



**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](http://www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org)

**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. 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.*

---

---

---

PALM SUNDAY  
April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

*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.*

---

**HOLY COMMUNION**  
***EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP***

**\*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.**

**\*ENTRANCE GOSPEL**

John 12:12-16

The Entrance 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**

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

*The image of the servant of God is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### SECOND READING

Philippians 2:5-11

*Christ did not act to attain status and glory but was obedient to God even to the point of death. Following Christ's example, we do not seek personal status or glory but care for others as God cared for us in Christ's death.*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The congregation remains seated for the presentation of the Passion Reading.*

### PASSION READING OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

David H. Kehret

*Based upon the Gospel Accounts of Matthew, Mark and Luke.*

*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**

God has made us his people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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 musicians, sacristans, ushers, and 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.**

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus*

Bruhn

**MEAL**

---

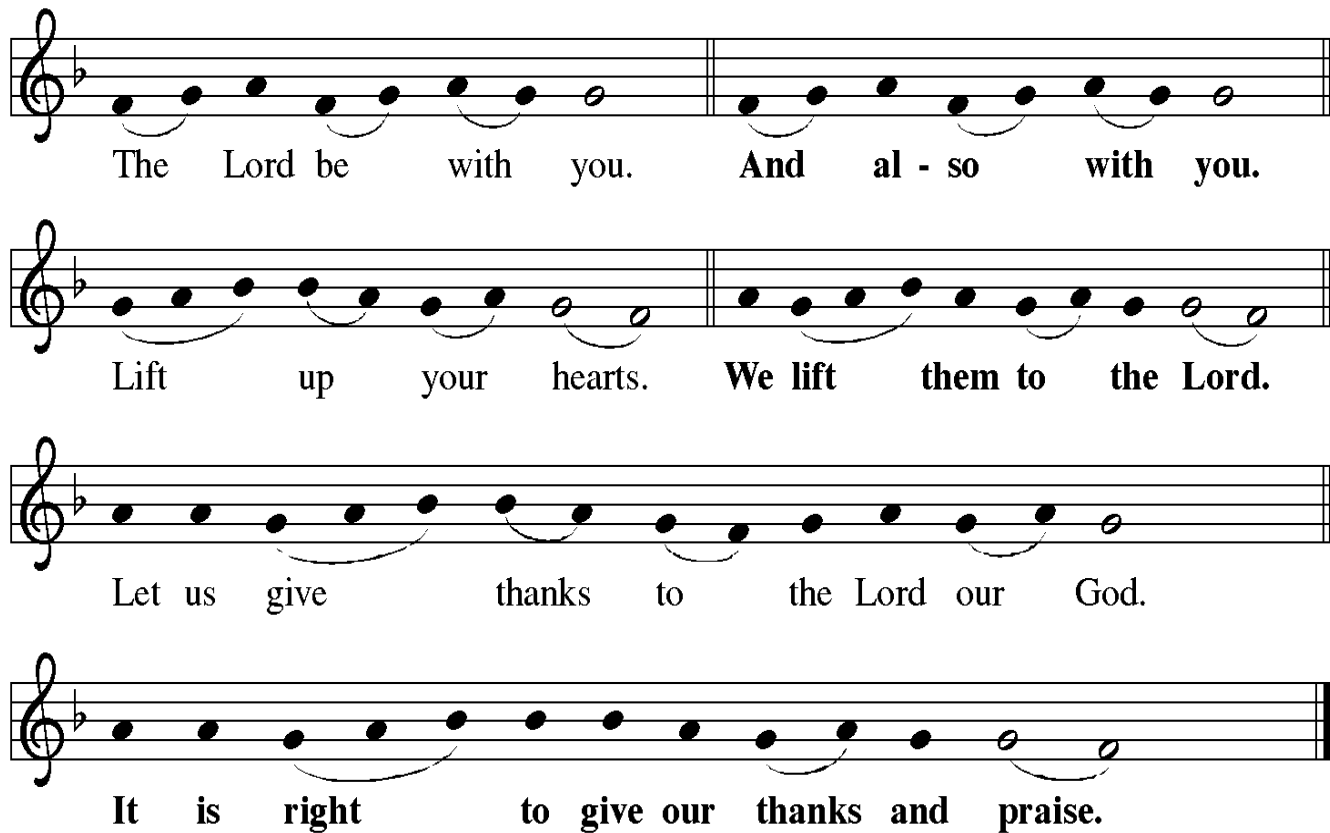
*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**\*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



