



Passion Sunday

April 13, 2025; 9 a.m.



St John's
Lutheran Church

(An usher rings the church bell at 8:55 a.m.)

Prelude

(Acolytes light the candles)

Linda Ranney

Gathering Rite *(please stand and face procession)*

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

Hosanna in the highest!

Processional Gospel: Luke 19:28-40

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 19th Chapter.

²⁸ After he had said this, [Jesus] went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

²⁹ When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰ 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. ³¹ If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" ³² So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴ They said, "The Lord needs it." ³⁵ Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ 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, ³⁸ saying,

"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!"

³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." ⁴⁰ He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Prayer

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. We commemorate this day that 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. 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.**

Procession of the Palms

Ride On, Jesus, Ride! African American Spiritual, harmonization by Barbara Jackson Martin, additional text by Marty Haugen; arr. Marty Haugen

Refrain: *(assembly joins at direction of Cantor)*

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the refrain. The first staff is in 2/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: "Ride on, Je - sus, ride, ride on, Je - sus, ride,". The second staff continues the melody with quarter and eighth notes, ending with a double bar line. The lyrics are: "ride on, Je-sus, con-qu'ring king, ride on, Je-sus, ride."

Musical Offering *(please sit)*

Jesus Loves Me by Anna Bartlett Warner; Sunday School Choir

Prayer of the Day

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.

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.

Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

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.

⁹It 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.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation *(please stand)*

ELW 358; *Great God, Your Love Has Called Us* vs. 1

1 Great God, your love has called us here
as we, by love, for love were made.
Your living likeness still we bear,
though marred, dishonored, disobeyed.
We come, with all our heart and mind
your call to hear, your love to find.

The Passion of Our Lord according to Luke

(assembly reads text in bold)

The Passion of Our Lord according to St. Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

(assembly is invited to sit)

The Plot Against Jesus

The time was near for the Festival of Unleavened Bread, which is called the Passover. The chief priests and the teachers of the Law were afraid of the people, and so they were trying to find a way of putting Jesus to death secretly. Then Satan entered into Judas, called Iscariot, who was one of the twelve disciples. So Judas went off and spoke with the chief priests and the officers of the Temple guard about how he could betray Jesus to them. They were pleased and offered to pay him money. Judas agreed to it and started looking for a good chance to hand Jesus over to them without the people knowing about it.

The Last Supper

The day came during the Festival of Unleavened Bread when the lambs for the Passover meal were to be killed. Jesus sent Peter and John with these instructions:

"Go and get the Passover meal ready for us to eat."

They asked, "Where do you want us to get it ready?" Jesus answered,

"As you go into the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him into the house that he enters, and say to the owner of the house: 'The teacher asks, 'Where is the room where my disciples and I will eat the Passover meal?' "

Peter and John went off and found everything just as Jesus had told them, and they prepared the Passover meal. When the time came, Jesus took his place at the table with the apostles. He said,

"I have wanted so much to eat this Passover meal with you before I suffer! For I tell you, I will never eat it again until it is given its full meaning in the Kingdom of God."

Then Jesus took a cup, gave thanks to God, and said,

"Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."

Then Jesus took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying,

"This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

After supper he did the same with the cup, saying,

"This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Invitation to the Table

Communion Hymn

ELW #494; For the Bread Which You Have Broken vs. 1-4

- 1 For the bread which you have broken,
for the wine which you have poured,
for the words which you have spoken,
now we give you thanks, O Lord.

- 2 By this promise that you love us,
by your gift of peace restored,
by your call to heav'n above us,
hallow all our lives, O Lord.

- 3 With the saints who now adore you,
seated at the heav'nly board,
may the church still waiting for you

keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.

- 4 In your service, Lord, defend us;
in our hearts keep watch and ward;
in the world to which you send us
let your kingdom come, O Lord.

Post-Communion Blessing

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

Discussion at the Table

Jesus said,

"Look! The one who betrays me is here at the table with me! The Son of Man will die as it has been determined, but how terrible for that one who betrays him!"

Then they began to ask among themselves which one of them it could be who was going to do this. An argument broke out among the disciples as to which one of them should be thought of as the greatest. Jesus said,

"The kings of the pagans have power over their people and the rulers claim the title 'Friends of the People.' But this is not the way it is with you; rather, the greatest one among you must be like the youngest, and the leader must be like the servant. Who is greater, the one who sits down to eat or the one who serves him? The one who sits down, of course. But I am among you as one who serves. Simon, Simon! Listen! Satan has received permission to test all of you, to separate the good from the bad, as a farmer separates the wheat from the chaff. But I have prayed for you Simon, that your faith will not fail. And when you turn back to me, you must strengthen your brothers."

Peter answered, "Lord, I am ready to go to prison with you and to die with you!" Jesus said,

"I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow this day until you have said three times that you do not know me."

