



Salem Lutheran Church
401 S. Lake St. Lake Mills IA 50450

Welcome to the House of the Lord

Passion/Palm Sunday
March 24, 2024 – 9:00am



OUR MISSION: We are God forgiven and mission driven.

OUR VISION: To be that Lake Mills Place where belonging, healing, growing, serving and believing are open to all, regardless of background, experience or aptitude. Central to this is that we are a -forgiving, mission-driven community, which means we all want to have an impact, shaped by the love of Christ to serve all others.

Sunday—9:00am Worship Service

Preaching: Pastor Judy Wozniak

Organist: Ruth Sheldon

Reader: Wayne VanVeldhuizen, Bruce Adams, Al & Willie Skellenger

Percussion: Hannah Sterrenberg

Sound: Al Skellenger

Live Stream: Brad Evenson

Acolytes: Braylon Hanson, Jaden Swanson

Liturgical Choir:

Communion Servers:

Worship Coordinator: Shannon Bruhns

Ushers: Lyle & OrLoue Thomson, Al Sterrenberg

Altar Guild for March: Margaret Okland & Janet Swenson

The Live Stream Broadcast Is Given By The Members Of Salem

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INTRODUCTION

This week, the center of the church's year, is one of striking contrasts: Jesus rides into Jerusalem surrounded by shouts of glory, only to be left alone to die on the cross, abandoned by even his closest friends. Mark's gospel presents Jesus in his complete human vulnerability: agitated, grieved, scared, forsaken. Though we lament Christ's suffering and all human suffering, we also expect God's salvation: in the wine and bread, Jesus promises that his death will mark a new covenant with all people. We enter this holy week thirsty for the completion of God's astonishing work.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

BELLS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Passion/Palm Sunday worship. Today we will be reading Mark chapters 14 and 15 in a dramatic reading fashion. We thank our readers Bruce Adams, Al and Willie Skellenger, as well as percussionist Hannah Sterrenberg. We will remain seated through most of the worship service. Please follow bulletin prompts to know when to stand or be seated.

Please also note that we will be singing only designated verses of some of the songs in the bulletin. The verse to be sung is included in the title line.

While singing the Processional Hymn, "*All Glory, Laud and Honor*", you are invited forward waving your palm branch to then lay it at the foot of the cross. We begin our worship service.

*(***Please remain seated.)*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Reader 1: Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest heaven!

Blessed is the One who comes in the Name of the Lord!

Reader 2: Blessed is the One who comes with healing and compassion.

Blessed is the One who comes with forgiveness and mercy.

Reader 3: Lord, rest your hand of healing on our hearts today.

Gracious Jesus, let us walk with you today.

Amen.

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL *Jesus enters Jerusalem* Mark 11:1-11

¹When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, [Jesus] sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.’” ⁴They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” ⁶They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. ⁷Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!” ¹¹Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

****Those who wish to process with palms waving to lay at the foot of the cross may do so during the singing of the Processional Hymn.*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *All Glory, Laud, and Honor* ELW #344

Refrain



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re - deem - er, king,
to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



1 You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,
2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais - ing you on high;
3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;
4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.
5 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,



now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One.
cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.
our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.
To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

Reader 1: How bold of Jesus to ride into Jerusalem at the holy time of Passover. He rode as a humble king. We hoped it was to claim the throne; but it was to claim our lives.

Lord Jesus, let us walk with you, the path to the cross.

Reader 2: Each day as he taught, he was reminded of the faithlessness of those in power. He saw corruption and oppression at every turn in the Temple.

Lord Jesus, let us be aware of all that draws us from you as we walk with on the path to the cross.

Reader 3: At supper one evening, he discharged one of his disciples, Judas, to go and do what he felt he must do. From the cross he forgave the executioners and welcomed a thief to Paradise. For the others he gave a precious reminder of his love through the washing of their feet and through the sacrament of bread and wine.

