

The gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

After he had said this, [Jesus] went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, 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. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.' " So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now 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, saying,

"Blessed is the king

who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven.

and glory in the highest heaven!" Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Blessing of the Palms-**Fleanor Schwantes** The narrator – Diane Goetsch The words of Jesus – Pr. Gary The Judas figure – Dewey Allen

READERS

The Peter figure – Ray Skare

The Pilate Figure – Eric Verber

The Pharisees – The Choir

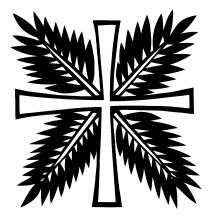
The Repentant Criminal – Shannon Vujnovich/Joy Mitchell

The Unrepentant Criminal -Juli Antonson

Joseph of Arimathea – Tina Spiegel

The questioners who disturb Peter – The Choir

The witnesses who walk with Christ to the cross— The whole congregation



PALM SUNDAY

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!



The congregation gathers outside of the sanctuary around processional cross.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS GREETING

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 19:28-40

This is the gospel of the Lord. Praise to you O Christ.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

BLESSING OF THE PALMS

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Let us pray...one God, now and forever. Amen.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

The service continues with "The Cry of the Whole Congregation"

SENT TO SERVE



Sunday April 14, 2019 8:00 + 9:30 am

3200 N. Mountain Road Wausau, WI 54401 715-842-3333 www.salc-wausau.org

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WELCOME

Visiting Today

If you are visiting today, thank you. If you wish, please fill out a "Visitor Card" located in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate.

Holy Communion

All are welcome. Distribution is by intinction, taking a piece of bread, dip it in the wine, and receive both elements at once. There is a gluten-free/grape juice option available near the baptismal font.

Offerings are part of worship and an important part of sharing in the life of Saint Andrew. Scripture teaches us to be "first fruits" givers and to do so with glad and generous hearts. Thank you for all who contribute and thereby share in the work of Christ's church.

Altar Flowers

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God in memory of Bob and Alice Allen by Dewey and Cheryl Allen.

Noisy Offering

A noisy offering will be received today in support of ELCA World Hunger.

ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving

Social Ministry will donate 10% of Lenten Soup donations to support the ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving. In addition, they will also match up to \$600 of what the congregation gives to the ELCA World Hunger throughout Lent.

Fair Trade Products

Fair Trade products are available for purchase today in the Fellowship Hall. Your purchase helps small landholder farmers in developing countries bring hope and help to their families.

Blood Pressure Screening

Blood pressure screenings are available in the library area of the Fellowship Hall today.

Easter Breakfast Sunday, April 21, 7-9:30 am Fellowship Hall

Pull tags are available at the Information Desk in the Narthex for needed food items. Your free will donation for breakfast will support the youth mission trip through ASP this summer.

Adopt-A-Highway Roadside and **Facility Spring Clean-Up** Saturday, April 27, 8:30-12 pm

Plan to join in fellowship and care of Christ's church cleaning up the grounds. Alternate date in case spring isn't quite here is Saturday, May 4.

Treasure Sale Thursday & Friday, May 2 & 3 8:30 am-5:30 pm

Sunday, May 5 Following Worship Bring in your gently used donations for the Treasure Sale then come back and shop for new treasures! Donated items should be in good working order and in very good condition. The following items will not be accepted: computers, printers, televisions, phones, batteries, chargers, light bulbs, microwaves, carpets/rugs, paint/chemicals, large appliances or exercise equipment. A free-will donation will be received for most items. All donations will support the summer VBS program at SALC.

"Christ In Our Home" Devotional

The 2019 second guarter of "Christ In Our Home" devotional is available in the Narthex. Please take a copy for your family.

THIS WEEK AT SALC

Sunday, April 14 - Palm Sunday 8:00 & 9:30 am Worship 9:40 am Sunday School 10:45 am Lenten Book Study 2:00 pm WORSHIP-First Communion Monday, April 15 7:00 pm AA, Alanon & Alateen **Tuesday, April 16** 9:00 am **Reading Reflections** 10:00 am Quilting for LWR Wednesday, April 17 6:45 am Son Riser's Bible Study 9:30 am Women's Lectionary Study 10:00 am Men's Bible Study 12:15 pm Women's Gather Study 5:15 pm Handbell Choir Reh. 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Reh. 7:15 pm Lenten Book Study Thursday, April 18 - Maundy Thursday 12:15 & 6:15 pm WORSHIP Friday, April 19 - Good Friday

