

**Palm Sunday—Sunday of the Passion  
April 13, 2025 — 11:00 am**

# FAITH LUTHERAN

## An Evangelical Lutheran Church

3374 Maybank Highway  
John's Island, SC 29455



Church Phone: (843) 559-1242

Email: [faithjohnsisland@gmail.com](mailto:faithjohnsisland@gmail.com)

Website: [www.FaithJohnsIsland.org](http://www.FaithJohnsIsland.org)

**Ministers:** *The Disciples at Faith Lutheran Church*

**Pastor:** *The Rev. Thuilie Beresford*

**Organist:** *Helena Bradford*

**Flutist:** *Andrea Brisbin*

## INTRODUCTION

Today we follow Christ from triumphal entry to the cross, each waypoint of the journey marked by Jesus' compassion for those who would betray, mock, accuse, or do violence to him. Though persecuted and beaten, Jesus the Son of God is not disgraced; instead, he asks forgiveness for those who put him to death. We have walked the Lenten pathway these forty days, each of us invited through baptism to "let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus." We enter this holy week accompanying Jesus to the cross with both grief and thanksgiving in our hearts, trusting in God's redeeming love.

## **WE PREPARE**

## WORSHIP PREPARATION

**Please gather outside near the main entrance. Pick up a palm branch from the ushers as you arrive. We will begin with the reading of the processional gospel and prayer before processing into the sanctuary.**

**Welcome Guest Musician Gina Shuey**

## PROCESSION WITH PALMS

*The presiding minister begins (repeated one or more times):*

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

C **Hosanna in the highest.**

## PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL: Luke 19:28-40

*Entrance into the final days*

P The holy gospel according to Luke.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>28</sup> After he had said this, [Jesus] went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

<sup>29</sup> When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, <sup>30</sup> saying, “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. <sup>31</sup> If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’” <sup>32</sup> So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. <sup>33</sup> As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” <sup>34</sup> They said, “The Lord needs it.” <sup>35</sup> Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. <sup>36</sup> As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. <sup>37</sup> As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, <sup>38</sup> saying,

“Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!”

<sup>39</sup> Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” <sup>40</sup> He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **BLESSING OF PALMS**

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept.*

**C** **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**

*The assisting minister addresses the assembly.*

**P** Let us go forth in peace,

**C** **in the name of Christ. Amen.**

## 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,

*Refrain*

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.

Text: Theodolph of Orleans, c. 760–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
 Music: VALET WILL. ICH DIR GEBEN, Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635

**P** Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
**C** **Hosanna in the Highest.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

**C** **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.**

## **WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

*The assembly is seated.*

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

*All children are invited to come to the Altar steps for a special "Children's message".*



**Kids in Christ's  
KINGDOM**

## First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

*This text, the third of the four Servant Songs in Isaiah, speaks of the servant's obedience amid persecution. Though the servant has been variously understood as the prophet himself or a remnant of faithful Israel, Christians have often recognized the figure of Christ in these poems.*

<sup>4</sup> The 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.

<sup>5</sup> The Lord GOD has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious,  
I did not turn backward.

<sup>6</sup> I 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.

<sup>7</sup> The 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;  
<sup>8</sup> he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries?

Let them confront me.

<sup>9a</sup> It is the Lord GOD who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?

L The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm: Psalm 31:9-16

*Into your hands, O LORD, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)*

- <sup>9</sup> Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble;  
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.
- <sup>10</sup> **For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing;  
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.**
- <sup>11</sup> 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.
- <sup>12</sup> **Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind;  
I am as useless as a broken pot.**
- <sup>13</sup> 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.
- <sup>14</sup> **But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD.  
I have said, “You are my God.**
- <sup>15</sup> My times are in your hand;  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.
- <sup>16</sup> **Let your face shine upon your servant;  
save me in your steadfast love.”**



## Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

*Paul quotes from an early Christian hymn that describes Jesus' humble obedience in his incarnation as a human being, even to death, and his exaltation and glory as Lord of all.*

<sup>5</sup> Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup> he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross.

