

**Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical
Lutheran Church**

250 Woodside Road

Riverside, Illinois 60546

Telephone: (708) 442-5250

Parsonage: (708) 442-0238

Fax: (708) 442-5264

Web page: www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org

Email address: www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org/service

Dennis J. Lauritsen, Pastor

David B. Richards, Parish Musician

Karen Rouleau, Administrative Assistant

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

During the Prayers of Intercession, you are invited to add your own prayer(s) either in speech or in silence as indicated by the line: "Other intercessions may be added here." You may wish to use this insert to write down your prayer(s) which you may then offer aloud during that time. If you wish to have your prayers added to the Prayer of the Church during the coming weeks, please remove and place this card in the offering plate.

Greetings and welcome in the name of the crucified and risen Lord Jesus. We trust that the Holy Spirit has called you to Sts. Peter and Paul Church and pray that your worship experience today will be meaningful for you and strengthen you in faith.

You are invited to sign **the guest register** at the entrance to the sanctuary or fill out **a welcome card** from a pew pocket. Please indicate whether or not you would like to be placed on our mailing list as well as your desire for a visit by the pastor or another parishioner.

Restrooms are located in a room off the entryway to the sanctuary and also across the gym on the west side of the building and on the lower level. Please ask an usher or greeter for directions. **Parents and children** are welcome to make use of the anterooms on the main level at the Woodside entrance.

Interested in membership? We would be delighted to have you join our community of faith in worship and ministry. **Please use a welcome card** from a pew in front of you. Additional information is available from pamphlet displays and tables throughout the facility. Our website may be accessed at the following address: www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org.

In addition to words, music and gestures, the liturgy includes several **periods of silence**. In our noise-filled world, we listen for the Word in the silence of our hearts. Before the liturgy begins, we are called to a time of reflection and centering.

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Adults or children not communing may come forward for a blessing. If you or a member of your family is interested in Baptism, please speak to Pastor Dennis. Join us for conversation following worship in the dining hall on the lower level.

How to use this worship folder: Hymns for the service are in the back two-thirds of *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (red book). In this bulletin: *—indicates those who are able may stand. **Bold parts** are for the participation of all.

PALM SUNDAY
April 5th, 2020 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

Today's liturgy begins with a palm procession, commemorating Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Quickly the tone of the service changes as we meditate upon Jesus' passion and death. Because this story is so central to our faith, we hear an account of the Passion today and John's version on Good Friday. Though Jesus is obedient even unto death on the cross, he is exalted by God. We gather to remember his offering for the life of the world, and to be fed by his life-giving mercy. This Holy Week will culminate in the celebration of the Three Days of Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection.

HOLY COMMUNION

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING FIVE, PAGES 156-164

***GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

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

***PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL**

John 12:12-16

The Processional Gospel according to St. John in the Twelfth Chapter:
Glory to you, O Lord.

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting,

"Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord —
the King of Israel!"

Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written:

"Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion.

Look, your king is coming,
sitting on a donkey's colt!"

His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him... **Praise to you, O Christ.**

***BLESSING OF PALMS**

The congregation may raise their palm branches as the prayer is spoken.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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. **Amen.**

***PROCESSION**

Let us go forth in peace,

in the name of Christ. Amen.

The congregation follows the ministers in procession through the sanctuary.

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

ELW 344

Refrain

**All glory, laud, and honor to you, redeemer, king,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.**

**You are the king of Israel and David's royal Son,
now in the Lord's name coming, our King and Blessed One.**

Refrain

**The company of angels are praising you on high;
creation and all mortals in chorus make reply.**

Refrain

**The multitude of pilgrims with palms before you went.
Our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present.**

Refrain

**To you, before your passion, they sang their hymns of praise.
To you, now high exalted, our melody we raise.**

Refrain

**Their praises you accepted; accept the prayers we bring,
great author of all goodness, O good and gracious king.**

Refrain

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

***INTRODUCTION**

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.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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. **Amen.**



WORD

God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:4–9a

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

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Philippians 2:5-11

Paul quotes from an early Christian hymn that describes Jesus' humble obedience in his incarnation as a human being, even to death, and his exaltation and glory as Lord of all.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The congregation remains seated for the Gospel Acclamation and Dramatic Reading of the Passion Narrative.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW 176

Lenten Acclamation



Let your stead - fast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you prom - ised; we will trust your word.

Text: *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*
Music: Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950
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The congregation is invited to sing the stanzas of the following hymn, "My Song is Love Unknown," as it is introduced throughout the reading.

