



Sunday of the Passion

March 29, 2026

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!

St. Thomas is located on the ancestral homelands for the myaamiaki, Lënape, Bodwéwadmik, and saawanwa people. We acknowledge and give thanks that they have occupied and cared for this land over countless generations, and we celebrate the continuing contributions to the life of this region by the Indigenous People who call this land their home.

We hope you can participate fully in worship.

Today's worship service is printed in this bulletin; the hymns are found in the back third of the red *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) or purple *All Creation Sings* (ACS) found under the seat in front of you. Places to stand are marked with * and to respond are indicated with bold type. Please sit, stand, and move as you need to be comfortable. Use a blue chair with arms or move orange chairs to accommodate mobility needs. Assisted hearing devices and large-print worship aids are available on the Worship Aids column in the narthex.

Our youngest worshipers may appreciate the Prayer Pond in the worship space or listening to the service from our unstaffed nursery. Activity bags and children's bulletins are available on the Worship Aids column in the narthex.

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.

Gifts placed in the offering plate during the worship service contribute to this mission. Tonight's 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.

+ GATHERING +

All gather in the narthex or await the procession in the worship space.

*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 Jesus and the disciples 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

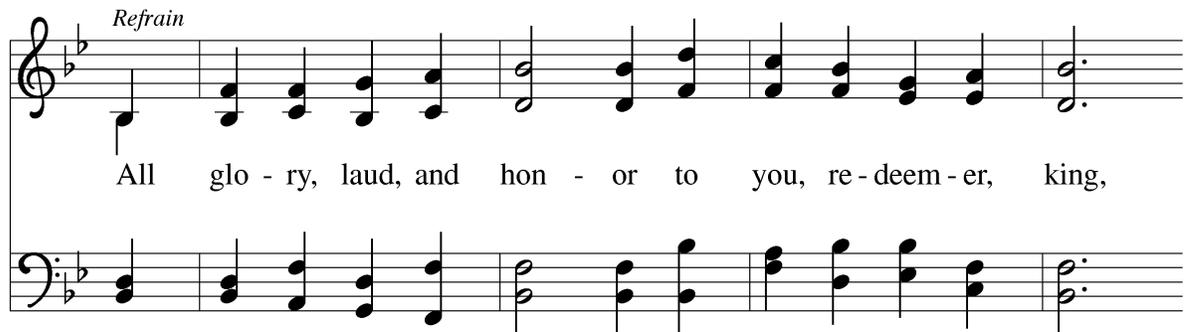
P: Let us go forth in peace,

C: in the name of Christ. Amen.

All follow the cross into the worship space, waving palm branches, and singing 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

