

**First English Lutheran Church  
Butler, Pennsylvania**

**Service of Holy Communion  
Palm Sunday  
April 13, 2025  
10:00 a.m.**

**PRELUDE**

“The Royal Banners Forward Go” - Plainsong Melody and Johann Eccard  
“Ride On, Ride On in Majesty” - Graham George and John Bacchus Dykes  
“All Glory, Laud and Honor” - Jan Bender

**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     Luke 19:28-40**

The holy gospel according to Luke, the nineteenth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Entrance into the final days.*

<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."

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**BLESSING OF PALMS**      *all may raise their palms*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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.**

## **PROCESSION**

Let us go forth in peace,  
**in the name of Christ. Amen.**

**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

“Palm Branches”

John Thickey, *organist*

- J. Faure

Carl Bruche, *arr.*

## 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 awakens—  
awakens 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?

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    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.*

<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**

“A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth”    sts. 1-2    Red Book #340

*The congregation may sit.*

## **HOMILY**

### **THE PASSION OF OUR LORD ACCORDING TO LUKE**

*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**

“A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth”    sts. 3-4    Red Book #340

## 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.*

*After each petition, the assisting minister bids:*

Hear us, O God.

*The congregation responds:*

**Your mercy is great.**

*The presiding minister concludes:*

Stay with us, O 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**

“O Bread of Life from Heaven”

- J. G. Walther

#### **OFFERING HYMN**

“Create in Me a Clean Heart”

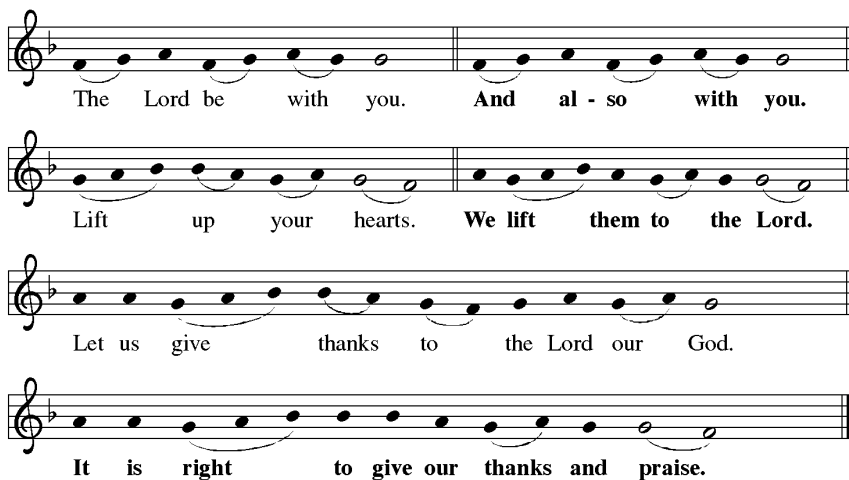
Red Book #188

*The congregation may stand.*

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

*led by the assisting minister*

### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**



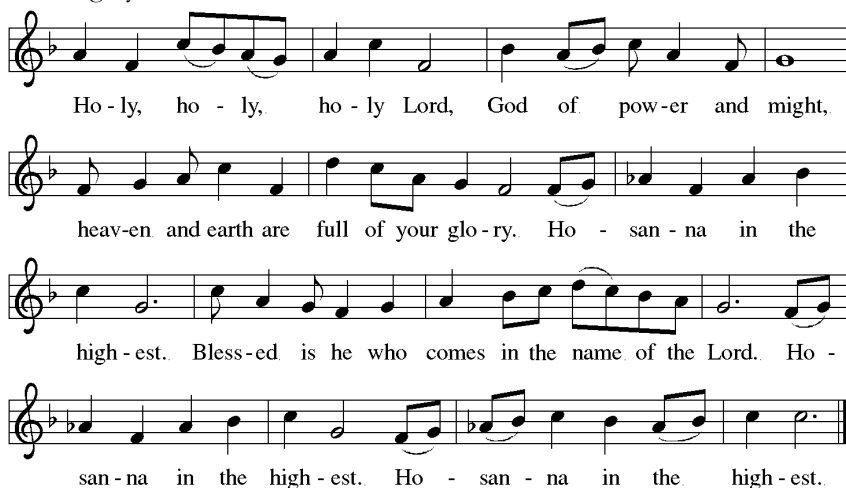
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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:



## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

We give you thanks, Father,  
through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son,  
whom you sent in this end of the ages  
to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will...(*the prayers continue*)...

