



***Blessed is He Who comes in
the Name of the Lord, even
the King of Israel!***



Pilgrim Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
Corner of Broadway and Florey



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WELCOME TO PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH! Though the liturgy and hymns on the Sundays that fall in Lent are more subdued and solemn, we nevertheless are glad that you are here with us as we receive God's forgiveness in Word and Sacrament and prepare to celebrate our Lord's resurrection for us. Please come again soon and join us for all of our other activities!

AS YOU ARRIVE, please move down the pew towards the wall, in order to leave room for others. If you arrive late, please wait for an appropriate time to enter the sanctuary, such as during a hymn. Please also remember to turn off your cell phones and/or any other electronic devices. Thank you!

ORDER OF SERVICE: To your right you will find today's order of service. The right side of that outline indicates from where the item listed comes: either the Insert in this bulletin or the hymnal, *Lutheran Service Book*, with the Psalms towards the front, its liturgical pages towards the middle, and its hymns towards the back. The \triangle symbol before a hymn stanza indicates that it especially gives glory to the Triune God; we stand before singing the stanza and conclude the stanza by singing "Amen."

HOLY COMMUNION: At Pilgrim we value your presence among us and love and care about our guests and visitors! However, due to the sad divisions that exist in the world and even in Christianity, we cannot commune everyone at the Lord's Table here. We respectfully ask that guests and visitors who desire to commune first speak with the pastor well before the service. All those present but not communing still may approach the rail for a blessing: come forward and kneel with those who are communing, but fold your arms over your heart and place your hands on the opposite shoulders. For more information about the ancient practice of Closed Communion, see <http://www.pilgrimlc.org/closed-communion>.

INDIVIDUAL CUPS: The top of the tray contains several individual cups of highly-diluted wine. If you receive the blood of Christ in an individual cup, please be sure to wait to consume it until Pastor comes by with the chalice, so that he knows you are receiving it in that fashion. If the supply of individual cups is depleted, please accept the blood of Christ from the chalice.

+ + + **IN THE NAME OF JESUS** + + +**PROCESSION OF PALMS**

As weather permits and people are able, the congregation gathers outside the church and receives palms. If they are able, those inside may stand and face the entrance to the Nave.

P Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord.

C Hosanna to the Son of David.

P The Lord be with you.

C And with your Spirit.

P Let us pray.

O Lord God of our salvation, we praise and thank You for the great acts of love by which You have redeemed us through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; mercifully assist us that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts whereby You have given us life everlasting, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C Amen

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 12TH chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

P ¹²The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" ¹⁴And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

¹⁵"Fear not, daughter of Zion;
behold, your king is coming,
sitting on a donkey's colt!"

¹⁶His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. ¹⁷The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. ¹⁸The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. ¹⁹So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

The members of the congregation raise their branches.

P Let us pray.

Most merciful God, the people of Jerusalem, with palms in their hands, gathered to greet Your dearly beloved Son when He came into His Holy City in triumph, and they acclaimed Him Son of David and King of Kings. We ask you to bless these branches and those who bear them, granting that we may ever hail Him as our Lord and King, and, when He comes again, may go forth to meet Him with trusting and steadfast hearts and follow Him in the way that leads to eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Let us go forth in peace,

C in the Name of the Lord.

With raised branches, the congregation follows the pastor into the church while singing "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" (Lutheran Service Book 442).

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 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 As You re - ceived their prais - es, Ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Refrain

Now in the Lord's name com - ing, Our King and Bless - ed One.
And we with all cre - a - tion 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.
O Source of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Our good and gra - cious King.

When all have entered the church and gone to their places and the hymn is finished, the pastor chants and the congregation responds as follows:

P Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C Hosanna in the high - est.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

... through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with
You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Old Testament

Zechariah 9:9-12

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

behold, your king is coming to you;

righteous and having salvation is he,

humble and mounted on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

¹⁰I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim

and the war horse from Jerusalem;

and the battle bow shall be cut off,

and he shall speak peace to the nations;

his rule shall be from sea to sea,

and from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,

I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;

today I declare that I will restore to you double.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 118:19-29; antiphon v.26

(Sing the Psalm responsively using the tone provided. The antiphon begins and ends the psalm, and the congregation sings the indented and bold portions.)