*HYMN

My Song is Love Unknown

LBW 94

- 1 My song is love unknown,
my Savior's love to me,
love to the loveless shown,
that they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I, that for my sake
my Lord should take frail flesh and die?
My Lord should take frail flesh and die?**
- 2 He came from his blest throne,
salvation to bestow;
but men made strange, and none
the longed-for Christ would know.
But, oh, my friend, my friend indeed,
who at my need his life did spend;
who at my need his life did spend!**
- 3 Sometimes they strew his way
and his sweet praises sing;
resounding all the day
hosannas to their King.
Then "Crucify!" is all their breath,
and for his death they thirst and cry,
and for his death they thirst and cry.**
- 4 Why, what hath my Lord done?
What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run,
he gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these
themselves displease, and 'gainst him rise;
themselves displease, and 'gainst him rise.**

- 5** They rise, and needs will have
my dear Lord made away;
a murderer they save,
the prince of life they slay.
Yet cheerful he to suff'ring goes,
that he his foes from thence might free;
that he his foes from thence might free.
- 6** In life, no house, no home
my Lord on earth might have;
in death, no friendly tomb
but what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heav'n was his home;
but mine the tomb wherein he lay;
but mine the tomb wherein he lay.
- 7** Here might I stay and sing--
no story so divine!
Never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine.
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend!

Text: Samuel Crossman, 1624-1683, alt.



CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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 INTERCESSION

Renewed in the promises of baptism, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

We pray for the church. Bless all who call upon your name. Unite your church in bearing witness to the gospel. Pour your love into our hearts, and inspire us to pour out our lives in service to your world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the nations. For peace among all, especially those who honor Jerusalem as holy ground. For all who hold positions of authority and power. For all who suffer oppression, and for those who serve in the armed forces. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those in need. For those who have suffered betrayal. For those who live in poverty. For those who have no voice or power. For the forsaken and forgotten. For those who are in crisis, and for those who are ill, especially... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this assembly. For those preparing for baptism or confirmation. For all who lead us in worship. For those who serve our community through food pantries, homeless shelters, and clothing banks. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

With thanksgiving, we remember all who have been obedient to your will and all who have died in faith, especially... Bring us with them into your glory, to dwell with you in life eternal. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting in your covenant of mercy, O God, we lift our prayers to you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

***PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

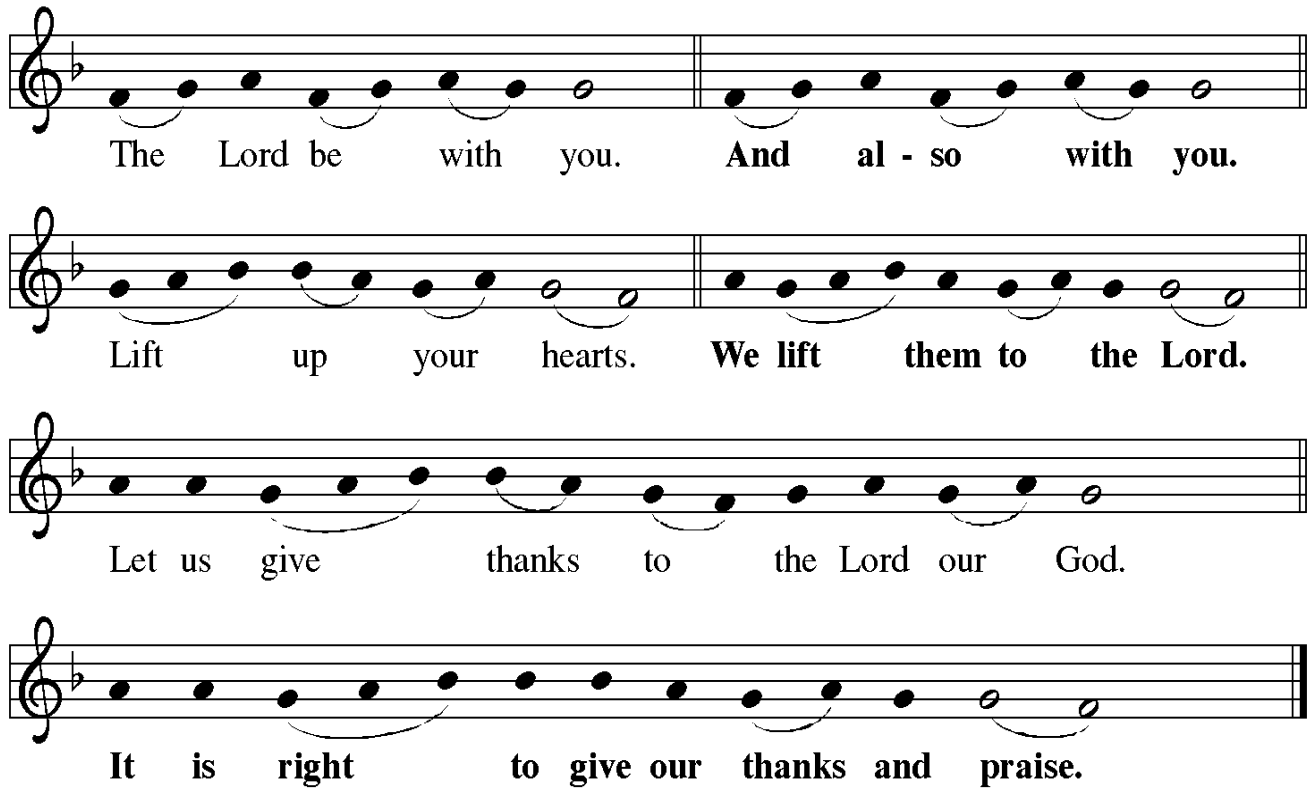
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

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. Amen.

