

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH



PALM SUNDAY MARCH 29, 2026

Today, we encounter the paradox that defines our faith: Jesus Christ is glorified king and humiliated servant. We too are full of paradox: like Peter, we fervently desire to follow Christ, but find ourselves afraid, denying God. We wave palms in celebration today as Christ comes into our midst, and we follow with trepidation as his path leads to death on the cross. Amid it all we are invited into this paradoxical promise of life through Christ's broken body and outpoured love in a meal of bread and wine. We begin this week that stands at the center of the church year, anticipating the completion of God's astounding work.

Weekly Update



1090 Sterling Road, Herndon, VA 20170
www.HolyCrossHerndon.org

Sunday, March 29, 2026

VISITORS: It is a joy to have you with us this morning. If you are looking for a church family, we hope you will consider Holy Cross. For more information, you can fill out a visitor form in the narthex, speak to an usher, or scan the QR code to the right.



FAMILIES: Children are always welcome at our worship services! There's also a small play area in the Narthex where you can hear the broadcasted service.

WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

OUR CONGREGATION

*Juliana Roe Beck | Bonnie Burton | Terry & Linda Butler | Joy Caveney
Joel Flegal | Roy Geiger | Otto Jacobson | Reed Morgan | Mike Muller
Craig Reichow | Jeremy Shoop | Tuula Toney | Cherie Weatherhead*

THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

*Riley Morgan | Thomas Newcomb | Collin Reichow
Friends of Thomas Newcomb currently serving in Iran*

RELATIVES AND FRIENDS OF THE CONGREGATION

*Erin Barden (sister of Andrew Barden)
Debbie Bowman (niece of Betty Skelton)
Joy Brown (friend of Kate Flegal)
Symphony Calvillo & her two boys (friend of Kate Flegal)
Jane Campbell (friend of Cheryl Smith)
Gianna Carter (granddaughter of Sam & Sharon Carter)
Bruce Dudziak (friend of Jared Lem)
Don and Liz Gober (friends of Craig Reichow)
Jason Greenwalt (friend of Cheryl Smith)
Madilyn Gross (cousin of Desirae Peral)
Uwe Gutschmidt (nephew of Ellen Atwell)
Roseanne Heim (family member of Suzanne Flegal)
Matt Kim (friend of John & Tammy Breene)
Michael Levrini (friend of Jared Lem)
Georgia Kirby and Cain Mason (friends of Cherie Weatherhead)
Phyllis Krapf (wife of Dick Krapf)
Don Kress (friend of Helen and Gary Wolfe)
Dale, John, and Jeff MacPherson (friends of Jared Lem)
Sue Mason (sister of Pam Darby)
Sharon Massen & Dorie Miller (friends of Craig Reichow)
Lisa Nolf and Laizu (friends of Jared Lem)
Jim Pollock (godfather of Andrew Barden)
Anne Marie Berardi Rabinowitz (friend of Tonya Elliott)
Tracy Radican (daughter of former HCLC pastor, Pastor Harper)
Dylan Roe (nephew of Mark & Jo Roe)
John Smith (brother-in-law of Cheryl Smith)
Nancy and Steven Swancutt (sister and brother of Lynn Russo)
Dianna and Bill Tilton (friends of Jared & Nannette Lem)
Diana Todd (friend of the Russos)
Michelle White (friend and coworker of Kate Flegal)
Bernadette Stevenson Williams (friend of the Roe family)*

THOSE IN MOURNING

Family & friends of Mary Ann Carmody (aunt of Helen Wolfe)

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Supply Pastor: Rev. Pam Mitcham
Director of Music and Liturgy: Jeremy Shoop
Sound Technician: Bob Thompson
Video Technician: Sylvia Moran

Serving March 29th: Palm Sunday

Assisting Minister: Anne Geiger
Reader: Kristin Andersen
Acolyte: Sarah Moran
Greeter: Jared Lem

Serving April 5th: Easter Sunday

Assisting Minister: Joy Heuer
Reader: Laurel Shaffer
Acolyte: TBD
Greeter: Jared Lem