²⁶Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the LORD!*

We bless you from the house | of the LORD.

¹⁹Open to me the gates of | righteousness,*

that I may enter through them and give thanks | to the LORD.

²⁰This is the gate | of the LORD;*

the righteous shall enter | through it.

- ²¹I thank you that you have | answered me*
and have become my sal- | vation.
- ²²The stone that the builders re- | jected*
has become the | cornerstone.
- ²³This is the LORD's | doing;*
it is marvelous | in our eyes.
- ²⁴This is the day that the | LORD has made;*
let us rejoice and be | glad in it.
- ²⁵Save us, we pray, | O LORD!*
- O LORD, we pray, give | us success!
- ²⁶Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the LORD!*
- We bless you from the house | of the LORD.
- ²⁷The LORD is God, and he has made his light to shine up- | on
us.*
- Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the |
altar!
- ²⁸You are my God, and I will give | thanks to you;*
- you are my God; I will ex- | tol you.
- ²⁹Oh give thanks to the LORD, for | he is good;*
- for his steadfast love endures for- | ever!

The Gloria Patri is omitted during Holy Week.

- ²⁶Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the LORD!*
- We bless you from the house | of the LORD.

Epistle

Philippians 2:5-11

⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the

name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse: Lent

C Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra-cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a-bound-ing in
stead-fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

Holy Gospel

John 12:20-43

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. ²¹So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of

wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

²⁷“Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die. ³⁴So the crowd answered him, “We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?” ³⁵So Jesus said to them, “The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. ³⁶While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.”

When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them. ³⁷Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him, ³⁸so that the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

“Lord, who has believed what he heard from us,
and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?”

³⁹Therefore they could not believe. For again Isaiah said,

⁴⁰“He has blinded their eyes
and hardened their heart,

lest they see with their eyes,
and understand with their heart, and turn,
and I would heal them.”

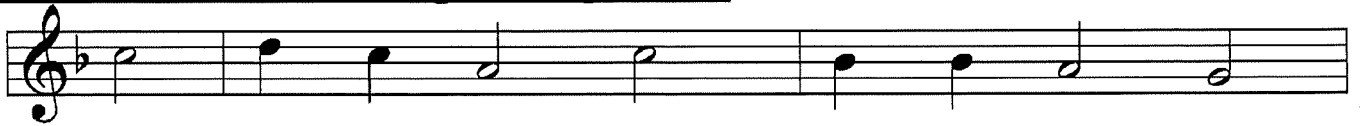
⁴¹Isaiah said these things because he saw his glory and spoke of him. ⁴²Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; ⁴³for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Hymn of the Day

438 A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth



1 A Lamb goes un - com - plain - ing forth, The
2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend, The
3 "Yes, Fa - ther, yes, most will - ing - ly I'll
4 Lord, when Your glo - ry I shall see And



guilt of sin - ners bear - ing And, lad - en with the
Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, Whom God the Fa - ther
bear what You com - mand Me. My will con - forms to
taste Your king - dom's plea - sure, Your blood my roy - al



sins of earth, None else the bur - den shar - ing; Goes
chose to send To gain for us His fa - vor. "Go
Your de - cree, I'll do what You have asked Me." O
robe shall be, My joy be - yond all mea - sure! When



pa - tient on, grows weak and faint, To slaugh - ter led with -
forth, My Son," the Fa - ther said, "And free My chil - dren
won - drous Love, what have You done! The Fa - ther of - fers
I ap - pear be - fore Your throne, Your righ - teous - ness shall




out com - plaint, That spot - less life to of - fer, He bears the
from their dread Of guilt and con - dem - na - tion. The wrath and
up His Son, De - sir - ing our sal - va - tion. O Love, how
be my crown; With these I need not hide me. And there, in



stripes, the wounds, the lies, The mock - er - y, and
stripes are hard to bear, But by Your pas - sion
strong You are to save! You lay the One in -
gar - ments rich - ly wrought, As Your own bride shall





yet re - plies, "All this I glad - ly suf - fer."
they will share The fruit of Your sal - va - tion."
to the grave Who built the earth's foun - da - tion.
we be brought To stand in joy be - side You.

