Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham

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April 2, 2023 Palm / Passion Sunday

Introduction to Worship

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

You can find the live stream at the following locations:

www.facebook.com/durhamlutheran www.youtube.com/@DurhamLutheran

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Prelude

Gathering

P: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD

C: Hosanna in the Highest

Processional Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11

¹When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying 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. ³If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." ⁴This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

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

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The 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!"

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

Blessings of Palms

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Sovereign God, you have established your rule in the human heart through the servanthood of Jesus Christ. By your Spirit, keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues confess Jesus as Lord and with their lives praise him as Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



Conclusion to Procession

P: Blessed is the one wo comes in the name of the LORD

C: Hosanna in the Highest

Opening Hymn

(Stand if you are able)

All Glory, Laud, and Honor



Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Music: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN, Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

C: Amen.

P: Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy. Holy God,

C: we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life.

Amen.

P: Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, + forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power.

C: Amen.



Kyrie



Prayer of the Day

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

C: Amen

(Please be Seated)

First Reading-Isaiah 50: 4-9a

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

L: A reading from Isaiah.

⁴The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens - wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward.

⁶I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

⁷The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together.

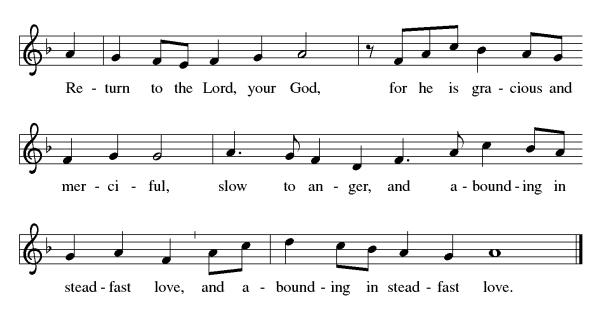
Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.

^{9a}It is the Lord GoD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: THANKS BE TO GOD.

Gospel Acclamation



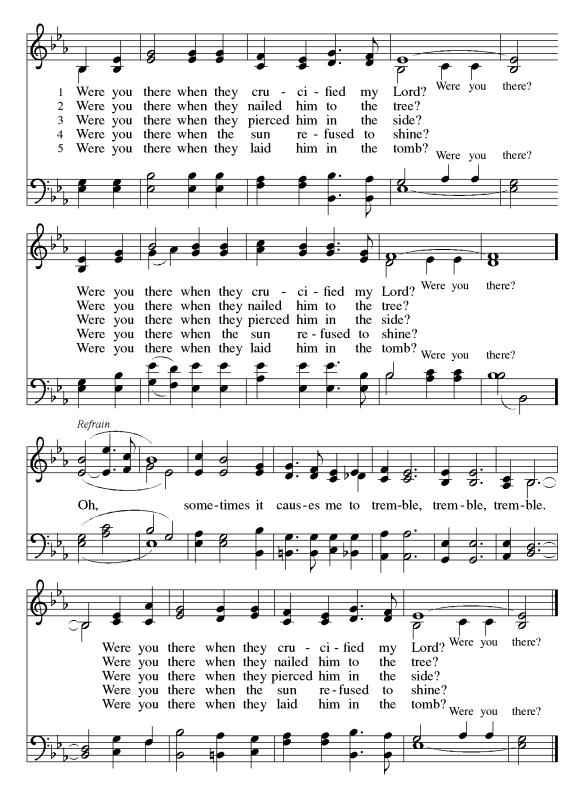
The Passion of our Lord - Matthew 26:1 - 27:66

(Please see the separate "From Psalms to Passion" handout)

P: ...This is the Gospel of the Lord

C: GLORY TO YOU, O LORD. Children's Sermon / Sermon

Were You There



Text: African American spiritual Music: WERE YOU THERE, African American spiritual Arr. © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- P: Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation A brief silence.
- P: Save your church, O God. Enable us to boldly confess in every time and place that Jesus Christ is Lord. With the humility of a servant, equip congregations, synods, and other ministry settings to proclaim your extravagant love for all. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

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

C: receive our prayer.

P: Save the peoples of the earth, O God. Restore dignity to those who are scorned and persecuted for their religious beliefs or political activism, and deliver them from the hand of their enemies. Bring peace to places where conflict runs deep (especially). Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Save those who cry to you in any need, O God. Watch over all who are incarcerated or awaiting trial, and stand with those who are unjustly accused. Be present with those feeling isolated, lonely, or fearful (especially). Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Save us in your love, O God. Guide the work of church musicians, pastors, choirs, readers, deacons, technicians, acolytes, and all who assist in worship. Sustain them in their leadership as they accompany congregations through this Holy Week. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

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

C: receive our prayer.