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE: MAR 29 – APR 5

SU 29	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School ~ Conference Rm
	10:00 am	Worship – Palm Sunday
	11:00 am	Fellowship & Coffee ~ FH
	1:00 pm	Bldg. Use: Christian Missionary ~ FH
TU 31	6:30 pm	Bldg. Use: Boy Scouts Troop 12
W 1	11:30 am	Lunch for the Soul ~ FH
	7:00 pm	ELL ~ Education Wing
TH 2	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Service ~ Sanctuary
	8:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal ~ Sanctuary
F 3	7:00 pm	Good Friday Service ~ Sanctuary
	8:00 pm	Bell Rehearsal ~ Sanctuary
SA 4	8:00 am	Bldg. Use: Herndon's Women AA ~ Rm 204
	9:30 am	Stephen Ministry Supervision ~ Conference Rm
	11:00 am	Bldg. Use: Called2Be 7 th Day Adventist ~ FH
SU 5	6:00 am	Bldg Use: Christian Missionary ~ Sanctuary
	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School ~ Conference Rm
	9:15 am	Easter Egg Hunt ~ Front Lawn
	10:00 am	Worship – Easter Sunday
	11:15 am	Easter Brunch Potluck ~ FH
	1:00 pm	Bldg. Use: Christian Missionary ~ FH

LENTEN APPEAL – FELLOWSHIP SQUARE



This year's Lenten Appeal will be donated to Fellowship House, which is one of the leading providers of affordable housing and services to low-income seniors, owning 670 units (240 of them jointly) in the DC Metro region serving more than 850 older adults.

To donate: <https://tinyurl.com/38nx93ma>

LUNCH FOR THE SOUL WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1ST

We need your help to serve our neighbors in need through this caring ministry! Holy Cross provides lunch on the first Wednesday of every month, and your support in cooking, serving, or cleanup is always welcome. Our next opportunity to serve is on Wednesday, April 1st. Please consider joining us! You can sign up at: perfectpotluck.com/YEEI1717 or scan the QR code.



PASTORAL CANDIDATE MEET AND GREET SATURDAY, APRIL 11TH, 2:00 – 4:00 PM

We invite you to meet our pastoral candidate at a "Meet and Greet" on **Saturday, April 11th from 2:00 – 4:00 pm**. This will be an informal opportunity to say hello in advance of their call sermon and our congregational meeting on Sunday, April 12th.

CONGREGATION MEETING

You are invited, as we *convene a Special Meeting of the Congregation of Holy Cross Lutheran Church to call a new pastor on Sunday, April 12th, 2026* following the 10:00 AM Service. At that meeting we will vote on two items: the candidate and the candidate's compensation package.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who came out yesterday for our Church Property Work Day! Your time, energy, and willingness to pitch in made a meaningful difference. Because of your efforts, our grounds and building are looking more welcoming and well cared for. We are grateful for your hands and hearts in helping care for our shared space—it truly reflects the spirit of our community.

HYMN MADNESS 2026



Voting for our 2026 Hymn Madness is underway! Each Sunday, the congregation will vote on hymn matchups as we sing our way toward crowning a *Champion* hymn on Easter Sunday, April 5. The participant with the most points will earn the honor of choosing the hymns for a Sunday this summer—plus musical bragging rights for the year! As we continue working toward our **Transition Fund goal**, we're adding an extra layer of fun: **for every \$10 donated, you'll receive an extra ballot vote that week**. Online voting will also be available each week under "Current Links" on our website.

EASTER BRUNCH POTLUCK



An Easter Brunch Potluck will follow the service on Sunday, April 5th. Feel free to bring your favorite brunch food to share. Holy Cross will provide ham, a vegan option, and rolls for sandwiches.



Don't miss our Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday, April 5, at 9:15 am on the front lawn. Bring your own basket or use one of our provided Easter bags—we hope to see you there!

*5 years and under will hunt from 9:15 - 9:30 am
Older children will hunt from 9:30 - 9:45 am*



**Last Day to Order
Easter Flowers!**

Today is the deadline! To have your Flower Dedication included in the Easter Sunday bulletin (April 5), please submit your completed form and contribution by today, March 29. Forms can be left in the offering plate or emailed to Admin@HolyCrossHerndon.org. Contributions can be made by check (note "Easter Flowers" in the memo line) or through Vanco.



It's time to order Easter Flowers!

Lilies and Hydrangeas will adorn our Sanctuary on Easter! To have your Flower Dedication included in the bulletin on Easter, April 5th, the completed form and your contribution must be received in the church office no later than Sunday, March 29th. Thank you!

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY—Thank you!

