



**Sunday of the Passion**

**April 2, 2023**

## **We hope you feel welcome here.**

St. Thomas Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered community that lives, shares, and celebrates God's grace with all people!

As disciples of Christ who value the faith, gifts, and ministry of all God's people, and who seek justice, racial equity, and reconciliation, we welcome all God's children to an inclusive community. This welcome is extended without exception and regardless of sex, race, national origin, educational background, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, physical and mental ability, age, or economic condition.

## **We hope you can participate fully in worship.**

Everything needed to participate in today's worship is found in this bulletin. The hymns are found in the back third of the red *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) or purple *All Creation Sings* (ACS) located under the seat in front of you. Worshipers are invited to stand as you are able at the places marked \* and to respond when indicated with bold type. We gently remind you to silence all electronic devices.

Our youngest worshipers and their parents may appreciate the Prayer Pond in the sanctuary or listening to the service from our unstaffed nursery. Activity bags are available in the narthex and children's bulletins are available from an usher.

Assisted hearing devices and complete-service, large-print bulletins are available from an usher. The blue chairs with arms are reserved for people with mobility limitations. Ushers can remove chairs to place a wheelchair.

**We hope you know Holy Communion is for you.**

At communion, everyone is welcome. This includes doubters, young children, and folks who have yearned for this feast. Come forward at the direction of an usher and receive hand-torn bread or gluten-free wafers and pink wine or red grape juice. If you have mobility limitations, please take the closest available place at the altar, or ask an usher for Communion to be brought to you at your seat.

**We hope you know our welcome extends beyond our building.**

Today's 8:30 a.m. service is livestreamed. By attending this service, you are giving permission to be in the video we produce.

**We hope you know we pray for you.**

We would love to pray for the concerns of your heart during this service. Prayer request slips are located on the table near the main doors; prayer requests made before the service begins will be included in the Prayers of the People.

## + GATHERING +

*All gather in the narthex or await the procession in the nave.*

### \*ACCLAMATION

*All wave their palm branches.*

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

**C: Hosanna in the highest.**

### \*PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL

Matthew 21:1-11

**P:** The holy gospel according to Matthew.

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

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, 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. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:

“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.”

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 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!”

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

**P:** The gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## \*BLESSING OF THE PALMS

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: 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.

**C: Amen.**

## \*PROCESSION

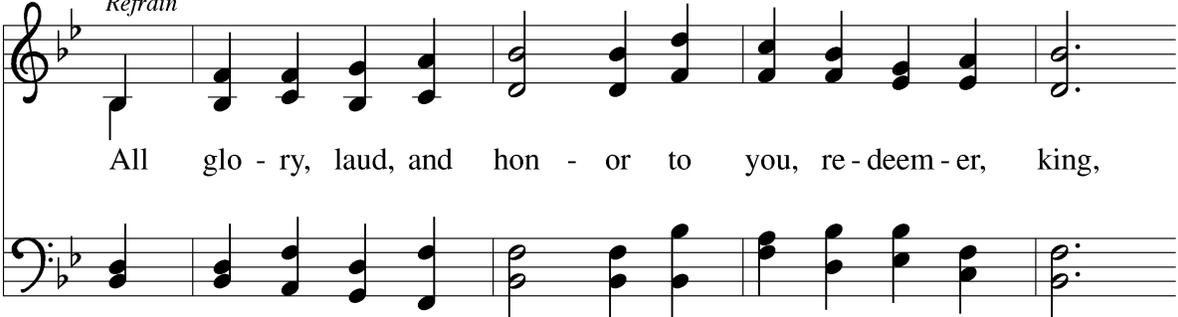
P: Let us go forth in peace,

**C: in the name of Christ. Amen.**

*All follow the cross into the nave (worship space), waving palm branches, and signing the processional hymn, "All Glory, Laud, and Honor." The procession will follow the cross into the sanctuary. Please take your seat when you come to it.*

# All Glory, Laud, and Honor

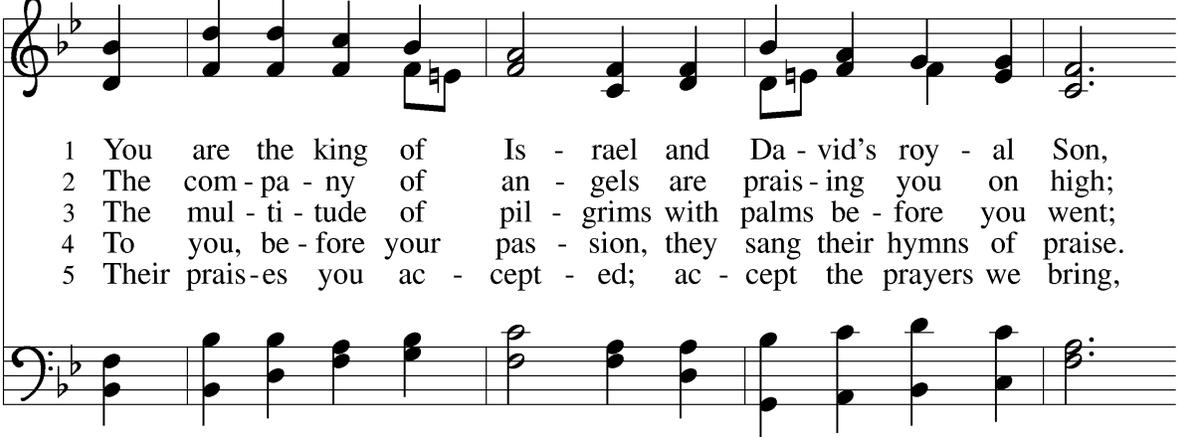
*Refrain*



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.

*All wave their palm branches.*

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

**C: Hosanna in the highest.**

11 a.m. CHILDREN'S CHOIR

"Hosanna! Hosanna!"

Helen Kamp

*All wave their palm branches.*

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

**C: Hosanna in the highest.**

#### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: As we now enter into the contemplation of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and meditate on the salvation of the world through his sufferings, death, burial, and resurrection, let us pray.

