

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN "BLUE" CHURCH

5900 Applebutter Hill Rd. Coopersburg, Pa 18036
610-965-9500 e-mail: bluechch@ptd.net Website: stpaulscoopersburg.com
Pastor: Rev. James Hammond 610-437-1960; jjtrev1@verizon.net

THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION/PALM SUNDAY ✠ MARCH 25, 2018

SILENCE FOR MEDITATION
ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCESSION WITH PALMS

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD.

Hosanna to the Son of David.

The LORD be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Mercifully assist us, O LORD God of our salvation,
that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those
mighty acts whereby you have given us life everlasting; through
your Son, Jesus Christ our LORD.

Amen

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL: ST. MARK 11:1-11

THANKSGIVING

Those in the congregation come forward to get their Palms, return to their seats and raise their branches.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the LORD our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

We praise and thank you, O God, for your redemption of the world through your Son, Jesus Christ our LORD. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was acclaimed Son of David and King of kings by those who scattered their garments and branches of palm in his path. Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant that we may ever hail him as our LORD and King and follow him in the way of the cross, so that dying and rising with him, we may enter into your kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our LORD, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

PROCESSION

Let us go forth in peace,

in the name of the LORD.

Hymn #344



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. 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.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD.

Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

As we now enter into 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.

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.

FIRST READING:

ISAIAH 50:4-9A

PSALM 31:9-16

Psalm Tone 11



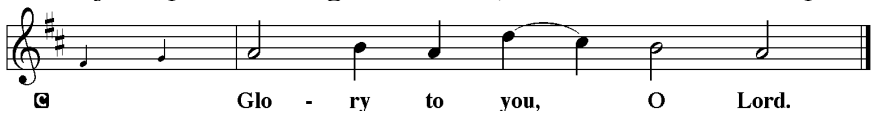
Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I | am in trouble;
 my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat | and
 my belly.
¹⁰**For my life is wasted with grief, and my | years with sighing;
 my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones
 | are consumed.**
¹¹I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a
 dismay to | my acquaintances;
 when they see me in the street | they avoid me.
¹²**Like 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.
¹⁴**But 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.
¹⁶**Let your face shine up- | on your servant;
 save me in your | steadfast love."**

SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

VERSE

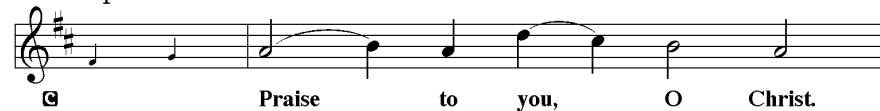


The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 14th and 15th Chapter.



HOLY GOSPEL: MARK 14:1-15:47

The Gospel of the LORD.



SERMON

HYMN #337 "JESUS KEEP ME NEAR THE CROSS"

PRAYERS Response: "hear our prayer."

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of the LORD be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING

MUHLENBERG COLLEGE GOSPEL CHOIR

Offering is gathered for the poor and those with needs in our community and world.

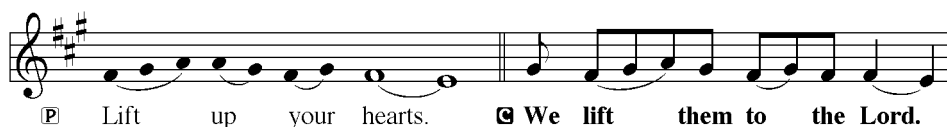
OFFERTORY RESPONSE #884

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
 praise him, all creatures here below;
 praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
 praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray... Heavenly Father,
**your Son offered himself to you on the altar of the cross.
 Receive and bless these gifts which we bring to your altar
 here in praise of the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of
 the world, Jesus Christ our LORD. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The pastor offers the prayer. The congregation joins in praying the Lord's Prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

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 HOLY COMMUNION

Return to God with all your heart. Receive bread for the journey, drink for the desert.

LAMB OF 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, grant us peace.

HOLY COMMUNION #337 "ALAS! AND DID MY SAVIOR BLEED"

BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER

Let us pray...Heavenly Father, by His death on the cross your Son freed us from the bondage to sin and death. Watch over your Church, and all who celebrate his blessed Passion. Give us food for our journey from death to life. We ask this through Jesus Christ our LORD. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you ✕ peace. **Amen.**

HYMN #347 "GO TO DARK GETHSEMANE"

DISMISSAL

Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the LORD. **Thanks be to God.**

✕ ✕ ✕

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WELCOME TO ALL IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!

