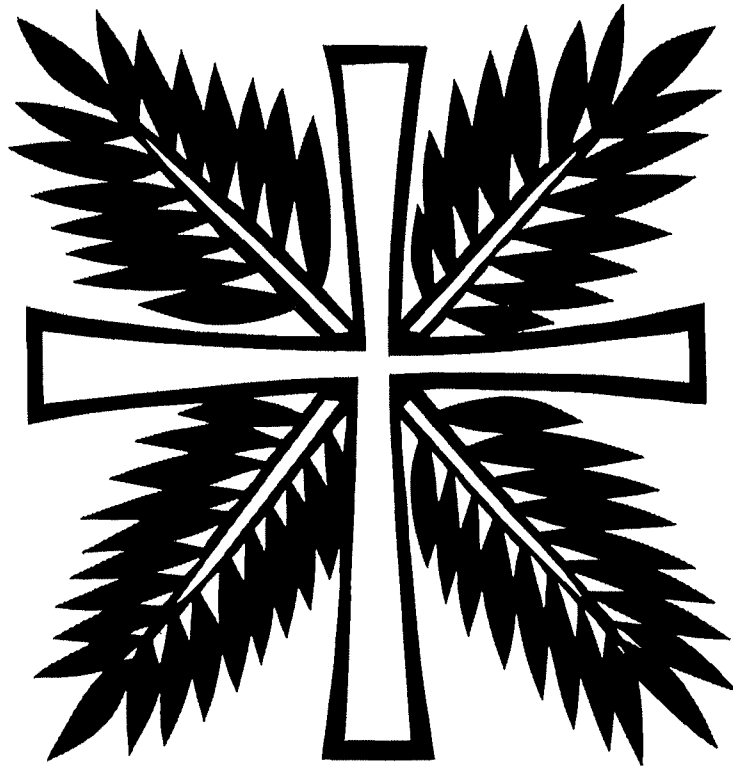


Sunday of The Passion

March 24th, 2024 ~ 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

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

*Processional Gospel ~ 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.

(After the Gospel is read, please respond:)

Blessing of the Palms

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: 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.**

The First Reading ~ Isaiah 50: 4-9a

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.

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?

L: Word of God, word of life. C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 31 (selective verses read responsively, lector then congregation)

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.

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."

The Second Reading ~ Philippians 2: 5-11

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.

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.

L: Word of God, word of life. C: Thanks be to God.

*The Gospel Acclamation



*The Holy Gospel ~ Mark 15: 1-39

Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time to celebrate the Passover festival. Here Jesus' words about seeds planted in the ground turn the disaster of His death into the promise of a harvest in which everyone will be gathered.

P: The Holy Gospel according to the 15th chapter of St. Mark.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

(Because of the length of the Gospel, the congregation may be seated during its reading. The text is not printed in the bulletin today so that all listeners may focus on the story of Christ's Passion and His journey to the cross.)

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

Message

*Hymn #335 "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"

*The Apostles' Creed (professed together)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Prayer of the Church

After each prayer petition, please respond:

P: Hear us, O God ... **C: Your mercy is great**

Anthem

"Hosanna, Hosanna We Sing"

The Blessing of the Communion Elements

The Lord's Prayer (traditional ~ prayed by all)

+ Communal Reception of the Sacrament +

This morning, the sacrament will be received by method of intinction; that is, the Pastor will dip the wafer in the juice and will hand it to each communicant so that they may receive it between thumb and forefinger and place it in their own mouth. Children and youth not yet instructed in the meaning of the sacrament are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing and a cracker. †

Post-Communion Blessing, Prayer, and Benediction

P: 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. **Amen.**

P: Almighty God + bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

*Hymn #346

“Ride on Ride on in Majesty”

*The Dismissal

Go in peace and serve the Lord in love.

Thanks be to God.

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Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to the family and friends of long-time church member, Bill Bugger, who recently entered into eternal life. †

*thank
you*

... to Maureen Wagner for serving as our lector
... to Diane Ernst for serving as our usher & counter
... to Drew Wagner for serving as our live stream tech

To be remembered in prayer ... Leona Cal-
lahan, Levi Cressman, Sharon Edwards,
Hope Geary, Harvey and Janet Heckman,
Rod and Susan Heckman, Helen Kerositz,
Kathleen Tuomela May, Zachary, and the
people of Israel and Ukraine.



Calling all kids!

Friedens' annual Easter Egg Hunt will take
place this morning immediately after the
worship service. Come & join the fun!



+ Holy Week Schedule +

Maundy Thursday 7pm at Friedens
Good Friday 7pm at New Jerusalem Lutheran
(3233 Apples Church Rd., Bethlehem)
Easter Sunday 8:30am ~ Alleluia!

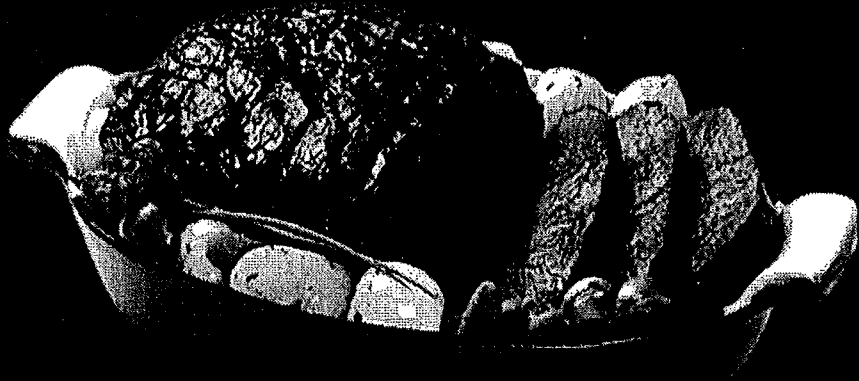
Friedens Evangelical Lutheran Church
Saturday April 6th
4-6pm

Drive Through
ROAST BEEF

\$15 DINNER *stay in your car*

Benefits Meals On Wheels

**Dinner consists of Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes,
Mixed Vegetables, Dinner Roll, Salad and Dessert**



**Pre-orders available through our website
e-mail under "contact us" or by filling
out a paper form in the narthex.**

**2451 Saucon Valley Rd.
Center Valley, PA 18034
friedenscentervalley.com**