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Sit

Sermon

Stand

Nicene Creed

**☐ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and**

glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Congregational responses may be included according to one of the following forms:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ... Lord, in Your mercy, | <input type="checkbox"/> hear our prayer. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> For ... let us pray to the Lord. | <input type="checkbox"/> Lord, have mercy. |

Sit

Offering

Stand

Offertory



C What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to



me? I will of-fer the sac-ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo - ple, in the

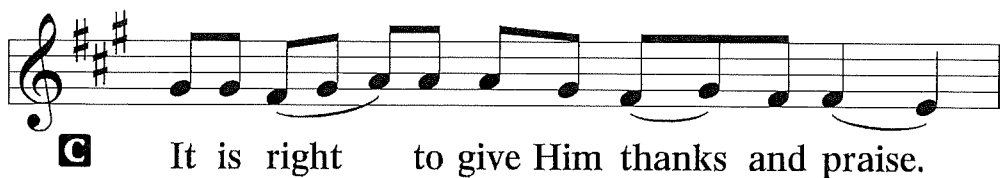
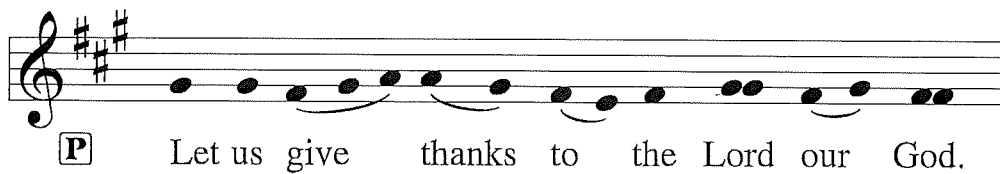


courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Stand

Preface



Proper Preface

P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with

all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ (& Prayer of Remembrance)

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

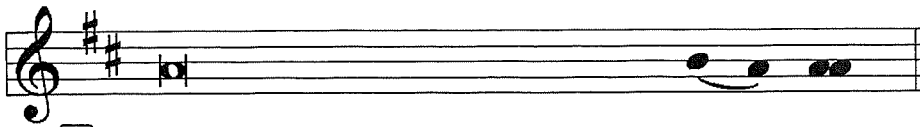
C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

Pax Domini



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



G A - men.

Agnus Dei



G Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



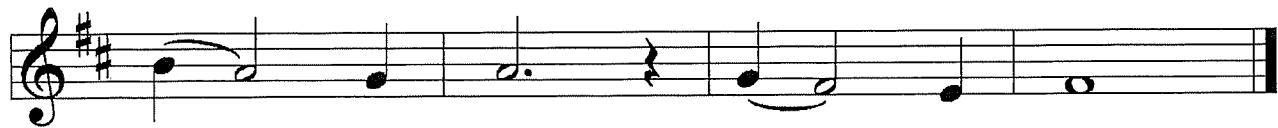
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



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.

Sit

Distribution & Distribution Hymns

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna



1 Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, The lit - tle chil - dren sang;
 2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed Mid an ex - ul - tant crowd,
 3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song we sing;



Through pil - lared court and tem - ple The love - ly an - them rang.
 The vic - tor palm branch wav - ing And chant-ing clear and loud.
 For Christ is our Re - deem-er, The Lord of heav'n our King.



To Je - sus, who had blessed them, Close fold - ed to His breast,
 The Lord of earth and heav - en Rode on in low - ly state
 Oh, may we ev - er praise Him With heart and life and voice



The chil - dren sang their prais - es, The sim - plest and the best.
 Nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren Should on His bid - ding wait.
 And in His bliss - ful pres - ence E - ter - nal - ly re-joyce!