*Silence is kept.*

Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection,

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**+WORD+**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pr. Lecia Beck

READING

Galatians 3:23-4:7

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be reckoned as righteous by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek; there is no longer slave or free; there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

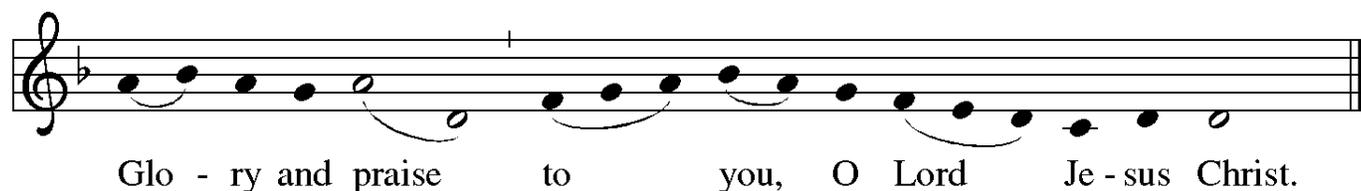
My point is this: heirs, as long as they are minors, are no better than those who are enslaved, though they are the owners of all the property, but they remain under guardians and trustees until the date

set by the father. So with us; while we were minors, we were enslaved to the elemental principles of the world. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent the Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir through God.

L: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



**HOLY GOSPEL**

**Matthew 26:14-27:66**

P: The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

One of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, What will you give me if I betray him to you? They paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover? He said, Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, "The Teacher says, my time is near; will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples." So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal. When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said, Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me. And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, Surely not I, Lord? The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. 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. Judas, who betrayed him, said, Surely not I, Rabbi? You have said so. While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.

When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written, "I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered. But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee." Peter said to him, Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you. Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.

Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you. And so said all the disciples. Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, Sit here while I go over there and pray. He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me. And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want. Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. Again he went away for the second time and prayed, My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done. Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them,

Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand. While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him. At once he came up to Jesus and said, Greetings, Rabbi! and kissed him. Jesus said to him, Friend, do what you are here to do. Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen this way? At that hour Jesus said to the crowds,

Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled. Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

*Sing Verse 1 only*

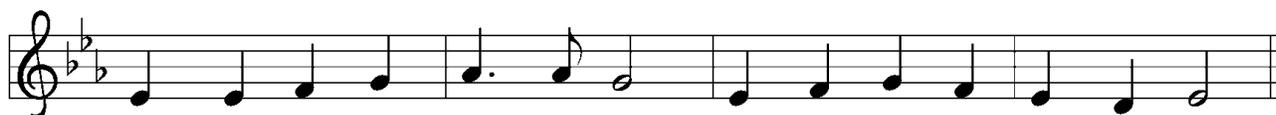
### Go to Dark Gethsemane



1 Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, all who feel the tempt - er's pow'r;  
 2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, view the Lord of life ar - raigned;  
 3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; there, a - dor - ing at his feet,  
 4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath - less clay;



your Re - deem - er's con - flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;  
 oh, the worm - wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus - tained!  
 mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete.  
 all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?



turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.  
 Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.  
 "It is fin - ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.  
 Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter was following at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, This fellow said, "I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days." The high priest stood up and said, Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you? But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God. You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven. Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy.

What is your verdict? He deserves death!  
Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, saying, Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came and said to him, You also were with Jesus the Galilean. But he denied it before all of them, saying, I do not know what you are talking about. When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, This man was with Jesus of Nazareth. Again he denied it with an oath, I do not know the man! After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you. Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, I do not know the man! At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: "Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly. When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his

death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor. When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. He said, I have sinned by betraying innocent blood. What is that to us? See to it yourself. Throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money. After conferring together, they used the money to buy the potter's field as a place to bury foreigners. For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah, "And they took thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one on whom a price had been set, on whom some of the people of Israel had set a price, and they gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me."

Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, Are you the King of the Jews? You say so. But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him, Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you? But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed. Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah? For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him saying, "Have nothing to do with this innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him." Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them,

Which of the two do you want me to release for you? Barabbas! Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah? Let him be crucified! Why, what evil has he done? Let him be crucified! Let him be crucified! Let him be crucified!

So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves. His blood be on us and on our children. So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They spat on him, and took a reed and struck him on the head. And after mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

## Sing Verse 2 only

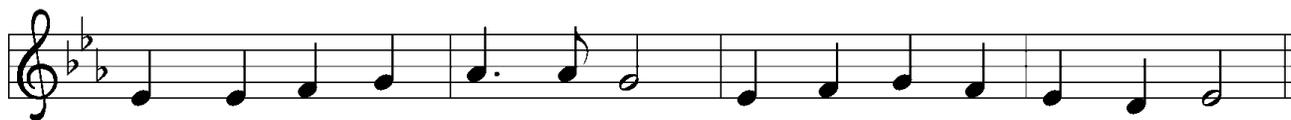
### Go to Dark Gethsemane



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your Re - deem - er's con - flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;  
oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus-tained!  
mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com-plete.  
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turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.  
Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.  
"It is fin - ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.  
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854

Music: GETHSEMANE, Richard Redhead, 1820–1901

As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes

among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him which read, This is Jesus, the King of the Jews. Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross. In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani? that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, This man is calling for Elijah.

At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him. Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, Truly this man was God's Son! Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had provided for him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

## Sing Verse 3 only

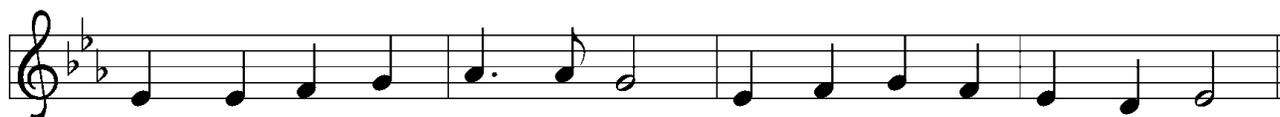
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Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854

Music: GETHSEMANE, Richard Redhead, 1820–1901

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and rapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary

were there, sitting opposite the tomb. The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, Sir, we remember what that imposter said while he was still alive, "After three days I will rise again." Therefore command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, "He has been raised from the dead" and the last deception would be worse than the first. Pilate said to them, You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can. So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.  
The gospel of the Lord.

