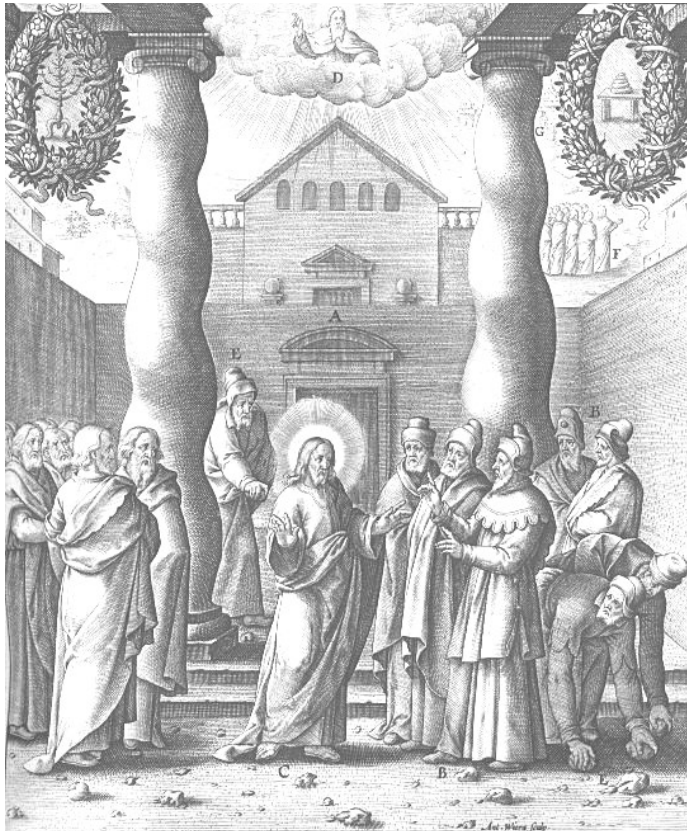


JUDICA

MID-WEEK

Wednesday 20 March A♣D 2024



OUR SAVIOR

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—Missouri Synod

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Rev. Jonathan C. McCall, Pastor

✠ Hymns ✠

659

615

630

Wooden kneeling stools are available to all for use during the Preparation, Consecration, and Benediction. If you would like one, please take it from underneath the last row of chairs on the pulpit side of the nave before service. You may tuck it under the pew in front of you while not in use and may leave it there after the service.

This morning we will celebrate Holy Communion

Visitors who have not before received communion from Pastor McCall are kindly asked to speak with him before Divine Service begins and before approaching the altar for the first time. Because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar and because those who eat and drink our Lord's Body and Blood unworthily do so to their great harm, it is very important to speak with pastor before service if you desire the Blessed Sacrament. Also, those who receive the Lord's Supper at Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church are baptized Christians who have been instructed in and publicly confess the Evangelical Lutheran faith. For these reasons, *only members of this congregation or sister congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod* receive Holy Communion at this altar. If you have any questions regarding the doctrine and practice of Closed Communion, please talk to the pastor before or after the Divine Service.

PASSIONTIDE

The final stage in our symbolic journey toward Easter is *Passiontide*. Passiontide (the *time of the Passion*) begins with Judica, the fifth Sunday in Lent. The crosses are now covered at the conclusion of the Holy Gospel and even the *Gloria Patri* disappears for a while.

A common question is, "Why do we drape and cover the crosses as we get closer to Good Friday, as our attention upon the last hours and the sufferings of Our Lord increases?"

We do this because we do not deserve to look upon them. We are not worthy of the sacrifice. The cross is our greatest and most cherished symbol. So it is partially taken away from us for a short time, that we might better appreciate it when it returns.

The crosses are not taken away completely. They are not removed. They are only covered. We can see outlines of the crosses, but their beauty and details are fuzzy. This symbolizes the reality that our grief prevents us from seeing clearly until the Good Friday liturgy and, of course, Easter. Faith always views the cross in the light of the empty tomb.

The veiling also reminds us of Our Lord's actions in response to the violence of the people in the Judica Gospel. There we are told that "Jesus hid Himself." That is why the crucifixes in the sanctuary are veiled during the service, after the reading of the Gospel, and not before.