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

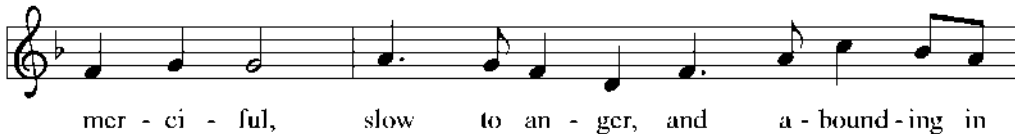
L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW pg. 142

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*



## **Gospel: Luke 23:1-49**

*Through the teachings and events of the passion story we see and hear the great contradictions that characterize the coming of God's reign. The leader serves the followers, proud Peter is revealed in his cowardice, and Jesus—the innocent bringer of life—is arrested, beaten, executed, and buried.*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*You may remain seated for the dramatic reading of the Passion. Please enter into the story by listening and reflecting, rather than reading along from the bulletin.*



**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**Rev. Thulie Beresford**

# WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

## HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 336

*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*

### Lamb of God



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have  
2 Your gift of love we cru - ci - fied. We laughed and  
3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have



sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y  
scorned him as he died. The hum - ble king we named a  
brought me to your side to be led by your staff and



sod and to be - come the Lamb of God.  
fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God. O Lamb of  
rod and to be called a lamb of God.



God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me



in your pre - cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Text: Twila Paris, b. 1958

Music: Twila Paris

Text and music © 1985 Straightway Music/Mountain Spring Music

YOUR ONLY SON

LMD

# **THE APOSTLES CREED**

**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**

## Prayers of Intercession

L Led by the Spirit, we come to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all who need His care.

*(Brief silence)*

L Lord, guide your church throughout this Holy Week. Help us walk faithfully with Jesus, following His humble example of service and love. Strengthen all who worship you, especially those facing hardships. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

L Lord, let your creation reflect the wonder of Christ's passion and resurrection. Open our eyes to see your presence in nature—in palms that wave, fields that grow, and the beauty around us. Inspire us to care faithfully for the earth you made. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

L Lord, bless and guide us, that they may seek wisdom and serve with humility. Help us all to reflect Christ's kindness and compassion in our daily lives. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

L Lord, comfort all who feel weary, sick, or burdened this Holy Week. Surround with your love everyone experiencing pain, grief, loneliness, or distress. Bring healing and peace where it is needed most. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

L Lord, give strength and joy to all who lead and assist in worship this Holy Week—pastors, musicians, volunteers, and church staff. Fill their hearts with joy and dedication, that their service may glorify you and inspire others. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

L God, we lift to you all those we carry in our hearts now, silently or aloud.  
*(Brief silence for personal prayers)* Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

L Lord, we give you thanks for those who have gone before us in faith. Just as Christ's cross led to resurrection, welcome our loved ones into the joy of eternal life with you. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

L Hear our prayers, Lord, and gather us all together in your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen.**

# SHARING OUR LORD'S PEACE

*The minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**C** And also with you.

# OFFERING

*The assembly is seated as Offerings are collected for the mission of the church.*

# MUSICAL OFFERING

# OFFERTORY

*The offertory is sung as the offering is presented and the altar is prepared.*

## Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERING PRAYER

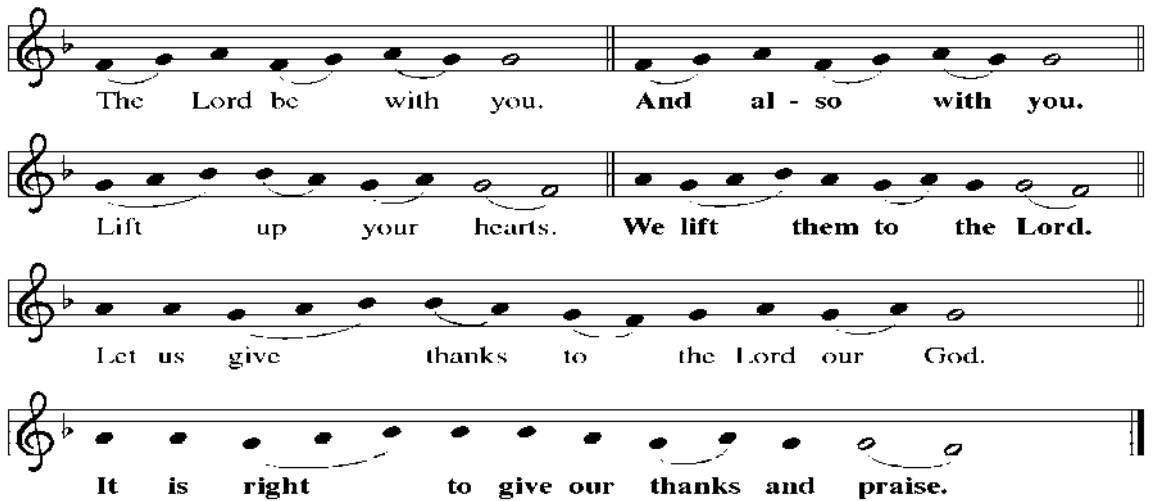
P Let us pray.

