

# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

810 FAIRFAX STREET  
STEPHENS CITY, VA

[540] 869-4019  
9:30AM

OFFICE@TRINITYCHURCHVIRGINIA.ORG  
MARCH 24, 2024 PALM SUNDAY

*Worshippers are encouraged, if able, to gather in the upper parking lot at the corner of Fairfax and Main Streets. The service will begin there, processing into the sanctuary as designated in the service. Those unable are welcome to take a seat in the sanctuary and await the arrival of those processing into the building.*

## Acclamation

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 Mark 11:1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples 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. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

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.

## Blessing of Palms

*The members of the congregation 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 the great acts of love by which you have redeemed us 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.

We ask that you bless these branches and those who bear them, and grant that we may ever hail him as our Lord and King and follow him with perfect confidence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen**

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

*The procession into the church begins, the congregation following the minister.*

**Hymn** *v. 1, 3,4*

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

**Confession and Forgiveness**

In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage. **Amen.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**Holy One, we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved. In Jesus, God comes to you again and again and gathers you under wings of love. In **✠** Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love. **Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

Hosanna, King, blessed are you who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heaven! Even if our voices were silenced, creation itself would rise up to praise you! Hosanna in the highest! **Amen.**

### **Isaiah 50:4-9a**

Hilda Painter

A reading from Isaiah

<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?  
Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Philippians 2:5-11**

A reading from Philippians

<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.  
Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



### The Holy Gospel Mark 15:1-39

The holy gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. <sup>2</sup>Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" He answered him, "You say so." <sup>3</sup>Then the chief priests accused him of many things. <sup>4</sup>Pilate asked him again, "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you." <sup>5</sup>But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed. <sup>6</sup>Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. <sup>7</sup>Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. <sup>8</sup>So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. <sup>9</sup>Then he answered them, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" <sup>10</sup>For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. <sup>11</sup>But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. <sup>12</sup>Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" <sup>13</sup>They shouted back, "Crucify him!" <sup>14</sup>Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!" <sup>15</sup>So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. <sup>16</sup>Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. <sup>17</sup>And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. <sup>18</sup>And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" <sup>19</sup>They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. <sup>20</sup>After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

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

**Message**

*As the Crowd Turns*

Pastor JMe Lowden

**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

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.

Blessed One, today we sing glad hosannas as we enter Holy Week. Prepare us to bear witness to Christ's suffering and death endured for our sake. Gather your people around the cross and comfort us with resurrection hope. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

As the world works to renew your creation and protect the balance of life on earth, encourage the work of foresters, scientists, arborists, gardeners, and river keepers. We pray for the health of pollinating insects, songbirds, and native plants. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Establish peace and justice among the nations including Ukraine, Gaza, Israel, Sudan, Haiti and other nations and people in conflict. Hold to account any with authority. Grant that courts, legislatures, and local governments will serve with integrity and compassion. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Bring hope to any who feel forsaken or forgotten. Make a way for refugees and asylum seekers. Reunite families enduring separation. We lift up those who are ill or homebound: Shirley, Charlotte, Louise, Stephen, Bobby, and Bill and others we name now (*worshippers many add names silently or aloud*). We pray for any who are incarcerated, institutionalized, or in foster care, that they may know your love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Blessed One, our times are in your hand. Sustain us in discipleship throughout our lives and receive us into everlasting life. We give thanks for the courage of Oscar Arnulfo Romero, bishop and martyr, whom we commemorate today. **Your mercy is great.**

Other prayers may be offered now.