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

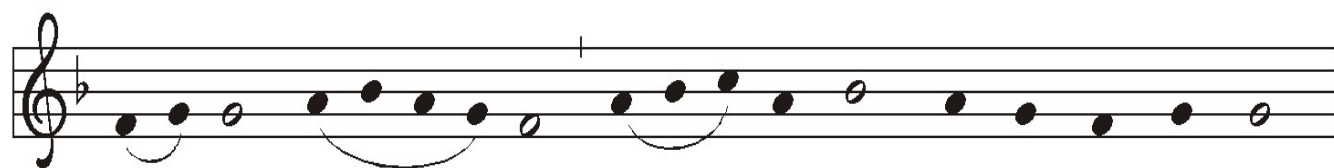
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## \*PREFACE FOR THE PASSION

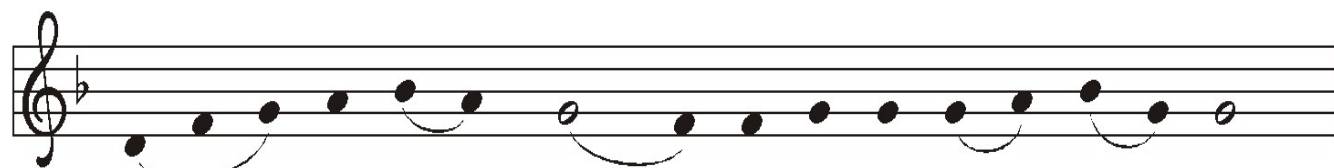
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; whose suffering and death gave salvation to all. You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into 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



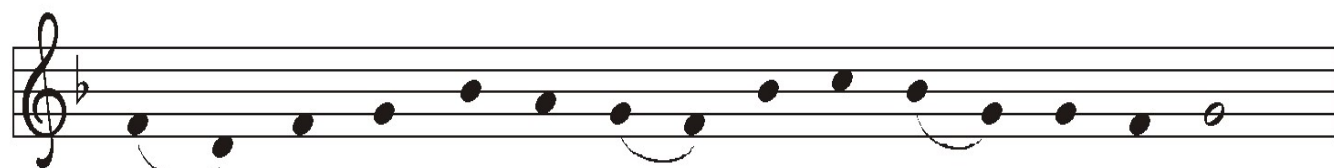
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



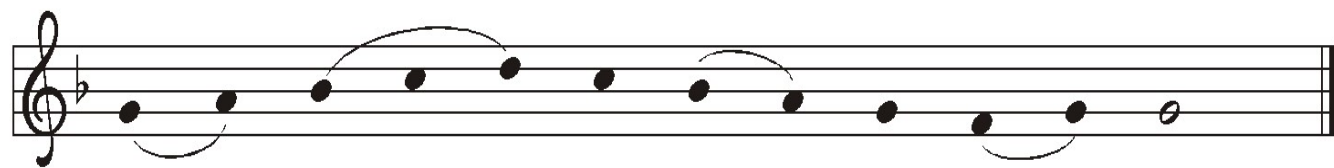
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.



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

Almighty God, merciful Father:  
You are indeed holy,  
enthroned on the praises of your people.

With Israel we bring our praises before you,  
as we behold the wonder of your goodness  
and your redemptive love for us.

In that love you sent your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who was acclaimed King and Lord  
as he entered Jerusalem in triumph.

By that same love,  
he was handed over by an act of betrayal and consigned to death,  
thereby taking every human struggle  
and the suffering of every age to the cross.  
By his holy wounds we have been healed.

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.