“God’s purpose for St. Paul’s Lutheran “Blue” Church is to spread the Good News of Christ’s love for all people in the Southern Lehigh community and beyond.”
We especially welcome those who are visiting. We invite you to sign our guest register in the narthex. Blank envelopes in the pews are for visitors.

SUNDAY OF THE PASSION/PALM SUNDAY...

The first and second readings and psalm are the same this Sunday every year: Christ emptying himself of divine power and protection, willingly becoming vulnerable to those who struck him and put him to death. With Christ we lament his suffering and all human suffering, but expect God’s final vindication. Mark’s passion story begins with an unnamed woman anointing his head, perhaps to proclaim him Messiah, and Jesus saying she has anointed him beforehand for burial. Mark’s Easter story will begin with women going to anoint Jesus for burial, only to find that he has been raised, God’s living Anointed One.

ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE READINGS.....

ISAIAH 50:4-9a: *The image of the servant of the Lord 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.*

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.*

MARK 14:1—15:47: *The passion story in Mark’s gospel presents Jesus as one who dies abandoned by all. He shows himself to be the true Son of God by giving his life for those who have forsaken him.*

PRAYER FOR THE DAY: Father, not my will but yours be done.
(Mark 14:36)

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: Lord Jesus Christ, come to us in the power of your Spirit and prepare our hearts to celebrate the great and holy days. Amen.

LEADING OUR WORSHIP

CELEBRANT	The Rev. James Hammond
ORGANIST	Dr. Jennifer Dodd
GREETER	Lillian Frey
ASSISTING MINISTER	Ron Fried

LECTOR
CANTOR
USHERS
CHURCH COUNCIL REP

Loraine Kline
Gwen Gibiser
Maggie Fried, Shirley Hildebrand
Roger Knappenberger

BLUE CHURCH PRAYS FOR.....Sick/Recovering: Anthony Abate, Jake Dilger, Doris Heiserman, Marie Miller, Carl Ritter, Shannon Silliman,

Note: This is a short-term list, for those who are in “acute care” situations—hospitalized or in recovery, dying, facing the recent death of a loved one, or presently facing a severe life crisis. The names of persons for whom we pray will be kept on the list for one month. If you wish to have them placed back on the list please contact the church office.

ELIGIBLE THRIVENT MEMBERS WHO HAVE CHOICE DOLLARS AVAILABLE have until **March 31, 2018**, to direct any remaining Choice Dollars. Help support Blue Church. Last year Blue Church received **\$2,061** in charitable outreach funding from Thrivent. Go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more, or call 800-847-4836 and say “Thrivent Choice” after the prompt.

CONGREGATIONAL BULLETIN BOARD

TODAY: 9 AM Choir Rehearsal at Blue Church.
9:30 – 10:15 AM Christian Education/Sunday Fun Day.
10:30 AM Worship – Palm Sunday.
We welcome the Muhlenberg College Gospel Choir.

WED.: 9 AM Quilting at Blue Church.
HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

THUR.: 7 PM Maundy Thursday Worship.

FRI.: 7 PM Good Friday Worship.

NEXT SUN.: 9 AM Choir Rehearsal.
9 AM Easter Breakfast.
10 AM Easter Egg Hunt.
10:30 AM Worship.

C O M I N G E V E N T S – mark your calendar!

APR. 7, 2018 – 9 AM – Work Party in the church.
Please plan to join us. There is a sheet in the Narthex to add your suggestions of things that need to be repaired.

APR. 8, 2018 – 7 PM Confirmation Class.

APR. 9, 2018 – 7 PM Church Council Meeting.

**WEEKLY GIFTS, PRESENTED TO THE GLORY OF GOD:
BULLETINS...**by Joyce Christman in memory of family and friends.

COMMUNION BREAD & WINE...by Richard and Beverly Lerch

EASTER EGG HUNT – 10:00 AM Easter Sunday. Ages 1 month to 12 years!

Note: We are asking you to pick up your carton of plastic eggs, take them home and fill them with your favorite sweets (please no peanut products) and bring them back to church.

Also, we are asking for hard boiled colored eggs for the egg hunt. Please bring them to church by March 31st. Thanks!

THE SIGN UP SHEETS FOR YOUR HELP WITH THE EASTER BREAKFAST ARE ON THE BULLETIN BOARDS IN THE NARTHEX. Please check it out and see in what area you can contribute. Your help is appreciated.
