

**First English Lutheran Church  
Butler, Pennsylvania**

**Service of Holy Communion  
Palm Sunday  
March 24, 2024  
10:00 a.m.**

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

**PRELUDE**

“A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth” - Johann Pachelbel  
“Ride On, Ride On, in Majesty” - John Bacchus Dykes and  
Graham George, Jean Drahmann, *arr.*

**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 Mark 11:1-11**

The holy gospel according to Mark, the eleventh chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, [Jesus] sent two of his disciples <sup>2</sup>and 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. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.’” <sup>4</sup>They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, <sup>5</sup>some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” <sup>6</sup>They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. <sup>7</sup>Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. <sup>8</sup>Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. <sup>9</sup>Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

“Hosanna!

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

<sup>10</sup>Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!  
Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

<sup>11</sup>Then 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.

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.**

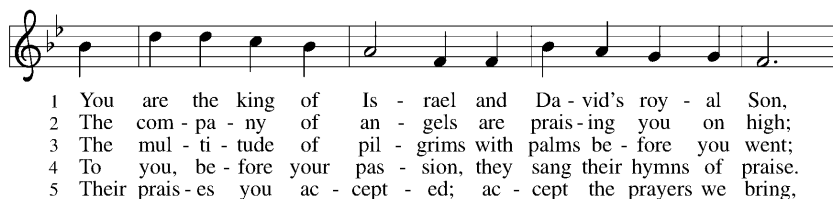
### **PROCESSION**

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: Theodulph 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.**

*The congregation may sit.*

### CHOIR ANTHEM

“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

- Mark Andrews

### 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 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.*

<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>9</sup>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*

<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    Philipians 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.*

<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,

<sup>7</sup>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.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*The congregation may stand.*

**HYMN**

“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”      sts. 1-2      Red Book #345

*The congregation may sit.*

**THE PASSION OF OUR LORD ACCORDING TO MARK**

*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**

“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”      sts. 3-4      Red Book #345

**NICEND 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**

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church,  
the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

*A brief silence.*

Blessed God, today your church sings glad hosannas as we enter Holy  
Week. Your love comes free to us, but at great cost to Christ. Make us into  
a church capable of bearing his costly love for others. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Establish peace and justice among the nations. We remember especially  
Haiti, Ukraine, Gaza, Israel, Nigeria, South Sudan, and Yemen. Meet

suffering people with your suffering love, and hold those who inflict pain and violence on others to account. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Preserve our nation from discord and strife. Open our eyes to see the image of God in our neighbors, even in the faces of those from whom we differ or with whom we disagree. Give us in all things the mind of Christ. Hear us, O God:

**Your mercy is great.**

Remember in your love those who feel forsaken or forgotten. We pray especially for those who live in institutional settings without much connection to the outside world: for those in prison and for those who are in group homes or care facilities. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Guard and guide those who have asked for our prayers, especially Carol...Bring hope and healing to all who are sick. For all those who have issues to resolve in the courts. For those who do not have enough to eat in our community.... Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Blessed One, our times are in your hand. Sustain to follow you in this life and at our death, receive us into everlasting life. We remember before you those who have died this week who are dear to us, especially Leanne Bushaw (others may be named). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

*The congregation may stand.*

### **THE MEAL**

#### **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The congregation may sit.*



## OFFERING

### ORGAN OFFERTORY

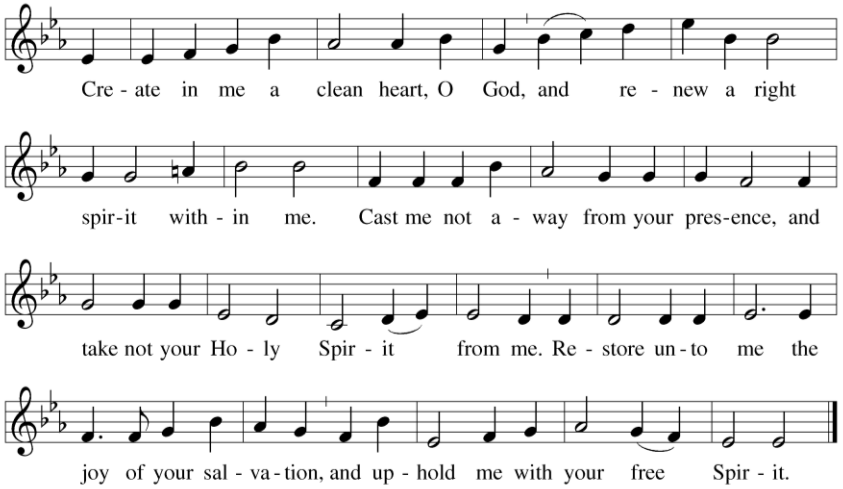
“There Is a Green Hill Far Away”

