

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
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Christ's Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem, by Harry Anderson, © IRI

Palm/Passion Sunday

24 March A✠D 2024

Divine Service, Setting I

✠ Welcome in the name of Jesus! ✠

Today we observe Palm/Passion Sunday. On this day, we remember first our Lord's "Triumphal Entry" into Jerusalem, where He was welcomed joyously by the people with palm branches and loud shouts of "Hosanna." We then remember our Lord's Passion, that is, His suffering and death, by which He redeemed us from sin, death, and the power of the devil. This day marks the beginning of the Church's observance of Holy Week.

If you are a VISITOR here, we'd like to offer you our warmest welcome! We pray that your experience among us is blessed, and that you depart filled with God's peace and life.

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter,
as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth,
I humbly pray that You would open my heart
to the preaching of Your Word so that I may
repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my
only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness.
Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

A NOTE ABOUT PALM/PASSION SUNDAY:

The service of Palm/Passion Sunday, beginning with the procession of palms, reflects the contrasting attitudes toward Jesus that were on display during the days leading up to His crucifixion. "Palm Sunday" is named after the palms that were spread before Jesus as He entered Jerusalem. The acclamation of the people, "Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord," clearly reveals that they hailed Jesus as the messianic king. Yet only days later, our Lord would hear the cry "Crucify!" This contrast is reflected on this day as the joy of His triumphal entry into Jerusalem gives way to the somber remembrance of His passion. The extended reading from the passion narrative sets before the faithful all that our Lord did on our behalf. Thus the Church is prepared to enter Holy Week—the most important week of the entire Church Year.

Following the historical pattern of Holy Week, Holy Communion will not be celebrated at this morning's service. Instead, the congregation will gather to celebrate Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday, the day when it was first instituted by our Lord.

Procession of Palms

All stand and face the processional cross at the back of the sanctuary.

Greeting

P The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

P Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

C Hosanna to the Son of David.

Collect

P Let us pray. Most merciful God, as the people of Jerusalem, with palms in their hands, gathered to greet Your dearly beloved Son when He came into His Holy City, grant that we may ever hail Him as our King and, when He comes again, may go forth to meet Him with trusting and steadfast hearts and follow Him in the way that leads to eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:1-11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.” ⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying, ⁵“Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’”

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. ⁸Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

⁹And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” ¹⁰And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?” ¹¹And the crowds said, “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

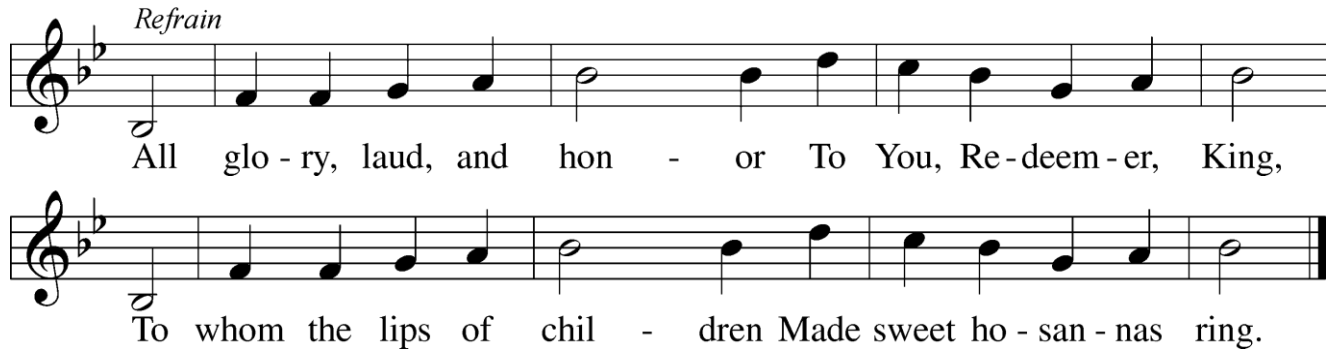
P Let us go forth in peace,

C in the name of the Lord.