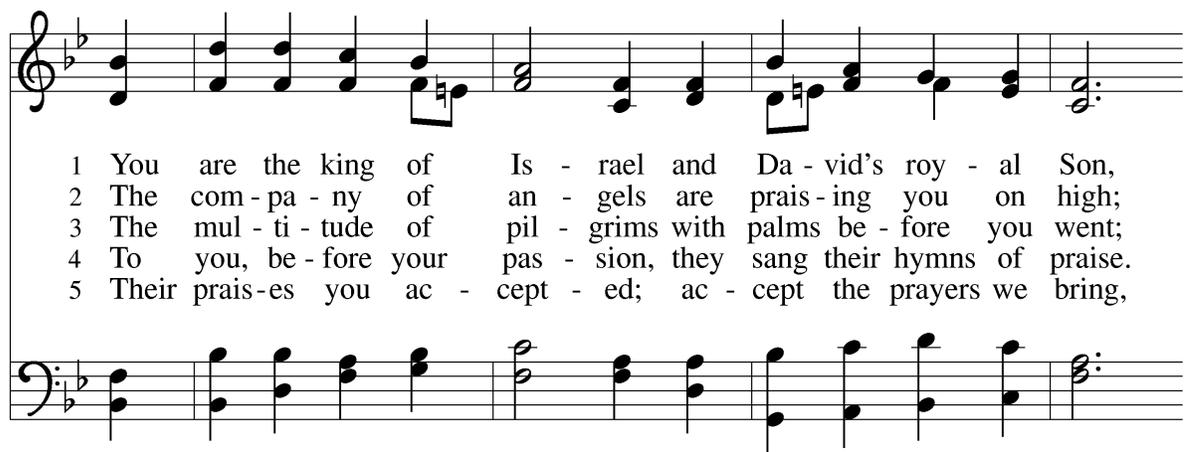
Refrain



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re - deem - er, king,

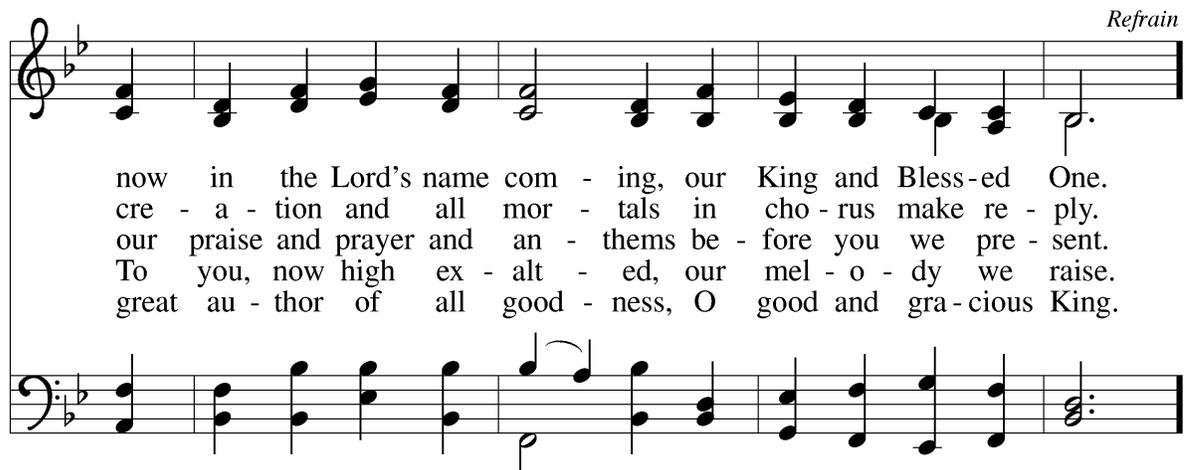


to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



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 and say several times:

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

C: Hosanna in the highest!

11 a.m. only

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Hosanna! Hosanna!

Helen Kamp

All wave their palm branches and say several times:

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

C: Hosanna in the highest!

P: Even as we wonder how long, O Lord, we proclaim, Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

C: Hosanna in the Highest!

P: Even as we wonder where is God when bad things happen we proclaim, 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.

P: 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

FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:4-9a

The Lord God has given me
a trained tongue,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.

Morning by morning the Lord God wakens,
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.

The Lord God has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious;
I did not turn backward.

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.

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;
the one who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?
Let us stand in court together.

Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.

It is the Lord God who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?
All of them will wear out like a garment;
the moth will eat them up.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Philippians 2:5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ
Jesus,

who, though existing in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God

as something to be grasped,

but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave,

assuming human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a human,
he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of
death—

even death on a cross.

Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name

that is above every other name,

so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the
earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now



1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now on your ho - ly 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.
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
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.
that I may in heav'n a - bove sing your praise for - ev - er.

*HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 26:14—27:66

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew,
the twenty-six and twenty-seventh chapters.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

The congregation is seated.

Matthew 26:14—27:66 is read.

P: The Gospel of Our Lord!

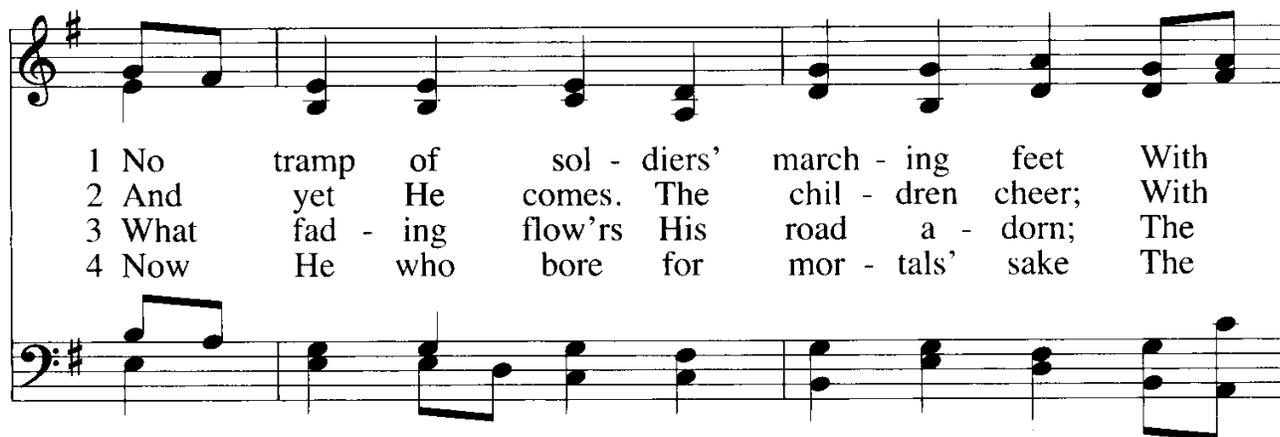
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pr. Adrienne Meier