The idea of removing the *Gloria Patri* is much the same. The Triune name given at the Ascension is the fullest revelation of God's name given to men. To take away the *Gloria Patri* for two weeks is a bit jarring. It is particularly awkward to not sing it at the end of the *Nunc Dimittis*. But, again, its short-term removal serves to draw attention to it and highlight our privilege for the other fifty weeks of the year.

All of this is that we would learn to mortify the flesh and to depend more and more upon the grace of God in Christ. For never, even in our most somber of ceremonies, is the Church in doubt about the end. Jesus died, but He is not dead. Jesus lives. Easter is coming. Our *Alleluias*, *Gloria Patris*, crucifixes, fatty foods, and the like shall all return. But even better than that, we shall have them forever in the life of the world to come when our own resurrections occur.

Passiontide extends through Holy Week and the Triduum ("three holy days"—which includes Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday). At the conclusion of the Maundy Thursday service the altar will be stripped, the sanctuary decorations, such as the candelabra, paraments, etc., will be removed. Even the altar crucifix will be carried out. All that will be left in the sanctuary are the pieces of furniture, laid bare. The intensity builds from now until the Easter Vigil when we finally arrive at the empty tomb but not at an empty altar.



	✠ <u>HOLY WEEK</u> ✠
Sunday, 24 March	Palmarum (Palm Sunday) 9:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Service with Palm Procession
Thursday, 28 March	Maundy Thursday 6:00 pm Divine Service, Stripping of the Altar
Friday, 29 March	Good Friday 5:00 pm Tenebrae Vespers
Saturday, 30 March	Holy Saturday 8:00 pm The Easter Vigil
Sunday, 31 March	Easter Day 9:30 am Easter Breakfast (NO Bible Study) 10:30 am Divine Service

✠ THE DIVINE SERVICE ✠

6:00pm

THE PRELUDE

The bell tolls three times to signify the beginning of service in reverence of the Holy Trinity. After the tolls, the Processional Hymn will begin.

Please STAND and face the Procession (beginning at the rear of the nave).

THE HYMN

659 *Lord of Our Life*

✠ THE PREPARATION ✠

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

ST. MATTHEW 28:19B; [18:20]

Amen.

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[HEBREWS 10:22]

KNEEL IF YOU DESIRE AND ARE ABLE

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

PSALM 124:8

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD,
and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. PSALM 32:5

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination. The pastor will resume...

O almighty God, merciful Father, I a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen. (ST. JOHN 20:19-23)

STAND

☩ THE SERVICE OF THE WORD ☩

THE INTROIT PSALM 43:1-2A; PSALM 43:3-5



|Judge-| / me, O Gôd,
and plead my cause against an / ungodly nation:
O deliver me from the deceit- / ful and unjust man.
For thou art the God of my strength:
/ why dost thou cast me off?

O send out thy light and thy truth: / let them lead me;
Let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to / thy tabernacles.



**Then will I go unto the altar of God,
Unto God / my exceeding joy:
Yea, upon the harp will I praise thee,
/ O God my God.—**

Why art thou cast down, / O my sôul?
and why art thou disqui- / eted within me?

**Hope in God: for I / shall yet praise him,
Who is the health of my / countenance, and my God.**

The Gloria Patri is omitted during Passiontide.

|Judge-| / me, O Gôd,
and plead my cause against an / ungodly nation:

O deliver me from the deceit- / ful and unjust man.
For thou art the God of my strength:
/ why dost thou cast me off?