428 Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow



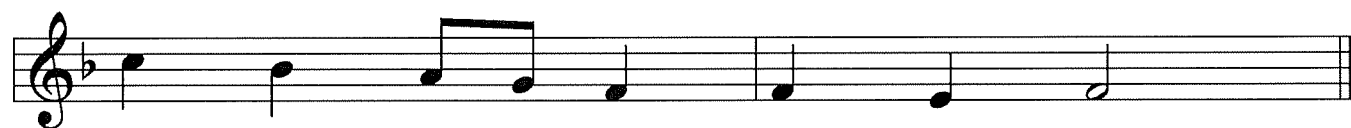
1 Cross of Je - sus, cross of sor - row,
 2 Here the King of all the a - ges,
 3 O mys - te - rious con - de - scend - ing!
 4 Cross of Je - sus, cross of sor - row,



Where the blood of Christ was shed,
 Throned in light of ere worlds could be,
 O a - ban - don - ment sub - lime!
 Where the blood of Christ was shed,



Per - fect man on thee did suf - fer,
 Robed in mor - tal flesh is dy - ing,
 Ver - y God Him - self is bear - ing
 Per - fect man on thee did suf - fer,



Per - fect God on thee has bled!
 Cru - ci - fied by sin for me.
 All the suf - fer - ings of time!
 Per - fect God on thee has bled!

542 When I Behold Jesus Christ



1 When I be - hold Je - sus Christ, True God who died for me,
 2 For me You gave all Your love, For me You suf-fered pain;
 3 You had no sin, ho - ly Lord, But You were tor-tured, tried;
 4 What love is this? Great - er love No one has ev - er known.



I won-der much at His love As He hung on the tree.
 I find no words, noth - ing can Your self - less - ness ex - plain.
 On Gol - go - tha there for all My sins You bled and died.
 My life with God— this I owe To You, and You a - lone.



What kind of love is this? What kind of love is this?



You showed Your love, Je - sus, there To me on Cal - va - ry.



What kind of love is this? What kind of love is this?



You showed Your love, Je - sus, there To me on Cal - va - ry.

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Stand

Post-Communion Canticle: "Nunc Dimittis"

(No Gloria Patri in Holy Week)



C Lord, now 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.

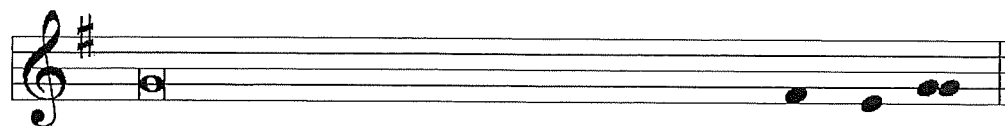
Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

... Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction



The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

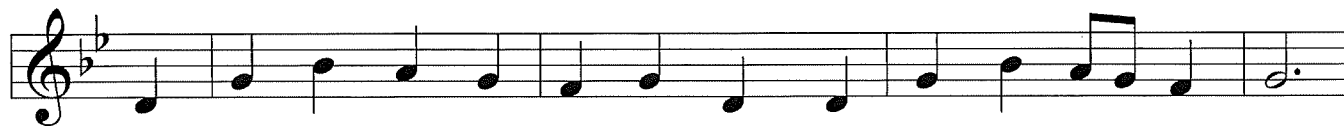
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



432 In Silent Pain the Eternal Son



1 In si - lent pain the e - ter - nal Son Hangs der - e - ict and still;
2 He died that we might die to sin And live for righ-teous-ness;
3 For strife He came to bring a sword, The truth to end all lies;



In dark-ened day His work is done, Ful - filled, His Fa - ther's will.
The earth is stained to make us clean And bring us in - to peace.
To rule in us, our pa - tient Lord, Un - til all e - vil dies:



Up - lift - ed for the world to see He hangs in strang-est vic - to - ry,
For peace He came and met its cost; He gave Him - self to save the lost;
For in His hand He holds the stars, His voice shall speak to end our wars,



For in His bod - y on the tree He car-ries all our ill.
He loved us to the ut - ter - most And paid for our re - lease.
And those who love Him see His scars And look in - to His eyes.

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BEFORE THE SERVICE: As you greet and visit with one another, please be sensitive to others who may wish an opportunity for silence to pray and otherwise to prepare for worship.

PEW SLIPS: *Visitors*, please register your attendance both by completing a slip from the rack on the back of the pews and placing them in the Offering Box in the Narthex (the entryway) and by signing the Guest Register at the door. *Members*, please complete a slip only if your contact information has changed or you have a new or updated prayer-list request. (The Usher tracks church attendance and communion participation.)