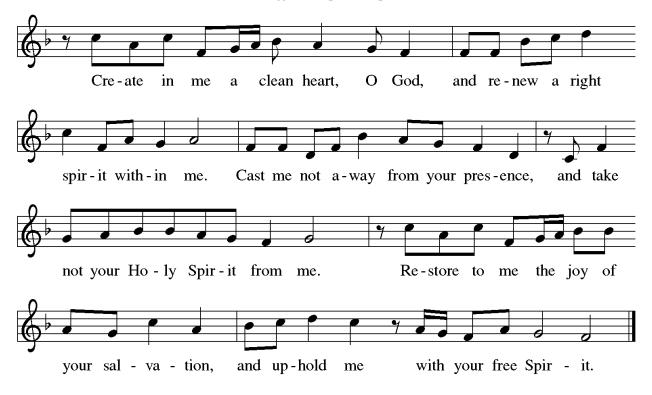
P: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

Offertory

Create in Me a Clean Heart Offering Song



Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Music © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Offering Prayer

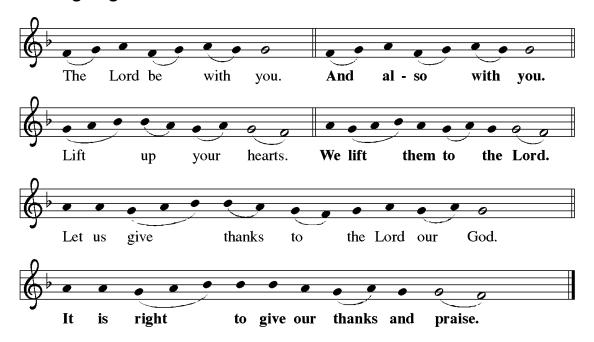
P: Let us pray. God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.

C: Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

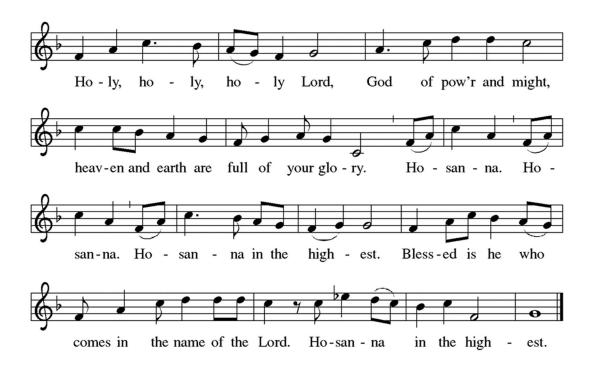


The Great Thanksgiving



Preface (spoken by Pastor)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Eucharistic Prayer (said by Pastor)

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you, through whom you created all things, and in whom you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary. He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way 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.

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we take this bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ; through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

Amen.

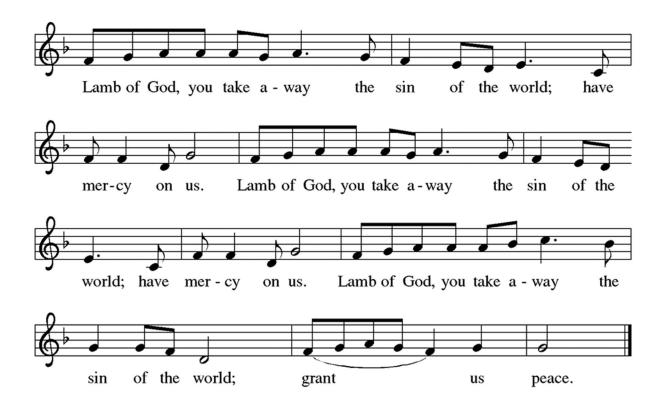
Lord's Prayer

P: Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

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





Hymn during Distribution

Ah, Holy Jesus



Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844–1930, alt. Music: HERZLIEBSTER JESU, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

Table Blessing (spoken by pastor – Congregation remain seated)

Prayer after Communion

P: 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.

Announcements

Sending Blessing

C: Amen.



O Sacred Head, Now Wounded



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

Dismissal.