Gracious Lord, you come to us now, to bring healing for our brokenness, peace for our troubled lives, hope for our doubting minds. You restore us and guide us along right pathways for your name's sake.

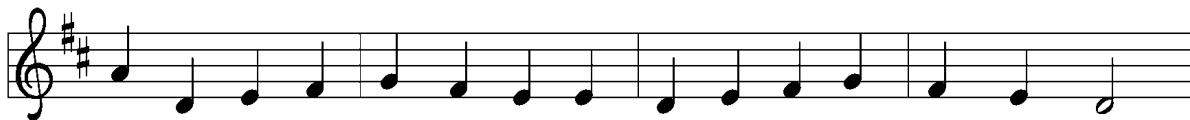
Amen.

(**Please stand as you are able)

GATHERING HYMN

Let us Ever Walk with Jesus, vs. 1-3

ELW #802



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex - am - ple pure,
2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, and with pa - tience bear our cross.
3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death he con - quered death,



through a world that would de - ceive us and to sin our spir - its lure.
Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; where he is there is no loss.
he will free us from de - struc - tion, give to us im - mor - tal breath.



On - ward in his foot - steps tread - ing, trav - 'lers here, our home a - bove,
Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter, we shall reap ce - les - tial joy:
Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion that would lead us in - to sin;



full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Sav - ior's bid - ding.
all dis - com - forts that an - noy shall give way to mirth here - af - ter.
and the grave that shuts us in shall but prove the gate of heav - en.



Faith - ful Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where you guide.
Je - sus, here I share your woe; help me there your joy to know.
Je - sus, here with you I die, there to live with you on high.

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.**

(****Please be seated.*)

WORD

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

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 31:9-16

We will speak today's psalm responsively beginning with the lector.

⁹Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly. ¹⁰**For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.**

¹¹I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to my acquaintances; when they see me in the street they avoid me. ¹²**Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind; I am as useless as a broken pot.**

¹³For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around; they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life. ¹⁴**But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. I have said, "You are my God.**

¹⁵My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me. ¹⁶**Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.**

SECOND READING

Philippians 2:5-11

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

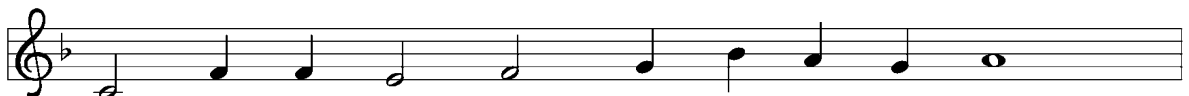
GOSPEL HYMN *Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church* ELW #321



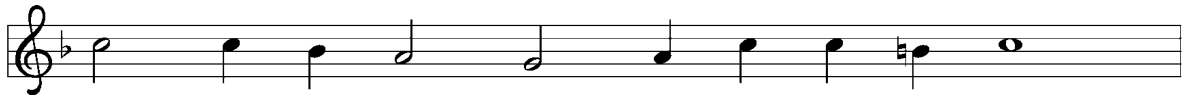
1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your church
2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self,
3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise,



walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,
so dai - ly liv - ing in your way of love,
you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;



led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,
we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod,
and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break,



moved by your love and toward your pres - ence bent:
know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your death:
glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and flow'r,



far off yet here—the goal of all de - sire.
so we are dead and live with you in God.
so in - to life and glo - ry shall we wake.

GOSPEL

Mark 14:1--15:47

Reader 1: The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Reader 3: It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him;

Reader 2: for they said, “Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.”

Reader 3: Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, (*tambourine trill/shake begins*) went to the chief priests in order to betray Jesus to them.

Reader 1: When they heard it, they were greatly pleased, and promised to give him money.

Reader 2: So Judas began to look for an opportunity to betray Jesus. (*tambourine stops*)

Reader 1: On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, at evening Jesus came with the twelve. And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said,

Reader 3: “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, the one who is eating with me.”

Reader 1: They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another, “Surely, not I?”

Reader 3: Jesus said to them, “It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me.