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church;  
gather into one all who share this bread and wine;  
fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth,  
that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ;  
through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father,  
with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

**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.

*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

“O Bread of Life from Heaven”

Red Book #480

## 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.**

## SONG AFTER COMMUNION



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -



pared 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

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

**Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

“Christ, the Life of All the Living”

Red Book #339

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

- Paul Bunjes

## **SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY**

The Rev. Kimberly van Driel	<b>Presiding Minister</b>
Jim Cunningham	<b>Assisting Minister</b>
Sandy Lefebvre	<b>Communion Assistant</b>
Yvonne Thickey	<b>Reader</b>
Evan Stein	<b>Crucifer</b>
Emily Stein	<b>Acolyte</b>
Kevin Mathias	<b>Organist</b>
Harry Cunningham	<b>Sr. Choir Director</b>
Josh Kamerer	<b>AV Assisting Minister</b>
Gracie Love	<b>PowerPoint Minister</b>
Susan Farrell, Christiaan van Driel, Jake Stevens, and Brenden Stevens	<b>Ushers</b>
Susan Farrell and Sue Morrow	<b>Counters</b>
Roxanne Glagola	<b>Altar Guild</b>

*Altar flowers are given to the glory of God in honor of Rose Cooper's birthday by her loving family.*

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

## **THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH**

Mon., 4/14	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting (Social Hall)
Thurs., 4/17	6:30 PM	Soup Supper (Social Hall)
	7:30 PM	Maundy Thursday Worship
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Fri., 4/18	7:30 PM	Good Friday Worship
Sat., 4/19	12:00 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Sun., 4/20	8:45 AM	Flower the Cross
	10:00 AM	Worship followed by Easter breakfast
	5:30 PM	AA Meeting (Downstairs)

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**There will be no Bible study today or next Sunday, April 20.**

**Reminder: please return your finished pieces for the Easter collage!**

**Would you like to bring flowers** for the Easter cross next Sunday? Let us know you'll be joining us by signing up in the Social Hall.



## *Holy Week at First English*

*April 13th - Palm Sunday - Worship at 10 a.m.*

*April 17th - Maundy Thursday - Soup Supper at 6:30 p.m.  
followed by Worship at 7:30 p.m.*

*April 18th - Good Friday - Worship at 7:30 p.m.*

*April 20th - Easter Sunday - Festival Worship with Holy  
Communion at 10 a.m. followed by Paschal Pastries  
Easter Breakfast at 11:15 a.m.*

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

241 North Main Street Butler, PA 16001

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

Linda Mathias, Narrator

Edwin van Driel Jesus

Holly Schubert, Peter

Larry and Myrna Hamil, Criminals

Li Stoeher, Pilate

Rich Stoeher, Witness

Amy Beiler, Servant

Jolene Pelgrin, Centurion

**Join us after Easter worship** for Paschal Pastries - a potluck continental breakfast! Please bring baked goods, cheese, fruit, or any dish that does not need to be kept warm or heated. Also, we will assemble the communal collage for Easter. Any questions? Contact Holly Schubert or Sharon Heist Miller.

**Submissions for the May Newsletter** are due to Caitlyn in the church office by Wednesday, April 23.

## **PRAYERS**

Family of Karen Cranmer; Norman Butler; family of John Banks; Keith Graff; Jim Cunningham; Signe Mitchell; Cindy Regis; Marsh Miller; Paul & Mary; Becky Smith; Peter Osborne; Eric Love; Nancy & Dave McDermitt; family of Walter Fitzpatrick; family of Bernhard Klann; Hannah Love; Larry Hamil; Jake Stevens; Kathy & Tom Frank; Gerry and John O'Rourke; family of Thomas Olson; Karen Boltz's sister & her family; Randy & Gigi Kosier; Bruce Solomon; Tim Reamer; Shirley Mould; Nelson Ng; Jack Goetz; Debbie & family; family of Alice Miller; Mackenzie Hunt; Tatum Scilia; Fred Miller; Jaime Rickert; family of Dorothy Croupe; family of Amy; Warmbrod's mother; Rob; Jamie Maluk & family; David Fisher & family; Tommy, Jenny, & Aspen Zarnick; family of Richard Daller (brother of Betty Turner); Scott Tammaro; George Schaney; Stephen Wright; Steve; Don Eckels; Valerie Kurth; family of John Mileski; Cindy Halin; Mike Gibson; Dennis; Debra Williamson; Amy Waldron; Evelyn Shaulis; Bill Brown; Ben & the Keelser family; Tracy Tucci; Iman; Aryl Bashline; Julie, Greg & family; family of Kenneth Mathias; Pr. Jim Dollhopf & family; family & friends of Walter Szczurek; Paul Eicholtz; Frank Miller; Tad Sellers; Pam Patterson; Carol Johnson

## **NEXT WEEK'S READINGS**

**Acts 10:34-43**

*God raised Jesus on the third day*

**Psalms 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 15:19-26**

*Christ raised from the dead, the first fruits*

**Luke 24:1-12**

*The women proclaim the resurrection*

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