*HYMN OF THE DAY

No Tramp of Soldiers Marching Feet



1 No tramp of sol - diers' march - ing feet With
2 And yet He comes. The chil - dren cheer; With
3 What fad - ing flow'rs His road a - dorn; The
4 Now He who bore for mor - tals' sake The



ban - ners and with drums, No sound of mu - sic's
palms His path is strown. With ev - 'ry step the
palms, how soon laid down! No bloom or leaf but
cross and all its pains And chose a ser - vant's



mar - tial beat— "The King of glo - ry comes!" To
cross draws near— The King of glo - ry's throne. A -
on - ly thorn The King of glo - ry's crown. The
form to take, The King of glo - ry reigns. Ho -

greet what pomp of king - ly pride No
 stride a colt He pass - es by As
 sol - diers mock, the rab - ble cries, The
 san - na to the Sav - ior's name Till

bells in tri - umph ring, No cit - y gates swing
 loud ho - san - nas ring, Or else the ver - y
 streets with tu - mult ring, As Pi - late to the
 heav - en's raft - ers ring, And all the ran - somed

o - pen wide: "Be - hold, be - hold your King!"
 stones would cry "Be - hold, be - hold your King!"
 mob re - plies, "Be - hold, be - hold your King!"
 host pro - claim "Be - hold, be - hold your King!"

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926
 Music: English folk tune; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

KINGSFOLD
 CM D

Text: © 1984 Hope Publishing Co.
 Music: Public domain

Luke 19:37-38; Matt. 21:5-9; John 19:14-18

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

A brief silence.

A: O God, you announce words of grace and truth. Give wisdom to all preachers as Christians begin Holy Week and our Jewish siblings celebrate Passover. Inspire our neighbors, Rabbi Noah and Pastor Annette Hill Briggs and our pastors Adrienne and Lecia to preach your truth. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: O God, You hold the whole universe. Gather sun and moon, clouds and stars, land and sea, and plants and animals to proclaim your message of justice and renewal. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Your power is sure. Destroy inequity and division in every place, and build your beloved community among all people. Give us open eyes, tender hearts, and bold endurance to be the hands and feet of your just love in the world. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Your heart breaks open at our pain. Remind those struggling that they are not alone. As Jesus also knew the sting of betrayal, denial, abuse, and false accusations, draw near all who are in pain especially Scott, Helen, Bob, David, Gloria, John, Leslie, Lynn, Dallis, Doug, Yvonne, Kent, and Mark. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: You rejoice in labor done for the sake of your love. Affirm those whose work is increased in these days, in assembling the bulletin, cleaning maintenance, caring for the altar, and preparing our community and space as we enter Holy Week. Bless all those here who will lead readings, prayers, preaching, music and telling the story of Jesus' death and resurrection. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: O God, your embrace is eternal. Gather in the faithful of every age to walk the path to the cross with you. Deliver us all from death's power and raise us to life in you. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

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

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.*



*An offering is collected as a grateful response for all of God's gifts. Gifts support St. Thomas's mission of living, sharing, and celebrating God's grace with all people. A portion of our offerings support Lutheran Campus Ministries at IU/Rose House and many local, national, and international ministry partners. **You may place gifts in the offering plate as it reaches you or give on our website, stlconline.org (the QR code above on the right will direct you).***



Use the QR code on the left to add your volunteer hours to our 5000-hour challenge.