Reader 2: For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.” (*cymbal rim*)

Reader 1: While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, “Take; this is my body.”

Reader 3: Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it.

Reader 1: Jesus said to them, “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.”

Reader 2: When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Reader 1: And Jesus said to them, “You will all become deserters; for it is written,

Reader 2: ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.’ But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.”

Reader 3: Peter said to him, “Even though all become deserters, I will not.”

Reader 1: Jesus said to him, “Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.”

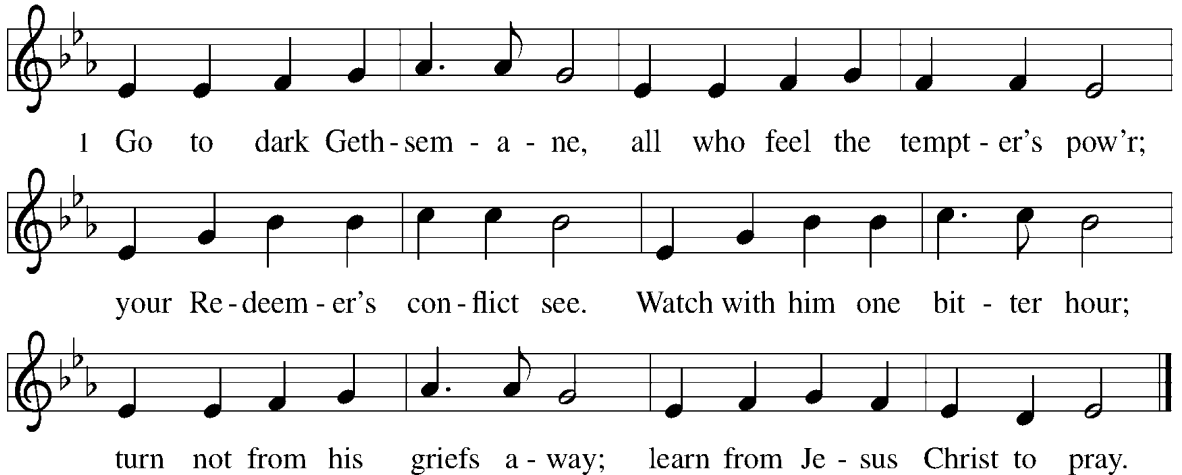
Reader 3: But Peter said vehemently, (*tambourine trill*) “Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.”

Reader 1: And all of them said the same. (*tambourine stops*)

HYMN

Go to dark Gethsemane, vs. 1

ELW 347



1 Go to dark Geth-se-m - a - ne, all who feel the tempt - er's pow'r;
your Re-deem - er's con - flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;
turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.

Reader 3: They went to a place called Gethsemane; and Jesus said to his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.”

Reader 2: He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated.

Reader 1: And Jesus said to them, “I am deeply grieved, even to death; (*hand drum throughout this section: quarter and two eighths*) remain here, and keep awake.”

Reader 2: And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.

Reader 3: He said, “Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.”

Reader 1: Jesus came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, “Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? (*drum crescendo begins*)

Reader 2: Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

Reader 3: And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words.

Reader 2: And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him.

Reader 3: Jesus came a third time and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

Reader 1: Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.” (*drum stops*)

Reader 2: Immediately, while Jesus was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders.

Reader 3: Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard.”

Reader 1: So when he came, he went up to Jesus at once and said, “Rabbi!” and kissed him.

Reader 2: Then they laid hands on Jesus and arrested him.

Reader 3: But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. (*cymbal rim*)

Reader 2: Then Jesus said to them, “Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit?”

Reader 3: Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled.” (*tambourine trill*)

HYMN

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded, vs. 1

ELW 351

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G-clef (treble clef) with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style. The first staff begins with a quarter rest, followed by quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, and a half note G4. The second staff continues with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, and a half note G4. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,
now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;

O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!

Yet, though de-spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.

Reader 2: All of them deserted him and fled.

Reader 1: A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth.