Your Name: (As you would like it to appear in the bulletin)

In Memory Of:

In Honor Of:

***Forms can be emailed to Admin@HolyCrossHerndon.org
Donations can be made by check/cash (note "Easter Flowers")
or through Vanco at secure.myvanco.com/YH77***

Holy Cross Lutheran Church Welcomes ALL!

Holy Cross Lutheran Church joyfully affirms and celebrates that every person is a beloved child of God. We welcome all who are seeking God's boundless love and sustaining grace into full community with us at Holy Cross. As disciples of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves to breaking down barriers and systems that divide God's children working to be a space committed to racial equality for God's people and to building a community where all are recognized as part of Christ's new creation.



We welcome you, and you are safe with us...
 Whatever your race, ethnicity, or heritage;
 Whatever your relationship status;
 We welcome you, and you are safe with us...

Whatever your sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, or gender expression;
 Whatever your socio-economic status;
 We welcome you, and you are safe with us...

Whatever your age and life circumstance;
 Whatever your physical and mental ability.
 You are a beloved child of God, you are valued, and you are welcome here.

What to Expect in Worship

Worship services can be intimidating for newcomers. While we try to make worship as accessible as possible for everyone, we know that some aspects can be confusing. Feel free to ask an usher or someone near you for help if you have any questions today. We are happy to help and want all voices to be included in praise to God.

Our worship style is traditional at Holy Cross. A full liturgy is used to focus our praise and prayers to God. Notes are included in the side gutter of the bulletin to explain why we use the various liturgical elements. Communion is celebrated every Sunday at Holy Cross. The table (altar) is not our table, but Christ's table. Just as Christ welcomes all, all are welcome to receive communion at Holy Cross. Pastor will give instructions on how we celebrate communion at that part of the service. Written instructions are also included at that point in the bulletin.

Throughout the year we emphasize each liturgical season differently to mark the passage of time. Liturgical texts change to reflect aspects of that season, some elements are removed or added to reflect the mood of that season, and colors used to decorate the chancel are changed to provide visual reminders of the current season.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Transforming the world & ourselves, together in community, fellowship, and faith.

Palm Sunday

March 29, 2026 ~ 10:00 AM

Since at least the fourth century and universally in the church since the eighth, Christians have kept the Sunday before Easter as a memorial of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, and a literal procession of palms, begun in Jerusalem, has spread throughout the world. The service, inaugurating the most important week of the Christian year, has a two-part focus: Jesus' glorious entry into Jerusalem and his wretched passion and death. It is advisable to offer assistance to worshipers as they encounter the quite different theological emphases found in Passion Sunday's proclamation from the synoptic gospel of the year and in Good Friday's annual proclamation from John.



WE GATHER



We gather in the Fellowship Hall for the Palm Sunday processional.

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

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

Assembly: **Hosanna in the highest!**

Pastor: Jesus Christ, who withstood temptations from the devil, now enters Jerusalem.

Assembly: **Hosanna in the highest!**

Pastor: Jesus Christ, who taught Nicodemus what it means to be born again, rides in glory into Jerusalem.

Assembly: **Hosanna in the highest!**

Pastor: Jesus Christ, who gave living water to the Samaritan woman at the well, rides into Jerusalem begging all who are thirsty to come and drink.

Assembly: **Hosanna in the highest!**

Pastor: Jesus Christ, who healed a blind man, rides into Jerusalem to awaken our spirits and make his light shine.

Assembly: Hosanna in the highest!

Pastor: Jesus Christ, who raised Lazarus from the dead, rides into Jerusalem with power and glory to give life to all the world.

Assembly: Hosanna in the highest!

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

Assembly: Hosanna in the highest!

BLESSINGS OF THE PALMS

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: And also with you.

Pastor: 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.

Assembly: Amen.

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL

Luke 19:28-40

Pastor: The holy gospel according to Luke the 19th chapter.

Assembly: 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

Holy Week begins with a palm procession and the proclamation of Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem from the gospel of Luke. Christ enters the assembly now, just as he did then, and with the angels at his birth we praise his presence among us.

those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” ³⁴ They said, “The Lord needs it.” ³⁵ Then they brought it to Jesus, and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ Now as he was approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, ³⁸ saying,

**Assembly: “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.”

**Pastor: The gospel of the Lord.
Assembly: Glory to you, O Lord.**



According to tradition, this hymn text was written in 821 by Theodulph, Bishop of Orleans. Imprisoned for suspected political machinations, he observed the palm procession as it proceeded past his cell, and he wrote this hymn as his participation in the Holy Week ritual. We are called into the contrast between the joyous voice of children and the reality of Theodulph's situation.

