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Introduction to the Day

Sunday of the Passion, Palm Sunday

Today's liturgy begins with a joyous palm procession, commemorating Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Quickly, the tone changes as we meditate upon Jesus' passion and death. Because this story is so central to our faith, we hear Matthew's account of the passion today and John's version on Good Friday.

Gathering

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

Preservice Music

Welcome

Prelude

We stand as we are able and face the entrance

Entrance Rite

My dear friends in Christ:
For the five weeks of Lent, we have been preparing
through prayer and repentance,
for the sacred remembrance of our Lord's suffering and death.
Today, in union with the Church throughout the world,
we enter this holiest of all weeks.
Christ Jesus now enters his own city
to complete his work as our Savior
to suffer, to die, and to rise again.

Palm Sunday Gospel

Matthew 21:1-11

¹ When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." ⁴ This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:

⁵ "Tell the daughter of Zion,
Look, your king is coming to you,
humble and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷ they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!

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

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹⁰ When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” ¹¹ The crowds were saying, **“This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”**

Blessing of the Palms

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

We lift our palm branches

As we lift our palm branches, we pray:

Gracious God,

as we honor Christ by carrying these branches

increase our faith and listen to our prayers,

so that we may honor you each day, and center our lives in him

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Processional Song “All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

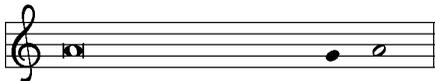
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Greeting

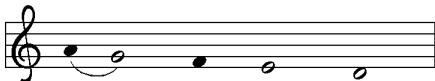
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



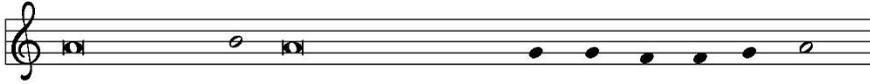
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

Prayer of the Day

O God of mercy and might, in the mystery of the passion of your Son, you offer your infinite life to the world. Gather us around the cross of Christ, and preserve us until the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Word

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

Children's Message

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

The servant of the Lord expresses absolute confidence in his final vindication, despite the fact that he has been struck and spit upon. This characteristic of the servant played an important role in the early church's understanding of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

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.

⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name that is above every other name,
¹⁰ so that at the name given to 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Passion of Jesus according to Matthew

¹⁴⁻¹⁶ After Jesus had been anointed with a very expensive perfume, that is when one of the Twelve, the one named Judas Iscariot, went to the cabal of high priests and said, “What will you give me if I hand him over to you?” They settled on thirty silver pieces. He began looking for just the right moment to hand him over.

¹⁷ On the first of the Days of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus and said, “Where do you want us to prepare your Passover meal?”

¹⁸⁻¹⁹ He said, “Enter the city. Go up to a certain man and say, ‘The Teacher says, My time is near. My disciples and I plan to celebrate the Passover meal at your house.’” The disciples followed Jesus’ instructions to the letter and prepared the Passover meal.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: “Christ, the Life of All the Living”

verse 1 No. 339

**1 Christ, the life of all the living,
Christ, the death of death, our foe,
Christ, yourself for me once giving
to the darkest depths of woe:
through your suff'ring, death, and merit
life eternal I inherit.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due,
dearest Jesus, unto you.**

At the Passover Table

²⁰⁻²¹ After sunset, Jesus and the Twelve were sitting around the table. During the meal, he said, “I have something hard but important to say to you: One of you is going to hand me over to the conspirators.”

²² They were stunned, and then began to ask, one after another, “Master, it isn’t me, is it?”

²³⁻²⁴ Jesus answered, “The one who hands me over is someone I eat with daily, one who passes me food at the table. In one sense, the Son of Man is entering into a way of treachery well-marked by the Scriptures—no surprises here. In another sense, that man who turns him in, turns traitor to the Son of Man—better never to have been born than do this!”

²⁵ Then Judas, already turned traitor, said, “It isn’t me, is it, Rabbi?”
Jesus said, “Don’t play games with me, Judas.”

The Bread and the Cup

²⁶⁻²⁹ During the meal, Jesus took and blessed the bread, broke it, and gave it to his disciples:

Take, eat. This is my body.