C **Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## WE RECEIVE GOD'S GIFT

### HOLY COMMUNION

#### Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 our thanks and praise.

*The presiding minister continues:*

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:

# HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*The Pastor leads us in the Words of Institution  
Please direct your attention to the altar.*

- P 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.
- P 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.



## **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.**

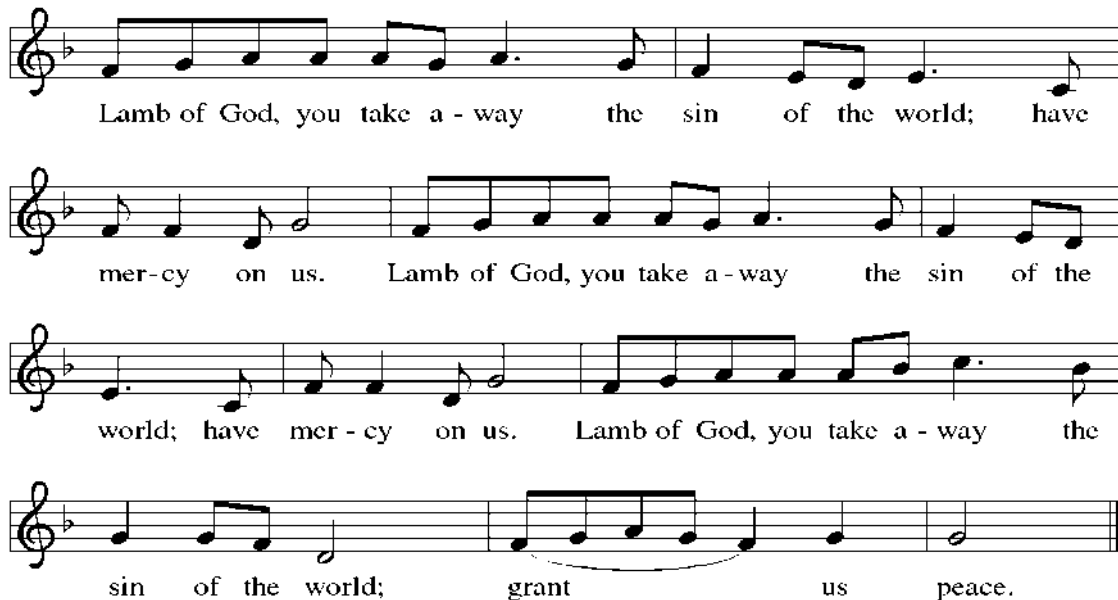
**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P The Gifts of God for the People of God.

C Thanks be to God.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

## WE RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION

### Communion Distribution

Please be seated. All who celebrate with us the presence of the risen Christ in Holy Communion are invited to join us for this sacrament.

We receive communion continuously at the communion station via intinction. Please remain seated until the ushers invite you to commune by pew. Please return to your seat by the outside aisle. Children are invited for a blessing.

If you are visiting today, please be our guest. We welcome you to share in communion, and we invite you to sign our guestbook or speak with an usher for more information about Faith Lutheran.

**If you would like communion brought to you in your pew, please notify an usher.**



*San - to, san - to, san - to, oh Dios del u - ni - ver - so:*  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of might and mer - cy,



*. . . lle-nos es-tán el cie - lo y la tie - rra de tu glo - ria.*  
your glo - ry fills all heav-en and earth. . . . You are ho - ly, God.



*Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en nom - bre del Se - ñor. . . .*  
. . . Bless - ed be the Sav - ior, the one who comes in your name.