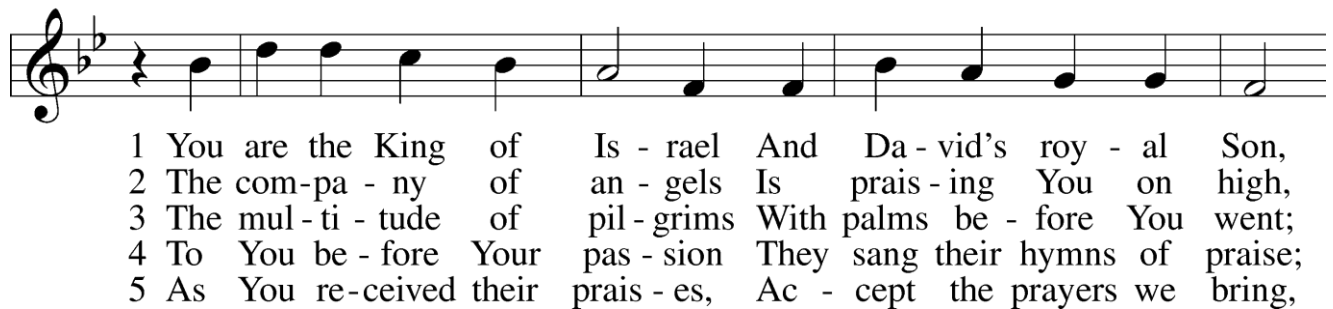
Processional Hymn: 442 All Glory, Laud and Honor

*During the Procession, the ancient and laudable custom is to **bow your head** in reverence to Christ our King as the processional cross passes by your pew. **Also, you're invited to wave your palm frond during the refrain of the hymn below as you play the part of the crowd on the day that Jesus entered triumphantly into His royal city.***

Refrain

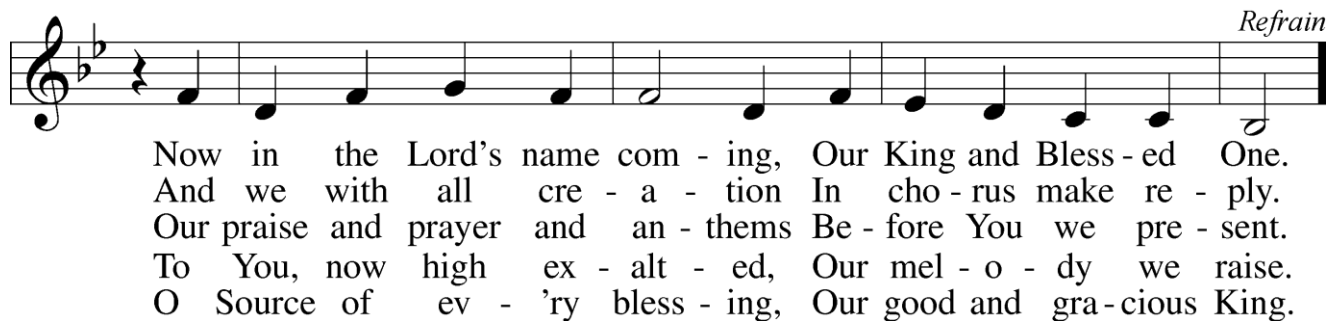


All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or To You, Re - deem - er, King,
To whom the lips of chil - dren Made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



1 You are the King of Is - rael And Da - vid's roy - al Son,
2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels Is 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 As You re - ceived their prais - es, Ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Refrain



Now in the Lord's name com - ing, Our King and Bless - ed One.
And we with all cre - a - tion 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.
O Source of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Our good and gra - cious King.

After all have arrived at their places, Pastor says:

P Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

C Hosanna in the highest.

While the crucifix is being re-veiled, a time of silence is observed to highlight the contrast between Jesus' triumphal entry and His passion.