Jesus Prays at the Mount of Olives

Jesus left the city and went, as he usually did to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples went with him. When he arrived at the place, he said to them,

"Pray that you will not fall into temptation."

Jesus went off from them about the distance of a stone's throw and knelt down and prayed. He said,

"Father, if you are willing, take this cup of suffering from me; Not my will, however, but your will be done."

Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground. Rising from his prayer, he went back to the disciples and found them asleep, worn out by their grief. He said to them,

"Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you will not fall into temptation."

Hymn

ELW #347; *Go To Dark Gethsemane*; vs. 1-2

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

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.

The Arrest

Jesus was still speaking when a crowd arrived, led by Judas, one of the twelve disciples. He came up to Jesus to kiss him. But Jesus said,

"Judas, is it with a kiss that you betray the Son of Man?"

When the disciples who were with Jesus saw what was going to happen, they asked, "Shall we use our swords, Lord?" And one of them struck the High Priest's slave and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said,

"Enough of this!"

He touched the man's ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests and the officers of the Temple guard and the elders who had come there to get him,

"Did you have to come with swords and clubs, as though I were an outlaw? I was with you in the Temple every day, and you did not try to arrest me, But this is your hour to act, when the power of darkness rules."

They arrested Jesus and took him away into the house of the High Priest.

Peter's Denial

Peter followed at a distance. A fire had been lit in the center of the courtyard, and Peter joined those who were sitting around it. When one of the servant girls saw him sitting there at the fire, she looked straight at him and said, "This man too was with Jesus!" But Peter denied it,

"Woman, I don't even know him!"

After a little while a man noticed Peter and said, "You are one of them, too!" But Peter answered,

"Man, I am not!"

And about an hour later another man insisted strongly, "There isn't any doubt that this man was with Jesus, because he also is a Galilean!" But Peter answered,

"Man, I don't know what you are talking about!"

At once while Peter was still speaking, a rooster crowed. The Lord turned around and looked straight at Peter, and Peter remembered that the Lord had

said to him, "Before the rooster crows this day, you will say three times that you do not know me." Peter went out and wept bitterly.

The Trial

The men who were guarding Jesus made fun of him and beat him. They blindfolded him and asked him "Who hit you? Prophecy!" And they said many other insulting things to him. When day came, the elders, the chief priests, and the teachers of the Law met together, and Jesus was brought before the Council. They said, "If you are the Messiah, tell us." Jesus answered,

"If I tell you, you will not believe me; and if I ask you a question, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God."

They all said, "Are you, then, the Son of God?" Jesus answered them,

"You say that I am."

And they said, "We don't need any witnesses! We ourselves have heard what he said!" The whole group rose up and took Jesus before Pilate. where they began to accuse him: "We caught this man misleading our people, telling them not to pay taxes to the Emperor, and claiming that he himself is the Messiah, a king." Pilate asked Jesus, "Are you the king of the Jews?" Jesus answered,

"You say so."

Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no reason for an accusation against this man." But they insisted even more strongly, "With his teaching he is starting a riot among the people all through Judea. He began in Galilee and now he has come here." When Pilate heard this, he asked, "Is this man a Galilean?" When he learned that Jesus was from the region ruled by Herod, he sent him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem at that time. Herod was very pleased when he saw Jesus, because he had heard about him and had been wanting to see him for a long time. He was hoping to see Jesus perform some miracle. So Herod asked Jesus many questions, but Jesus made no answer. The chief priests and the teachers of the Law stepped forward and made strong accusations against Jesus. Herod and his soldiers made fun of Jesus and treated him with contempt; then they put a fine robe on him and

sent him back to Pilate. On that very day Herod and Pilate became friends; before this they had been enemies.

Jesus is Sentenced to Death

Pilate called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them, "You have brought this man to me and said that he was misleading the people. Now, I have examined him here in your presence, and I have not found him guilty of any of the crimes you accuse him of. Nor did Herod find him guilty, for he sent him back to us. There is nothing this man has done to deserve death. So I will have him whipped and let him go."

The whole crowd cried out,

"Kill him!" Set Barabbas free for us!"

(Barabbas had been put in prison for a riot that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) Pilate wanted to set Jesus free, and so he appealed to the crowd again. But they shouted back,

"Crucify him! Crucify him!"

Pilate said to them the third time, "But what crime has he committed? I cannot find anything he has done to deserve death! I will have him whipped and set him free." But they shouted at the top of their voices that Jesus should be crucified, and finally their shouting succeeded. So Pilate passed the sentence on Jesus that they were asking for. He set free the man they wanted, the one who had been put in prison for riot and murder, and he handed Jesus over for them to do as they wished.

