

Palm Sunday
"The Sunday of the Passion"
March 29th, 2026 ~ 8:30am



+ Friedens Evangelical Lutheran Church +
2451 Saucon Valley Rd. Center Valley, PA 18034

Office: 610-865-4144

The Rev. Lisa K. Borrell, Pastor ~ 610-762-2139

Quinette Brucker, Dir. of Music/Organist



WELCOME



() Please stand as you are comfortable and able*

Prelude Music

Welcome & Announcements

Anthem

“Hosanna”

Processional Gospel ~ Matthew 21: 1-11

¹ When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” ⁴ This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet: ⁵ “Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷ they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!” ¹⁰ When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” ¹¹ The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

Blessing of the Palms

P: We praise You, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today He entered the holy city in triumph

P: 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.

***Opening Hymn #344 “All Glory, Laud, and Honor”**

***Prayer of the Day**

P: 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. *(Moment of silence)*

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.**

The First Reading ~ Isaiah 50: 4-9a

The servant of the Lord expresses absolute confidence in his final vindication, despite the fact that he has been struck and spit upon. This characteristic of the servant played an important role in the early church's understanding of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

⁴The Lord GOD has given me a trained tongue, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he awakens, awakens 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 in court 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.**

The Second Reading ~ Psalm 31: 9-16

⁹ Have 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. ¹¹ I 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.

¹³ For 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. ¹⁵ My 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."

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

*The Gospel Acclamation (sung by all)



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

*The Holy Gospel ~ Matthew 26 & 27 (selective verses)

In fulfillment of scripture and obedience to God's will, Jesus goes to the cross so that a new covenant in His blood may bring forgiveness of sins.

The Holy Gospel according to the 26th chapter of St. Matthew.

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁴ One of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests ¹⁵ and said, "What will you give me if I betray him to you?" They paid him thirty pieces of silver. ¹⁶ And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

¹⁷ On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" ¹⁸ He said, "Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" ¹⁹ So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

²⁰ When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve disciples, ²¹ and while they were eating he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." ²² And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, "Surely not I, Lord?" ²³ He answered, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. ²⁴ 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." ²⁵ Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" He replied, "You have said so."

²⁶ While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." ²⁷ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you, ²⁸ for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹ I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." ³⁰ When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

³⁶ Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." ³⁷ He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee and began to be grieved and agitated. ³⁸ Then he said to them, "My soul is deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me." ³⁹ And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me, yet not what I want but what you want."

⁴⁰ Then Jesus came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, "So, could you not stay awake with me one hour?" ⁴¹ Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. Now the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴⁶ Get up, let us be going. Look, my betrayer is at hand."

⁴⁷ While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. ⁴⁸ Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him." ⁴⁹ At once he came up to Jesus and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him. ⁵⁰ Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you are here to do." Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him.

⁵⁷ Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. ⁵⁹ Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, ⁶⁰ but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. ^{27:1} When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. ² They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor.

¹¹ Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You say so." ¹² But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. ¹³ Then Pilate said to him, "Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?" ¹⁴ But Jesus gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

¹⁵ Now at the festival, the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. ¹⁶ At that time they had a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. ¹⁷ So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you, Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?" ²⁰ Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. ²¹ The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas." ²² Pilate said

to them, "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" All of them said, "Let him be crucified!" ²³ Then he asked, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified!" ²⁶ So he released Barabbas for them, and after flogging Jesus he handed him over to be crucified.

³⁸ Two rebels were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁹ Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads ⁴⁰ and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." — ⁴⁵ From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ⁴⁶ And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" ⁵⁰ Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. ⁵¹ At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split.

⁵⁷ When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea named Joseph, who also was himself a disciple of Jesus. ⁵⁸ He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. ⁵⁹ So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth ⁶⁰ and laid it in his new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Message

*Hymn (see insert) "Ride On, Ride On in Majesty"

*The Prayers of Intercession

Hear us, O God ... **Your mercy is great.**

Anthem

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

Blessing of the Elements



The Lord's Prayer

+ Communal Reception of the Sacrament +

Post-Communion Blessing

*Closing Hymn #338 "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

*Dismissal

Go in peace and serve the Lord in love. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude Music

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*thank
you*

... to Kevin Filler for serving as our lector this morning

... to Drew Wagner for serving as our live stream tech

... to altar flower sponsors, Diane & Bob Ernst - in loving memory
of Lillian Weiss and Eleanor Ernst ♥



Remember in prayer ... Ronald Black, Ann Borrell, Caitlin Carfagno, Ramone DeLeon, Richard Eisenhart, Timothy Filler, Hope Geary, Jeanne Logan, Barb Shaneberger, Tyler and Elizabeth, Kathleen Tuomela May, Darrell Tuomela, Joe Ulmer, Brad & Monica Wagner, and Leon Warmkessel †

+ Holy Week Schedule +

Maundy Thursday/Stripping of Altar

~ 7pm at Friedens

Good Friday/Tenebrae ~ 7pm at

New Jerusalem (3233 Apples Church Rd.)



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All Glory, Laud, and Honor

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.

Refrain

Beneath the Cross of Jesus



1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
 2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see
 3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
 the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.
 I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with - in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
 And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:
 con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.
 the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
 my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

