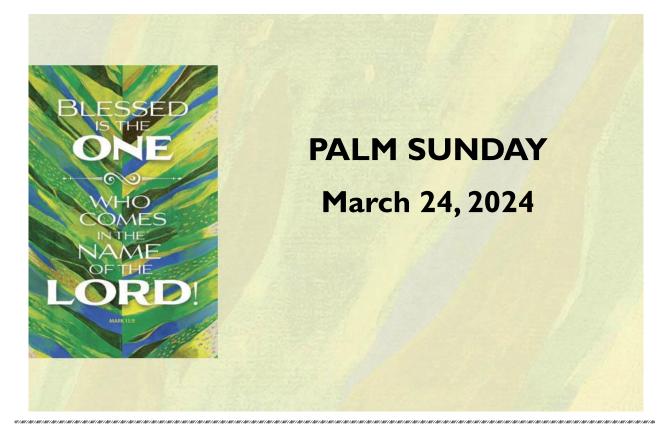
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 127 YORK STREET, HANOVER, PA



Rev. Katrina Holland, Intentional Interim Pastor Rev. Jack R. Hoffman, Pastor Emeritus Steven Ruppright, Director of Music Ministries Lori Rebling, Director of Hand Bells Gretchen Walter, Director of Children's Music Ministers: The Members of St. Paul's Missionaries: Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson and family Church Office: 717-637-5941 Email: <u>stpaulsyorkst@comcast.net</u> Website: <u>www.stpaulsyorkst.org</u> Facebook: www.facebook.com/stpaulsyorkst

WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH!

If you are seeking a faith community, exploring faith, desire to be a part of our ministries, or have questions; please feel free to speak with the pastor.

Our Purpose:

We are called through Christ to praise God and love generously.

Guiding Principles:

As instruments of God's love, when you see us at our best you will see us:

- -Generously stewarding God's gifts of resources, time, and talents
- -Serving as God's hands & feet in ministries & missions of outreach to all
- -*Providing* for the care of God's people, both physically and spiritually
- -Growing in Faith through worship, study, and discernment
- -Praising God through music, word, and service
- -Welcoming all people into fellowship with God

P: Pastor

L: Lay Reader

A: Assisting Minister

C: Congregation responses are in bold

*Stand as you are able

If you are communing, please be sure to fill out a communion record card, for our church records, and place it in the offering plate. Thank you.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION + Palm Sunday +

March 24, 2024

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 satonishing work.

THE GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***GATHERING PROCLAMATION**

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

*PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL

- P Holy Gospel according to John 12:12-16
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹²[Five days before the Passover] the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem.¹³So 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!" ¹⁴Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: ¹⁵"Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" ¹⁶His 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.

- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

Palm branches raised *BLESSING OF PALMS

P The Lord be with you.

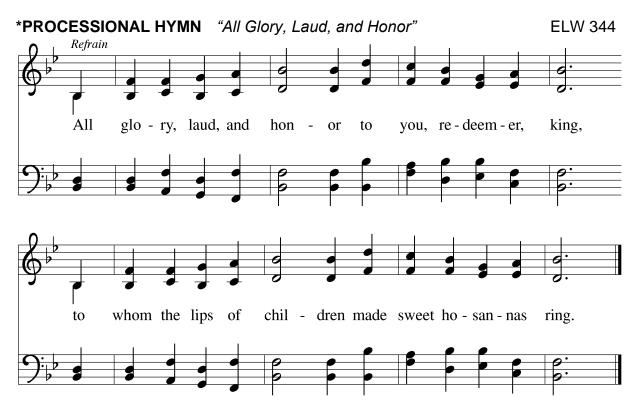
C And also with you.

Let us pray... We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*PROCESSION

- P Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
- C Hosanna in the Highest.

The children lead the processional behind the cross





*GREETING

- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C And also with you.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

L 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.

C Amen.

FIRST READING

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.

L The First Lesson according to 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? The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 31:9-16 (read responsively)

- ⁹Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.
- C ¹⁰For 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 my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to my acquaintances; when they see me in the street they avoid me.