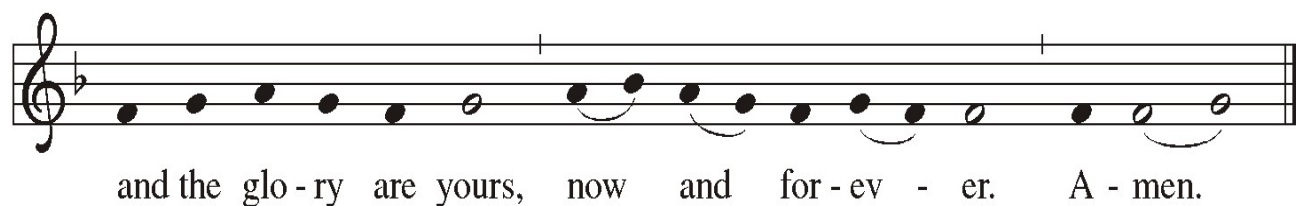
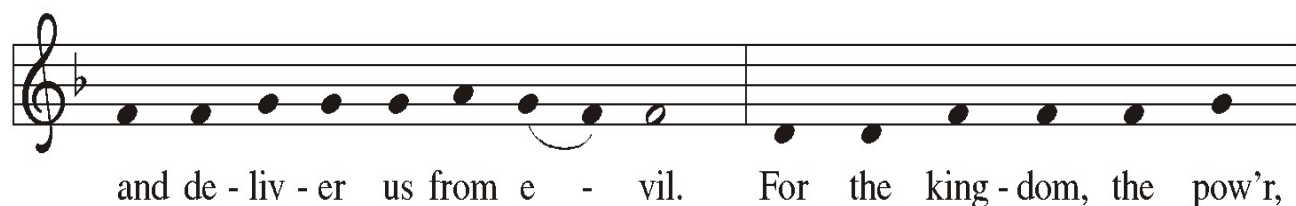
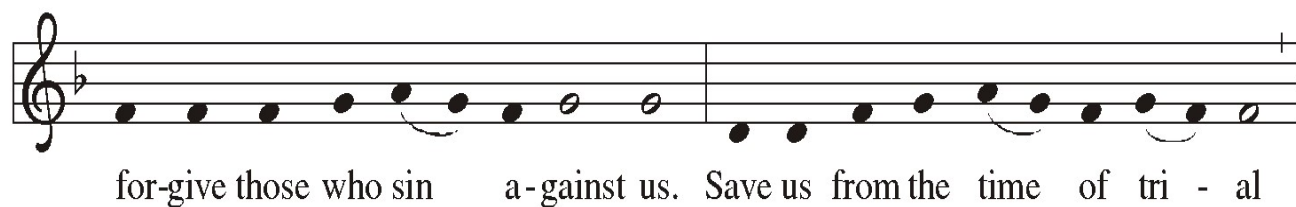
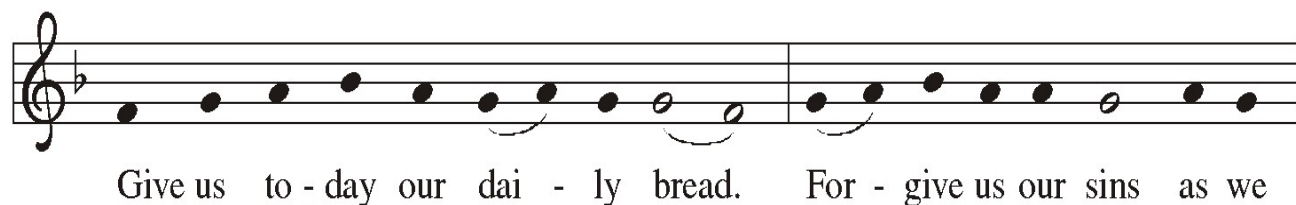
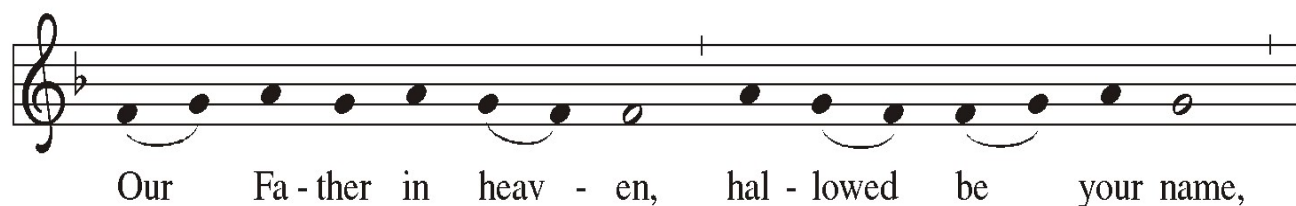
For as often as we eat of this bread and drink of this cup,  
**We proclaim our Lord's death until he comes.**