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

✠ The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ ✠ *drawn from the Gospel of Matthew, Chapters 26 & 27*

(see today's purple insert for a printout of the Readings)

Pastoral Address

Hymn: 440 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

st. 1



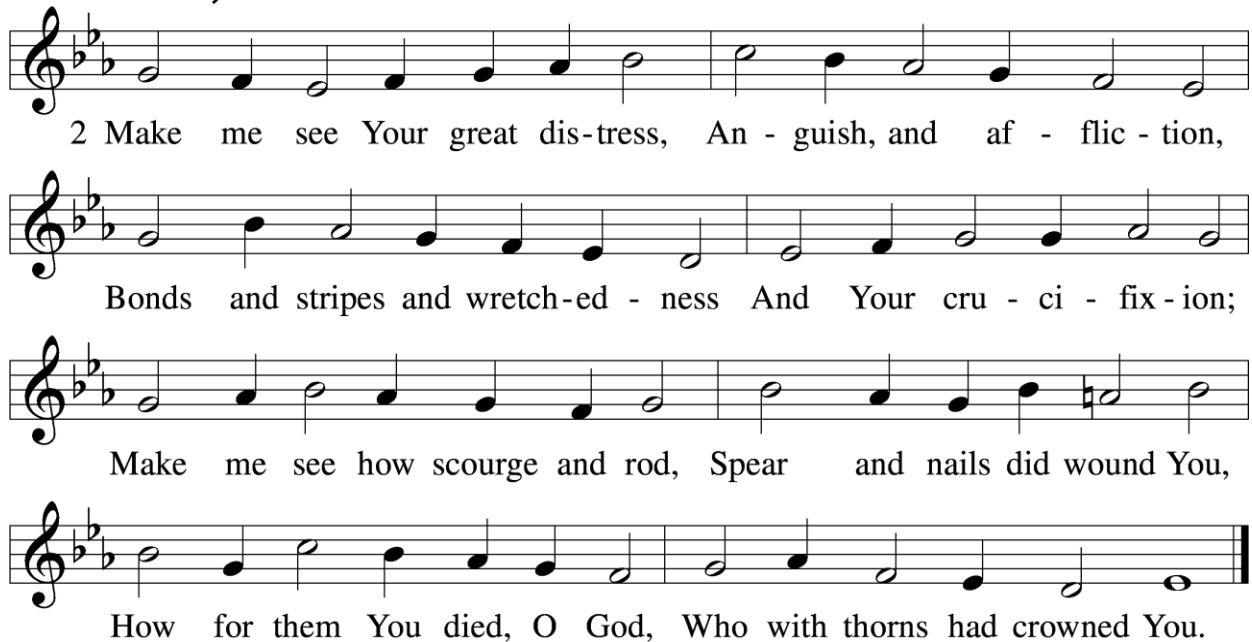
1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now On Your ho - ly pas - sion;
With Your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.
Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish
Of Your suf - f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.

Tune and text: Public domain

Reading I - The Anointing of Our Lord and The Last Supper (Matthew 26:1-29)

Hymn: 440 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

st. 2



2 Make me see Your great dis-tress, An - guish, and af - flic - tion,
Bonds and stripes and wretch-ed - ness And Your cru - ci - fix - ion;
Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound You,
How for them You died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned You.

Tune and text: Public domain

Reading II - Our Lord Prays in Gethsemane (Matthew 26:30-56)

Hymn: 440 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

st. 3

3. Yes, O Lord, not thus alone
Make me see Your passion,
But its cause to me make known
And its termination.
Ah! I also and my sin
Wrought Your deep affliction;
This indeed the cause has been
Of Your crucifixion.

Reading III - Our Lord Is Tried (Matthew 26:57–27:10)

Hymn: 440 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

st. 4

4. Grant that I Your passion view
With repentant grieving.
Let me not bring shame to You
By unholy living.
How could I refuse to shun
Ev'ry sinful pleasure
Since for me God's only Son
Suffered without measure?

Reading IV - Our Lord is Crucified (Matthew 27:11-44)

Hymn: 440 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

st. 5

5. If my sins give me alarm
And my conscience grieve me,
Let Your cross my fear disarm;
Peace of conscience give me.
Help me see forgiveness won
By Your holy passion.
If for me He slays His Son,
God must have compassion!

Reading V - The Death and Burial of Jesus (Matthew 27:45-66)

Hymn: 440 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

st. 6

6. Graciously my faith renew;
Help me bear my crosses,
Learning humbleness from You,
Peace mid pain and losses.
May I give you love for love!
Hear me, O my Savior,
That I may in heav'n above
Sing Your praise forever.