*The reading concludes:*

P: The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

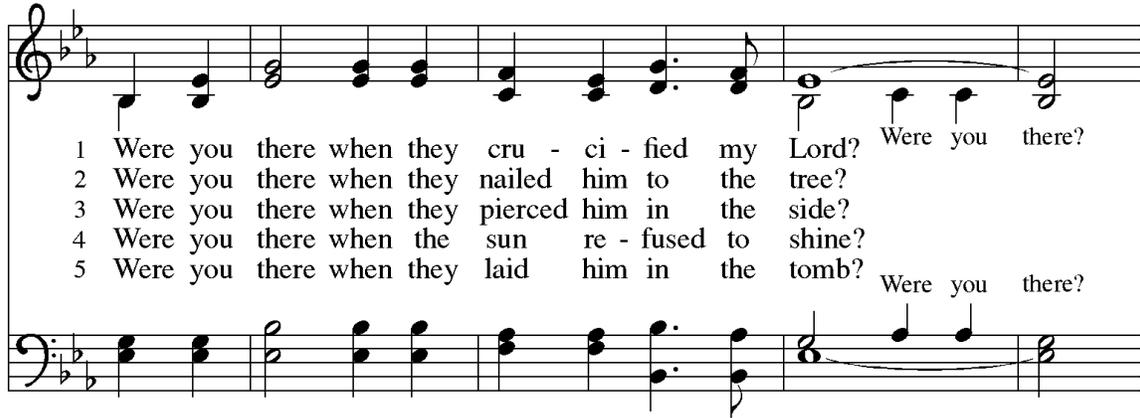
Pr. Adrienne Meier

\*HYMN OF THE DAY

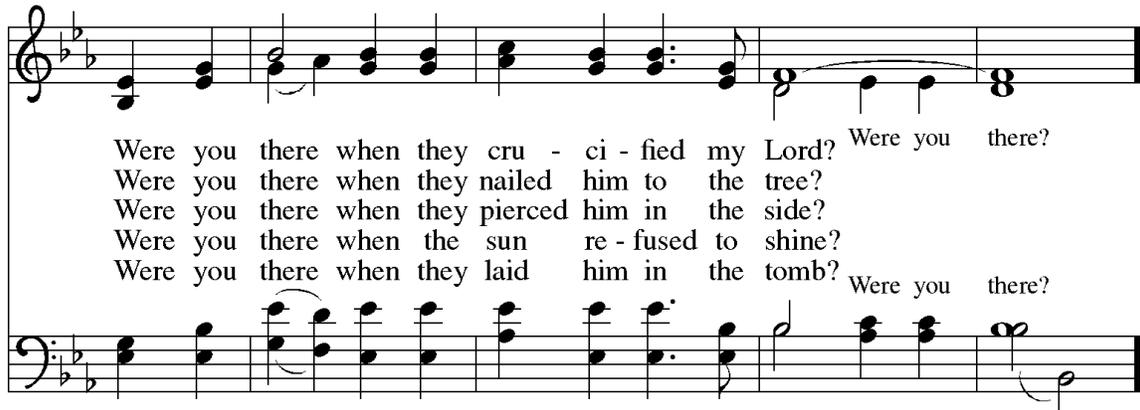
Were You There

ELW#353

# Were You There

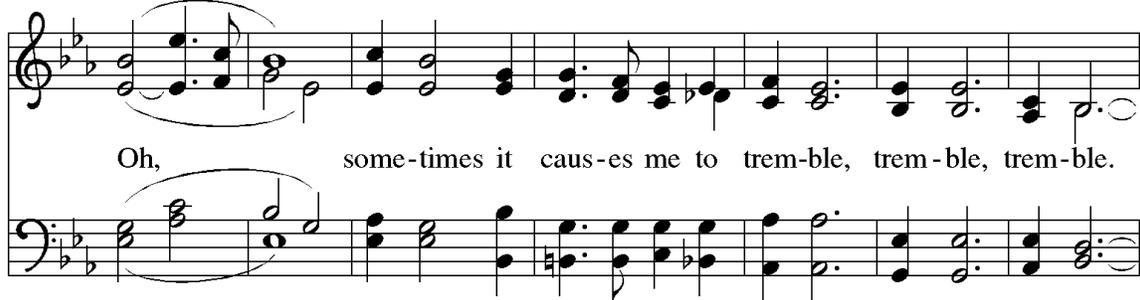


1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?  
2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?  
5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

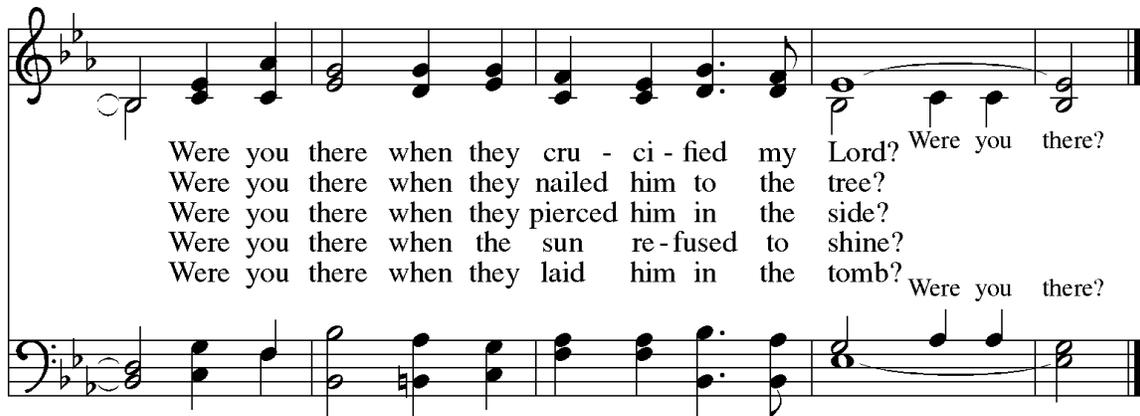


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Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

## Refrain



Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you there?  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?  
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there?