We rejoice, Almighty Father,  
in our Lord's life and holy passion,  
his resurrection and his ascent into glory;  
and we trust in his promise to come again,  
when we, with all your people,  
shall sing our hosannas to him at our joyful resurrection.  
**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send now, O God,  
your holy and life giving Spirit upon us  
and upon this bread of beaven  
and this cup of blessing,  
that in receiving Christ's most precious body and blood  
we may be united in the forgiveness of sins  
and in that final hope of glory and praise with your Son.  
**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Gather the Church from every time and every place  
into the everlasting peace and freedom won by Christ, as we acclaim:  
**Through him, with him, and in him,**  
**in the unity of the Holy Spirit,**  
**all honor and glory is yours,**  
**Almighty Father, now and forever. Amen**

**\*LORD'S PRAYER**



## \*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

## DISTRIBUTION

## \*BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

## \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Merciful and 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.*

## \*BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen**

## \*SENDING HYMN

*Christ, the Life of All the Living*

ELW 339

## \*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

## SERVING IN THE LITURGY

PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Dennis Lauritsen, pastor

ASSISTING MINISTER

Charles Matthies

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

SERVICE LEADER

Brandon Michaels

LECTOR

Aidan Altavilla

CRUCIFER

GREETERS

Walter and Judith Cudecki

LIVE STREAM

Paul Watkiss

USHER

Walter Cudecki

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTANS

Edward and Joanne Sefara



## **IN THE PRAYERS**

*Members of the Congregation:* Heather Greer, Ann Head, Shirley Kostelny, Luddy Kovalsky, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Mary Sasuta, Edward Sefara and Gregg Valek.

*Friends and Relatives of the Congregation:* Betty Bartel, Betty Cillo Kurt Behrendt, Wally Bisping, Dan Costello, Eric Dennison, Becky Dice, Barbara Dykes, Melissa Foe, Denise Fricano, Walid Jabbar, Drew Janos, Ron Kelly, Nicole Kisiel, Jeff Kubik, Lenyce Lawrenson, Darlene Loughlin, Artem Molokivna, Donald Neal, Gail Purcell, Tim Richard, Mary Lee Rosland, Sandy Rossella, Peter Spilotro, Kathy Stenson, Janie Tarbox, Tom Thoreson, Marta Vrtichova and Tom Zajac.

## THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who brought food to share and helped organize the Palm Sunday “Coffee and...” following the liturgy today. Please join us for this festive pre-Easter gathering in the dining hall located on the lower level.

### **Holy Week 2025** **April 13<sup>th</sup>—April 20<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Maundy Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>**

7:15 p.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion,  
Individual Absolution,  
and Foot-Washing

#### **Good Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>**

7:15 p.m. Liturgy of the Word,  
Passion Narrative according to St. John,  
and Veneration of the Cross

#### **Easter Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup>**

10:15 a.m. Festival Liturgy of Holy Communion  
with Handbells, Choirs and Trumpet

### **Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering** **April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

<i>Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2025:</i>	\$1,962.00
<i>Offering Received for the Above Categories:</i>	\$ 815.00
<i>Shortage:</i>	\$1,147.00

Donations are welcome via Zelle at [donations@stspeterandpaulriverside.org](mailto:donations@stspeterandpaulriverside.org) .



## UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

*Olavus Petri, priest, died 1552; Laurentius Petri, Bishop of Uppsala, died 1573;  
renewers of the church*

*Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup>*

These two brothers studied with Luther at the University of Wittenberg and then returned to their native Sweden to introduce the Lutheran reforms. Olavus published a catechism and hymnal; Laurentius was a professor who defended the office of bishop and later became one.