¹²Like 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.

¹⁴But 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.

¹⁶Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love."

SECOND READING:

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.

L The Second Lesson according to 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.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



*GOSPEL

P Holy Gospel according to Mark 11:1-11

C Glory to you, O Lord.

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

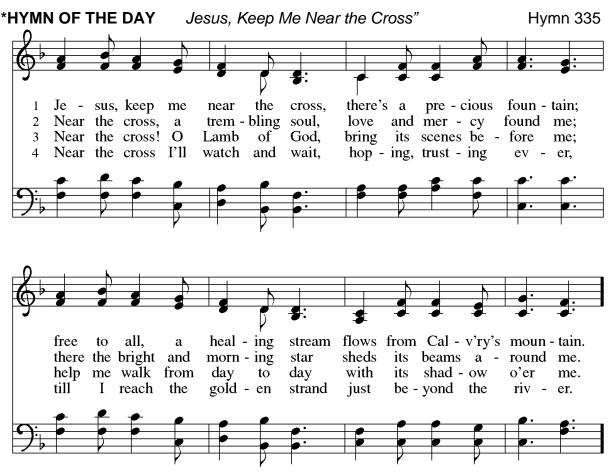
their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰Blessed is the coming 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.

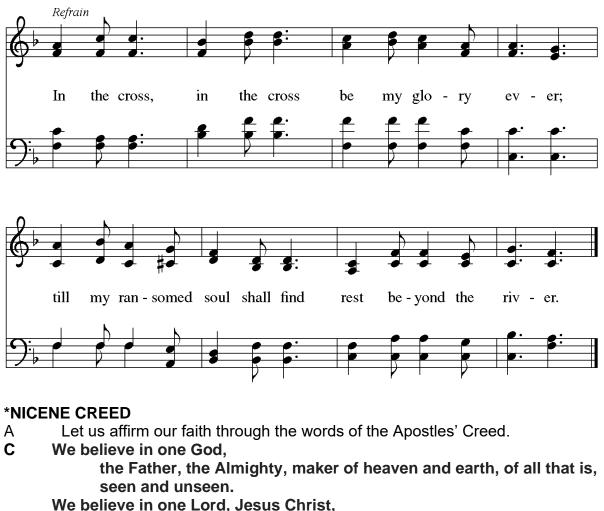
The gospel concludes:

- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON





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

A 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.

C 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 Watch over those who travel. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Blessed One, our times are in your hand. Sustain us in discipleship throughout our lives and receive us into everlasting life.

Your mercy is great.

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

THE MEAL

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

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

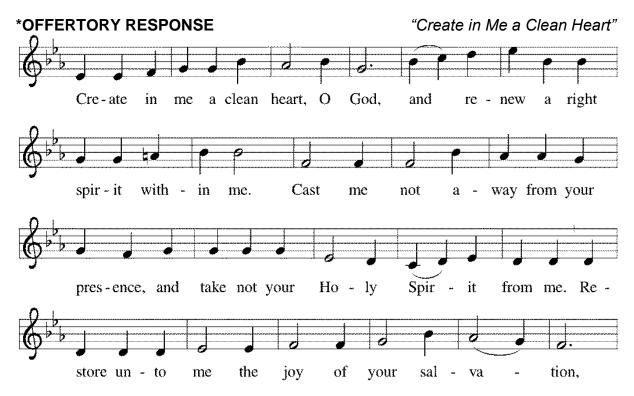
OFFERING ANTHEM

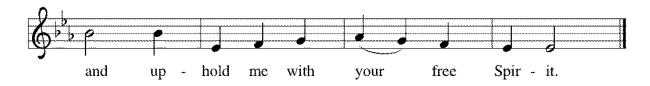
Hosanna in the Highest

Schram

Children's Choir "Hosanna in the Highest" Words and Music by Ruth Schram ©2013 Celebrating Grace Music All Rights Reserved Reprinted/Podcast/Streamed with permission under One License #A-707280. All rights reserved.