Taking the cup and thanking God, he gave it to them:

Drink this, all of you. This is my blood,

God’s new covenant poured out for many people
for the forgiveness of sins.

“I’ll not be drinking wine from this cup again until that new day when I’ll drink with you in the kingdom of my Father.”

Hymn: “Around You, O Lord Jesus”

verses 1&3 **No. 468**

1 **Around you, O Lord Jesus,
your own you gather still.
To share the feast you give us
with grace our lives to fill.
You say to us so lovingly,
“Take eat! This is my body!
Take drink! This is my blood.”**

3 **We are your own forever,
until our final breath.
We will be true and never –
in joy, in grief, in death –
depart from you, for you are still
among your people dwelling,
as you have said you will.**

Gethsemane

³⁰ After singing a hymn, they went directly to Mount Olives.

³¹⁻³² Then Jesus told them, “Before the night’s over, you’re going to fall to pieces because of what happens to me. There is a Scripture that says, I’ll strike the shepherd; dazed and confused, the sheep will be scattered.

But after I am raised up, I, your Shepherd, will go ahead of you, leading the way to Galilee.”

³³ Peter broke in, “Even if everyone else falls to pieces on account of you, I won’t.”

³⁴ “Don’t be so sure,” Jesus said. “This very night, before the rooster crows up the dawn, you will deny me three times.”

³⁵ Peter protested, “Even if I had to die with you, I would never deny you.” All the others said the same thing.

³⁶⁻³⁸ Then Jesus went with them to a garden called Gethsemane and told his disciples, “Stay here while I go over there and pray.” Taking along Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he plunged into an agonizing sorrow. Then he said, “This sorrow is crushing my life out. Stay here and keep vigil with me.”

³⁹ Going a little ahead, he fell on his face, praying, “My Father, if there is any way, get me out of this. But please, not what I want. You, what do *you* want?”

Song of the Passion “There in God’s Garden”

verse 1 No. 342

**1 There in God's garden
stands the Tree of Wisdom,
whose leaves hold forth
the healing of the nations:
Tree of all knowledge,
Tree of all compassion,
Tree of all beauty.**

⁴⁰⁻⁴¹ When he came back to his disciples, he found them sound asleep. He said to Peter, “Can’t you stick it out with me a single hour? Stay alert; be in prayer so you don’t wander into temptation without even knowing you’re in danger. There is a part of you that is eager, ready for anything in God. But there’s another part that’s as lazy as an old dog sleeping by the fire.”

⁴² He then left them a second time. Again he prayed, “My Father, if there is no other way than this, drinking this cup to the dregs, I’m ready. Do it your way.”

⁴³⁻⁴⁴ When he came back, he again found them sound asleep. They simply couldn't keep their eyes open. This time, he let them sleep on and went back a third time to pray, going over the same ground one last time.

⁴⁵⁻⁴⁶ When he came back the next time, he said, "Are you going to sleep on and make a night of it? My time is up; the Son of Man is about to be handed over to the hands of sinners. Get up! Let's get going! My betrayer is here."

With Swords and Clubs

⁴⁷⁻⁴⁹ The words were barely out of his mouth when Judas (the one from the Twelve) showed up, and with him a gang from the high priests and religious leaders, brandishing swords and clubs. The betrayer had worked out a sign with them:

"The one I kiss, that's the one—seize him." He went straight to Jesus, greeted him, "How are you, Rabbi?" and kissed him.

⁵⁰⁻⁵¹ Jesus said, "Friend, why this charade?"

Then they came on him, grabbed him, and roughed him up. One of those with Jesus pulled his sword and, taking a swing at the Chief Priest's servant, cut off his ear.

⁵²⁻⁵⁴ Jesus said, "Put your sword back where it belongs. All who use swords are destroyed by swords. Don't you realize that I am able right now to call to my Father, and twelve companies—more, if I want them—of fighting angels would be here, battle-ready? But if I did that, how would the Scriptures come true that say this is the way it has to be?"

⁵⁵⁻⁵⁶ Then Jesus addressed the mob: "What is this—coming out after me with swords and clubs as if I were a dangerous criminal? Day after day I have been sitting in the Temple teaching, and you never so much as lifted a hand against me. You've done it this way to confirm and fulfill the prophetic writings."