**\*APOSTLES' CREED**

**A: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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.**

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

A: Save your church, O God. Call us away from the idols who will never save us, and give us the words to proclaim with boldness all the ways you have redeemed us by your extravagant love.

Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Save your creation, O God. Save animals, insects, plants, or fish who are endangered or threatened, especially the Little Brown Mouse-Eared Bat, Northern Long-Eared Bat, Indiana Bat, Allegheny Woodrat, and Tricolored Bat—the endangered mammals of Monroe County. Give swift recovery to the Delaware River after a chemical spill. And save us all from careless destruction. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Save the peoples of the earth, O God. Save us from self-destruction and our romance of violence. Save us from conflicts that escalate out of control and the pain of the death of innocents.

We pray for the students and staff at Covenant School in Nashville and for all who are grieving, traumatized, and fearful. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Save those who journey from their homes, O God, for employment or safety. Comfort the families and friends of those who died in the immigration center fire in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Save those who cry to you in any need, O God. Be present with those feeling isolated, lonely, or fearful especially Elif, Caretta, Roger, Paula, Audrey, Deborah, Mike, Bob, Andrew, Doug, Yvonne, Jan, Evelyn, and Helen. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Save us in your love, O God. Be present in our contemplations during Holy Week and guide the work of all those who lead us in worship. Bless, too, the Sedars and Iftars of our Jewish and Muslim siblings during Passover and Ramadan. Send your spirit of learning and cooperation to

Bloomington Multi-Faith Alliance's Sedar/Iftar Meal. Merciful God,  
**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Save us at the last, O God. We give you thanks for your saints who embodied your servant love, including Benedict the African and Albrecht Dürer, who the church remembers this week. As you came to their aid, so deliver us in times of trial, that every knee would bend in praise to you. Merciful God,  
**C: receive our prayer.**

A: 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.  
**C: Amen.**

#### \*SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*Share the peace with a wave, a bow, or maybe an elbow, checking in with your neighbor for whatever feels safe and conveys the spirit of peace and reconciliation this ritual intends.*

## OFFERING

*Please sign and pass the **Together In Community** pads. Make note of the names of your neighbors so you can introduce yourself after the service. These pads and pencils are sanitized at the end of each service.*

*Pass the offering plate to your neighbor as it reaches you, gifts may be placed in the offering plate or you can give on our website, [stlconline.org](http://stlconline.org). St. Thomas collects gifts to support our mission of sharing, living, and celebrating God's grace with all people. We support Lutheran Campus Ministries at IU/Rose House and many local, national, and international ministry partners.*



## CHOIR ANTHEM

Didst Thou Suffer Shame

Georg Philipp Telemann

## \*OFFERTORY HYMN

Create in Me a Clean Heart

ELW#188

# Create in Me a Clean Heart

## Offering Song

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

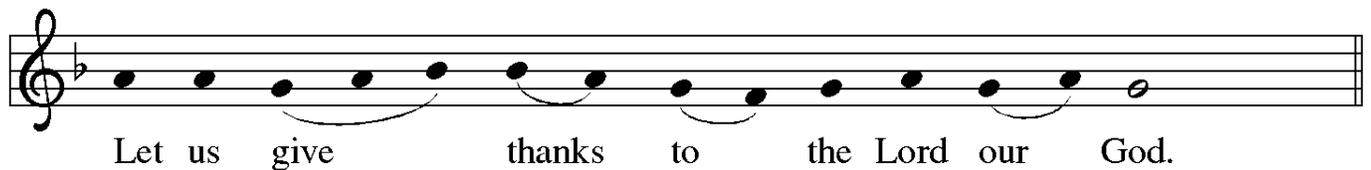
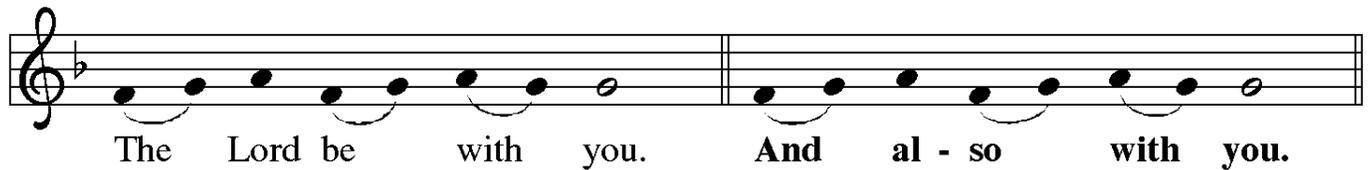
## \*OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Let us pray. God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.

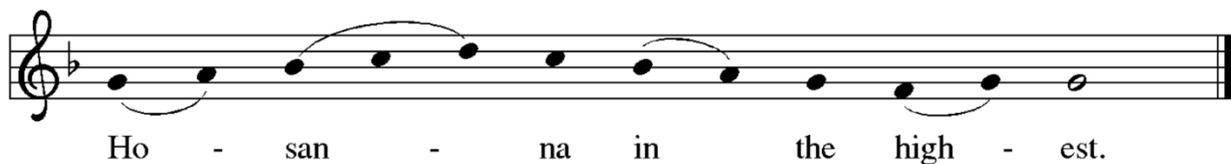
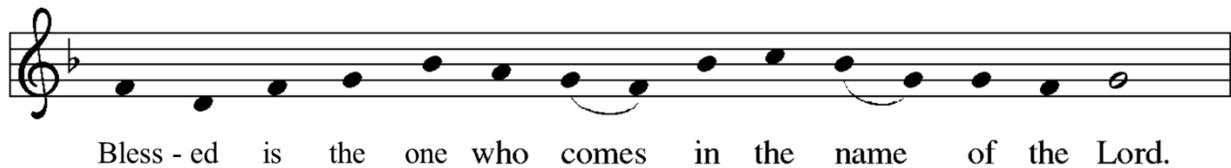
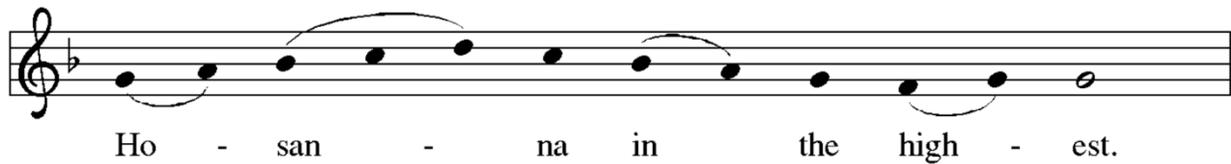
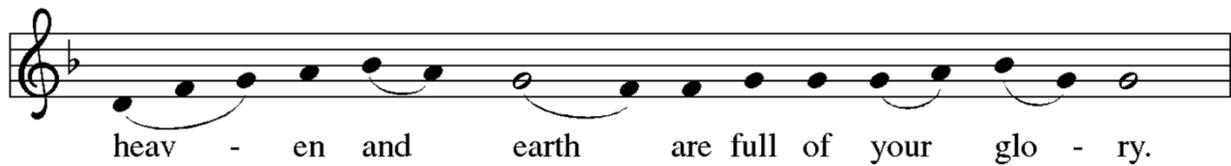
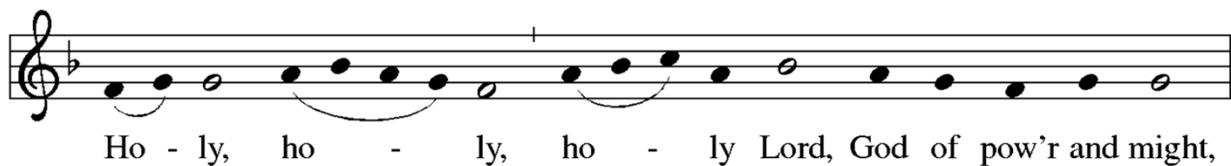
**C: Amen.**