- John Henry Gower  
and Healey Willan, *arr.*

*The congregation may stand.*

## HYMN

### Create in Me a Clean Heart



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres-ence, and  
take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the  
joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Text: Psalm 51:10–12  
Music: FRANCKE, J.A. Freylinghausen, 1670–1739

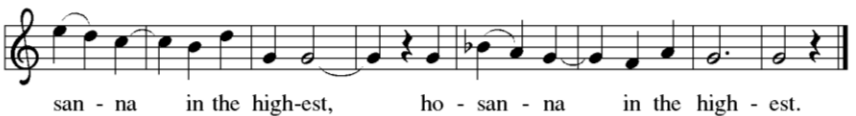
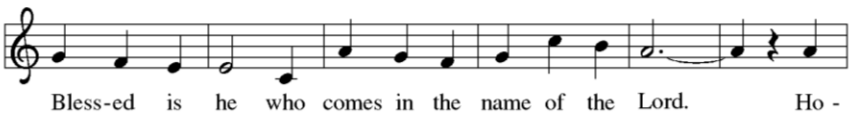
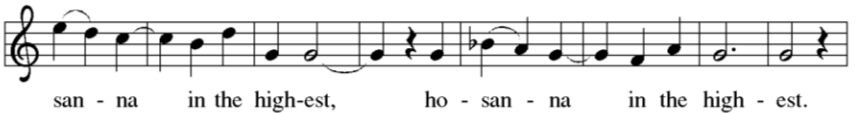
## OFFERING PRAYER

*led by the assisting minister*

## GREAT THANKSGIVING



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



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,**

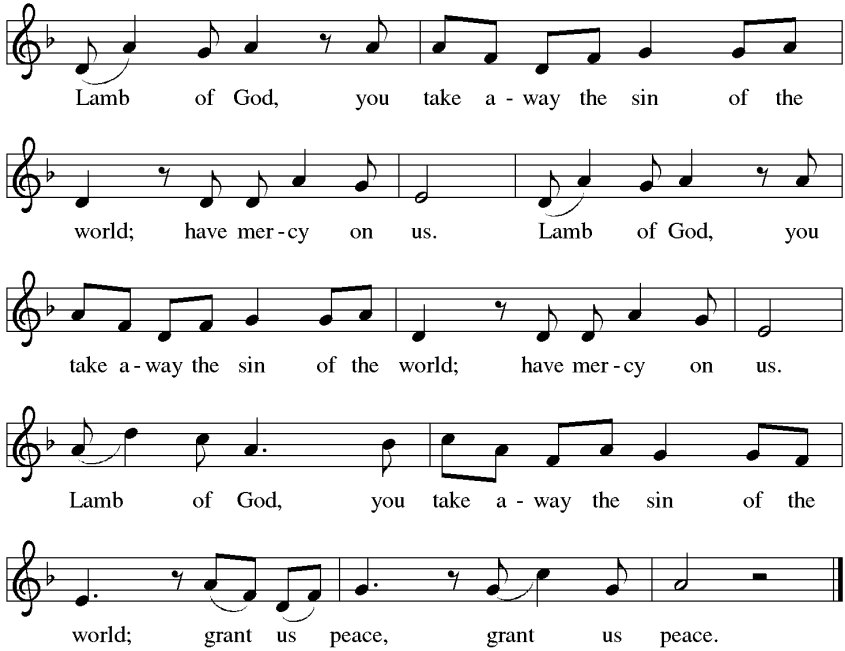
**and the power, and the glory,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

The gifts of God given for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him your hearts with thanksgiving.