Then all the disciples cut and ran.

Song of the Passion "There in God's Garden"

verse 2 No. 342

**2 Its name is Jesus,
name that says, "Our Savior!"
There on its branches
see the scars of suff'ring;
see where the tendrils
of our human selfhood
feed on its lifeblood.**

False Charges

⁵⁷⁻⁵⁸ The gang that had seized Jesus led him before Caiaphas, the Chief Priest, where the religious scholars and leaders had assembled. Peter followed at a safe distance until they got to the Chief Priest's courtyard. Then he slipped in and mingled with the servants, watching to see how things would turn out.

⁵⁹⁻⁶⁰ The high priests, conspiring with the Jewish Council, tried to cook up charges against Jesus in order to sentence him to death. But even though many stepped up, making up one false accusation after another, nothing was believable.

⁶⁰⁻⁶¹ Finally, two men came forward with this: "He said, 'I can tear down this Temple of God and after three days rebuild it.'"

⁶² The Chief Priest stood up and said, "What do you have to say to the accusation?"

⁶³ Jesus kept silent.

Then the Chief Priest said, "I command you by the authority of the living God to say if you are the Messiah, the Son of God."

⁶⁴ Jesus was curt: "You yourself said it. And that's not all. Soon you'll see it for yourself:

The Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Mighty One,
Arriving on the clouds of heaven."

⁶⁵⁻⁶⁶ At that, the Chief Priest lost his temper, ripping his robes, yelling, "He blasphemed! Why do we need witnesses to accuse him? You all heard him blaspheme! Are you going to stand for such blasphemy?"

They all said, "Death! That seals his death sentence."

⁶⁷⁻⁶⁸ Then they were spitting in his face and knocking him around. They jeered as they slapped him: "Prophecy, Messiah: Who hit you that time?"

Denial in the Courtyard

⁶⁹ All this time, Peter was sitting out in the courtyard. One servant girl came up to him and said, "You were with Jesus the Galilean."

⁷⁰ In front of everybody there, he denied it. "I don't know what you're talking about."

⁷¹ As he moved over toward the gate, someone else said to the people there, "This man was with Jesus the Nazarene." ⁷² Again, he denied it, salting his denial with an oath: "I swear, I never laid eyes on the man."

⁷³ Shortly after that, some bystanders approached Peter. “You’ve got to be one of them. Your accent gives you away.”

⁷⁴⁻⁷⁵ Then he got really nervous and swore. “I don’t know the man!”

Song of the Passion “There in God’s Garden”

verse 3 **No. 342**

**3 Thorns not its own
 are tangled in its foliage;
 our greed has starved it,
 our despite has choked it.
 Yet, look! it lives!
 its grief has not destroyed it
 nor fire consumed it.**

Just then, a rooster crowed. Peter remembered what Jesus had said: “Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.” He went out and cried and cried and cried.

Thirty Silver Coins

27 ¹⁻² In the first light of dawn, all the high priests and religious leaders met and put the finishing touches on their plot to kill Jesus. Then they tied him up and paraded him to Pilate, the governor.

³⁻⁴ Judas, the one who betrayed him, realized that Jesus was doomed. Overcome with remorse, he gave back the thirty silver coins to the high priests, saying, “I’ve sinned. I’ve betrayed an innocent man.”

They said, “What do we care? That’s *your* problem!”

⁵ Judas threw the silver coins into the Temple and left. Then he went out and hung himself.

⁶⁻¹⁰ The high priests picked up the silver pieces but then didn’t know what to do with them. “It wouldn’t be right to give this—a payment for murder!—as an offering in the Temple.” They decided to get rid of it by buying the “Potter’s Field” and using it as a burial place for the homeless. That’s how the field got called “Murder Meadow,” a name that has stuck to this day. Then Jeremiah’s words became history:

They took the thirty silver pieces,
The price of the one priced by some sons of Israel,
And they purchased the potter’s field.

And so, they unwittingly followed the divine instructions to the letter.

Pilate

¹¹ Jesus was placed before the governor, who questioned him: “Are you the ‘King of the Jews’?”