The assembly processes into the sanctuary as we sing "All Glory Laud and Honor."

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

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 are 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.

GREETING

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

Please sit.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.
Assembly: Amen.

*The prayer of the day
is inspired by prayer
#329 in the seventh
century Gelasian
Sacramentary. It
summarizes the faith of
the church, the
meaning of the passion
and death of Christ,
and prays for
participation in his
obedience.*

**LISTENING WITH CHILDREN'S EARS****FIRST READING**

Isaiah 50:4-9a

*This text, the third of the four Servant Songs in Isaiah, speaks of the servant's
obedience amid persecution. Though the servant has been variously understood as
the prophet himself or a remnant of faithful Israel, Christians have often
recognized the figure of Christ in these poems.*

Reader: A reading from the prophet Isaiah:

⁴The Lord GOD has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
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.
⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backward.
⁶I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face

*Christians have seen in
the Servant Songs
descriptions of Jesus
Christ. In Christian
interpretation, the
reading sounds as if
Jesus is describing his
own ill treatment. The
emphasis on
vindication is
important for Luke's
repeated theme of
forgiveness.*

from insult and spitting.
⁷The 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;
⁸he who vindicates me is near.
 Who will contend with me?
 Let us stand up together.
 Who are my adversaries?
 Let them confront me.
^{9a}It is the Lord GOD who helps me;
 who will declare me guilty?

Reader: Word of God, word of life.
 Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND 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.

Reader: A reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians:

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
⁶who, though he was in the form of God,
 did not regard equality with God
 as something to be exploited,
⁷but emptied himself,
 taking the form of a slave,
 being born in human likeness.
 And being found in human form,
⁸he humbled himself
 and became obedient to the point of death—
 even death on a cross.
⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him
 and gave him the name
 that is above every name,
¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus
 every knee should bend,
 in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹and every tongue should confess
 that Jesus Christ is Lord,
 to the glory of God the Father.

Reader: Word of God, word of life.
 Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

*We join with
 Christians of the first
 century in a creedal
 poem: Christ humbled
 himself to death, and
 God has raised him as
 Lord. The ancient song
 is a summary, not only
 of our baptismal faith,
 but also of the Holy
 Week which has begun.*

MUSICAL OFFERING*The Palms*

arr. Lani Smith

Marcia Kratzke, piano; Jeremy Shoop, organ

SERMON*Please stand as you are able.***HYMN OF THE DAY****Prepare the Royal Highway**

1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.

Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
 All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing;
 So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain
 Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

This hymn begins with allusions to Isaiah 40:3-5, where a highway for the King of kings is made straight. Stanza two references Today's Palm Sunday festivities with palms strewn before him and hosannas sung as at Christ's entry into Jerusalem. By the third stanza the King is welcomed with gates flung open. Peace, freedom, justice, truth, and love with sounding praise permeate this hymn text as we celebrate Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

<i>We pray for the greater church.</i>	Assisting Minister: Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.
<i>We pray for creation.</i>	Assisting Minister: O God, you announce words of grace and truth. Give wisdom to all preachers in your church both globally and locally. Open our hearts to encounter the infinite life you offer in Jesus. Hear us, O God. Assembly: Your mercy is great.
<i>We pray for justice.</i>	Assisting Minister: You hold the whole universe. Gather sun and moon, clouds and stars, land and sea, and plants and animals around the cross, so that all creation bears witness to your saving love. Hear us, O God. Assembly: Your mercy is great.
<i>We pray for those in need.</i>	Assisting Minister: Your power is sure. Destroy inequity and division in every place, and build your beloved community among all people. Guide judges, attorneys, and juries so that they act with justice and fairness. Hear us, O God. Assembly: Your mercy is great.
<i>We pray for this congregation.</i>	Assisting Minister: Your heart breaks open at our pain. Send healing and vindication to all who, like Jesus, know the sting of betrayal, denial, abuse, or false accusations. Be with those experiencing pain or loss this day, including those we name before you now (<i>the assembly offers names</i>). Hear us, O God. Assembly: Your mercy is great.

We pray for the saints.

Assisting Minister: O God, your embrace is eternal. Praise and thanks to you for all the faithful departed who rest in your mercy. Deliver us all from death's power and raise us to life in you. Hear us, O God.