CHOIR ANTHEM

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Gilbert M. Martin

*OFFERTORY HYMN

On My Heart Imprint Your Image

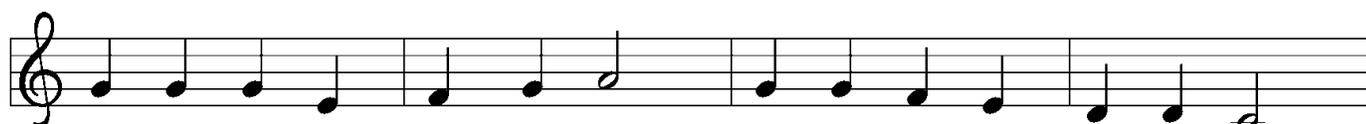
ELW#811



On my heart im - print your im - age, bless - ed Je - sus, king of grace,



that life's trou - bles nor its plea - sures ev - er may your work e - rase.



Let the clear in - scrip - tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, all my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Peer O. Strømme, 1856–1921, alt.

Music: DER AM KREUZ, Johann B. König, 1691–1758

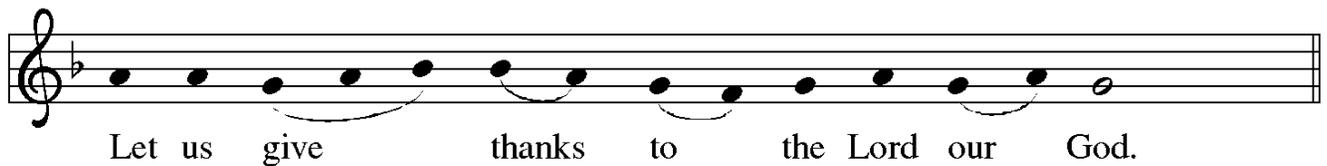
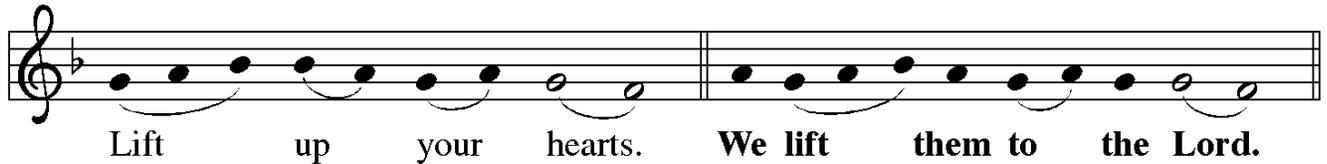
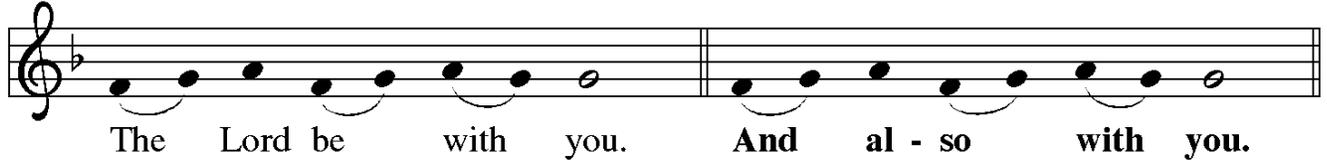
*OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Let us pray. God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***EUCHARISTIC 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.

P: 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. Cherokee 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.**

Ogidoda galvladi hehi.
Galvquodiyu gesesdi detsadovi.
Tsagvwiyuhi gesv wigananugoi.
Ani elohi winigalisda hadanvdisgvi.
Nasgiya ganulvdi tsinigalisdiha.
Nidadodatlusv ogalisdavdi sgivsi gohi iga.
Digesgivsiquono desgidugvi nasgiya
tsidigayotsineho tsotsidugi.
Ale tlasdi udagoliyediyi gesv widisgiyatinvstanvgi.
Sgiyudalesgesdiquosgini uyo gesvi.
Tsatseligayeno tsagvwiyuhi gesvi.
Ale tsalinigidiyi gesvi.
Ale etsalvquodiyu gesv nigohilvi.
Emenv.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

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.