THE KYRIE ST. MARK 10:47



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

THE SALUTATION 2 TIMOTHY 4:22

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

SIT

THE OLD TESTAMENT

LEVITICUS 19:1-2A, 10B-19A, 25B

In those days: The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “Speak to all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say to them: ‘I am the LORD your God. You shall not steal, nor deal falsely, nor lie to one another. And you shall not swear by My name falsely, nor shall you profane the name of your God: I am the LORD. You shall not cheat your neighbor, nor rob him. The wages of him who is hired shall not remain with you all night until morning. You shall not curse the deaf, nor put a stumbling block before the blind, but shall fear your God: I am the LORD. You shall do no injustice in judgment. You shall not be partial to the poor, nor honor the person of the mighty. In righteousness you shall judge your neighbor. You shall not go about as a talebearer among your people; nor shall you take a stand against the life of your neighbor: I am the LORD. You shall not hate your brother in your heart. You shall surely rebuke your neighbor, and not bear sin because of him. You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD. You shall keep My statutes, for I am the LORD your God.’ ”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

STAND

THE GRADUAL AND TRACT PSALM 143:9A, 10A; 18:48A, C; 129:1-4



Deliver me, O LORD, / from mine enemies:

- / teach me to do thy will;

He delivereth me / from mine enemies:

thou hast delivered / me from the violent man.

Many a time have they afflict- / ed me from my youth,
may / Israel now say:

**Many a time have they afflict- / ed me from my youth:
yet they have not / prevailed against me.**

The plowers / plowed upon my back:

they / made long their furrows.

The / LORD is righteous:

he hath cut asunder the / cords of the wicked.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

ST. JOHN 10:22-38

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

✠ *At that time:* It was the Feast of Dedication in Jerusalem, and it was winter. And Jesus walked in the temple, in Solomon's porch. Then the Jews surrounded Him and said to Him, “How long do You keep us in doubt? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly.” Jesus answered them, “I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father's name, they bear witness of Me. But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep, as I said to you. My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one

is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand. I and My Father are one." Then the Jews took up stones again to stone Him. Jesus answered them, "Many good works I have shown you from My Father. For which of those works do you stone Me?" The Jews answered Him, saying, "For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God." Jesus answered them, "Is it not written in your law, 'I said, "You are gods" '? If He called them gods, to whom the word of God came (and the Scripture cannot be broken), do you say of Him whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God'? If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me; but if I do, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, that you may know and believe that the Father is in Me, and I in Him."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

THE 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.

SIT

THE HYMN OF THE DAY 615 *When in the Hour of Deepest Need*

THE SERMON

STAND

THE OFFERTORY

PSALM 51:10-12

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 Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

SIT

THE OFFERING

Create in Me

KNEEL IF YOU DESIRE AND ARE ABLE OR STAND

THE LITANY (*see insert*; it is THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH for Lent)
[1 TIMOTHY 2:1-4]

STAND

THE SERVICE OF ✠ THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR ✠

THE PREFACE

The Lord be with you. 2 TIMOTHY 4:22
And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts. [COLOSSIANS 3:1]
We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the LORD our God. [PSALM 136]
It is meet and right so to do.

It is truly meet, right, and salutary... praising You and saying:

THE SANCTUS ISAIAH 6:3; ST. MATTHEW 21:9

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
 heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
 ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. ✠ Bless - ed is He,
 bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

KNEEL IF YOU DESIRE AND ARE ABLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ST. MATTHEW 6:9-13

**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.**

THE WORDS OF CHRIST'S TESTAMENT ST. MATTHEW 26:26-28; ST. MARK 14:22-24; ST. LUKE 22:19-20; 1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-25

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.

THE PAX DOMINI

ST. JOHN 20:19

The ✠ peace of the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

THE AGNUS DEI

ST. JOHN 1:29

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

SIT

THE COMMUNION HYMN

630 *Now, My Tongue, the Mystery Telling*

STAND

THE NUNC DIMITTIS

ST. LUKE 2:29-32

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,

which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the Gen - tles and the glo - ry of Thy peo-ple Is - ra - el.

THE THANKSGIVING

PSALM 107:1

Oh, give thanks unto the LORD for He is good.

And His mercy endureth forever.

Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE SALUTATION

2 TIMOTHY 4:22

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

THE BENEDICAMUS

[PSALM 103:1]

Bless we the LORD.

Thanks be to God.

KNEEL IF YOU DESIRE AND ARE ABLE

THE BENEDICTION

NUMBERS 6:24–26

The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

STAND

THE RETIRING PROCESSION WITH POSTLUDE

Please face the Procession as it passes your pew.

Once the Retiring Procession reaches the narthex, depart in ☩ peace.

