

WELCOME!

We are glad to welcome you today as we gather together to worship God! Please be sure you complete the salmon insert inside your bulletin and turn it in to the usher at the time of communion.

This bulletin will assist you in participating in worship. All parts spoken by the congregation are listed in **bold print and preceded by "C:"** Large print copies of the hymns are available—see an usher.

Thank you for turning off your cell phones or putting them on "silent" during the service.



***ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH***

3220 Columbus Street
Grove City, OH 43123

614-875-2314

www.stjohnsgc.org

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

(Please Stand)

DIALOG FOR PALM SUNDAY

Pastor: Hosanna to the Son of David, the King of Israel.

People: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Pastor: We praise and bless you, ever-living God for the acts of love by which you redeem the world through Jesus Christ our Lord. This day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem and was proclaimed king by those who spread their garments and palm branches along his way.

[Raise Palm Crosses]

Pastor: Let these crosses be for us, signs of his victory; and grant that we who bear them may always acclaim Jesus Messiah, by walking the way of his suffering and cross; that, dying and rising with him, we may enter into your kingdom. Through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

People: Amen

Pastor: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: Hosanna in the highest!

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Pastor: Let us pray together...

All: God, our hope, today we joyfully acclaim Jesus our Messiah and King. Help us to honor him every day, so we may enjoy his kingship in the new Jerusalem, where he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. Amen.

(You may be seated)

DRAMA FOR PASSION SUNDAY:

"The Cry of the Whole Congregation"

Worship for the Way of the Cross

1. THE ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

Narrator: When Jesus drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent ahead two of his disciples, saying, "Go into the village opposite. There you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat; untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' You shall say, 'The Lord has need of it.'" So those who were sent went away and found it as he had told them.

People: And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them,
"Why are you untying the colt?"

Peter: The Lord has need of it.

Narrator: And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their garments on the colt, they set Jesus upon it. And as he rode along, they spread their garments on the road. As he was now drawing near, at the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and to praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen.

People: [Singing]

*Refrain: All glory, laud and honor to you, redeemer, king,
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.*

**You are the king of Israel and David's royal Son,
Now in the Lord's name coming, Our King and Blessed One.**

Refrain:

**The company of angels are praising you on High;
Creation and all mortals in chorus make reply.**

Refrain:

**The multitude of pilgrims with palms before you went.
Our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present.**

Narrator: And some of the Pharisees in the multitude cried to him,

Pharisee: "Teacher, rebuke your disciples! They're calling you the Christ. Tell them to shut up!"

Narrator: He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones themselves would cry out."

[Palm Procession with the Children]

People: [Singing]

*Refrain: "All glory, laud, and honor to you, redeemer king,
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring*

**To you, before your Passion, they sang their hymns of praise.
To you, now high exalted, our melody we raise.**

Refrain:

**Their praises you accepted; accept the prayers we bring,
Great author of all goodness, O good and gracious King."**

Narrator: And when he drew near and saw the city he wept over it saying, "Would that even today you knew the things that make for peace! But now they are hid from your eyes. O Jerusalem! The days shall come upon you, when your enemies will cast up a bank about you and surround you, and hem you in on every side, and dash you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave one stone upon another in you; because you did not know the time of your visitation."

CHILDREN'S CHOIR "Hosanna to the Son of David"

2. THE PREPARATION AND THE EATING OF THE LAST SUPPER

Narrator: Now the feast of Unleavened Bread drew near, which is called the Passover. And the Temple Priests were seeking how to put Jesus to death; for they feared the people.

Then Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot, who was of the number of the twelve; he went away and conferred with the temple priests and officers how he might betray him to them. And they were glad, and engaged to give him money. So he agreed, and sought an opportunity to betray him to them in the absence of the multitude.

Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it."

People: They said to him, "But where, Lord? Where will you have us prepare it, and what are we to do?"

Narrator: He said to them, "Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him into the house which he enters, and tell the householder, 'The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room, where I am to eat the Passover with my disciples?' And he will show you a large upper room furnished; there make ready." And they went and found it as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover.