*DIALOGUE



*PREFACE

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:



*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:
Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.
You have filled all creation with light and life;
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age:
the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land,
the words of the prophets;
and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son,
who proclaimed the good news in word and deed
and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.


Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup
we remember the life our Lord offered for us.
And, believing the witness of his resurrection,
we await his coming in power
to share with us the great and promised feast.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,
that we who share in Christ's body and blood
may live to the praise of your glory
and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.
Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants
of every time and every place,
and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest
until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

**Through him, with him, in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father,
now and forever. Amen.**

*LORD'S PRAYER



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Return to the Lord with all your heart. Receive bread for the journey and drink for the desert.

You are welcome, if you choose, to bring with you to Communion your worship books (ELWs) so that you may continue to join in singing the hymns during the distribution. If you are not able to receive the wine, be assured that you commune fully by receiving the bread alone.

COMMUNION HYMNS

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.

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

ELW 324

Jesus, Remember Me

ELW 616

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Compassionate God,
you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

*BENEDICTION

May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth,
and claimed us as children of the light,
strengthen you on your journey into life renewed.
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor
and give you + peace. **Amen.**

*SENDING HYMN

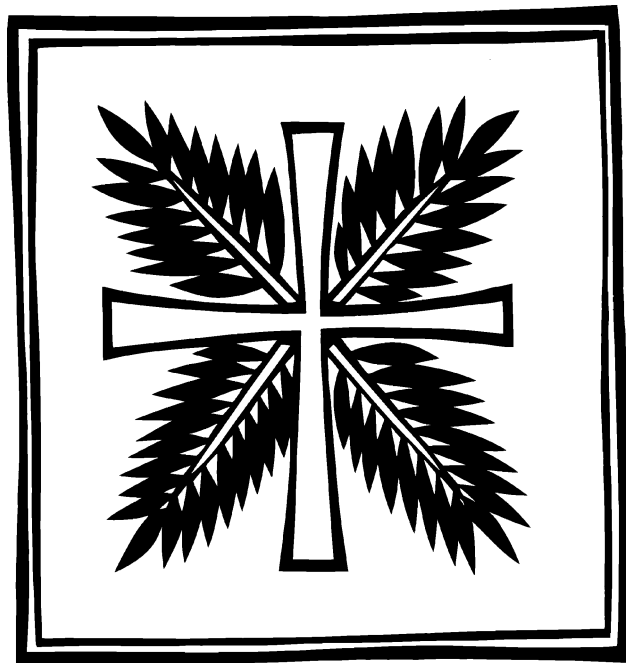
Ride On, Ride On in Majesty

ELW 346

*DISMISSAL

Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



HUMILITY

The servanthood of a teacher in Isaiah, the outcast in the psalm, those who bow down in Philippians: today's readings teach humility. On this day we move from Christ's triumphant ride on a humble donkey to the humiliation of the cross. The humility of the characters in the passion story is in question: Judas, Pilate, the Twelve, chief priests and elders, Barabbas, the crowd, the soldiers, two bandits. Among other things, their lack of humility is what brings about the passion of Christ. There is only one truly humble person in this story: Jesus the Christ. The humble Jesus cries out from the cross to ask God why he has been forsaken.

Only in the stories of the resurrection do other humble characters appear: the centurion, the women, Joseph of Arimathea. A careful look at the complexity of humility in the palm and passion stories could set up a reflective theme carried through to Easter. Who in each story do we regard as humble? Why? How does our humility compare? Are there characters who seem to gain or lose humility in the course of the story from the triumphant entry to the resurrection? A deep and meaningful understanding of humility is a worthy and lasting gift to take away from the season of Lent and the celebration of Easter.

Joseph of Arimathea is a particularly good character on which to base an understanding of humility. A close look at all references to him in the Gospels, and a bit of creative narrative, create an image of a truly humble believer. He is referenced in both canonical and apocryphal texts. His devotion represents deep humility that leads to the very finest of good works as he cares for the body of Jesus.



CRY BLESSÉD (Luke 19:28-40; John 12:12-16)

*Now comes the giver of peace to the troubled,
now comes the bringer of hope to the weak;
now comes the healer with strength for the hurting;
rides on a donkey the king that we seek.*

*Now comes the hen to the den of the foxes,
now come the gentle wings open and wide
to comfort the fearful, gather the lost ones;
wings pierced with nails, a wound in the side.*

*Now comes the Word who is good news among us,
now comes the Shepherd who lays down his life;
behold him, the Lamb of God's saving mercy;
the Light against whom the darkness will rise.*

*Blesséd the One who brings God's love and justice;
blesséd the One who calls us to the same;
blesséd the One who can break death's dominion;
blesséd the One who has come in God's name.*

*Lift high the branches, the palm leaves of praising;
cover with garments of praise the hard ground;
soon comes betrayal, too soon the injustice;
too soon the grief and forgotten the song.*

*Cry "blesséd!" the One who goes through the trial,
cry "blesséd!" the One who suffers the pain;
cry "blesséd!" the One who bleeds God's forgiveness.
Cry "blesséd!" the One who's with us in God's name.*

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