Assembly: **Your mercy is great.**

Pastor: Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

Assembly: **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Assembly: **And also with you.**

Please sit.

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

Ain't No Rock Gonna Shout for Me

Lloyd Larson

Sanctuary Choir

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It features a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The melody is primarily in the soprano and alto parts, with piano accompaniment providing harmonic support. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves.

The sharing of THE PEACE is an ancient ritual that puts us right with our neighbors before we offer our gifts to God.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. 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.

Assembly: Amen.



WE COME TO GOD'S TABLE

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Assembly: We lift them to the Lord.

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

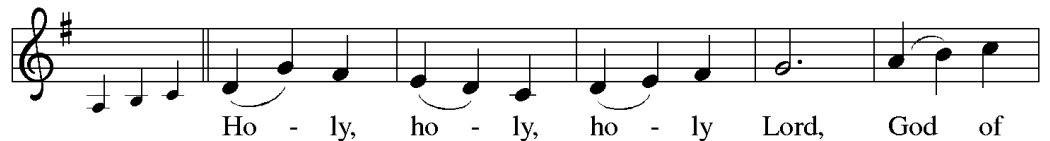
Assembly: It is right to give God thanks and praise.


PREFACE

Pastor: It is our duty and delight...
...and join their unending hymn.

SANCTUS

(Setting 1)





name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD’S PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray with confidence the prayer Jesus taught us.

Assembly: **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

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

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

Please sit.

DISTRIBUTION

*This is Christ’s table of welcome. Jesus invites **all** who are hungry and thirsty for unconditional love and acceptance to come to God’s banquet. The ushers will direct you forward at the appropriate time. Communion will be by station. The pastor will be in the center with the bread. All the bread we use here is gluten free. On either side will be someone with a tray of red wine and white grape juice. Empty cups can be placed in the basket on either side of the isle. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of communion, cross your arms on your chest. Return to your seat by the side aisle.*

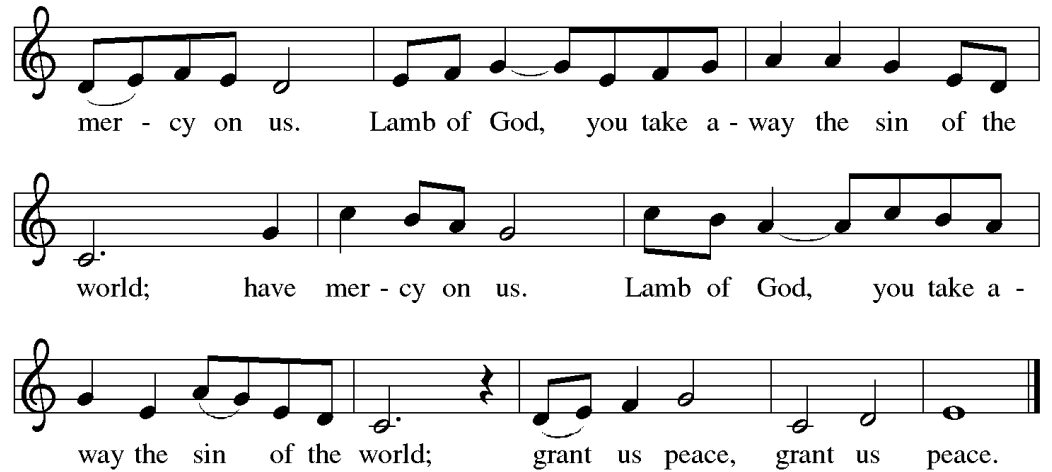
AGNUS DEI

(Setting 1)



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have

As we receive communion, our service changes mood from the celebratory Palm Sunday procession to the somber coming events of Holy Week. Our service began with shouts of "Hosanna!" but have now changed to "Crucify Him!"



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.