12:15 & 6:15 pm WORSHIP

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER **AT SAINT ANDREW**

MAUNDY THURSDAY - April 18 12:15 & 6:15 pm GOOD FRIDAY - April 19 12:15 & 6:15 pm

RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD Easter Sunday, April 21

SUNRISE WORSHIP 6:00 am at Rib Mountain State Park

WORSHIP AT SAINT ANDREW 8:00 - 9:30 - 11:00 am 7-9:30 am Easter Breakfast at SALC

EASTER MORNING TRAFFIC NOTE

To assist with traffic flow following the 8 & 9:30 am Easter worship services, there will be an altered traffic routeplease follow the signs. Thank you for your cooperation.

WORSHIP WORD

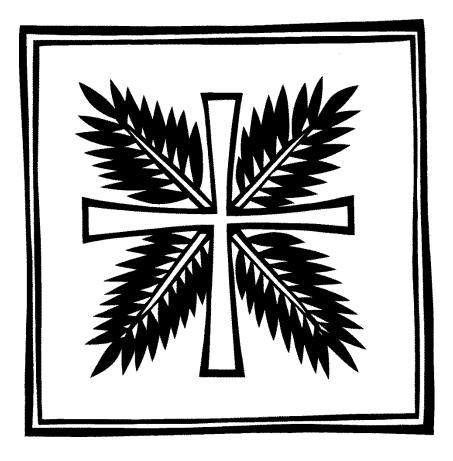
The word, "Liturgy" means "the work of the people." When we gather, the give and take of the liturgy carries us closer into the presence of God's love for the world. Today the liturgy truly is the work we do together to tell the story of the passion of Christ once again. The story of the cross need not be a somber funeral-like durge—but a reminder of the great lengths to which God goes for us. God does not detach from suffering, but enters right into the heart of it. And from the cross comes the promise of the resurrection—which we celebrate in all its glory one week from now. But first, our cries join the cries of the crowd—Hosanna! and Crucify!

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Pastors	Gary Brandenburg Jenn Collins
Pianist	Joel Freiberg
Drummer	Greg Goetsch
Saxophone	Nate Card
Soloist	Lisa Weber
Ushers	Weidman Team
Greeters	Mike & Lyn Weis
	Jack & Marsha Klein
Altar Guild	Mavis Bloom, Mary Wittich, Mary Weiland & Ruth Koch







THE CRY OF THE WHOLE CONGREGATION Worship for the Way of the Cross

Palm/Passion Sunday Liturgy



We Are Marching in the Light of God Siyahamba si - ya - hamb' e - ku-kha -Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', We are march ing in the light of God, we are march-ing in the e - ku-kha - nyen' kwen-khos', nyen' kwen-khos'. Si - ya hamb' light of God. We are march ing in the light of God, 3 si ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'. _ march-ing in the light of God. we are 3 si ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-, kha - nyen' kwen - khos'. we are march - ing in the light of, the light of God. • - 3 hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen khos'. si _ ya march - ing in the we are light of God. Additional stanzas ad lib: We are dancing . . .

We are praying . . .

We are singing . . .



Text: South African traditional; tr. Freedom Is Coming, 1984 Music: SIYAHAMBA, South African traditional; arr. Freedom Is Coming Tr. and arr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

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1. The Entry into Jerusalem - The Palm Sunday Procession

- NARRATOR: When Jesus drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent ahead two of his disciples, saying,
- JESUS: "Go into the village opposite. There you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat; untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' you shall say, "the Lord has need of it."'
- NARRATOR: So those who were sent went away and found it as he had told them...

PEOPLE: and as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?"

- PETER: And they said, "The Lord has need of it." And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their garments on the colt, they set Jesus upon it.
- NARRATOR: And as he rode along, they spread their garments on the road. As he was now drawing near, at the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and to praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying:

HYMN "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

Refrain:

All glory, laud and honor To thee redeemer king, To whom the lips of children Made sweet hosannas ring.

Thou art the king of Israel Thou David's royal son, Who in the Lord's name comest, The King and blessed one. Refrain.

The company of angels Are praising thee on high, Creation and all mortals In chorus make reply.

Refrain.

The multitude of pilgrims With palms before thee went; Our praise and prayer and anthems Before thee we present.

Refrain.

NARRATOR: And some of the Pharisees in the multitude cried to him,

PHARISEES: "Teacher, rebuke your disciples! They're calling you the Christ. Tell them to shut up!"