Jesus said, “If you say so.”

¹²⁻¹⁴ But when the accusations rained down hot and heavy from the high priests and religious leaders, he said nothing. Pilate asked him, “Do you hear that long list of accusations? Aren’t you going to say something?” Jesus kept silence—not a word from his mouth. The governor was impressed, really impressed.

¹⁵⁻¹⁸ It was an old custom during the Feast for the governor to pardon a single prisoner named by the crowd. At the time, they had the infamous Jesus Barabbas in prison. With the crowd before him, Pilate said, “Which prisoner do you want me to pardon: Jesus Barabbas, or Jesus the so-called Christ?” He knew it was through sheer spite that they had turned Jesus over to him.

¹⁹ While the court was still in session, Pilate’s wife sent him a message: “Don’t get mixed up in judging this noble man. I’ve just been through a long and troubled night because of a dream about him.”

²⁰ Meanwhile, the high priests and religious leaders had talked the crowd into asking for the pardon of Barabbas and the execution of Jesus.

²¹ The governor asked, “Which of the two do you want me to pardon?”

People: “Barabbas!”

²² “Then what do I do with Jesus, the so-called Christ?”

They all shouted,

People: “Nail him to a cross!”

²³ He objected, “But for what crime?”

But they yelled all the louder,

People: “Nail him to a cross!”

²⁴ When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere and that a riot was imminent, he took a basin of water and washed his hands in full sight of the crowd, saying, “I’m washing my hands of responsibility for this man’s death. From now on, it’s in your hands. You’re judge and jury.”

People: , “We’ll take the blame, we and our children after us.”

²⁶ Then he pardoned Barabbas. But he had Jesus whipped and then handed over for crucifixion.

The Crucifixion

²⁷⁻³¹ The soldiers assigned to the governor took Jesus into the governor's palace and got the entire brigade together for some fun. They stripped him and dressed him in a red robe. They plaited a crown from branches of a thornbush and set it on his head. They put a stick in his right hand for a scepter. Then they knelt before him in mocking reverence:

"Bravo, King of the Jews!" they said. "Bravo!" Then they spat on him and hit him on the head with the stick. When they had had their fun, they took off the robe and put his own clothes back on him. Then they proceeded out to the crucifixion.

³²⁻³⁴ Along the way, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon and made him carry Jesus' cross. Arriving at Golgotha, the place they call "Skull Hill," they offered him a mild painkiller (a mixture of wine and myrrh), but when he tasted it, he wouldn't drink it.

³⁵⁻⁴⁰ After they had finished nailing him to the cross and were waiting for him to die, they killed time by throwing dice for his clothes. Above his head, they had posted the criminal charge against him: THIS IS JESUS, THE KING OF THE JEWS. Along with him, they also crucified two criminals, one to his right, the other to his left. People passing along the road jeered, shaking their heads in mock lament:

People: "You bragged that you could tear down the Temple and then rebuild it in three days! Sso show us your stuff! Save yourself! If you're really God's Son, come down from that cross!"

⁴¹⁻⁴⁴ The high priests, along with the religion scholars and leaders, were right there mixing it up with the rest of them, having a great time poking fun at him: "He saved others—he can't save himself! King of Israel, is he? Then let him get down from that cross. We'll *all* become believers then! He was so sure of God—well, let him rescue his 'Son' now—if he wants him! He did claim to be God's Son, didn't he?" Even the two criminals crucified next to him joined in the mockery.

⁴⁵⁻⁴⁶ From noon to three, the whole earth was dark. Around mid-afternoon, Jesus groaned out of the depths, crying loudly, "*Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?*" which means, "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"

⁴⁷⁻⁴⁹ Some bystanders who heard him said, "He's calling for Elijah." One of them ran and got a sponge soaked in sour wine and lifted it on a stick so he could drink. The others joked, "Don't be in such a hurry. Let's see if Elijah comes and saves him."

⁵⁰ But Jesus, again crying out loudly, breathed his last.

