

**First English Lutheran Church
Butler, Pennsylvania**

**Service of Holy Communion
Palm Sunday
April 2, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

Today our liturgy begins in the social hall for the liturgy of the palms.

LITURGY OF THE PALMS

WELCOME

ACCLAMATION *three times*

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

Hosanna in the highest.

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL **Matthew 21:1-11**

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying 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. ³If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." ⁴This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

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."

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The 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!”

¹⁰When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” ¹¹The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

BLESSING OF PALMS

The Lord be with you.

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

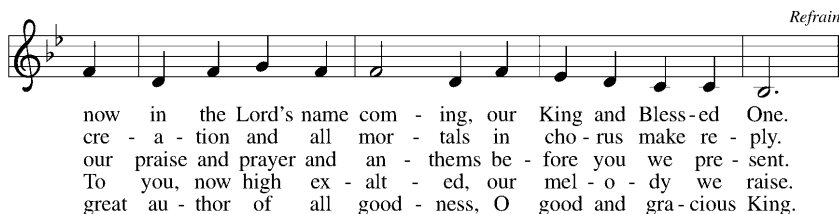
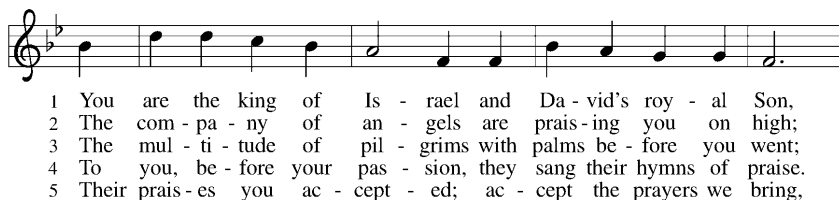
Let us go forth in peace,

in the name of Christ. Amen.

During the hymn, the procession moves into the sanctuary.

GATHERING HYMN *(next page)*

All Glory, Laud, and Honor



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

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ACCLAMATION

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

Hosanna in the highest.

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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:

Sovereign God, you have established your rule in the human heart through the servanthood of Jesus Christ. By your Spirit, keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues confess Jesus as Lord

and with their lives praise him as Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The congregation may sit.

THE WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

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
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.

Thanks be to God.

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.

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 upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love."**

SECOND READING **Philippians 2:5-11**

Paul uses an early Christian hymn to help us comprehend Jesus' obedient selflessness on the cross and how God has made Christ lord over all reality. The perspective of the cross becomes the way we rightly understand God, Christ, our own lives, and fellowship within the community of Christ.

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.

Thanks be to God.

The congregation may stand.

HYMN

“My Song Is Love Unknown” sts. 1-3 Red Book #343

The congregation may sit.

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

For in person worshipers, the passion reading is found in the insert in this bulletin. The congregation is invited to read the speaking parts marked with a leaf. After worship, please place your copy of the passion reading in the collection box in the back of the sanctuary so that they can be reused.

The congregation may stand.

HYMN

“My Song Is Love Unknown” sts. 4-6 Red Book #343

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

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 INTERCESSION

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church,
the world, and all who are in need.

The congregation may kneel or sit.

We pray for the church this Holy Week, as it walks the way of the cross, that it might experience again the saving power of your Son's death and life for us. Lord, in your mercy, **Receive our prayer.**

We pray for those who, like Jesus in Gethsemane, face difficult decisions or a hard path. Keep them faithful in their struggle and allow them to lean completely into your mercy and grace. Lord, in your mercy: **Receive our prayer.**

We pray for those who, like Judas, betray their friends and loved ones for uncertain reasons. We are even bold to pray for those who have betrayed us.... In all circumstances, keep our hope in your forgiveness and reconciliation alive. Lord, in your mercy: **Receive our prayer.**

We pray for those who, like the women at the cross, must look on as their loved ones' lives end in violence. Our hearts are pierced with grief and anger at more mass shootings, especially in Tennessee. We commend the slain to your wounded hands and the survivors to your merciful heart. With your might, empower us to change this broken world. Lord, in your mercy, **Receive our prayer.**

We pray that the hope and victory won by Jesus' cross might shape our lives so that even our death becomes a portal to life. We remember those who have died this week.... Bring us all to the hope of eternal life. Lord, in your mercy, **Receive our prayer.**

The presiding minister concludes:

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The congregation may stand.

THE MEAL

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

After sharing the peace, the congregation may sit.

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Every Knee Shall Bow”
(*Philippians 2:5-11*)

- Lloyd Larson

OFFERING HYMN

“Create in Me a Clean Heart”

Red Book #188

OFFERING PRAYER *led by the assisting minister*

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
 heav - en 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation...*(the presiding minister continues giving thanks)*...

Therefore, according to his command, O God:

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you...*(the presiding minister concludes)*...