NARRATOR: He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent the very stones themselves would cry out."

To thee before thy passion They sang their hymns of praise; To thee we too repeat them And melodies we raise.

Refrain.

Thou didst accept their praises; Accept the prayers we bring, Who in all good delightest, Thou good and gracious King.

Refrain.

NARRATOR: And when he drew near and saw the city he wept over it, saying,

JESUS: "Would that even today you knew the things that make for peace! But now they are hid from your eyes. O Jerusalem! The days shall come upon you, when your

enemies will cast up a bank about you and surround you, and hem you in on every side, and dash you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave one stone upon another in you; because you did not know the time of your visitation."

2. The Preparation and the Eating of the Last Supper

- NARRATOR: Now, the feast of Unleavened Bread drew near, which is called the Passover. And the Temple Priests were seeking how to put Jesus to death; for they feared the people.
- JUDAS : Then Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot, who was of the number of the twelve; he went away and conferred with the temple priests and officers how he might betray him to them. And they were glad, and engaged to give him money. So he agreed, and sought an opportunity to betray him to them in the absence of the multitude.
- NARRATOR: Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying,
- JESUS: "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it."

PEOPLE: They said to Him, "But where, Lord? Where will you have us prepare it, and what are we to do?"

NARRATOR: He said to them,

- JESUS: "Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him into the house which he enters, and tell the householder, 'The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room, where I am to eat the Passover with my disciples?' And he will show you a large upper room furnished; there make ready."
- NARRATOR: And they went and found it as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover.

- NARRATOR: And when the hour came, he sat at table, and the apostles with him. And he said to them,
- JESUS: "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I shall not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God."
- NARRATOR: And he took the cup, and when he had given thanks he said,
- JESUS: "Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I shall not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."
- NARRATOR: And he took bread and when he had given thanks he broke it and gave it to them, saying,
- JESUS: "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."
- NARRATOR: And likewise the cup after supper, saying,
- JESUS: "This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. But behold the hand of him who betrays me is with me on the table. For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined: but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!"
- PEOPLE: And they began to question, "Who, Lord? Who is to betray you? Is it I? Is it I?"

NARRATOR: He answered,

JESUS: "He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. Oh, it would have been better for that man if he had not been born."

JUDAS: Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Is it I, Master?"

NARRATOR: Jesus said to him,

JESUS: "You have said so."

- PETER: Simon Peter was indignant. "But not I!" he said. And he declared, "Though they all fall away from you, I will never leave you."
- JESUS: "Peter, truly I say to you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times."
- PETER: Peter said to him, "Even if I must die with you, I will never deny you!"

PEOPLE: And so said all of the disciples, over and over again.

3. The Agony in the Garden

PEOPLE: (SINGING)

Go to dark Gethsemane, All who feel the tempter's power; Your redeemer's conflicts see, Watch with him one bitter hour; Turn not from his griefs away, Learn of Jesus Christ to pray.

NARRATOR: And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. And when he came to the place he said to them,

JESUS: "Pray that you may not enter into temptation."

PEOPLE: Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us, deliver us.

- NARRATOR: And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed,
- JESUS: "Father, if thou art willing, remove this cup from me; nevertheless, not my will, but thine be done."

PEOPLE: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name. Thy kingdom come: Thy will be done. Thy will be done. Thy will be done--

NARRATOR: And when he rose from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping for sorrow, and he said to them,

JESUS: "Why do you sleep? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation."

PEOPLE: Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, even the evil within ourselves.

JUDAS: While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him.

NARRATOR: But Jesus said to him,

JESUS: "Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?"

JUDAS: Judas said, "Hail, Master."

PEOPLE: When the disciples saw what would follow, they said, "Lord, shall we strike with the sword?"

PETER: And one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear.

NARRATOR: But Jesus said,

JESUS: "No more of this!"

NARRATOR: And he touched his ear and healed him.

PEOPLE: Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

NARRATOR: Jesus said to those who had come out against him,

JESUS: "When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour and the power of darkness." NARRATOR: Then they seized him –

4. The Judgment

PEOPLE: (SINGING)

Follow to the judgment hall, View the Lord of life arraigned; Oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh the pangs his soul sustained! Shun not suffering, shame or loss; Learn from him to bear the cross.

NARRATOR: Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him to the High Priest's house.

PETER: Peter followed at a distance; and when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them.

WOMEN IN CHOIR: Then a maid, seeing him sit in the light, said, "this man also was with him."