⁵¹⁻⁵³ At that moment, the Temple curtain was ripped in two, top to bottom. There was an earthquake, and rocks were split in pieces. What's more, tombs were opened up, and many bodies of believers asleep in their graves were raised. (After Jesus' resurrection, they left the tombs, entered the holy city, and appeared to many.)

⁵⁴ The captain of the guard and those with him, when they saw the earthquake and everything else that was happening, were scared to death. They said, "This has to be the Son of God!"

⁵⁵⁻⁵⁶ There were also quite a few women watching from a distance, women who had followed Jesus from Galilee to serve him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the Zebedee brothers.

Song of the Passion "There in God's Garden"

verse 4 No. 342

**4 See how its branches
reach to us in welcome;
hear what the Voice says,
"Come to me, ye weary!
Give me your sickness,
give me all your sorrow,
I will give blessing."**

Prayers of Intercession

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Save your church, O God. Enable us to boldly confess in every time and place that Jesus Christ is Lord. With the humility of a servant, equip congregations, synods, and other ministry settings to proclaim your extravagant love for all. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Save your creation, O God. Every living being you have made has purpose. Give us renewed appreciation of farm animals who labor in the fields, service animals who accompany their human companions, and beloved pets who live alongside us. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Save the peoples of the earth, O God. Restore dignity to those who are scorned and persecuted for their religious beliefs or political activism - and deliver them from the hand of those who betray our democracy. Bring peace to places where conflict runs deep. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Save those who cry to you in any need, O God. Watch over all who are incarcerated or awaiting trial and stand with those who are unjustly accused. Be present with those feeling isolated, lonely, fearful, or ill, especially those we name in our hearts or aloud. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Save us at the last, O God. We give you thanks for your saints of old who embodied your servant love. As you came to their aid, so deliver us in times of trial, that every knee would bend in praise to you. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

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.

Amen.

We stand

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Presentation of Gifts “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” verses *1 and 4* **No. 803**

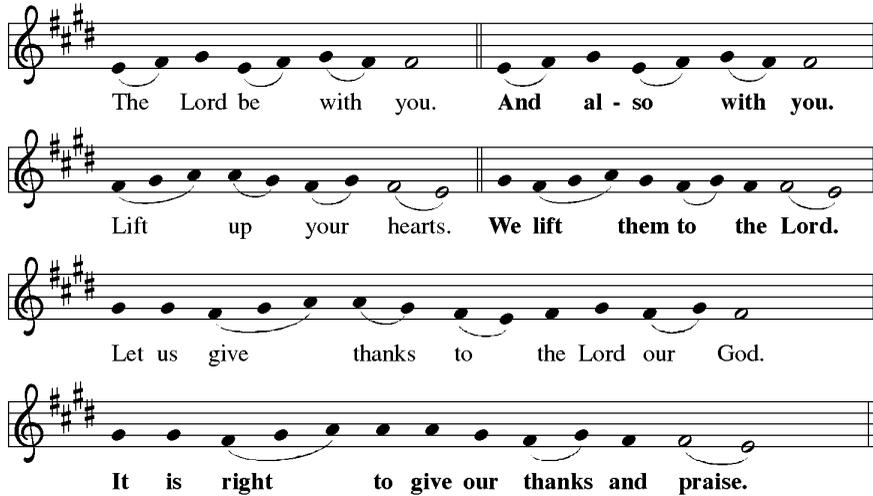
- 1** When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss
and pour contempt on all my pride.

- 4** Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Offering Prayer

O God, maker of heaven and earth,
your steadfast love embraces all creation.
You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth
and bring forth its bounty.
Through these gifts of bread and wine,
draw us into the death and life of your Son,
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work.
We ask this in Jesus’ name. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