## + MEAL +

## \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, whose suffering and death gave salvation to all. You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## \*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

P: With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

P: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## \*LORD'S PRAYER

*Speak this prayer in your preferred language. The pastor will continue when all versions are complete. Turkish is provided on the next page.*

**C: Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

Göklerdeki Babamız,

Adın kutsal kılınsın.

Egemenliğin gelsin.

Gökte olduğu gibi, yeryüzünde de senin istediğin olsun.

Bugün bize gündelik ekmeğimizi ver.

Bize karşı suç işleyenleri bağışladığımız gibi,

Sen de bizim suçlarımızı bağışla.

Ayartılmamıza izin verme.

Bizi kötü olandan kurtar.

Çünkü egemenlik, güç ve yücelik sonsuzlara dek senindir!

amin

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

*We believe that God is our host and that all people are welcome to this feast of grace, community, and forgiveness. Come forward at the direction of an usher and receive bread or gluten-free wafer and wine in a common chalice or pink wine and red grape juice in individual cups. If you wish to receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest.*

# LAMB OF GOD

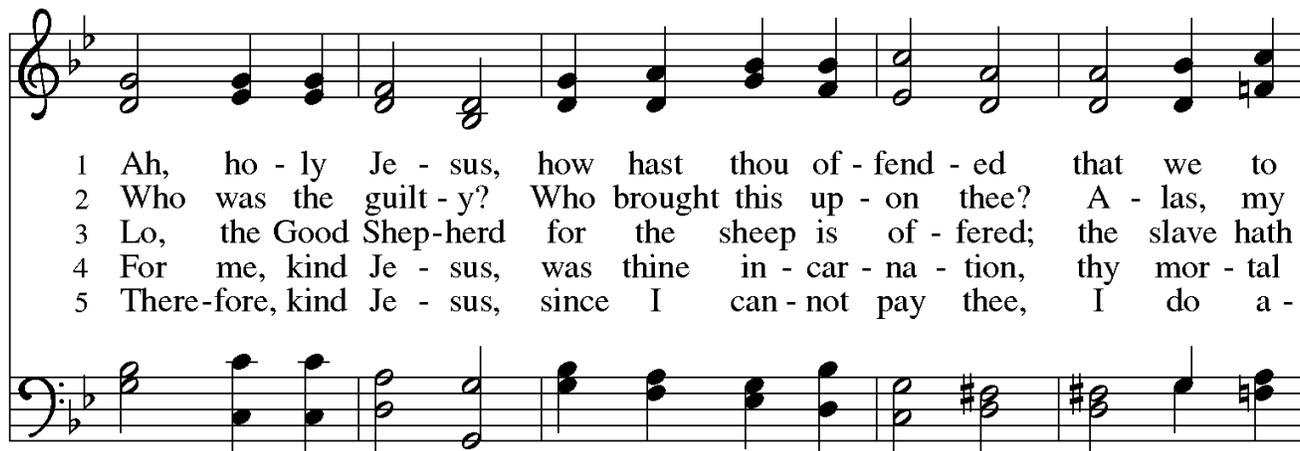
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy  
on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.