Sermon

Stand

Apostles' Creed

(The Apostles' Creed is used during Lent)

**☩ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

For the Holy Church as she embarks on the holiest week of the Church Year, that she may be defended against the assaults of Satan, boldly proclaim Christ and Him crucified, and behold her King coming to her through His holy Word and Sacraments, let us pray to the Lord:

☩ Lord, have mercy.

P For our Christian lives, that we be granted faithfulness in times of temptation, forgiveness when we fall, a humble love for all our brothers and sisters in Christ, reconciliation with those from whom we are alienated, and boldness to confess the faith we have in Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

☩ Lord, have mercy.

P For the members of this congregation, that trusting in Him who gave Himself humbly as a sacrifice for us, we would also humbly give ourselves in service to Him and to the people of this world, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who live without faith in Christ, that the Holy Spirit would call them to repentance and grant them a confident trust in the King who comes in the name of the Lord, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those stricken by disease; for those enduring famine and natural disasters; for those in bondage; and for those who are sick, shut-in, recovering or have any need, [especially for those who have requested our prayers, including _____,] that our heavenly Father would hear their pleas, meet their needs, relieve their suffering and lead them to rejoice in Him who never fails us in our time of need, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who have departed this vale of tears in faith and now sleep in Jesus, let us give thanks to the Lord; that He would shepherd us in that same faith until our last hour, bringing us, with them, into His Kingdom when the last trumpet sounds and every knee bows at His name, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Offering

During the Offering, we ask that you please sign a black attendance book located in your pew.

Stand
Offertory

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19



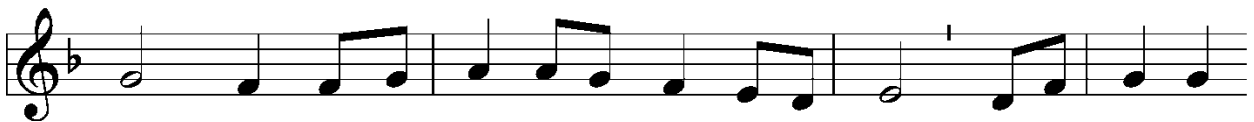
C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa-lem.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C Our Father who art in heaven,

hallowed be Thy name,

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;

give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

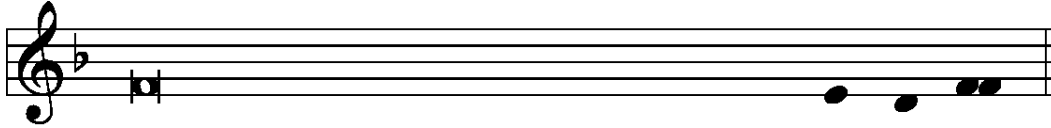
Concluding Collect

P Let us pray. Merciful and everlasting God, You did not spare Your only Son, but delivered Him up for us all to bear our sins on the cross. Grant that our hearts may be so fixed with steadfast faith in Him that we fear not the power of sin, death, and the devil; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



C A - - men.

The Benediction marks the end of the Divine Service. Following the Announcements, the congregation will sing the Closing Hymn below and depart in solemn joy, in continued observance of Holy Week.

Closing Hymn: 453 Upon the Cross Extended



1 Up - on the cross ex - tend - ed See, world, your
 2 Come, see these things and pon - der, Your soul will
 3 Who is it, Lord, that bruised You? Who has so
 4 I caused Your grief and sigh - ing By e - vils



Lord sus - pend - ed. Your Sav - ior yields His breath.
 fill with won - der As blood streams from each pore.
 sore a - bused You And caused You all Your woe?
 mul - ti - ply - ing As count - less as the sands.



The Prince of Life from heav - en Him - self has free - ly
 Through grief be - yond all know - ing From His great heart came
 We all must make con - fes - sion Of sin and dire trans -
 I caused the woes un - num - bered With which Your soul is



giv - en To shame and blows and bit - ter death.
 flow - ing Sighs well - ing from its deep - est core.
 gres - sion While You no ways of e - vil know.
 cum - bered, Your sor - rows raised by wick - ed hands.

5 Your soul in griefs unbounded,
 Your head with thorns
 surrounded,
 You died to ransom me.
 The cross for me enduring,
 The crown for me securing,
 You healed my wounds and set
 me free.