*Ho - san - na en el cie - lo. San - to e-res, oh Dios.*  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. You are ho - ly, God.

Text: Traditional; English text, hymnal version

Music: ARGENTINE SANTO, Argentine traditional

English text © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

Duplication in any form prohibited without securing permission from copyright administrator or reporting usage under valid license.

## He Is Lord



He is Lord, he is Lord, he is ris-en from the dead and he is Lord;



ev-'ry knee shall bow, ev-'ry tongue con-fess that Je - sus Christ is Lord.

Text: Philippians 2:10-11, adapt.

Music: HE IS LORD, traditional

## **Communion Blessing**

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

## **Communion Prayer**

P Let us pray.

C **Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **WE ARE SENT**

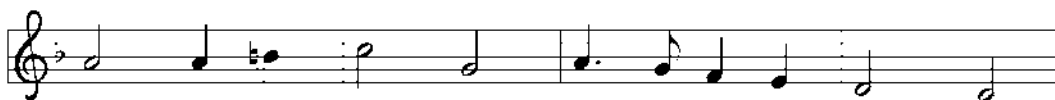
## **BENEDICTION**

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 Amen



1 There in God's gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,  
 2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"  
 3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;  
 4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;



whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions;  
 There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - f'ring;  
 our greed has starved it, our de - spite has choked it.  
 hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!



Tree of all knowl - edge, Tree of all com -  
 see there the ten - drils of our hu - man  
 Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -  
 Give me your sick - ness, give me all your



pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty.  
 self - hood feed on its life - blood,  
 stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.  
 sor - row, I will give bless - ing."

5 This is my ending  
 this my resurrection;  
 into your hands, Lord.  
 I commit my spirit.  
 This have I searched for;  
 now I can possess it.  
 This ground is holy.

6 All heav'n is singing,  
 "Thanks to Christ whose passion  
 offers in mercy  
 healing, strength, and pardon.  
 Peoples and nations,  
 take it, take it freely!"  
 Amen! My Master!

Text: Király Imre von Péeselyi, c. 1590–c. 1641; tr. Erik Routley, 1917–1982

Music: SHADES MOUNTAIN, K. Lee Scott, b. 1950

Text © 1976 Hinshaw Music, Inc.

Music © 1987 Bimamwood Publications, a div. of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

## DISMISSAL

**P** Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

### **Statement of Purpose**

As servants of Christ, we are called  
to proclaim God's saving Word in a caring, nurturing way,  
to spread God's love throughout our community, and  
to provide opportunities for people to grow in Christ.

*Our Worship Ends + Our Service Begins*



# **Palm Sunday — Sunday of the Passion**

## **April 13, 2025**

### **Remember Us**

On this Sunday of the Passion, the gathered church remembers the final days of Jesus' life. Once the celebratory palm branches are set down, the mood shifts as the somber tones of betrayal and crucifixion take over. The Lukan narrative draws us into the details, and we remember the extent of God's passion for us as Jesus enters into the depths of suffering through divine selfless love poured out for the sake of the world.

There is power in remembering. To be sure, this is an exercise of memory and recall for us. Yet Holy Week is much more than that. In our remembering of Jesus' passion, our reality is re-membered with God's reality. Like members of a body, we are re-membered onto Christ, formed into one through the Spirit, and drawn into the reality of God's saving love. Through scripture, song, and prayer, the liturgy of this day re-members us as God's people as we bear witness to Jesus' remembrance of us.

In the culminating moment of the crucifixion, only Luke's gospel reports the exchange between the two criminals and Jesus. The one criminal chastises the other before he addresses the crucified Jesus, saying, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom" (Luke 23:42). The request is for more than an act of recall; the criminal is seeking to be re-membered in the dominion of God, seeking a fusion of realities—his with Jesus'. Without hesitation, Jesus responds, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise" (v. 43). The criminal will be with Jesus, re-membered to Jesus.

This Sunday we remember Jesus' passion as together we are joined to God's loving action for the world. Jesus' last breath on the cross is the moment when our reality is re-membered with God's, for Jesus remembers us, and paradise's reign is realized.

From [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com).

Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB136124. New Revised Standard Version Bible. Copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. CCLI #2331702