Offering plates are located at the entrances beside the handouts. Please use this offering of music is time to meditate on the words and melody of the song, allowing the Spirit to renew you in your own dedication of offering as a steward of God's ministry in this community and around the world.





***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

A Let us pray.

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.

C Amen.

*DIALOGUE

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

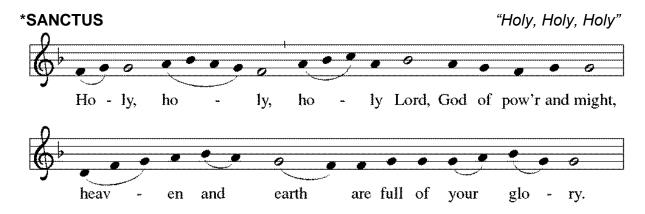
We lift them to the Lord.

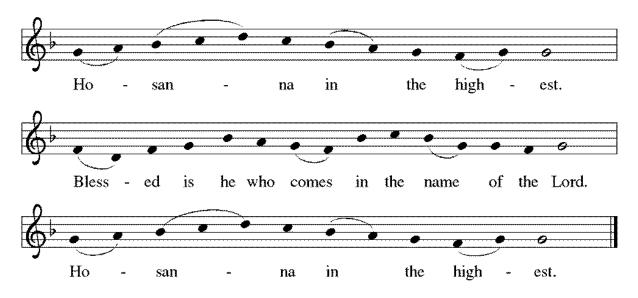
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*PREFACE

P 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:





THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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. With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

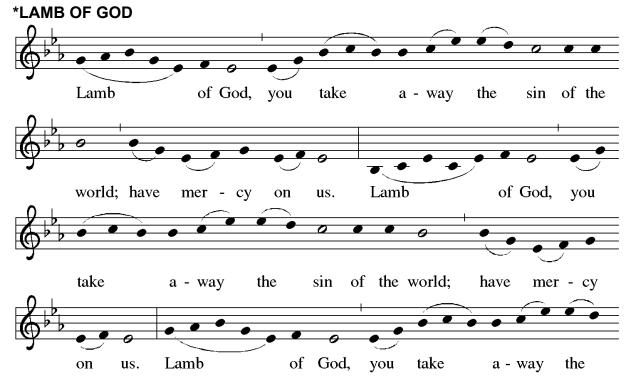
With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

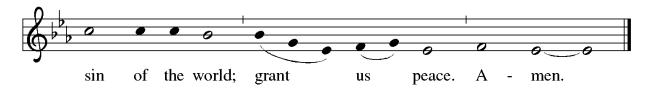
- P Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!



14



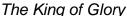
DISTIBUTION OF COMMUNION

All are welcome to commune If you wish to receive communion from your seat, please let an usher know. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are also available.

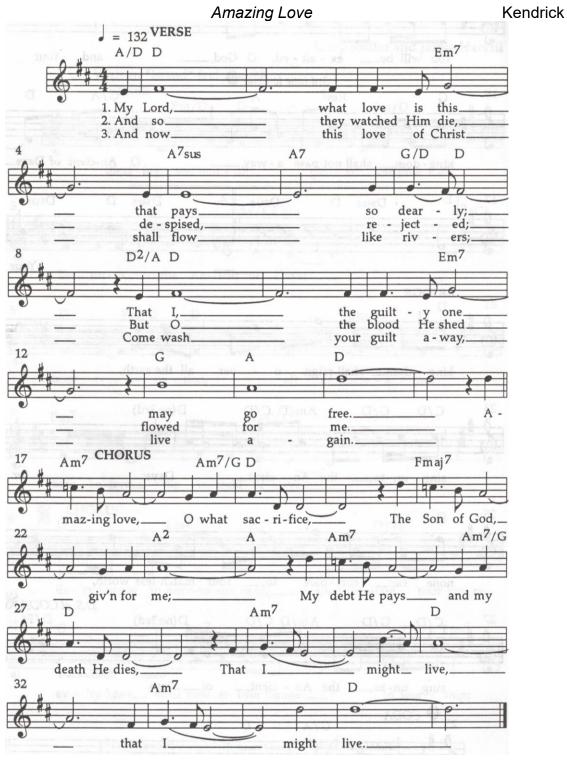
All who believe are invited to come, following the choir, to the table of the Lord to receive the gift of God's forgiveness and blessing