6 Your cords of love, my Savior,
 Bind me to You forever,

I am no longer mine.
 To You I gladly tender
 All that my life can render
 And all I have to You resign.

7 Your cross I place before me;
 Its saving pow'r restore me,
 Sustain me in the test.
 It will, when life is ending,
 Be guiding and attending
 My way to Your eternal rest.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; tr. John Kelly, 1833-90, alt.
 Tune: Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450-1517
 Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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THIS WEEK'S CHURCH CALENDAR

- Sun. 3/24 Palm/Passion Sunday**
Pastor Rod Zwonitzer, Presiding
- **Divine Service** 9:30 a.m.
 - **Adult Bible Class** 10:45 a.m., Fellowship Hall
- Thu. 3/28 Quilting Bee** 10:00 a.m., Library
Maundy Thursday Divine Service 7:00 p.m.
- Fri. 3/29 Tenebrae Vespers Worship Service** 7:00 p.m.
- Sun. 3/31 The Resurrection of our Lord**
Pastor Rod Zwonitzer, Presiding
- **Divine Service with Baptism** 9:30 a.m.
 - **Easter Breakfast Potluck** 11:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall
 - **Kids' Easter Egg Hunt** 11:30 a.m.

TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADULT BIBLE CLASS – All are welcome to join Pastor in the Fellowship Hall right after worship this morning for the Adult Bible Class. Start your week off right by delving deeper into God's Word and attending this educational class!

QUILTING BEE ON THURSDAYS – Anyone who would like to learn how to quilt, (or even if you already know how to quilt) are welcome to join our Quilting Bee group that meets each Thursday morning at 10:00 a.m. in the upstairs senior youth room. The quilters work pretty much year 'round to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief (LWR), and then LWR distributes the quilts to needy individuals worldwide. Many hands make for light work, so if you'd like to help, just show up on any Thursday!

REMINDER: LENTEN COIN HOLDERS - This year's coin folder donations will be going toward the Ziah Town Lutheran School Fund as we continue to help missionary, Joe Bokay, provide catechism books and other needed supplies to the students there. Please place your full folder into any offering plate by Easter Sunday. Thank you.

SPECIAL VOTER'S MEETING is being called and will be held on **April 7th** in the fellowship hall, lower level, right after the 9:30 am service. It is important that everyone attend this meeting if able.

NEW [PHONE] CALL COMMITTEE – Phone calls, I mean!! St. Mark’s is looking to start a new phone call ministry. The phone calls would be made once a month to all members from St. Mark’s to:

- ❖ Update members on what St. Mark’s happenings
- ❖ To encourage them to attend church and
- ❖ To say a prayer with them

The information and prayer would be provided to each Call Committee member each month. I am looking for 4-5 people who like to talk on the phone to help with this committee! It probably would take about an hour of your time each month. Please contact Lori Whitehead at 586-206-9470 if you are interested in helping.

Please join us for Holy Week Worship Services!

Throughout the season of Lent, we have been solemnly preparing our hearts and minds through meditation on God’s Word, that we might celebrate with highest joy in the death and resurrection of Jesus -- the culminating moment of our salvation. In March, we will reach the fulfillment of this season of preparation as we enter into Holy week. During this week, we will have several special services.

On **Thursday, March 28**, we will observe **Maundy Thursday**. On this day, we remember our Lord’s Institution of Holy Communion on the night of His betrayal. The Service will begin at 7:00 p.m. and end with the traditional stripping of the Altar.

Then, on **Friday, March 29**, we will observe **Good Friday**. On this day, we remember our Lord’s crucifixion. The service on this night will be the service of Tenebrae Vespers (Service of Darkness) and will begin at 7:00 p.m.

On **Sunday, March 31**, we will celebrate **Easter Sunday**, as we remember and rejoice in our Lord’s resurrection from the dead. Our service on Easter Sunday will be held at 9:30 a.m. and will be followed by a Potluck breakfast and children’s egg hunt. Planning to attend? Please Sign-up on one of the easels which are located in the lobby located outside sanctuary door, or by entrance located near the Church office.

We hope you will join us for these special service! And be sure to invite your friends and family as well!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Easter Potluck Breakfast with Easter Egg Hunt will be held on March 31st. Sign-Up sheet is posted outside the Sanctuary doors and by the Church office entry.