PEW CUSHIONS: If you would like to use a cushion either for your seat or for your seat and back, cushions for your use are available in the Usher's Closet off of the north side of the Narthex.

IF A NEED SHOULD ARISE, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Restrooms are available in the Parish Hall (non-ADA Restrooms are available in the Office Area, one with a change table), and there is a Cry Room (also with a change table) off the south side of the Narthex. Let the Usher or Elder-on-Duty know if you need assistance or supplies.

LARGER-PRINT/FLOW-THROUGH BINDERS are provided for those who have trouble seeing the smaller-print of the hymnal, those with other special needs who cannot follow the liturgy in the hymnal or handle its weight, and those who are visiting Pilgrim who are not already familiar with liturgical services and/or our hymnal. Pilgrim's Board of Elders encourages all others to learn to participate in the Divine Service using the hymnal. If you need or otherwise want to use a flow-through and can help minimize paper and copying expenses, a PDF of the flow-through binder's contents is available in the upper-right corner of Pilgrim's homepage, www.pilgrimlc.org, to open on or download to your electronic device. Also, Concordia Publishing House offers a larger-print edition of *Lutheran Service Book* (see item #031202 at www.cph.org and the sample of the print available in the Church Office).

OFFERING BOX: Offerings may be placed in the Offering Box in the Narthex before or after services. Envelopes are available on the side of the Box for your use, such as if you would like your cash offering to be recorded, tracked, and receipted in a report back to you.

PRAYER REQUEST: If you have a special petition for the Prayers of the Church, please notify the Usher, Elder on Duty, or Pastor before the service.

LAST WEEK: There were 3 students and 2 teachers for Sunday School; 9 people were present in Adult Bible Class, and another 1 participated via Skype; 34 were present in the Sunday Divine Service (27 communed), and another 2 participated via Skype; 2 catechumens were in Tuesday afternoon catechesis; and 13 were present in the Midweek Lenten Vespers Service, and another 2 participated via Skype. (Tuesday evening catechesis was not held due to the rescheduled March Elders' Meeting.)

THANKS to Facilities Coordinator Brady Gage and all those who participated in yesterday's Work Day (rain day); to Rev. Adler for the use of his chasubles; to Ben Ford, Remo Gualtieri, and all those helping with the video and audio for classes and services; to George Heil for his care of the inside and outside of Pilgrim's facilities; to Tina McMurray for her Church Office work; and to Arcele Wilburn for procuring the palms.

GROWING IN WORSHIP: Parents, be sure to make use of the bulletins for children aged 5-10 available in the Narthex, including their activities for the whole week!

SERVING TODAY: The Rev. Dr. Jayson S. Galler, Pastor; Carl Gardner, Elder on Duty; and Elaine Navaille, Accompanist.

LIFE THOUGHTS: Sinful nature prizes popularity, property, and power. Sinful nature despises dependence and so discards aging or gestating neighbors. But, Jesus proves that God has designed humankind to rely on Him and each other. His salvation comes about by humbly and happily entrusting oneself to an Almighty Father (Philippians 2:6-8). We need not take life and death into our own hands when we can rest upon His.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS: "Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey" (Zechariah 9:9). No king ever rode to war as Zechariah describes, but no king ever had come to wage battle by dying. In His Passion, our Lord Jesus gives everything He has and is in order to bring us from death to life, to make us His own people, and to show us an example of self-giving love that He enables us to follow.

AS YOU DEPART, please be mindful of those who are ushered out behind you, who may have difficulty standing and waiting, and so who need an open path to the door and to get to their cars quickly. If you stop to talk to someone in the Sanctuary, please keep the aisle as clear as possible, and please delay lengthier conversations with the pastor until after he has greeted everyone. Thank you for your consideration!

PALM BRANCHES: You are encouraged to take your palm branch home to keep as a reminder throughout the year of your participation in the procession and service that began Holy Week. (Branches are customarily placed behind crosses or religious pictures.) You may bring it back next year on or before Shrove Tuesday to be burned into ashes for Ash Wednesday.

AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX are hardcopies of Pastor Galler's recent newspaper columns (including his 03/16 column titled "God forgives even repentant killers"); the March edition of Pilgrim's monthly newsletter *The Pilgrimage*; *Portals of Prayer* for April-June 2024; the latest Church Directory (dated 2024/02/26, printed on yellow-colored paper); the Winter 2024 issue of *Christian Culture*, the magazine of Luther Classical College; the large-print schedule of Daily Bible Reading for March; and Pilgrim's Funeral Planning Worksheet for completing, discussing with Pastor Galler, and filing in the Church Office.

EASTER BREAKFAST MEETING: Men of the congregation usually meet on Palm Sunday to finalize plans for the next Sunday's Easter Breakfast.

CATECHESIS: Pastor Galler is normally scheduled to teach an in-person Catechism Class on Tuesdays at both 4:45 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library; the 6:00 p.m. class is available live via Skype (recorded videos remain there for 30 days). All are welcome to participate!

STUDY HOURS: Pastor Galler is usually in his study Tuesdays from 5:00-8:00 p.m., Wednesdays through Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to Noon, and Saturdays Noon to 3:00 p.m. Come for Individual Confession and Absolution (see *Lutheran Service Book* 292-293) or for any other reason. Pastor Galler is also available at other times by appointment at Pilgrim, or he can come to you (email pastor@pilgrimlc.org or text/call 903-984-4333). For emergency pastoral care, please call Pastor Galler.

HOLY (MAUNDY) THURSDAY DIVINE SERVICE: Join us this Thursday, March 28, at 7:00 p.m. for Divine Service, which will include the usual Stripping of the Altar.

GOOD FRIDAY DIVINE SERVICE: Join us this Friday, March 29, at 7:00 p.m., for Divine Service, which this year will include ancient elements such as the full reading of the Passion according to St. John, the Bidding Prayer, a cross procession, and the Reproaches.

EASTER FLOWERS: The congregation is purchasing a number of Easter Lilies from our local New Generation Farms, but all are welcome to bring more Lilies or other flowers in order to beautify the Chancel next Sunday. You may leave them for the Easter Season or take them with you after the Divine Service to enjoy elsewhere or to share with others.

NEXT SUNDAY: 8:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast; 9:00 Easter Egg Hunt; 9:30 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Bible Class (with a special topic related to Easter); and 10:45 a.m. Divine Service.

Readings: Isaiah 25:6-9; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; and Mark 16:1-8.

Hymns: 489, 488, 459, 458, 548, 457, 477, 466, and 461.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY's hiatus for Lent ends Wednesday, April 3, at 7:00 p.m. Join us live in-person in the Conference Room/Library or via Skype as we continue our study "Salvation History is Our Story" with Revelation 6. Each week's video and audio are posted online for you to watch or hear later (www.pilgrimlc.org/bible-studies/salvation-history).

CELEBRATE LIFE: Right to Life East Texas will have its annual banquet and fundraiser on Saturday, April 6, in Longview. The special guest speaker is Dr. Joe Pojman, the founder and executive director of the Texas Alliance for Life. The cost is \$50/person (\$400/table of 8) and reservations are required. For more information, see the Church Office or visit www.rtlet.org.

"THE 15-2 FOLK" will gather next on Sunday, April 7, after the Divine Service, for sharing some snacks and playing some Cribbage. All are welcome, even if you do not know how to play Cribbage. We will teach you!

THE APRIL ELDERS' MEETING that would have been held on April 9 has been cancelled due to scheduling conflicts. However, if circumstances warrant, a briefer special-purpose meeting will be held. Please let Pastor Galler, your Elder, or one of the other Elders know if there is something that you think needs to be addressed.

COUNCIL REPORTS: Please submit reports for the First Quarter of 2023 to Recording Secretary Joy McHargue by Sunday, April 14, so that the Packet for the April 28 regular Quarterly Council Meeting can be distributed and available before that Meeting.

PILGRIM'S MARY/MARTHA SOCIETY will meet next over lunch after the Divine Service Sunday, April 21, and continue its study of the Women of the Bible with Abigail.

QUARTERLY CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING: Pilgrim's Church Council will meet next on Sunday, April 28, after the Divine Service. Before then, the Packet with the working agenda and reports will be distributed electronically and available in hardcopy in the Narthex. Even though only Council Members can vote in Council Meetings, everyone is encouraged and welcome to attend and to contribute to the discussion. The Council makes some decisions and recommends that the Voters' Assembly makes other decisions. Our participation in the administration of Pilgrim's secular affairs is necessary for its survival, humanly speaking, and fruit of our faith.