COMMUNION HYMNS







PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

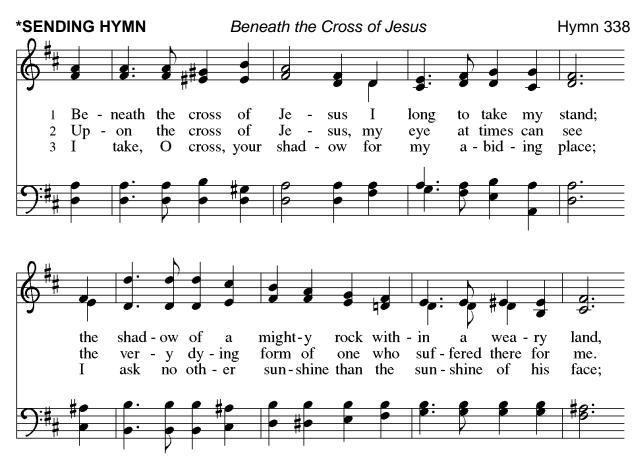
A Generous God,

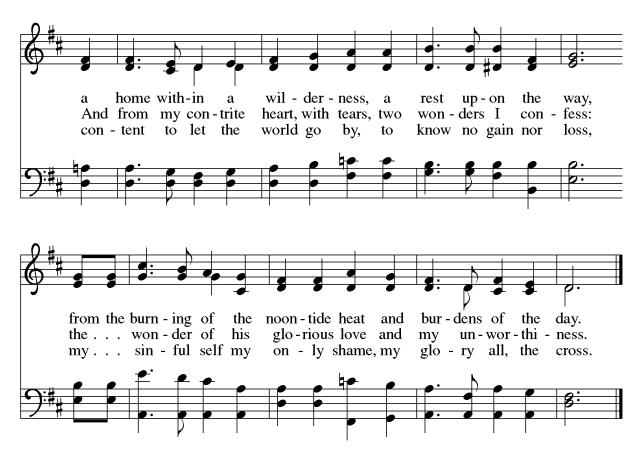
at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

C Amen.

BLESSING

- P 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.
- C Amen.





DISMISSAL

- P Go in peace. Share your bread.
- C We are called through Christ to praise God and love generously. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

The story continues this Thursday evening at 7 p.m. Join us as Jesus gathers us around the table and he is betrayed.

* Stand if you are able

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	March 24	March 31
Organist	Becky Ellis	Becky Ellis
Assisting Minister:	Deb Sowers	Bill Sowers
Acolyte:	Cassie Feeser	Cassie Feeser
-		Jocelyn Fissel
Lay Reader:	Janet Haack	Deb Sowers
Communion Distributors	Josh Baringer	Wayne Butler
	Steph Baringer	Peg Sennett
Ushers:	Bob Colehouse	Bob Colehouse
	Dan Fuhrman	Dan Fuhrman
Altar:	Linda Knapp	Linda Knapp
	Sally Lovelace	Sally Lovelace

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to help convert the sanctuary from the season of Lent and Holy Week to the season of Easter. We will meet in the sanctuary on Saturday, March 30th at 9:00 am. **Please join us!**

MARCH SPECIAL DESIGNATED GIVING – Funding for our youth attending "The National Youth Gathering".

THE RADIO BROADCAST, THE COMMUNION BREAD AND WINE, THE WORSHIP BULLETINS and THE ETERNAL FLAME are sponsored to the glory of God and in loving memory of Charles McConville and our anniversary. Love you forever, Pat.