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

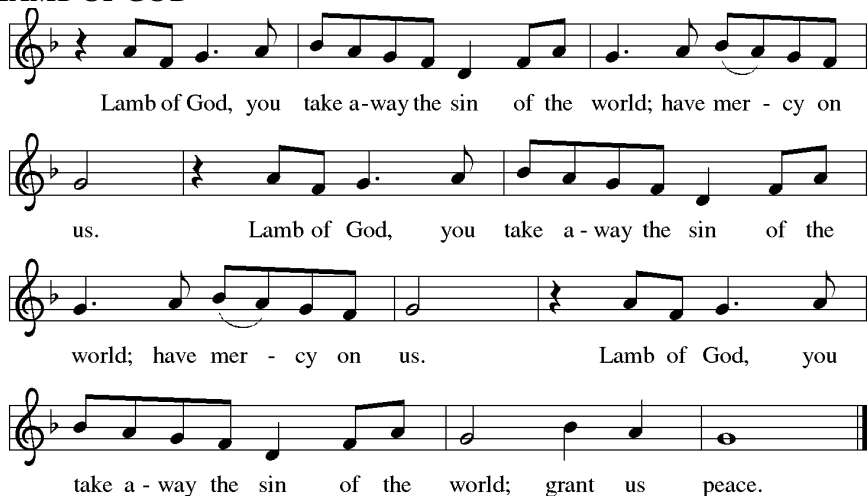
Give us this day our daily bread;

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

Taste and see that the Lord is good!

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.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT *received from the center aisle*
 All are welcome to Holy Communion today. Lutherans believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. The ushers will invite you forward to receive. Gluten free wafers are available; please let the pastor know if you wish to receive them. If you are able to receive either bread or wine (but not both), please know that you still receive the full communion.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

“Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!”

Red Book #346

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

CANTICLE AFTER COMMUNION



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have prepared in the sight of ev-'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *led by the assisting minister*

THE SENDING

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"There in God's Garden

Red Book #342

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The Lord is with you!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth”

- Wolfgang Dachstein

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor Kimberly van Driel	Presiding Minister
Sharon Heist Miller	Assisting Minister
Marlin Boltz	Reader
Sharon Heist Miller	Crucifer
Tucker Sequite	Acolyte
Kevin Mathias	Organist
Harry Cunningham	Senior Choir Director
Marlin Boltz	AV Assisting Minister
Karen Boltz	PowerPoint Assisting Minister
Roxanne Glagola	Altar Guild
Stan Graff, Dan Morrow, Christiaan van Driel, Andrew and Amelia O'Rourke	Ushers
Susan Farrell and Sue Morrow	Counters

Flowers are given to the glory of God by the congregation of First English Lutheran Church.

All are welcome to gather in the social hall for coffee hour following worship.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Monday, 4/3	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting
Thursday, 4/6	6:30 PM	Maundy Thursday Dinner Church
	7:45 PM	Choir Rehearsal
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting
Friday, 4/7	7:30 PM	Good Friday Service
	8:45 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, 4/8	12:00 PM	NA Meeting
Sunday, 4/9	10:00 AM	Worship followed by Easter breakfast

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanks to those who served as readers for the passion according to St. Matthew:

Chuck McMichael, Narrator
Kathy Gilkey, Jesus
Alex Kamerer, Peter
Amy Beiler, Judas

Edwin van Driel, High Priest
Joan Giese, Pilate
Larry Hamil, Witness
Pr. Kimberly van Driel, Servant

There will be no Bible study today or next Sunday, April 9th.

Please gather in the Social Hall before worship this morning for the blessing of the palms.

Paschal Pastries: Enjoy the Easter morning glow by joining us directly after worship for a continental breakfast. Please bring a baked good of your choice or a fruit or veggie plate to share. No hot dishes will be served so that no one has to stand over a hot oven on such a joyful morning.

Call for Worship Leaders! If you are not on the current worship schedule and you would like to be added to the summer worship schedule, please let Caitlyn know by Tuesday, April 4th.

On Maundy Thursday, the church remembers Jesus' last supper with his disciples and his great commandments to love, serve, and break bread together. This year, the Maundy Thursday liturgy will take place as a dinner church starting at 6:30 p.m. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet in the social hall. There will be a zoom option (with special zoom plans!) available also. If you plan to zoom, please let Pr. Kimberly know by phone or email: pkfelc@zoominternet.net.

Volunteers are needed to bake cakes for Community Dinner! If you'd like to help, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the social hall. Please see Tracy Gullickson, MaryAnn Swanson, or Jan Nieto if you have any questions.

PRAYERS

Robin McVay; Maread Magee; Alysia Shaffer; Donny Bayless; Rose Cooper; Sue Lehew; Beth Weber; family of Madaline Golic; family of Joyce Mitchel; Ann Johnson; Jeff Turner; family of Ryan Glagola; family of Pete Huff; Mary & Steve and foster children; Janice Krause; Vonnie Baker; Shirley Mould; Dave Adams; Tracy Steadman; family of Paul

Throm; Jim Cunningham; Gracie Love; Thelma Hassler; family of David Hartle; family of Chris Holman; family of Hazel Warheit; 6-month-old baby girl in Ohio; Karen Knepp; Zachary Sutton; Tony Sequite; Kyle Badger; those affected by hurricane Ian; Brian Salisbury; Mark Vogel & family; continued healing for Graham Cannon; Stan Graff; Aryl Bashline; Patrick Frank; Holly Schubert; Ellen Dodge; Tad Sellers; Claudia; Pam Patterson; Tom Olson

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Acts 10:34-43

God raised Jesus on the third day

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Ps. 118:24)

Colossians 3:1-4

Raised with Christ to seek the higher things

Matthew 28:1-10

Proclaim the resurrection

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Holy Week at First English

April 2nd - Palm Sunday - Worship at 10 a.m.

April 6th - Maundy Thursday - Dinner Church at 6:30 p.m.

April 7th - Good Friday - Worship at 7:30 p.m.

*April 9th - Easter Sunday - Worship at 10 a.m.
with Easter breakfast following worship*

**www.firstenglishbutler.org
241 North Main Street Butler, PA 16001**