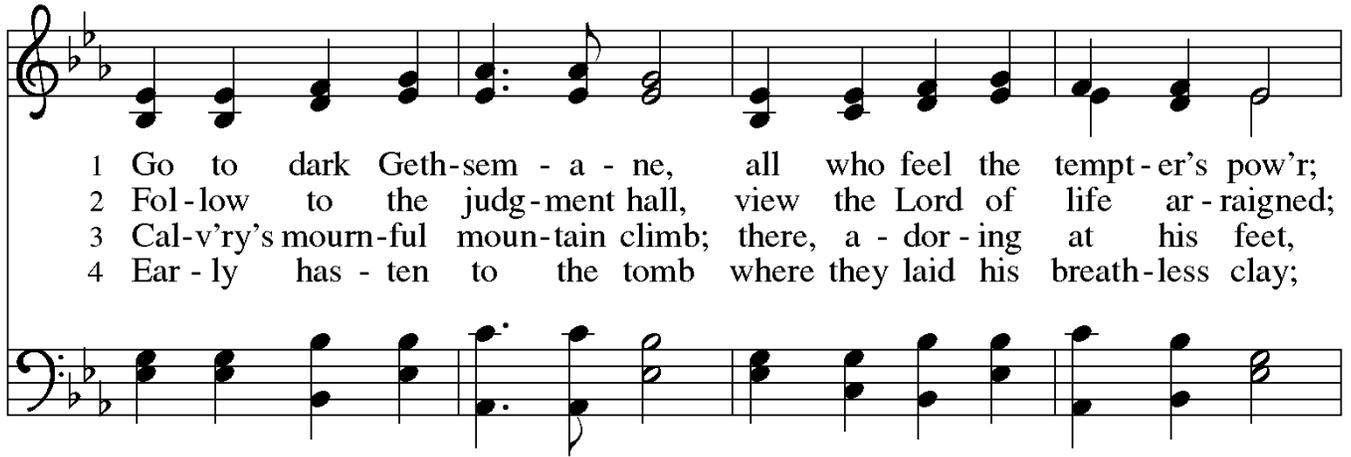
AGNUS DEI

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.

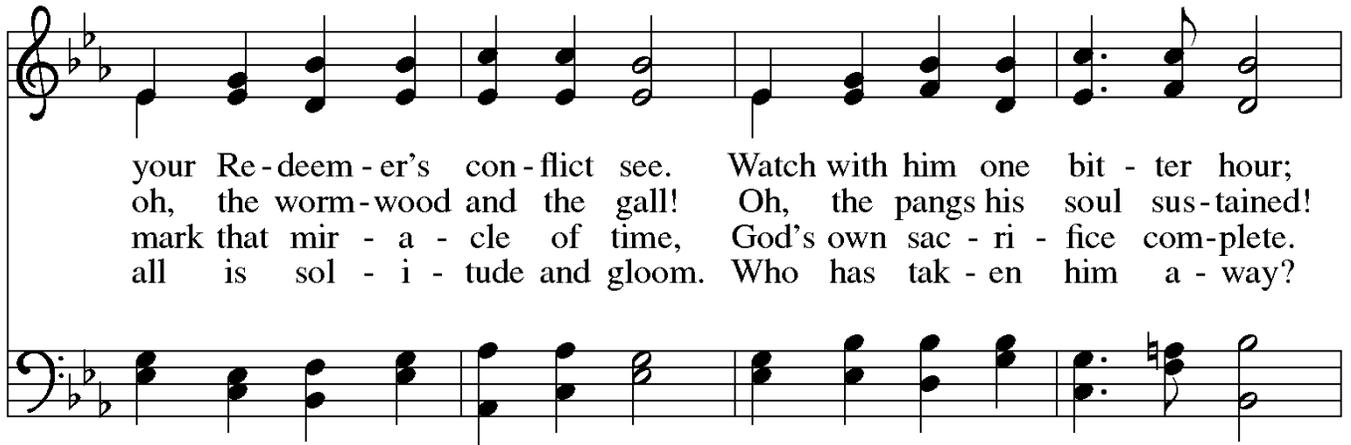
COMMUNION HYMNS

Go to Dark Gethsemane

ELW#347
verses 1-3 only



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;