RUTH'S HARVEST - This drive will run **through Sunday March 31, 2024.** We will collect donations of **single-serve** fruit cups, single-serve vegetables. single-serve entrees, single-serve cereals, single-serve snacks, and single-serve drinks. This program is run by the Hanover Area Council of Churches and supplies weekend meals for qualified students from the elementary schools of Hanover. Every week the volunteers of Ruth's Harvest pack bags of nutritious food for students to take home on Fridays. Studies have proven that adequate meals improve overall school performance. This is a way to help the children of Hanover. All donations will be taken to the drop off place at HACC. Please be generous in this important program. As always thank you for being so caring and loving towards your neighbors.

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE: Please contact Maureen Kaltreider in the church office or at <u>finance@stpaulsyorkst.org</u>

Radio-March 31, April 7, 14, 21 & 28 (\$60 per date or any portion you desire per date) Altar Flowers-April 28 (2 vases at \$20 each); April 7 & 14 (1 vase at \$20 each) Communion Bread and Wine-April 7, 14, 21 & 28 (\$12 each date) Worship Bulletins-April 7, 14, 21 & 28 (\$20 each date) Eternal Flame- April 7, 14, 21 & 28 (\$10 each date)

APRIL DESIGNATED GIVING - WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME FOR GAZA

The United Nations World Food Programme has launched emergency operations to provide Gaza families with food assistance. More than 2 million people in Gaza urgently need food. 1 in 6 children under 2 are acutely malnourished. WFP is distributing fresh bread, canned food and ready-to-eat meals to those in shelters. \$75 can provide a family with food for an entire month; please give what you can. The WFP has received a 90% Four Star Rating from Charity Navigator. Make your check payable to St. Paul's with a footnote for WFP Gaza.

JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY - The Gospel of Mark, A beginner's guide to the Good News - Instructor, Linda Zellers - TUESDAYS, beginning April 2nd at 10:00 am in the Theater room on the 2nd floor. Discover the Good News in the Bible's earliest Gospel Walk through the Bible's earliest source for the life of Jesus with scholar Amy-Jill Levine as she introduces such themes as the Son of Man, discipleship, miracles, and Mark's use of the Old Testament. The Good News of the gospel message comes alive in this book as readers see Jesus as divine and human, powerful and weak, approachable yet mysterious. The book features an in-depth study of select passages and illuminates the Gospel in its historical context and as a source for the other gospels. PLEASE SIGN UP on the sign-up sheet across from Pastor's office BY March 24th so that we can order enough books!

72 ENVELOPES?? Luke 10:1–"After this, the Lord appointed 72 others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go…" We as a congregation are getting ready to send a group of disciples to the Gathering in New Orleans. Consider contributing to our "72 Envelopes" campaign by taking one or more envelopes and donating that amount. Check out the Youth and Family bulletin board for more information!

REGISTER FOR CAMP! Council has approved camperships for any St. Paul's members and any person(s) sponsored by a member for this summer at any Lutheran Camping Corporation Camp! Registration for summer camp is now open for Nawakwa, Kirkenwald, Wittel Farm and Mar-Lu-Ridge. Check out the summer schedules here: <u>https://www.lutherancamping.org/ and https://www.mar-lu-ridge.org/</u> For more information see Laura Silver our CampPerson.

SISTERS IN FAITH...mark your calendars! Our annual retreat will be at Mar-Lu-Ridge on October 11-13.

SUN., MARCH 24 Immediately	8:30 am 9:30 am following 10:30 am	Radio Broadcast - 95.3 FM & 1280 AM Worship Service – Palm Sunday Coffee Hour in the Lounge Youth and Family – Youth room
MON., MARCH 25	6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Girl Scout Groups – 2 nd Floor Something's Brewing Bible Study – Lounge
WED., MARCH 27	7:00 pm	Adult Choir rehearsal-sanctuary
THUR., MARCH 28	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Worship service
FRI., MARCH 29	3:30 pm 8:00 pm	CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED P.A.L. Team #3 Grocery Ministry prep Good Friday Tenebrae Worship service
SAT., MARCH 30	9:00 am	Grocery Ministry (volunteers needed) NO Saturday Evening Service
SUN., MARCH 31	8:30 am 9:30 am	Radio Broadcast - 95.3 FM & 1280 AM Worship Service – Easter Sunday