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

## Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**



## Offering

*Joyful Dance* Margaret R. Tucker

Trinity Chimes

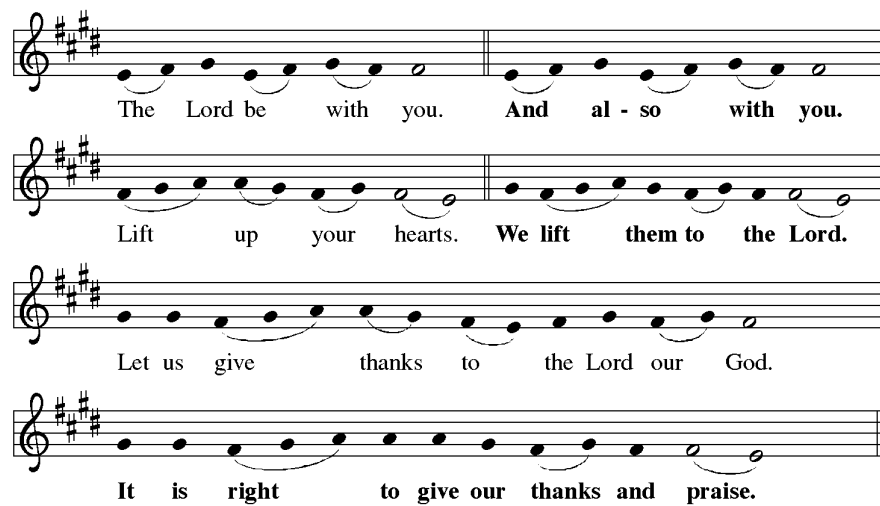
*Offering is an act of worship that shows our gratitude to God for all that we are and have in our lives. The offering today will provide support for the ministries of Trinity both locally and in the world around us. You may provide your offering in person, scan the QR code adjacent or send it by mail. We thank you for sharing your gifts of time and talent to further our mission to share Jesus' love in worship, fellowship, hospitality, and community, doing God's work with our hands.*

## Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

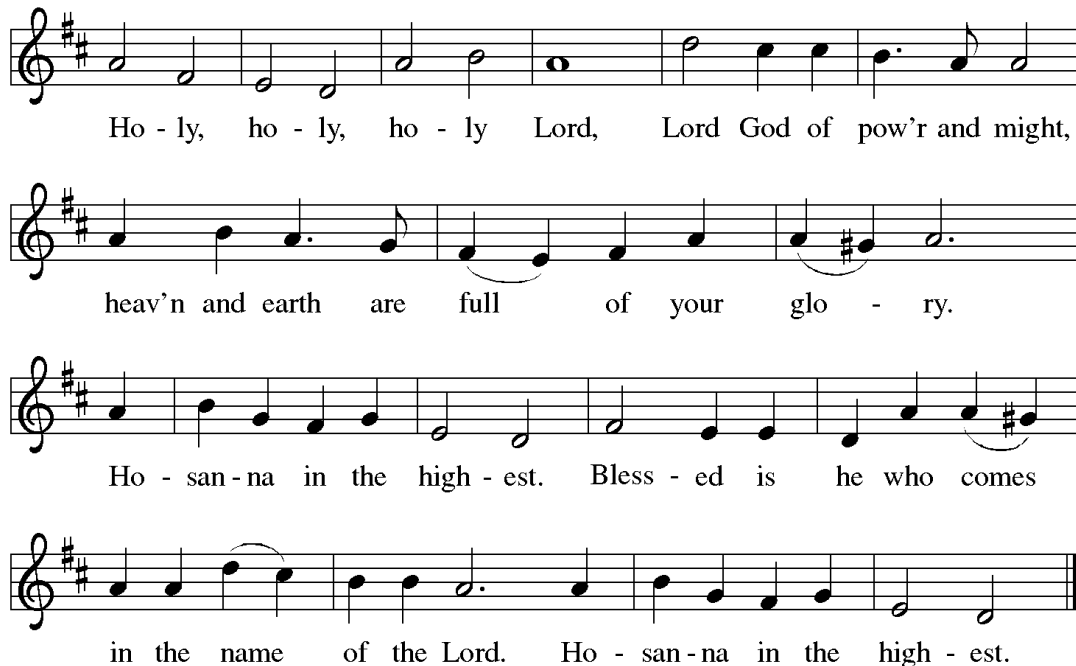
God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**



## Preface

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:



## Thanksgiving at the Table

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.

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

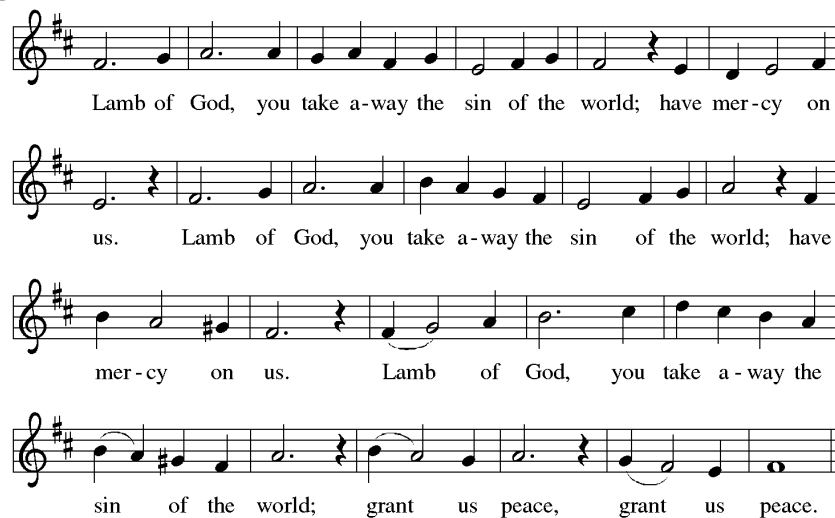
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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

*Those communing from home, have your package ready to open, but do not consume the elements until the pastor acknowledges those at home and says: "Take and eat. The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ is given and shed for you." Then you may partake. Taste and see that the Lord is good.*

## Communion Song



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.