Reader 2: They caught hold of him, but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.

Reader 3: They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled.

Reader 1: Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire.

Reader 2: Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none.

Reader 1: For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree.

Reader 3: Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying, “We heard him say, ‘I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.’”

Reader 2: But even on this point their testimony did not agree.

Reader 1: Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, “Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?”

Reader 2: But he was silent and did not answer.

Reader 1: Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?”

Reader 2: Jesus said, “I am; and (*soft cymbal roll begins and slowly crescendos through the entire section*) ‘you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power,’ and ‘coming with the clouds of heaven.’”

Reader 3: Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, (*cymbal slow, dramatic crescendo*) “Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy!

What is your decision?”

Reader 1: All of them condemned him as deserving death. Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him, “Prophecy!” The guards also took him over and beat him. (*crescendo leads to cymbal crash*)

HYMN

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded, vs. 3

ELW #351

3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?
Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,
Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.

Reader 3: While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came by.

Reader 1: When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said, “You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth.”

Reader 2: But Peter denied it, saying, “I do not know or understand what you are talking about.” (*tambourine trill*) And he went out into the forecourt.

Reader 3: Then the cock crowed. (*tambourine trill ends with a hand slap*)

Reader 2: And the servant girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders, “This man is one of them.”

Reader 3: But again he denied it.

Reader 1: Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, “Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean.”

Reader 2: But he began to curse, and he swore an oath, (*tambourine trill*) “I do not know this man you are talking about.”

Reader 1: At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. (*tambourine hand*)

slap) Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, “Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.”

Reader 3: And he broke down and wept. (*cymbal rim*)

Reader 3: As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate.

Reader 2: Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” He answered him, “You say so.”

Reader 3: Then the chief priests accused him of many things.

Reader 1: Pilate asked him again, “Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.”

Reader 3: But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Reader 2: Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked.

Reader 3: Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection.

Reader 1: So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them, (*cymbal roll*) “Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?”

Reader 2: For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over.

Reader 3: But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. (*roll leads to cymbal crash*)

Reader 1: Pilate spoke to them again, “Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?”

Reader 2: They shouted back, “Crucify him!” (*cymbal roll*)

Reader 3: Pilate asked them, “Why, what evil has he done?”

Reader 2: But they shouted all the more, “Crucify him!” (*roll leads to cymbal crash*)

Reader 1: So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

HYMN

Were You There, vs. 1

ELW #353



1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?

Refrain

Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?

Reader 3: Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor’s headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort.

Reader 2: And they clothed him in a purple cloak; (*tambourine trill*) and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him.

Reader 1: And they began saluting him, “Hail, King of the Jews!”

Reader 2: They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him.

Reader 3: After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him. (*tambourine stops*)

Reader 2: They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus.

Reader 3: Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull).

Reader 1: And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it.

Reader 2: And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

Reader 1: It was nine o’clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, “The King of the Jews.”

The assembly stands.

Reader 2: And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left.

Reader 1: Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, “Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save

yourself, and come down from the cross!”

Reader 3: In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, “He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.”

Reader 2: Those who were crucified with him also taunted him. (*cymbal rim*)

HYMN

Were You There, vs. 3

ELW #353



3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?



Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

Refrain



Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

Reader 1: When it was noon, (*slow hand drum toll in this section*) darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.

Reader 2: At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” (*drum crescendo*)

Reader 3: When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, “Listen, he is calling for Elijah.”

Reader 2: And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.”

Reader 1: Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. (*drum stops*)

Ten seconds of silence.

(out of the silence a cymbal roll crescendos to a very loud crash)

Reader 3: *(wait until the crash)* And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom.

Reader 1: Now when the centurion, who stood facing Jesus, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, “Truly this man was God’s Son!”

Reader 2: Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock.

Reader 1: He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where the body was laid.

Reader 3: The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ.

HYMN

Were You There, vs. 5

ELW #353



5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Refrain



Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

*(***Please be seated.)*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in God’s promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

Blessed One, today the church sings glad hosannas as we enter Holy Week. Prepare us to bear witness to Christ’s suffering and death endured for our sake.