PETER: But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him."

MEN IN CHOIR: Then a man, seeing him sit in the light, said, "you also are one of them."

PETER: But Peter said, "Man, I am not."

NARRATOR: An hour later another insisted, saying,

EVERYONE IN CHOIR: "Certainly this man also was with him: for he is a Galilean."

PETER: But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are saying!"

- NARRATOR: And immediately, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter.
- PETER: And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." And he went out and he wept bitterly.
- NARRATOR: Now the men who were holding Jesus mocked him and beat him; they blindfolded him and demanded:

PEOPLE: "Prophesy! Who is it that struck you?"

NARRATOR: And they spoke many other words against him, reviling him. When the day came, the assembly of the elders of the people gathered together and led him to their council;

PEOPLE: And they said, "If you are the Christ, tell us."

NARRATOR: But he said to them,

JESUS: "If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I ask you now, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God -"

PEOPLE: And they said, "Are you the son of God, then?"

NARRATOR: And he said to them,

JESUS: "You say that I am."

PEOPLE: And they said, "Blasphemy! What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips. Blasphemy! Oh, Blasphemy!"

5. Dawn Friday: Jesus Before Pilate

NARRATOR: Then the whole company of them arose, and brought him before Pontius Pilate.

PEOPLE: And they began to curse him, saying, "We found this man perverting our nation, and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ the King!"

PILATE: And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

NARRATOR: And he answered him, "You have said so."

PILATE: And Pilate said to the Chief Priests and the multitudes, "I find no crime in this man."

PEOPLE: But they were urgent, saying, "He stirs up the people, teaching throughout Galilee even to this place."

PILATE: And when Pilate heard that he was a Galilean, of Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod,

- NARRATOR: Where he was vehemently accused, and treated with contempt and mocked, and arrayed in gorgeous purple, and then sent back again.
- PILATE: Pilate said to the rulers of the people, "You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and after examining him, behold, I did not find him guilty of any of the charges against him. Behold, nothing deserving death has been done by him. I will therefore chastise him and release him -- "

PEOPLE: But they all cried out together, "Away with this man! Away! Away! Release to us Barabbas—"

NARRATOR: Barabbas! -- a man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and for murder –

PILATE: Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus -

PEOPLE: But they shouted out, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!"

PILATE: "Why? What evil has he done? I've found no crime in him deserving death. I'll chastise him. I'll release him -- "

PEOPLE: But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified.

NARRATOR: And their voices prevailed.

PILATE: So Pilate gave sentence that their demand should be granted. He released the man who had been jailed for murder. But Jesus he delivered up to their will.

6. Friday Morning: Crucifixion

PEOPLE: (SINGING)

Calvary's mournful mountain climb; There adoring at his feet, Mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete. "It is finished!" Hear Him cry; Learn from Jesus Christ to die.

NARRATOR: But Jesus he delivered over to their will.

- ALL <u>MEN</u>: And as they led Him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus.
- ALL <u>WOMEN</u>: And there followed Him a great multitude of women who bewailed and lamented Him--

NARRATOR: But Jesus turning to them said,

JESUS: "Daughter of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never gave suck!' For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it dries!"

SOLO: "Were You There?"

CRIMINALS: Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place which is called the Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals,

REPENTANT CRIMINAL: one on the right

UNREPENTANT CRIMINAL: and one on the left.

SOLO: "Were You There?"

NARRATOR: And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do."

ALL WOMEN: Forgive us our trespasses.

ALL MEN: And they cast lots to divide His garments.

ALL <u>WOMEN</u>: Forgive us our trespasses.

ALL <u>MEN</u>: And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at Him, saying, "He saved others: let Him save Himself, if He is the Christ of God!"

ALL <u>WOMEN</u>: Forgive us our trespasses.

ALL MEN: The soldiers also mocked Him, coming up and offering Him vinegar.

ALL WOMEN: There was an inscription over Him: "This is the King of the Jews."

ALL MEN: Forgive us our trespasses. Forgive us, o Lord, our trespasses!"

- UNREPENANT CRIMINAL: One of the criminals who were hanged with him railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!"
- REPENTANT CRIMINAL: But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence, and we justly? But this man has done nothing wrong." And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

PEOPLE: Forgive us our trespasses, deliver us from evil. Thine is the kingdom--

NARRATOR: And Jesus said to him -

PEOPLE: And the power--

JESUS: "Truly, truly, I say to you -"

PEOPLE: And the glory--

JESUS: "Today you will be with me in Paradise."