## Post Communion Blessing

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

## Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Announcements

### Benediction

And so it begins, we walk through this week  
From palms now to passion, it's Jesus we seek  
Each moment we walk through these days now with Jesus,  
Is time to see people, the way Jesus...sees us.

To watch for the ones, who need hope, who need kindness.  
Seeking the light, not the darkness that blinds us.

As you walk through these days, may the love you now know  
Be spread to each person you meet on the go.

And may God who now blesses and keeps you in love  
Whose face shines upon you with grace from above  
Who looks on you with such joy and such favor,  
This God, three in One ✝ gives you peace - life to savor. **Amen!**

## Hymn

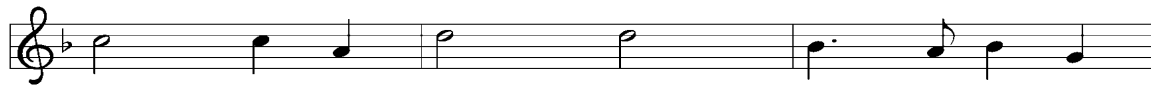
## *There in God's Garden*



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 Pécselyi, c. 1590–c. 1641; tr. Erik Routley, 1917–1982  
Music: SHADES MOUNTAIN, K. Lee Scott, b. 1950  
Text © 1976 Hinshaw Music, Inc.  
Music © 1987 Birnamwood Publications, a div. of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc.

**Sending** Go in peace. Remember the poor. Thanks be to God.

## Postlude

## *Solemn Procession*

John A. Stallsmith



# TRENDING @ TRINITY

The March community meal is this Wednesday. Menu: fish, broccoli, green beans, dessert. Sign up list for those wishing to help is posted in the parish hall.

**Holy Week Services:** Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services will be at 7PM here at church and also on Zoom and Facebook Live.

The Zoom log in information:

Meeting ID: 852 8469 7861

Passcode 023625

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85284697861?pwd=NExXYk5WMHk0MkFLMlUdzZtRUNwQT09>

Plan to come to the Easter breakfast potluck! March 31, 8-9:15AM. There is a sign-up sheet in the parish hall to indicate what you plant to bring. Worship begins at 9:30AM.

Please make note that Brenda will be out of the office the week after Easter. East Monday the church office is closed. Pastor JMe will be in her office Tues through Thursday, 10AM-3PM the week following Easter.

There will be a congregational meeting following worship on April 7 to discuss and vote on railings leading to the chancel. Watch your email or mail for more information in days to come.

This week: Greeters: Hilda Painter, Marianne Watson; Reader: Hilda Painter: Comm. Asst.: Mary Anderson

Next week: Greeter: Marianne Watson; Reader: Marcie Stern; Comm. Assts.: Barry Hockenberry, Emily Patterson

**Zoom to Worship**, 9:30AM Meeting ID: 898 8887 8840 Passcode: 458736 Dial 1-301-715-8592 US

**Facebook Live:** you must have internet, but you do not need to have a Facebook account

<https://www.facebook.com/trinitylutheranchurchstephenscityva/live/>

# April

## **Calendar**

Choir will rehearse each Thursday at 5:45PM

1 Church office closed (Brenda out of office all week, Pastor's hours: 10AM-3PM, Tue-Thu)

2 6:30PM Congregation council

9 9:30AM Sewing for the Savior, room 204

11:30AM Lutheran Church Women, parish hall

10 10AM-3PM VA Synod Conference Cluster, parish hall

21- Noisy Offering benefits Red Wagon Ministry

23-9:30AM Sewing for the Savior, room 204

24-5:30PM Community Meal (ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, desert)

27-9AM-12PM, Synod assembly

## **Birthdays**

5- Jacob Carroll

7-Charles Koontz

11-Barbara Shimp

14-Helen Pyne

26-Juanita Fertig

29-Emily Patterson