Gather your people around the cross and comfort us with resurrection hope. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Renew your good creation and protect the balance of life on earth. Encourage the work of foresters, scientists, arborists, gardeners, and river keepers. We pray for the health of pollinating insects, songbirds, and native plants. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Establish peace and justice among the nations (*regions in conflict may be named*). Hold to account any with authority to judge others. Grant that courts, legislatures, and local governments will serve with integrity and compassion. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Bring hope to any who feel forsaken or forgotten. Make a way for refugees and asylum seekers. Reunite families enduring separation. We pray for any who are incarcerated, institutionalized, or in foster care, that they may know your love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Give energy and joy to our pastor/s, deacons, worship leaders, and musicians. Bless baptismal candidates, their sponsors, confirmands, and teachers (*individuals preparing for baptism and confirmation may be named*). Watch over those who travel. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Blessed One, our times are in your hand. Sustain us in discipleship throughout our lives and receive us into everlasting life. (*We give thanks for the courage of Oscar Arnulfo Romero, bishop and martyr, whom we commemorate today.*) Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

OFFERING

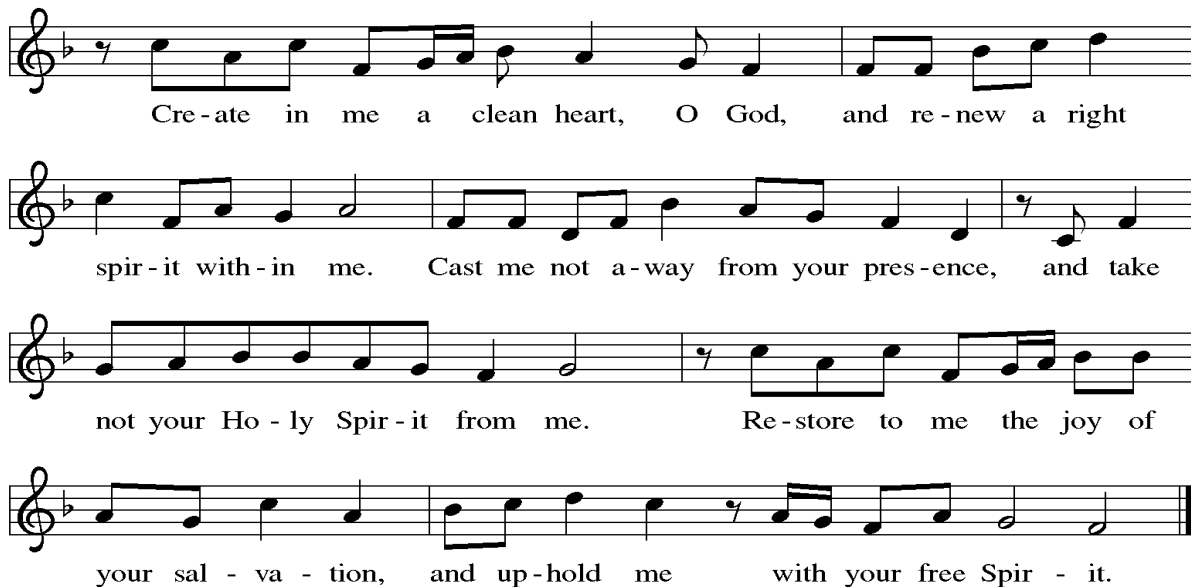
MUSICAL OFFERING

(****Please stand as you are able.*)

OFFERING SONG

Create in Me a Clean Heart

ELW #186



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

Amen.

THE 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.

SENDING

BLESSING

Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, And ✠ give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Restore in Us, O God

ELW #748



- 1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -
- 2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from
- 3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -
- 4 Three-per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.
fruit - less fear un - furl our lives like spring - time bud and flow'r.
tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.
we, when all our search - ing ends, may see you face to face.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share your bread.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



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