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

Via Dolorosa

arr. Stan Pethel

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

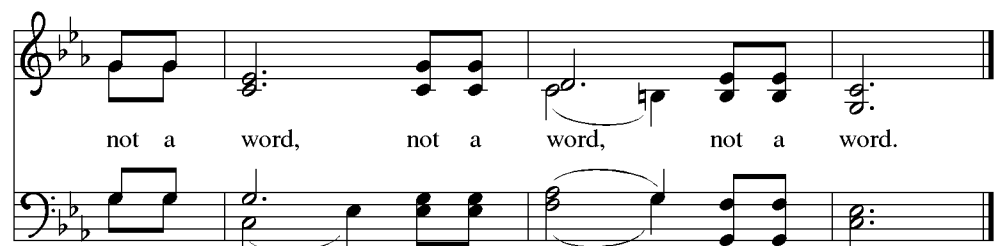
They Crucified My Lord



1 They cru - ci - fied my Lord, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;
2 They nailed him to a tree, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;
3 They pierced him in the side, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;
4 The blood came stream - in' down, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;
5 He hung his head and died, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;



they cru - ci - fied my Lord, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;
they nailed him to a tree, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;
they pierced him in the side, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;
the blood came stream - in' down, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;
he hung his head and died, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;



not a word, not a word, not a word.

mumbalin' = complaining

Jesus, Remember Me

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Text: Luke 23:42; Taizé Community
 Music: REMEMBER ME, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
 Text and music © 1981 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.
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Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Assembly: **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Assembly: **Amen.**



WE ARE SENT FORTH TO SERVE



While J.S. Bach never wrote a hymn melody, he did harmonize hundreds of them. “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” is one of the most popular of these harmonizations by Bach. Bach’s complex harmonies beautifully support a descriptive and powerful text. We are sent forth singing “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” as we prepare our hearts and minds for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

SENDING HYMN

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,
 2 How pale thou art with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;
 3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
 4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; shield me when I must die;

now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
 how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!
 for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?
 re - mind me of thy pas - sion when my last hour draws nigh.

O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
 Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;
 Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,
 These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall nev - er move;

Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
 mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.
 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.
 for all who die be - liev - ing die safe - ly in thy love.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, based on Arnulf of Louvain, d. 1250; tr. composite
 Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, German melody, c. 1500; adapt. Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612;
 arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750

BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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.

Assembly: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Assisting Minister: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

Assembly: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

arr. Walter Pelz

As part of our continuous efforts to make worship more inclusive and sensory friendly, we ask that you refrain from applauding during worship and after the postlude.

THIS WEEK'S COMMEMORATIONS

Hans Nielsen Hauge, renewer of the church, died 1824

Sunday, March 29, 2026

Hauge was a layperson who wished to revitalize the church in Norway. As a result of a mystical experience, he felt called to preach. Many professionals in the church feared his motives and influence, and he was imprisoned for leading unauthorized gatherings.

John Donne, poet, died 1631

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

After finishing his education at Oxford University, Donne seemed headed for a career in the English public service. But a series of circumstances led him into the ordained ministry. He is well known as a writer of both secular and sacred poetry.

Benedict the African, confessor, died 1589

Saturday, April 4, 2026

Born into slavery on the island of Sicily, Benedict lived as a hermit until the pope ordered all hermits to attach themselves to a monastery, at which time Benedict joined the Franciscans. Though illiterate, he was highly respected as a confessor and later superior of his community.

ATTRIBUTIONS:

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FROM THE CLOUD OF WITNESSES

[Gregory of Nazianzus, in The Sunday Sermons of the Great Fathers, II: 261.]

Many indeed are the wondrous happenings of that time: God hanging from a cross, the sun made dark, and again flaming out—for it was fitting that creation should mourn with its Creator. The temple veil rent; the earth shaken, the rocks shattered because of the Rock; the dead risen to bear witness to the final and universal resurrection of the dead; the happenings at the sepulcher, and after the selculcher: who can fittingly recount them? Yet no one of them can be compared to the miracle of my salvation. A few drops of blood renew the whole world, and they do for all what the rennet does for the milk: joining us and binding us together.

—*Gregory of Nazianzus*

A fourteenth-century fresco by Pietro Lorenzetti, painted on the walls of the Basilica in Assisi, Italy, depicts the scene of the palm procession as Jesus entered Jerusalem. The donkey bows its head, thus conveying its meekness, in contrast to how a royal battle horse would be depicted.



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



This Thursday is called "Maundy," which means "command," from the verse in John's gospel in which Jesus commands us to love another as he loved us.



Come to worship on Good Friday and leave all your burdens at the foot of the cross.



Christ is risen! Alleluia! Join us as we celebrate a risen Christ.



After the service, there will be an Easter Brunch Potluck

There is a hearing-assistance system (induction loop) in the Sanctuary for those with hearing impairments. Please ask an usher for instructions.

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