PEOPLE: Forever and ever. Amen!

SOLO: "Were You There?"

NARRATOR: It was now about the sixth hour - and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from the top to the bottom . . . Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said,

JESUS: "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit!"

NARRATOR: And having said this, he breathed his last. And all the multitudes who had assembled to see the sight,

PEOPLE: When they saw what had taken place, they returned home beating their breasts.

ALL <u>WOMEN</u>: And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed Him from Galilee stood at a distance and saw these things--

7. Late Friday Afternoon: Burial

SOLO: "Were You There?"

JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA: Now there was a man named Joseph from the town of Arimathea, a righteous man, one looking for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud, and laid him in a rock-hewn tomb, where no one had ever yet been laid.

NARRATOR: It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning.

ALL <u>WOMEN</u>: The women who had come with Him from Galilee followed, and saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments--

NARRATOR: On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

Silence is kept for meditation.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Rock of Ages

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me



Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740–1778 Music: TOPLADY, Thomas Hastings, 1784–1872

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- P: Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.

PEACE

- P: The Peace of Christ be with you always.
- C: And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

MEAL

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Lift up you hearts.
- C: We lift them to the Lord.
- P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, Our God.
- C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN(S)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

See Hymn Board

BENEDICTION

(No Sending Hymn)

DISMISSAL

The congregation leaves the church in silence

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APRIL 14, 2019 PALM/PASSION SUNDAY



Jesus forgives us from the cross.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 19:28-40	Blessed is the king who comes
Monday	Isaiah 50:4-9a	God's servant must suffer
Tuesday	Luke 22:14–23:56	The Last Supper and crucifixion
Wednesday	Philippians 2:5-11	Christ shows us true humility
Thursday	John 13:1-17, 31b-35	Jesus washes the disciples' feet
Friday	John 18:1–1:42	The suffering and death of Jesus
Saturday	Psalm 31:1-16	A prayer for protection
Sunday	John 20:1-18	The resurrection of Jesus

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." Luke 23:34a (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God of mercy, thank you for entering our experience of weakness and sin and for sending us out into the world with courage and grace to do your will in the world. Through Christ our Lord, amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

We thank your for this food, a sign of your steadfast love that shines upon us. Amen. (Psalm 31:16)

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord be gracious to you in your distress and may the face of God shine on you with steadfast love. (Psalm 31:9 and 16)



APRIL 14, 2019

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive



CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What would you say is one of your strengths? one of your weaknesses?
- Peter saw himself as loyal to Jesus no matter what, but he was wrong. What is it like to learn something disappointing about yourself?
- Jesus does not let human frailty stop him from forgiving and strengthening his followers. How does this help you live out your life each day?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 23:1-49

The crucifixion of Jesus tells us a lot about our human tendencies and about our God who defeats human frailty with forgiveness. The crowds praise Jesus' entry into Jerusalem then within a week say, "Crucify him" (v.21). Peter promises to be faithful to Jesus but denies him three times. The people give false witness about Jesus to make him look bad in front of Pilate (v. 2). The leaders, the crowd, and the soldiers mock Jesus, but their words bear the truth of who he really is. Two criminals are killed along with Jesus. One ridicules Jesus while the other seeks his tender care (vv. 40-43). Sinful self-centeredness blinds us to Jesus and his saving grace. In Christ, God is willing to enter our world and participate in vulnerability, injustices, suffering, and death. It shows the way of Jesus' cross as the way of true peace, true life, and true hope. How does the church today reflect the way of the cross and the power of God?

Pray: Merciful Lord and Savior, you who endured our lies, our fears, and our sin, we praise you for enduring it all from the cross to bring your hope and salvation to us all. Amen.

SERVICE

Psalm 31 is filled with feelings of pain and loneliness. Homeless people experience pain and loneliness daily. There are many reasons a person becomes homeless. It may be losing a job, illness, drug abuse, domestic abuse, etc. Take time to learn more about the homeless and find an organization near you that helps the homeless. How can you support this organization?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Palm Sunday is the first day of Holy Week. It begins with Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. As Jesus entered Jerusalem the people waved palm branches in the air saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven" (Luke 19:39). It is a tradition for Christians all around the world to receive palm branches during worship on Palm Sunday. Light a candle and read Luke 19:28-40 or use a children's storybook Bible. If you have palms, wave or process with the palms in your home. As you do so, say: **Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!**