# COMMUNION HYMN

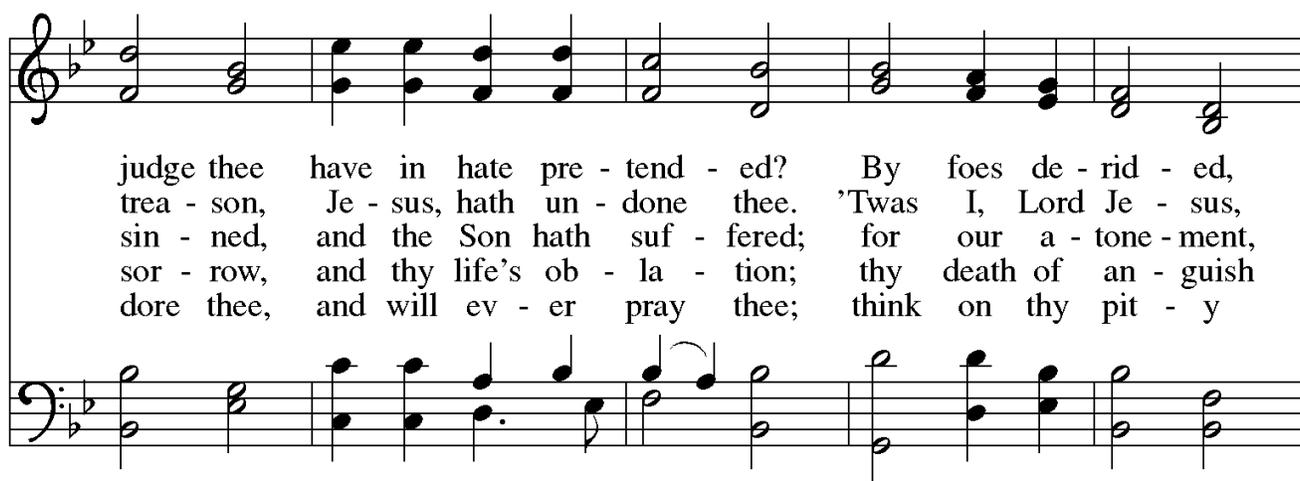
Ah, Holy Jesus

ELW#349

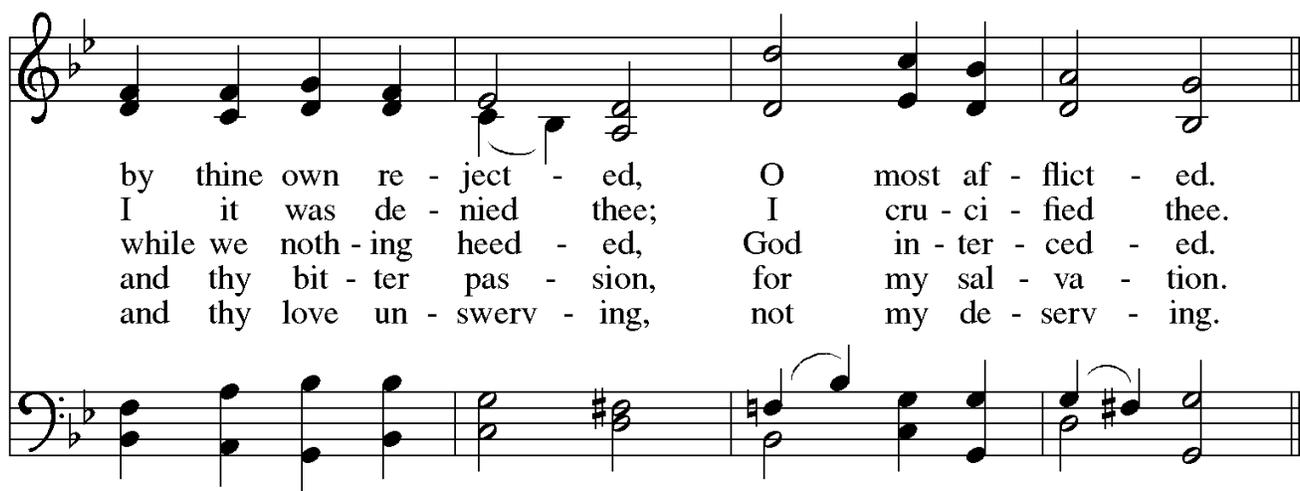
# Ah, Holy Jesus



1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed that we to  
 2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my  
 3 Lo, the Good Shep - herd for the sheep is of - fered; the slave hath  
 4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thine in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal  
 5 There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -



judge thee have in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,  
 trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,  
 sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for our a - tone - ment,  
 sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish  
 dore thee, and will ev - er pray thee; think on thy pit - y



by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.  
 I it was de - nied thee; I cru - ci - fied thee.  
 while we noth - ing heed - ed, God in - ter - ced - ed.  
 and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.  
 and thy love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.

**\*EUCCHARISTIC BLESSING**

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

**C: Amen.**

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: Let us pray. Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love.

**C: Amen.**

**+ SENDING +**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*BENEDICTION**

P: God, the giver of love, † Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey.