## 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.

*The congregation may sit.*

## SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

*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.*

*After all have received, the congregation may stand.*

## HYMN DURING COMMUNION

“Were You There”

Red Book #353

## BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

As high as the heavens are above the earth, as far as the east is from the west, so far has God removed our sins from us. The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*led by the assisting minister*

### THE SENDING

#### BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, Son + Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

#### SENDING HYMN

“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”

Red Book #335

#### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**Thanks be to God.**

#### POSTLUDE

“A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth”

- Rayner Brown

#### SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Kimberly van Driel	<b>Presiding Minister</b>
Mollie Hibbs	<b>Assisting Minister</b>
Sue Morrow	<b>Communion Assistant</b>
Marlin Boltz	<b>Reader</b>
Amelia O'Rourke	<b>Crucifer</b>
Shane Kamerer	<b>Acolyte</b>
Kevin Mathias	<b>Organist</b>
Harry Cunningham	<b>Sr. Choir Director</b>
Josh Kamerer	<b>AV Assisting Minister</b>
Brandon Stein	<b>PowerPoint Minister</b>
Larry Christy and Jack Rudzki	<b>Ushers</b>
Karen and Bob Domanski	<b>Counters</b>
Roxanne Glagola	<b>Altar Guild</b>

*Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by  
the congregation of First English Lutheran Church.*

*All are welcome to join us for social hour following the worship service.*

#### THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Mon., 3/25	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting (Social Hall)
Thurs., 3/28	6:30 PM	Maundy Thursday Dinner Church

	7:30 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Fri., 3/29	6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal
	7:30 PM	Good Friday Service
	8:40 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Sat., 3/30	12:00 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Sun., 3/31	10:00 AM	Worship followed by Easter breakfast
	5:30 PM	AA Meeting (Downstairs)

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**There will be a meeting for the confirmation class following the worship service today.**

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

Mark:

Yvonne Thickey, Narrator  
Mollie Hibbs, Jesus  
Larry Christy, Peter  
Holly Schubert, Judas  
Christiaan van Driel, High Priest  
Judy Vilcheck, Servant Girl  
Fred Miller, Pilate  
Signe Mitchell, Bystander  
Bill Vilcheck, Centurion

**There will be no Bible study today or next Sunday, March 31.**

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

**Easter Sunday Potluck Coffee Hour – March 31 following the worship service.** Bring coffee cakes, fruit, quick breads (no hot dishes) to share and stay for continued celebration of the resurrection.

**Tickets for the 2024 Gala** to benefit Butler Community Dinners on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> are available for purchase from Tracy Gullickson and MaryAnn Swanson.

**Raffle Basket Request:** If you or a group would like to put a basket together to benefit the Community Meal Ministries Gala & Art Show that will be held the weekend of April 13 & 14 at St Michael's Hall, please have your basket to First English by Thursday, April 4. Please give your basket a

title and add a list of contents & name of the donor. This basket raffle is an important part of our event! Questions? Please see Tracy Gullickson or MaryAnn Swanson.



## *Holy Week at First English*

*March 24th - Palm Sunday - Worship at 10 a.m.*

*March 28th - Maundy Thursday - Dinner Church at 6:30 p.m.*

*March 29th - Good Friday - Worship at 7:30 p.m.*

*March 31st - Easter Sunday - Worship at 10 a.m.  
with Easter potluck coffee hour following worship*

[www.firstenglishbutler.org](http://www.firstenglishbutler.org)

241 North Main Street Butler, PA 16001

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**Do you give online through tithe.ly?** Or do you send contributions to the church directly? Would you still like to participate in the offering during worship? Use the new “I give online” cards found in the card holders in the pew.

### **PRAYERS**

Carol Sawford; family of Leanne Bushaw; Abbie; C. J. Williams; Evan; Cheryl Stirling; Kenneth Mathias; Lucas Barber; Charlie and Lori; Jan Nieto; Gavin; family of David Riggs; family of Mary Ann Rudzki; Jeff Boyd; Betty Thomas; Owen; family of Rose “Roe” Goda; family of Mairead Magee; Chris and Jodie; Kathy Rhodes, her husband Ken, and family; Tonnie van Driel; family of Frank Franzen; Jayden; Myrna Hamil; Linda; Kathy Schweikart Spingola and Charles Spingola; Marj Rogner; Pam Reeder; Greg Reeder; Carol Cunningham; family of Zema Schaney; Frank Miller; family of Tony Sequite; Mackenzie Perkins; Linda Mathias; Gus Keiser; Cory; Will; Carol Chamberlain; Carol Johnson; Mason Martin;

family of Janet Warner; Eileen Herbeck; family of Linda Hibbeler; Thelma Hassler; continued healing for Graham Cannon; Aryl Bashline; Holly Schubert; Tad Sellers; 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*)

**1 Corinthians 15:1-11**

*Witnesses to the risen Christ*

**Mark 16:1-8**

*The resurrection of Jesus is announced, and the response is one of terror and amazement.*

**ZOOM INFO**

To join via telephone, dial: +1 301 715 8592

Meeting ID: 956 305 5281

**Password: 408299**

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