And when the hour came, he sat at the table, and the apostles with him. And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I shall not eat it

until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." And he took the cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I shall not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And he took bread and when he had given thanks he broke it and gave it to them saying, "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And likewise the cup after supper, saying, "This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. But behold the hand of him who betrays me is with me on the table. For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined: but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!"

People: And they began to question, "Who Lord? Who is to betray you? Is it I? Is it I?"

Narrator: He answered, "He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. Oh, it would have been better for that man if he had not been born." Judas, who betrayed him, said,

Judas: "Is it I, Master?"

Narrator: Jesus said to him, "You have said so." Simon Peter was indignant.

Peter: But not I! Though they all fall away from you, I will never leave you."

Narrator: "Peter, truly I say to you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times."

Peter: "Even if I must die with you, I will never deny you!"

People: And so said all of the disciples, over and over again.

HOLY COMMUNION

Please follow the instructions from the pastor for distribution.

Believing in the real presence of Christ's body and blood in the bread and wine of the Holy Communion for the forgiveness of sin, we practice Eucharistic hospitality. All baptized persons are welcomed to the Lord's Table

3. THE AGONY IN THE GARDEN

People: [Singing]

*Go to dark Gethsemane, All who feel the tempter's pow'r;
Your redeemer's conflict see, Watch with him one bitter hour;
Turn not from his griefs away; Learn from Jesus Christ to pray.*

Narrator: And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. And when he came to the place he said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation."

People: Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us, deliver us.

Narrator: And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, "Father, if thou art willing, remove this cup from me; nevertheless, not my will but thine be done."

People: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done. Thy will be done. Thy will be done.

Narrator: And when he rose from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping for sorrow, and he said to them, "Why do you sleep? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation."

People: Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, even the evil within ourselves.

Narrator: While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him. But Jesus said to him, "Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?"

Judas: "Hail, Master."

People: When the disciples saw what would follow, they said "Lord, shall we strike with the sword?"

Narrator: And one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him.

People: Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Narrator: Jesus said to those who had come out against him, "When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness."

4. THE JUDGMENT

People: [Singing]

*Follow to the judgment hall, View the Lord of life arraigned;
Oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss; Learn from him to bear the cross.*

Narrator: Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him to the High Priest's house. Peter followed at a distance; and when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them.

People: Then a maid, seeing him sit in the light, said, "This man also was with him."

Narrator: But he denied it, saying,

Peter: "Woman, I do not know him."

People: And a little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them."

Peter: "Man, I am not."

People: An hour later another insisted, saying, "Certainly this man also was with him, for he is a Galilean."

Peter: "Man, I do not know what you are saying!"

Narrator: And immediately, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord; how he had said to him,

Peter: "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times."

Narrator: And he went out and he wept bitterly. Now the men who were holding Jesus mocked him and beat him; they blindfolded him and demanded:

People: Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?"

Narrator: And they spoke many other words against him, reviling him. When the day came, the assembly of the elders of the people gathered together and led him to their council.

People: "If you are the Christ, tell us."

Narrator: But he said to them, "If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I ask you now, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God."

People: "Are you the Son of God, then?"

Narrator: And he said to them, "You say that I am."

People: "Blasphemy! What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips. Blasphemy! Oh, Blasphemy!"

5. DAWN FRIDAY: JESUS BEFORE PILATE

Narrator: Then the whole company of them arose, and brought him before Pontius Pilate.

People: And they began to curse him, saying, "We found this man perverting our nation, and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ the King!"

Pilate: "Are you the King of the Jews?"

Narrator: And Pilate said to the Chief Priests and the multitudes,

Pilate: "I find no crime in this man."

People: "He stirs up the people, teaching throughout Galilee even to this place."

Narrator: And when Pilate heard that he was a Galilean, of Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, where he was vehemently accused, and treated with contempt and mocked, and arrayed in gorgeous purple, and then sent back again. Pilate said to the rulers of the people,

Pilate: "You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and after examining him, behold I did not find him guilty of any of the charges against him. Behold, nothing deserving death has been done by him. I will therefore chastise him and release him..."