**C: Amen.**

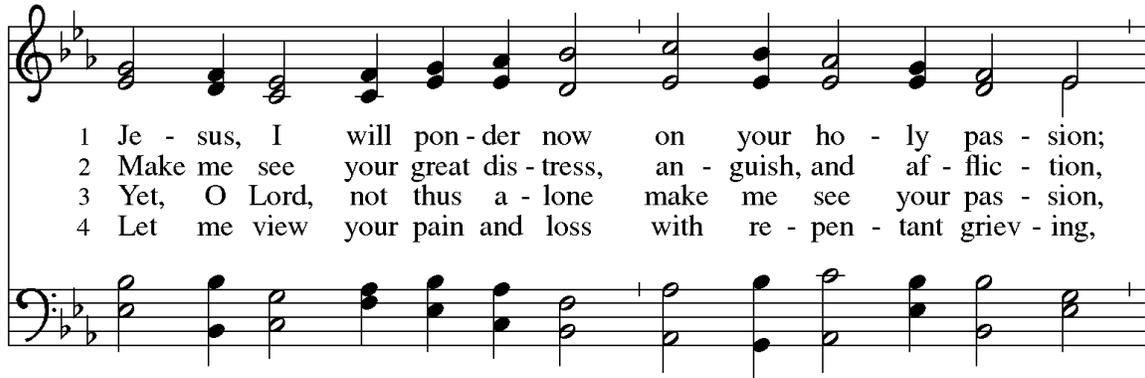
**\*SENDING HYMN**

Jesus, I Will Ponder

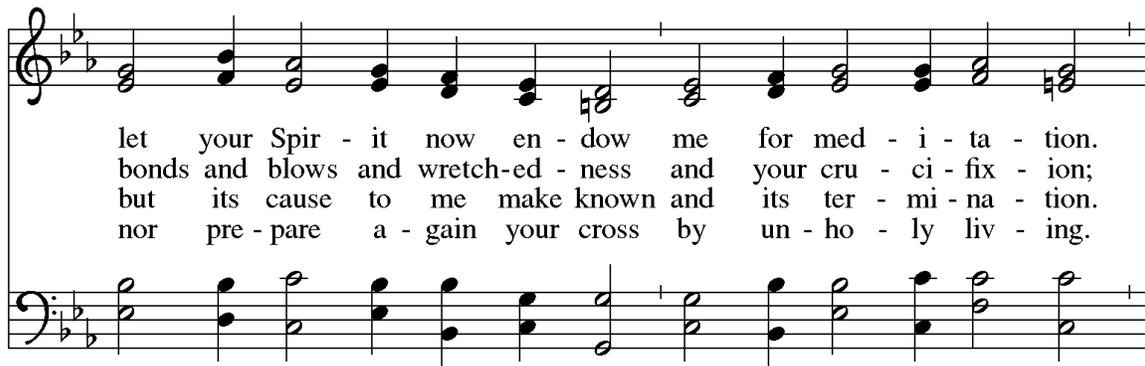
ELW#345

*During the recessional, the congregation turn to face the cross as it passes.*

# Jesus, I Will Ponder Now



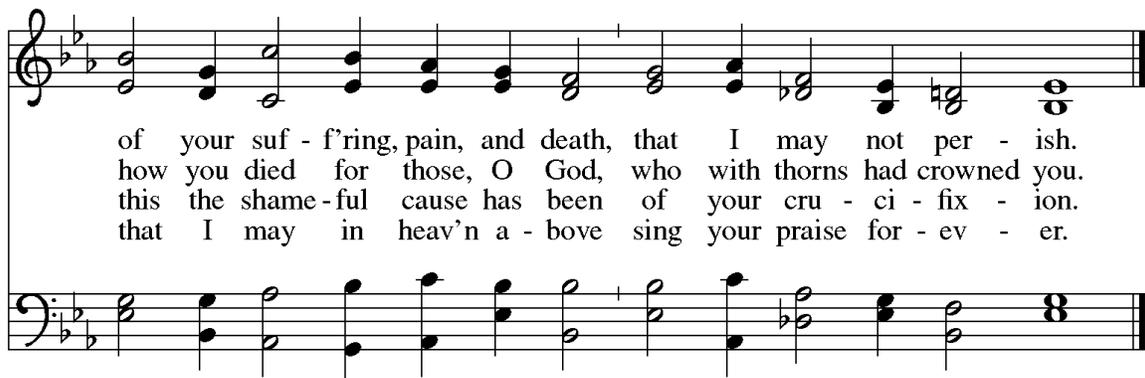
1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now on your ho - ly pas - sion;  
2 Make me see your great dis - tress, an - guish, and af - flic - tion,  
3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a - lone make me see your pas - sion,  
4 Let me view your pain and loss with re - pen - tant griev - ing,



let your Spir - it now en - dow me for med - i - ta - tion.  
bonds and blows and wretch - ed - ness and your cru - ci - fix - ion;  
but its cause to me make known and its ter - mi - na - tion.  
nor pre - pare a - gain your cross by un - ho - ly liv - ing.



Grant that I in love and faith may the im - age cher - ish  
make me see how scourge and rod, spear and nails, did wound you,  
For I al - so and my sin wrought your deep af - flic - tion;  
May I give you love for love! Hear me, O my Sav - ior,



of your suf - f'ring, pain, and death, that I may not per - ish.  
how you died for those, O God, who with thorns had crowned you.  
this the shame - ful cause has been of your cru - ci - fix - ion.  
that I may in heav'n a - bove sing your praise for - ev - er.

**\*DISMISSAL**

**A:** Go in peace. Serve in love.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*We depart in peace to continue our worship  
in lives of witness to Christ's love  
in work, play, service, and care for creation.*

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Today's readings are selected from  
*A Women's Lectionary for the Whole Church: Year A*  
by Wilda C. Gafney.

The texts for the scripture readings are from  
the *New Revised Standard Version*,  
emendations are provided by  
the pastoral staff of St. Thomas.

## **At A Glance: This Week at St. Thomas**

### **Sunday April 2    Passion Sunday**

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:45 a.m. Adult Forum on *Baptized We Live:  
Lutheranism as a Way of Life*

9:45 a.m. Women's Bible Study

11 a.m. Worship

### **Monday April 3**

7 p.m. Mission Committee Meeting

### **Wednesday April 5**

12 p.m. Prayer at Noon on Zoom

7 p.m. Healing Service

### **Thursday April 6**

All Day Stations of the Cross

7 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service

### **Friday April 7**

All Day Stations of the Cross

7 p.m. Good Friday Service

### **Saturday April 8**

7 p.m. Easter Vigil Service

### **Sunday April 9    Resurrection of Our Lord**

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship

9:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast

11 a.m. Worship

# **Holy Week**

## **Holy Wednesday Healing Service**

As we ponder our Lord's passion, our own brokenness and need for healing is often exposed. Come to a gentle service if you are in pain, bereaved, feeling hopeless, needing forgiveness, or wanting to show mercy. In addition to a contemplative service, the pastors will offer the laying on of hands, blessing, and moments for personal prayer. Pr. Adrienne Meier will preach. Join us at 7 p.m. in Heritage Hall.

## **Stations of the Cross**

The Stations of the Cross--a visual representation of Jesus's Passion--will be available in Heritage Hall starting Thursday, April 6 and remain available through Friday, April 7. For access during the day, church office hours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## **Maundy Thursday**

Hear again the new commandment to love one another. During an extended, contemplative prelude, our pastors, deacon, and vicar will wash feet or hands as a sign of our calling to follow Jesus' example of humility and service. We gather around

the Lord's Supper to inaugurate the Great Three Days that lead through the cross to the empty tomb. The service concludes with the stripping of the altar. Pr. Lecia Beck will offer a children's message, Pr. Adrienne Meier will preach, and the choir will sing. Join us at 7 p.m.

### **Good Friday**

On this day, we look to the cross, where Jesus draws all people to himself. We pray for the world for which Christ died and honor the cross as the sign of forgiveness, healing, and salvation. Vicar Amy Bartleson Balcam will preach, and the choir will sing. Join us at 7 p.m.

### **Vigil of Easter**

As Holy Saturday descends into darkness, we celebrate that this is the night that saw Christ pass from death to life. We hear the great saving stories from scripture—told by members of our community of all ages—and, especially, the first proclamation of Easter. Together, we await Christ's coming both now and at the end of time. Pr. Lecia Beck will preach. Join us at 7 p.m. in the drop-off circle to light the new fire, then moving into Heritage Hall to hear stories and

celebrate the Eucharist. The celebration will continue with an Easter Egg Hunt and s'mores after worship.