CALLING ALL BOOK READERS: I like to read a lot and have a bunch of books that I have already read sitting in my basement. I was thinking that other St. Mark’s people may be readers too so why not do a book exchange!! If you are interested or need help bringing your books to St. Mark’s, please contact Lori Whitehead at 586-206-9470. Also, please remember we are Christians when selecting the fiction books.

BOARD OF PROPERTIES' REPAIR/MAINTENANCE SHEET: St. Mark's Board of Properties now has a sheet on the bulletin board outside of the church office where you can list projects that you see around church that need to be completed. See a light bulb that's out? List it on the sheet. See something that's broken? List it on the sheet. Please help the board discover repairs that need to be fixed by listing them on this sheet. Thank you in advance for your help!

IF YOU SHOP AT A KROGER STORE, please consider participating in their Community Rewards program and [link your shopper's bonus card to St. Mark's](#) so that our congregation will receive free cash each quarter! There is no cost to you! Kroger will send a percentage of what you spend to our congregation as a way of supporting the community. If interested (and we hope you will be!), please click on this URL below to see how you can link your Shopper's Bonus Card to our congregation: <https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards>. In order to locate St. Mark's Lutheran Church, search for business # 82449. Thanks so much!

TOILETRY/HYGIENE DONATIONS FOR THE OPEN DOOR OUTREACH CENTER – We continue to receive hygiene & toiletry products year around for the Open Door Outreach Center in Waterford. There are two bins located on the shelves at the bottom of the sanctuary stairs where you can place product donations. The Open Door is a non-profit organization that assists needy families in the Lakes Area. They are ALWAYS in need of toiletry and hygiene items, so **if you can provide any of these throughout the year, it would be appreciated.**

COLLECTING BOTTLES/CANS FOR ZIAH TOWN LUTHERAN SCHOOL - If you would like to donate your returnable cans and bottles, the Board of Human Care is accepting them weekly! Just bring your bag to church and an usher will let you know where you can put them. A member of the Human Care Board will collect them and make the return. All money will then go into the fund for the Ziah Town Liberian Lutheran School to be used for catechisms and/ or school supplies. You may also make donations at any time by either putting your check/cash in a green envelope and writing "Joe Boway" on the front (checks made payable to St. Mark's), or visiting the St. Mark's website, clicking on the online giving button and selecting the fund titled Joe Boway/Liberian School.

WE CONTINUE TO COLLECT used postage stamps for Wycliffe Bible Translation Ministries, and used eyeglasses for MOST Ministries in the two plastic bins on the shelves at the bottom of the sanctuary stairs. Wycliffe sells the stamps to stamp collectors and then uses the proceeds to fund Bible translation projects throughout the world. MOST Ministries repairs/refurbishes used eyeglasses and distributes them via eyeglass clinics to the needy around the world. If you donate postage stamps, please leave ¼" of the paper around the stamp.

LWML INVITATION FOR MEN AND WOMEN: April 1, 2024, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
Presentation on the Kolkata India Mission Trip: How God was active on the trip along with back stories from behind the scenes. Given by Mrs. Tracy Riggs and her team.

Location: ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
2040 S. Commerce Rd.
Walled Lake, MI 48390

YOU'RE INVITED! ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH IN NORTHVILLE is hosting its annual auction, A Storybook Gala, on **April 13** at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi.

Tickets are \$65/person or \$600/table for 10. The evening will include a live and silent auction, wine pull fundraiser, plated dinner, and beer/wine bar. Tickets can be purchased at: stpaulnorthville.org/auction

If you can't attend but still want to support the school, consider making a monetary donation, donating new items, or becoming a sponsor. For more information, contact the school office (248) 349-3146 / school@stpaulnorthville.org



SERVING THE LORD WITH GLADNESS THIS MORNING

Presiding Minister
Altar Guild
Elder on Duty
Greeters
Offering Counters
Organist
Usher

Rev. Dr. Rod Zwonitzer, *Emeritus*
Cathy Fitzgerald/Gail Fitzgerald
Tom LoCascio
Gail Fitzgerald
Barbara Jewell & Lori Whitehead
Rob Wheeler
John Reardon