P: Go in peace. Serve in love.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS BAPTISMS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARY

	BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES	BAPTISMS
1			Hal Taylor
3			Rachel McCallister, Sam Rhine
4			Dave Helfrich
6			Chris Fox, Ben J. Naska
7	Becky Praster		
8			Samantha Mueller

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES						
<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	Activity				
Sunday April 2, 2023	9:30 AM	Adult Bible Study				
Passion Sunday	10:30 AM	Worship				
	5:00-7:30 PM	Confirmation Class @ Durham				
Wednesday, April 5, 2023	10:00 -1:00	Office Hours				
	1:00 PM	Book of Acts bible study @ Hlavaty's				
Thursday, April 6 ,2023	12:00-3:00	Office hours				
@ Durham	12:30	Chat-n-Chew				
	7:00 PM	Maundy Thursday Worship				
Friday, April 7, 2023	7:30 PM	Good Friday Tenebrae				
@ Trinity Pleasant Valley		(Please note time change)				
UPCOMING ACTIVITIES						
Sunday, April 9, 2023	6:30 AM	Sunrise Worship @ Sky Island with Upper				
Easter		Tinicum				
	9:00 AM	Continental Breakfast @ Durham				
	10:30 AM	Easter Worship @ Durham				
Tuesday, April 11, 2023	5:30 PM	Church Council (note schedule change)				
Wednesday, April 12, 2023	10:00 -1:00	Office hours				
	1:00 PM	Book of Acts bible study @ Hlavaty's				

Thursday, April 13, 2023	12:00-3:00	NO Pastor's office hours or Chat-n-Chew. , in
		case of emergency, call the church office
	7:00 PM	Palisades Area Lutheran Ministries (PALM)
Sunday April 16, 2023	10:30 AM	Second Sunday of Easter
Tuesday, April 18, 2023	7:30 PM	Finance Committee meeting
Wednesday, April 19, 2023	10:00 AM-	NO Pastor's office hours, in case of emergency,
	1:00 PM	call the church office
Thursday, April 20, 2023	12:00AM-	NO Pastor's office hours or Chat-n-Chew., in
	3:00PM	case of emergency, call the church office
Friday, April 21, 2023	10:00AM	WELCA - "It is More Blessed to Give than
		Receive"

Please lift up in prayer the following:



For Healing of those in our Congregation:

Barbara Altemus; Michael Altemus; Joanne & David Antoni; Frank Erceg; George Kreitz; Paul McGinn; Cheryl Mesko; Josh, Bethany, Ella, Barbara, & Julia Michl; Barbara Naska; Bonnie Pyne dePortillo; Donnie Pyne; Anne Valent; Ed Xander; and Joanne and Bobby Ziegenfuss.

For Healing of Friends and Family:

Lynn Bailey; Ron & Kathy Ballek; Michael Barats; Anthony Beck; Aiden Benoure; Jason Bigley; Kelly Bordelon; Emma Brown; Melissa Carafa; Deb Carmichael; Stephanie Courtney; Miriam Deal; Rev. Dennis Durasoff; Nancy Edelen; Diane Ellington; Chris Fear; Cindy Gilligan; Fred Foerster; Gerry Foran; Anna Gachev-Friedel; Debbie Gardner; Joann Gary; Candie Gimbar; Penni Griffith; Bill Hunt; Lois James & family; Martine King; Tom MacFarland; Chelsea Marley; Jim McAnally; Sean McNulty; Sue Odor; Lucia Otero; Debra Patten; Jennifer Phelps; Tom Ross; Connie Rugen; Linda Saunders; Lani Schlegel; Debbie Schultz; David Sebring; Alex Sempt; Shawn Stadt; Donna Storm; Russ Trauger; and Henry Wong.

For those who are Homebound:

Cleo & Ken Eck; Norma Fox; Betty Kreitz; Phyllis Lanshe; Jayne Miller; Silas Rodenbach; and Hal Taylor.

For families and friends grieving the loss of:

Wanda Altemose; Ollie Butler; LaDonna Gibbs; Mary Ellen Jonczyk; Cecelia Kukuchka; Robert Newcomb; Lisa Pezzino; Donald Seipt; Anne Valent; Linda Wilson

If you want to add someone to the prayer list or correct or update it, please contact Joan Mammana either by phone (610-258-5717 or 610-417-6553) or by email at: yakkityyak7@gmail.com.

April Outreach



Our Outreach envelopes for April have been designated for the *Care-a-lot Preschool Scholarship Fund*. We are also collecting soup for local food banks. You can sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex to donate an Outreach Basket. You can either buy the supplies or Helen Dungan can shop for you.



Easter Flowers

Easter Flower order forms are due *Today* and available on the table in the Narthex.

Helping in Worship

Preacher	Rev. James Heckman	
Organist/Choir Director	Carolyn Williams	
Acolyte	Leo Grzelkowski	
Altar	Barb Naska and Linda Sauter	
Lector	Linda Sauter	
Greeter(s)	Scott Gaun	
Communion Usher	Lynn Gaun	
Council Counting Team	Becky Praster and Bea Von Watzdorf	
Administration & Technology	Ken Anderson	
Custodian	Dianna Streletz	