## **Resurrection of our Lord**

With shouts of joy we proclaim the crucified Christ, risen from the dead, which secures our own victory over death. Together we look for signs of new life which emerges even when things appear uncertain. Pr. Lecia Beck will offer a children's message, Pr. Adrienne Meier will preach, the choir will sing, and brass will accompany our worship. Between services, enjoy an Easter breakfast. Join us at 8:30 a.m. or 11 a.m.

## **Announcements**

### **Easter Breakfast**

St Thomas Youth will be hosting the annual Easter Breakfast on Sunday, April 9 9:30-10:45 a.m. Tickets will be available for a donation ahead of time. You can get a ticket in person on March 26 or April 2 in the Narthex between services or you can purchase tickets online <https://stlconline.org/donate-to-st-thomas-ministries/> Suggested donation amount is \$5-10 per person. Funds will support youth group trips.

There are also sheets in the Narthex to sign up to provide food or volunteer to help. Thank you!

### **Easter Lilies Now on Sale**

You are invited to purchase a lily for adding beauty to the sanctuary on **Easter Sunday** (April 9). Lilies will be available to take home following the 11 a.m. worship service, or in the days following Easter. 15 lilies are available for purchase at a cost of **\$14 each**. You may dedicate your plant to someone, and that name will appear in the bulletin on Easter Sunday. Sign up at the welcome desk.

### **Prayer at Noon on Zoom**

It can be hard to find time to pray, especially when there is so much to worry about—so much to pray for. Join us for a calm, quiet moment in the middle of the week to share requests and pray together—we gather for about 20 minutes. Our next gatherings will be **Wednesday, April 5 at noon on Zoom**. Join us here: <https://bit.ly/3jVA3k0>

### **Word in the Woods**

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it! (Psalm 24:1) After a winter hiatus, Word in the Woods is back! Join us as we enjoy God's creation, build

relationships and contemplate scripture together. With the lengthening days, we will gather on the second Tuesday evening of each month at 6 p.m. Meet us at Griffy Lake boathouse for a 1.5-mile hike which closes with Holy Communion. Our next hike will be on **Tuesday, April 11**. Please let Pastor Lecia know if you plan to join us!

# SplashZone

**Vacation Bible School**  
at  
St Thomas Lutheran Church

May 30, 31 & June 1, 2023  
9:00am - 3:00pm  
students entering K-6th

for more information:



St. Thomas Lutheran  
Church Choir Presents:

## Franz Schubert's **Mass in G**

**Sunday, May 7, 4:00PM**

Kathryn Davidson, Choir Director  
Matthew Benkert, Director of Music

### **Connect with St. Thomas**

St. Thomas celebrates God's grace with all people, and, for us, all means all.\*

\*no strings attached or expectations that you'll change

You are always welcome to worship with us on Sundays at 8:30 a.m. or 11:00 a.m.

Connect with us on Facebook

(<https://www.facebook.com/StThomasBloomington>). Sign up to receive our newsletter and support our ministry on our website, [stlconline.org](http://stlconline.org).

## **Prayers for those with health and safety concerns**

Elif Ogan, Caretta Van Ruler, Roger Sasse, Paula Ionescu, Audrey Alpers, Deborah O'Brien, Mike Ost, Bob Osborn, Andrew Halvorson, Doug Bauder, Yvonne Leber, Jan Coulter, Evelyn Niemeyer, and Helen Kane.

Contact the church office for inclusion in this list of concerns and to be included in the Sunday prayers.

A separate, confidential prayer chain is also available. Contact **Susan Colston** at [skcolston@aol.com](mailto:skcolston@aol.com) to join the prayer chain or make a request for prayer.

## **Today's Worship Leaders**

Altar Care: Karen Rohlfing, Gail Seegert

Bread/Wine: Gayl Laughman

Coffee Crew: Kim Arnold

### **8:30 a.m. service**

Assisting Minister: David Rohlfing

Lector: Nancy Mathews

Gospel Readers: Karen Rohlfing, Karlyn Grise,  
Eliot Smith

Crucifer: David Ellies

Ushers: Frank & Mary Lou Nierzwicki

Communion Steward: Jaydene Laros

Greeters: Mike & Jaydene Laros

Council Coordinator: Frank Nierzwicki

### **11 a.m. service**

Assisting Minister: Robin Hershberger

Lector: Sharon Fawbush

Gospel Readers: Eve Arnold, Joseph Arnold,  
Lydia Arnold, Rebekah Arnold, Noelle Drake,  
Mary Rust, Melody Smith, Noah Smith

Crucifer: Kaye Hill

Acolyte: Julianna Drake

Lord's Prayer Leader: Nathalie Drake

Ushers: Marilyn Saum, Susan Hiller

Communion Steward: Kaye Hill

Greeters: Gail Seegert, Moriah Reichert

Council Coordinator: Kari Esarey

## **ST. THOMAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

3800 East Third Street  
Bloomington, Indiana 47401  
Office Hours 9 a.m.- 4:30p.m.  
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Rev. Adrienne Meier  
Senior Pastor  
[pastor@stlconline.org](mailto:pastor@stlconline.org)

*Partners in ministry with*  
**Lutheran Church of  
the Living Waters**  
Cherokee, North Carolina

Rev. Lecia Beck  
Pastor of Youth and Christian Nurture  
[christiannurture@stlconline.org](mailto:christiannurture@stlconline.org)

*Linked with*  
**Sister Parish**  
Iglesia Santo Domingo  
de Guzman, Chichipate  
Parish of San Pedro, El Estor,  
Izabal, Guatemala

Vicar Amy Bartleson Balcam  
Pastoral Intern  
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Erica Whichello  
Parish Administrator  
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*In covenant with*  
**LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY  
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Matthew Benkert  
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Kathryn Davidson  
Adult Choir Director  
[choir@stlconline.org](mailto:choir@stlconline.org)

Melissa de Graaf  
Children's Choir Director

**St. Thomas Lutheran Church and LCM-IU  
are Reconciling in Christ Ministries**

**We are a Christ-centered community that lives,  
shares and celebrates God's grace with all people!**