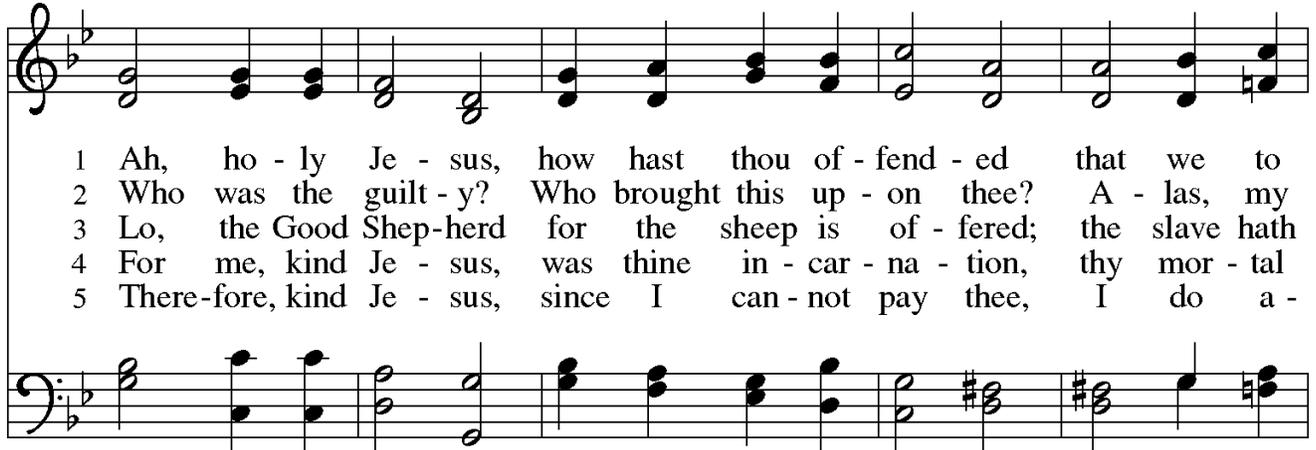
your Re-deem - er's con - flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;
oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus-tained!
mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com-plete.
all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?



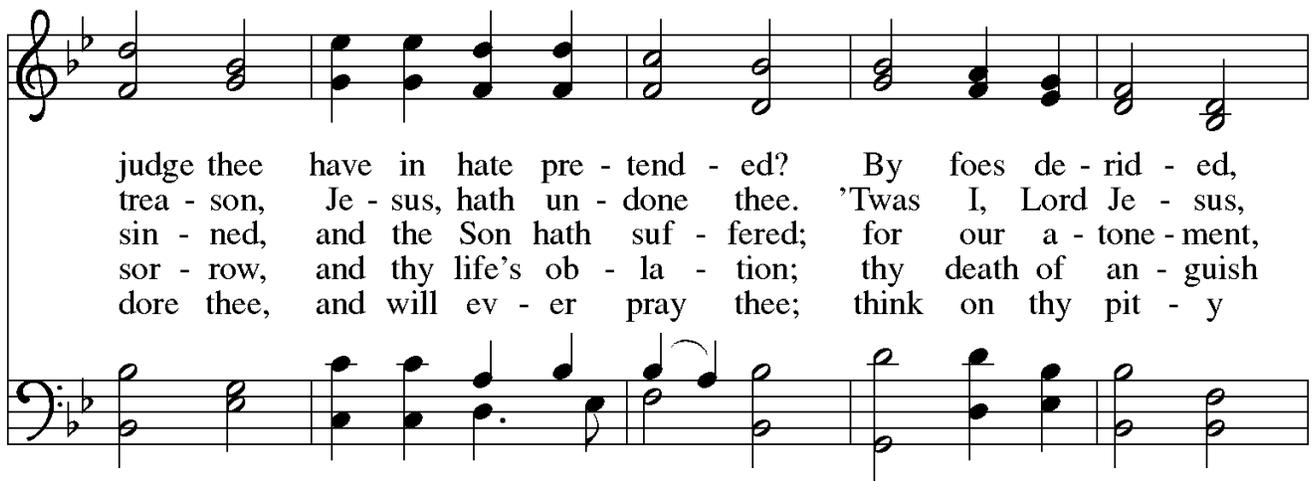
turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.
"It is fin - ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Ah, Holy Jesus