People: "Away with this man! Away! Away! Release to us Barabbas..."

Narrator: Barabbas!...a man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and for murder...Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus...

People: "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

Pilate: "Why? What evil has he done? I've found no crime in him deserving death. I'll chastise him. I'll release him..."

People: But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified.

Narrator: And their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave sentence that their demand should be granted. He released the man who had been jailed for murder.

6. FRIDAY MORNING: CRUCIFIXION

People: [Singing]

*Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb; There, adoring at his feet
Mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete.*

"It is finished!" hear him cry; Learn from Jesus Christ to die."

Narrator: But Jesus he delivered over to their will.

All Men: And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus.

All Women: And there followed him a great multitude of women who bewailed and lamented him...

Narrator: But Jesus turning to them said, "Daughter of Jerusalem, do not weep for me but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never gave suck!' For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it dries!"

Solo: *"Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they crucified my Lord?"*

Narrator: Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place which is called the Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on the right and one on the left.

Solo: *"Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?"*

Narrator: And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do."

All Women: Forgive us our trespasses.

All Men: And they cast lots to divide his garments.

All Women: Forgive us our trespasses.

All Men: And the people stood by, watching. But the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God!"

All Women: Forgive us our trespasses.

All Men: The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him vinegar.

All Women: There was an inscription over him: "This is the King of the Jews."

All Men: Forgive us our trespasses. Forgive us, O Lord, our trespasses!

Narrator: One of the criminals who was hanged with him railed at him, saying,

Judas: "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!"

Narrator: But the other rebuked him, saying,

Pilate: "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence, and we justly? But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

People: Forgive us our trespasses. Deliver us from evil. Thine is the kingdom...

Narrator: And Jesus said to him...

People: And the power...

Narrator: "Truly, truly, I say to you..."

People: And the glory...

Narrator: "Today you will be with me in Paradise."

People: Forever and ever. Amen!

Solo: *"Were you there when he cried out at the end? Were you there when he cried out at the end? Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when he cried out at the end?"*

Narrator: It was now the sixth hour - and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed... And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from the top to the bottom... Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit!"

And having said this, he breathed his last.

And all the multitudes who had assembled to see the sight,

People: When they saw what had taken place, they returned home beating their breasts.

All Women: And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance and saw these things.

7. LATE FRIDAY AFTERNOON: BURIAL

Narrator: Now there was a man named Joseph from the town of Arimathea, a good man, a righteous man, one looking for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud, and laid him in a rock-hewn tomb, where no one had ever yet been laid.

It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning.

Solo: *"Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?"*

+In observance of Lent, there will be no concluding organ music+

Please leave in silence.

DRAMA PARTICIPANTS

THE NARRATORS: Joan Werner and Rick Butsko
responsible for both the narrative material and the words of Jesus.

THE JUDAS FIGURE: Merrick Wilson
represents also the unrepentant criminal.

THE PETER FIGURE: Hunter Thompson
by which device, forgiveness is signaled.

THE PILATE FIGURE: Pastor Thomas Phillips
who reads also the Pharisee's and later represents also that criminal who repents and receives the promise of the Lord - thus forgiveness follows sin.

THE PEOPLE: *The Congregation*
read by the congregation. At first it is the exuberant multitude on Palm Sunday, then, the disciples, loving but failing the Lord; next it plays the neutral role of the watchers who question Peter; next descends to the shrieks of manipulated people crying "Crucify." Finally with the repentant criminal, the congregation recognizes the kingdom, power and glory of the Lord.

THE DANCER: Becca Morlock
represents, as best as possible, the moods Christ must have passed through his suffering and his love.

THE DRUMMER: Matt Shrum
teaches the congregation its rhythm, beginning slowly and softly, but increasing speed and impact as the drama unfolds.

THE SOLOIST: Pastor Seth Jersild and Amy Shaw

THE CROSS BEARER and JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA: Steve Johnston
by which device, again, forgiveness is signaled.