Hymn

ELW #349; *Ah, Holy Jesus*; vs. 1-2

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended
That man to judge thee hath in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected, O most afflicted.

Who was the guilty? Who brought his upon thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee.
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee; I crucified thee.

The Crucifixion

The soldiers led Jesus away, and as they were going, they met a man from Cyrene named Simon who was coming into the city from the country. They seized him, put the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A large crowd of people followed him; among them were some women who were weeping and wailing for him. Jesus turned to them and said,

"Daughters of Jerusalem! Don't weep for me, but weep for your children. The days are coming when people will say, 'How lucky are the women who never bore babies, who never nursed them! Then people will say to the mountains, 'Fall on us" and to the hills, 'Hide us.' For if such things as these are done when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

Two other men, both of them criminals, were also led out to be put to death with Jesus. When they came to the place called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there, and the two criminals, one on his right and the other on his left. Jesus said,

"Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

They divided Jesus's clothes among themselves by throwing dice. The people stood there watching while the leaders scoffed, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah, God's chosen one!" The soldiers also made fun of him: they came up to him and offered him vinegar, saying, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him that read, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals hanging there hurled insults at Jesus: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" The other one, however, rebuked him saying, "Don't you fear God? You received the same sentence he did. Ours, however, is only right, because we are getting what we deserve for what we did; but he has done no wrong." And he said to Jesus, "Remember me, when you come into your kingdom." Jesus replied,

"Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

The Death of Jesus

It was about twelve o'clock when the sun stopped shining and darkness covered the whole country until three o'clock. The curtain hanging in the Temple was torn in two. Jesus cried out in a loud voice,

"Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."

(a brief pause is observed)

After he said this, he died. The army officer saw what had happened, and he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent!" When the people who had gathered there to watch the spectacle saw what had happened, they all went back home, beating their breasts in sorrow. All those who knew Jesus personally, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

The Burial

There was a man named Joseph from Arimathea, a town in Judea. He was a good and honorable man, who was waiting for the coming of the Kingdom of God. Although he was a member of the Council, he had not agreed with their decision and action. Joseph went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took the body down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid to rest before. It was Friday, and the Sabbath was about to begin. The women who had followed Jesus from Galilee went with Joseph and saw the tomb and how Jesus' body was placed in it. Then they went back home and prepared the spices and perfumes for the body. On the Sabbath they rested, according to the commandment.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Nicene Creed *(please stand)*

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed...

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Petition:
Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always!
And also with you.

Welcome and Announcements

Offering *(please sit)*

*(Ushers collect offering; **once collected, it is brought forward immediately for acolytes to receive)***

In All Our Grief and Fear We Turn To You; music by Charles R. Anders, text by Sylvia G. Dunstan arr. Thomas Keesecker; St. John's Choir

Benediction

God, who fills the creation with abundance, Christ, who spreads his arms in forgiveness, Holy Spirit, who draws ever near to us, ✠ bless you and bring you to life everlasting. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

(Acolytes extinguish the candles)

ELW #416; *At the Name of Jesus*

- 1 At the name of Jesus ev'ry knee shall bow, ev'ry tongue confess him king of glory now. It is God's good pleasure we should call him Lord, who from the beginning was the mighty Word.
- 2 At his voice creation sprang at once to sight, all the angel faces, all the hosts of light, thrones and dominations, stars upon their way, all the heav'nly orders in their great array.
- 3 Humbled for a season, to receive a name from the lips of sinners unto whom he came, faithfully he bore it spotless to the last; brought it back victorious when from death he passed.

Sending

Go in peace. Remember the poor.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Linda Ranney

Altar Flowers

In Memory of my Husband Rick Badman by Bonnie Badman

Chancel Flowers

In Memory of Bob Munden by the Munden Family

Serving at Worship Today

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Presider | Pastor Christine Emerson |
| Assistant | Rozie Bejin |
| Lector | Cora Klawiter |
| Acolytes | Liam Schank, Jack Schank |
| Ushers | Dramus Peuse, Brian Wagner |
| Greeters | Penny Erickson, Bryan Sedlander |
| Communion Servers | Deb Freeland, John Price, Sharon Price |
| Media & Streaming | Scott Olsen |
| Screen Operator | Brett Isaacson |
| Musicians | Sunday School Children; Linda Ranney, accompanist; Mark Lundin, Director of Music; St. John's Choir |

Copyright Information

Reprinted from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, copyright 2006 & Lutheran Book of Worship, copyright 1978
Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #20510.

Reprinted from With One Voice copyright © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission of Augsburg
Fortress license #20510.

Reprinted from Worship & Praise copyright © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission of Augsburg
Fortress license #20510.

"All Rights Reserved" Used by permission. CCLI License # 1070784. With permission by OneLicense.net
license A-703800.