BACH CANTATA SERIES: You are invited to Zion Lutheran Church (6121 E. Lovers Lane in Dallas) Sunday, May 12, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. for Evening Prayer that will include the singing of J. S. Bach's Cantata titled *Nach dir, Herr, verlanget mich* ("For Thee, O Lord, I long").

"WALKING TOGETHER": Please plan to attend the next Special Congregational Study, scheduled for June 30, on "Ministry". (If you missed February 4's Special Congregational Study on "Unity and Fellowship", please pick up a hardcopy of the handout from the Narthex and listen to the audio or video files at www.pilgrimlc.org/bible-studies/walking-together.) All of these Special Studies together are intended to provide information that we need in order to consider rightly Pilgrim's continued relationship with the Missouri Synod. So, all members, especially Pilgrim's voters, are strongly encouraged to participate in these studies, either in person or electronically.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE on the committee organizing the celebration of Pilgrim's 75th anniversary in 2027? Please pray about it and speak either to President George B. Heil or to Pastor Galler.

CAN YOU HOST AN AMERICAN EXCHANGE STUDENT? The American Exchange Project (see www.americanexchangeproject.org) is seeking host families in Kilgore for U.S. high-school students the week of July 10-17 and the week of July 24-31, including providing some meals and transportation. For more information or to volunteer, contact Julie Cox at 903-522-0267.

WOULD YOU LIKE A BABY GRAND PIANO? A woman in the community who is moving is looking to give away a Yamaha baby grand piano to someone who is passionate about the piano and would appreciate the opportunity to own and play this one and can give it a home where it will be properly cared for and cherished. For more information, see the Church Office.

BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP: What does the Bible, not anyone else, say about stewardship? If you missed Rev. Adler's special one-session Adult Bible Class on Sunday, November 26, 2023, please check it out online at <https://www.pilgrimlc.org/bible-studies/romans>.

ELECTRONIC OFFERINGS: Although Pilgrim does not pay to receive online offerings, you likely can set up a free "bill pay" through your bank or credit union, so that your institution automatically either sends a physical check to Pilgrim or transfers your funds electronically. If you need help, including Pilgrim's account number, contact Treasurer Debbie Shockley.

HELPING HANDS: Pilgrim has a bin below the Guest Register in the Narthex to receive your contributions of non-perishable food, plastic bags, and devotional material to be taken monthly to Kilgore's food pantry.

TITUS FUND: At any time, you may contribute beyond your regular offerings to help us provide others' "daily necessities" (Titus 3:14 NIV). The Titus Fund, LWML Mites, and Sunday School offerings for Lutheran Heritage Foundation are "grandfathered" exceptions to the Voters' Assembly's no restricted-donation policy.

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ABOUT TODAY'S LITURGY: The most-distinctive feature of our Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion liturgy is certainly the Procession of Palms, which practice of commemorating the use of palms on the day Jesus entered Jerusalem apparently originated in the Church in Jerusalem during the fourth century. As is recommended, the Procession takes the place of our usual Catechesis, preparation of corporate Confession, Entrance Hymn, and Kyrie (the Gloria in Excelsis is omitted during penitential seasons such as Lent). While all are encouraged to examine themselves and otherwise be prepared to receive the Sacrament of the Altar, such as by private Confession and individual Absolution (and see Small Catechism Section 4: "Christian Questions and Their Answers" on *LSB* 329-330), those are truly worthy and well prepared who have faith in Jesus's words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins" (Small Catechism VI:10). We also note that the Altar Crucifix is veiled for Holy Week: that veil can be a sign of austerity and restraint, symbolize the rejection of Jesus (as in today's Gospel Reading, especially v.36), intensify our focus on the cross, and remind us that we are not worthy to look on the cross. Finally, the *Gloria Patri* is omitted during Holy Week, not to deny the glory to the Triune God but as further restraint of our rejoicing as the Church approaches the hour of God's glory on the cross of the Son.

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