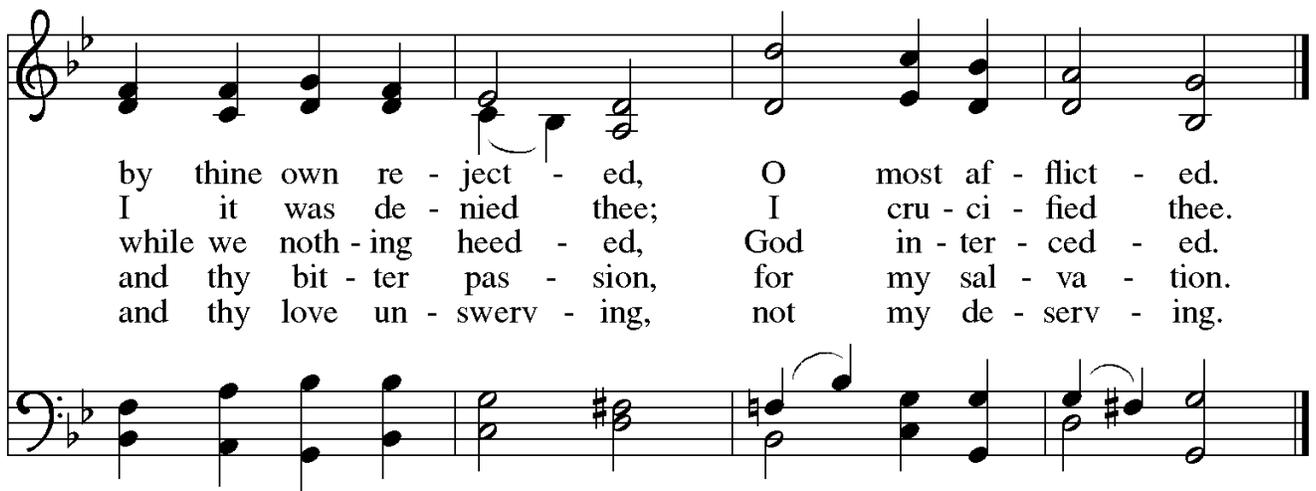
ELW #349



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,
treason, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,
sinned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for our a - tone - ment,
sorrow, 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.

***EUCHARISTIC 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. 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.

C: Amen.

+ SENDING +

***BENEDICTION**

P: The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ †, to whom be the glory forever and ever.

C: Amen.



Honoring the Composers of
African American Spirituals
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*SENDING HYMN

Were You There

ELW#353

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?

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?

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?

*DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Fugue in E Minor, BWV 548b "Wedge"

J. S. Bach

*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 the Revised Common Lectionary. The texts for the scripture readings are from the *New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition*, emendations are provided by the pastoral staff of St. Thomas in consultation with emendations provided for Augsburg Fortress by Gordon Lathrop and Gail Ramshaw.

At A Glance: This Week at St. Thomas Sunday March 29

Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

11 a.m. Worship

12 p.m. Easter Basket Assembly

Monday March 30

1 p.m. Pastor's Bible Study

Wednesday April 1

12 p.m. Prayer at Noon on Zoom

7 p.m. Healing Wednesday Service

Thursday April 2

7 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service

Friday April 3

12 p.m. Good Friday Service

7 p.m. Good Friday Service

Saturday April 4

7 p.m. Easter Vigil Service

Sunday April 5

Resurrection of Our Lord

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship

9:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast

11 a.m. Worship

Next Steps

Looking for a way to get involved at STLC? Try this next step:

Coffee Crew

Kindly host visitors, guests, and members with coffee, monitor the coffee bar between services, and assist with clean up.

Contact the church office if you are interested in this next step. parishadmin@stlconline.org

Annual Program Meeting

The Annual Program Meeting of St. Thomas Evangelical Lutheran Church will be **Sunday, April 19 following the 11 a.m. worship service. Bring a dish to share at the potluck meal** to celebrate our ministry, which will be followed by a brief business meeting. The agenda will include the election of council members. If you are interested in serving on Council or the Nomination Committee, please speak with one of the pastors or a current member of council.

Pie with the Pastors

Have you been wondering about the next step at St. Thomas? Join us **Sunday, April 12 at 4 p.m. in Community Hall for Pie with the Pastors**—a relaxed gathering with *actual pie* and good conversation. Pastor Adrienne and Pastor Lecia will share about next steps, including membership, and hear your stories, questions, and hopes. Whether you're ready to join or still exploring, all are welcome. The ministries of this church are for everyone—but becoming a member is a way to help shape where we're headed, together.

Holy Week at St. Thomas

Stations of the Cross, Throughout Holy Week

The Stations of the Cross are a visual representation of Jesus's passion. Beginning on Passion Sunday, stations based on events during the past year and special connections to St. Thomas will be available to pray in Heritage Hall. Visit before or after any of the week's services or during office hours on weekdays, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday in Holy Week Healing Service, April 1, 7 p.m.

As we continue to ponder our Lord's passion, our own brokenness and need for healing is often exposed. At this gentle service, prayer and the laying on of hands are offered to all who are in pain, bereaved, feeling hopeless, needing forgiveness, or wanting to show mercy. Pr. Adrienne will preach at 7 p.m. in Heritage Hall.