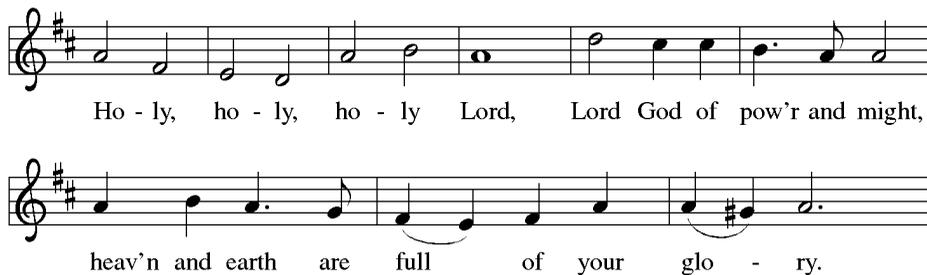


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

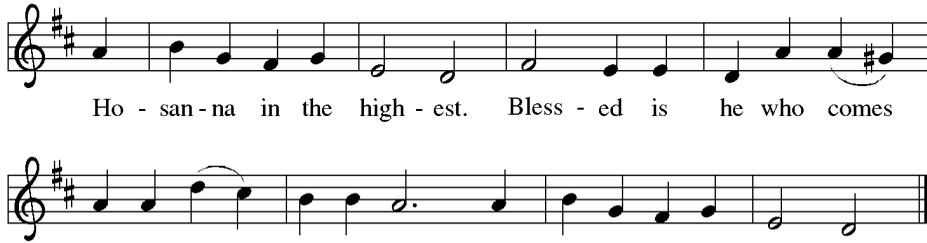
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Thanksgiving at the Table

O God, the creation of the world was your doing
and there is no season when it is not a marvel to our eyes.
Your prophets foresaw the coming of the One
who was in every way a willing, suffering servant,
who would teach your ways and sustain us with your word.
Though one with you, he emptied himself, took on human flesh,
and walked the path of obedience all the way to insult,
betrayal and death, trusting only in your vindication.

Words of Institution

Though he was rejected by those who had cheered him,
you made him the cornerstone of new life
and raised him to the highest place of honor.
He has opened the gates of justice and become our salvation,
so with shouts of joy we greet his appearing,
and proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord
to your glory forever and ever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Communion

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Thanks be to God.

Lamb of God



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Prayer after Communion

Faithful God, you have kept your promise to us in this meal, nourishing us with the gift of salvation. Now send your servants forth in peace, that we may testify to your goodness and share the hope that is ours in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The Burial of Jesus

Matthew 27:57-66

⁵⁷⁻⁶¹ Late in the afternoon, a wealthy man from Arimathea, a disciple of Jesus, arrived. His name was Joseph. He went to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body. Pilate granted his request. Joseph took the body and wrapped it in clean linens, put it in his own tomb, a new tomb only recently cut into the rock, and rolled a large stone across the entrance. Then he went off. But Mary Magdalene and the other Mary stayed, sitting in plain view of the tomb.

⁶²⁻⁶⁴ After sundown, the high priests and Pharisees arranged a meeting with Pilate. They said, "Sir, we just remembered that that liar announced while he was still alive, 'After three days I will be raised.' We've got to get that tomb sealed by the third day. There's a good chance his disciples will come and steal the corpse and then go around saying, 'He's risen from the dead.' Then we'll be worse off than before, the final deceit surpassing the first."

⁶⁵⁻⁶⁶ Pilate told them, "You will have a guard. Go ahead and secure it the best you can." So, they went out and secured the tomb, sealing the stone and posting guards.

Song of the Passion "There in God's Garden"

verse 6 **No. 342**

**6 All heav'n is singing,
"Thanks to Christ whose passion
offers in mercy
healing, strength, and pardon.
Peoples and nations,
take it, take it freely!"
Amen! My Master!**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:
God, who calls all things into existence,
Jesus Christ, who redeems us,
and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,
✠ bless you now and always.

Amen.

Sending Song: “Christ, the Life of All the Living”

verses 2 and 3 **No. 339**

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news!

Thanks be to God.

Living Waters Lutheran Parish Serving in Worship Today

The Rev. James N. West, Interim Pastor
Cindy Doherty, Assisting Minister

At Christ, Westmont

Director of Music and Live Streaming: Mike Thomas

Communion Assistants: Mike Crum and Denise Greco

Lector: Mike Crum

At Moxham, Johnstown

Organist: Sharon Berkebile

Lectors: Mark Koch, Rick Kirk, Scott Rugh, and Mike McCreary

Council Rep: Mike McCreary

Communion Assistants: Susan Bullock and Kathie McCreary

Greeter: Nancy Johnson