy Humor Sunday. We'll have a skit in place of the sermon to give Pastor Hipkiss a break. Look for some new faces on 'stage'!!

THRIVENT MEMBERS! Please remember to direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars by March 31! Either log into your account at *Thrivent.com* OR call Member Care Services at 800-847-4836.

GIANT CARDS are available for purchase. Contact **Pat Zech** or **Heidi Wolf**. The church gets a portion of the total purchased.

WEBSITE: The **March** website is sponsored by *Sandy Anderson* and *family* in memory of Ted "Pappy" Anderson. Let Julie know if you'd like to sponsor a month in **2025**. Available: February, March, November, December. Cost: \$20.

SPECIAL OFFERING ENVELOPE for **March** will go to *ELCA Disaster Response.*

Giving of time and tithes:

Attendance: Sunday, March 17: early, 32; late, 51; Sunday School, 23

Offerings	Our budget needs for God's Mission	Your actual gifts from 3/17/24	Difference
Current	\$4,456.00	\$4,195.15	\$260.85
Benevolence	\$283.00	\$460.00	+\$177.00
Capital Improvements	\$289.00	\$235.00	\$54.00
	Actual expenses to date	Total actual gifts to date	Difference
	\$46,945.11	\$56,414.55	+\$9,469.44

Worship Participants:

Pastor: The Reverend Sigrid Hipkiss Minister of Music: Allison Trump

Greeter: Heidi Wolf Acolyte: Paul Hipkiss Lector: Heidi Wolf

Assisting Minister: Larry McConnell Usher/communion: Dave Cassel

Altar Guild for March: Ralph and Fran Nace (Kris Gabel today)



Church information:

Gathered to worship, care, and grow; sent to love like Jesus.

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