Maundy Thursday, April 2, 7 p.m.

As Jesus gathered with his disciples on the evening before his death, we gather to wash feet and hands, share the Holy Meal, strip the altar, and so begin the Great Three Days that lead through the cross to the empty tomb. The choir will offer W. A. Mozart's "Ave Verum Corpus," whose 13th century text honors both the crucified body of Christ and the true presence of Christ in Communion. Pr. Lecia will offer a children's message, Pr. Adrienne will preach at 7 p.m. in the Worship Space.

A Love Supreme: The Gospel According to John Coltrane, Midday Good Friday, April 3, noon

When John Coltrane recorded A Love Supreme in 1964, it was immediately recognized as a masterpiece. The album—its four pieces—is emotional, full of both lament and hope. Weaving through the pieces will be readings from the Passion according to John, poems and passages, and reflections by Pr. Adrienne at noon in Heritage Hall.

Good Friday, As Darkness Falls, April 3, 7 p.m.

On this day, we look to the cross, where Jesus draws all people to himself. In the evening, readings from the Passion according to John are complimented by songs and growing darkness. The service includes prayers of ever widening circles as we pray for the world for which Christ died and the solemn reproaches, where we confront our failure to live in ways that honor Jesus's sacrifice. The service concludes as we honor the cross as the sign of forgiveness, healing, and salvation. Pr. Adrienne will preach, and the choir will sing at 7 p.m. in the Worship Space.

Easter Vigil Service of Joy, April 4, 7 p.m.

Be immersed in the story of the church in our **Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 4 at 7 p.m.** At this most fun, unique, and unexpected worship service of the year, we gather around fire, water, bread and wine to tell the story of salvation. We proclaim the stories of God's faithfulness and salvation throughout history as we proclaim Christ, the one who brings life out of death. Worship will begin outside as we light the new fire and then move into Heritage Hall for a time of storytelling and Holy Communion.

Resurrection of our Lord, April 5, 8:30 and 11 a.m.

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 will offer a children's message, Pr. Adrienne will preach, the choir will sing "Hallelujah, Amen" by George Frideric Handel, and brass will accompany our worship. Between services, enjoy an Easter breakfast. Join us at 8:30 a.m. or 11 a.m.

Easter Breakfast—HELP NEEDED

Celebrate Easter with a free Easter breakfast in Community Hall between services **Next Sunday, April 5**. Enjoy fellowship, share good food, and strengthen friendships. Bring your family and friends to this special event so we can celebrate together. We could use more casseroles, coffee cakes, and fruit. We especially need help with Saturday Set Up (April 4 at 5:30 p.m.), Sunday morning Set Up (8:30 a.m.), Sunday morning Serving (9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.), and Sunday morning Clean Up & Tear Down (11 a.m.). Sign up on the poster in the Narthex to help.

Prayers for those with health and safety concerns

Scott O'Reilly, Helen Kane, Bob Osborn, David Ellies, Gloria Hitchcock, John Kinzer, Leslie Main, Lynn Weddle, Dallis Fox-Nagal, Doug Bauder, Yvonne Leber, Kent Unger, and Mark Wilkes.

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 to join the prayer chain or make a request for prayer.

Today's Worship Leaders

Altar Care: Carol Seaman, Jennifer Garl,
Haley Hatton

Bread & Wine: Carol Seaman

Coffee Crew: Casey Main, Marcus Hershberger,
Matt Meier

Prayer Writer: Moriah Brook

A/V Tech: Johnathan Frank

8:30 a.m. Service

Assisting Minister: Ashley Ahlbrand

Lectors: Anna Harner, Kris Stewart

Crucifer: Stephanie Abel

Ushers: Frank & Mary Lou Nierzwicki

Communion Steward: Kathleen Boggess

Greeters: Lynn & Ute Coyne

Council Coordinator: Johnathan Frank

11 a.m. Service

Assisting Minister: Robin Hershberger

Lectors: Nancy Mathews, Tim Smith

Acolyte: Lucy Meier

Crucifer: Mary Thomason-Smith

Ushers: Brock DeMark

& Savannah Hadley-DeMark

Communion Steward: Mary Thomason-Smith

Greeters: Randy & Nancy Nye

Council Coordinator: Justin Rust

ST. THOMAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

3800 East Third Street
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Phone: (812) 332-5252
stlconline.org

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

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

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Ben Wegner
Adult Choir Director
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!**