



Evangelical  
Lutheran  
Church  
of  
St. Matthew

*A friendly  
household of faith*

**Chartered Dec 6, 1664**

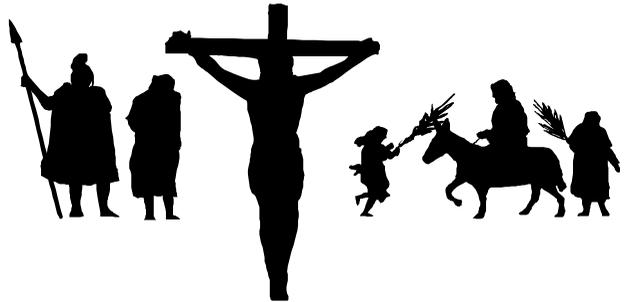
**361 years of  
Gospel Ministry**

**A congregation of  
The Lutheran Church –  
Missouri Synod.**

**The Rev. Peter A.D. Deebrach  
Pastor**



*Hosanna!*



*Today's liturgy traditionally begins with a palm procession, commemorating Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Quickly the tone of the service changes as we meditate upon Jesus' passion and death. Because this story is so central to our faith, we hear Matthew's account of the passion today and John's version on Good Friday. Though Jesus is obedient even unto death on the cross, he is exalted by God. We gather to remember his offering for the life of the world, and to be fed by his life-giving mercy. This holy week will culminate in the celebration of the Three Days of Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection.*

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March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday

**SUNDAY OF  
THE PASSION**

**PROCESSION OF PALMS** (*worshippers gather in the narthex with palm branches*)

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C** **And also with you.**

**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 also with you.**

**P** 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. **C** **Amen.**

**A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Matthew, the Evangelist.**

**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup> saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. <sup>3</sup> If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." <sup>4</sup> This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

<sup>5</sup> "Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

<sup>6</sup> The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; <sup>7</sup> they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. <sup>8</sup> A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup> The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

"Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

<sup>10</sup> When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?"

<sup>11</sup> The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

*Matthew 21:1-11*

**P** The Gospel of our Lord. **C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**P** The Lord be with you. **C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

**P** Let us pray...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 your people here who bear these branches 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. **C Amen.**

*All say the following together while waving their palm branches, as the procession moves into the sanctuary:*

**Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest!**

### **Hymn: All Glory, Laud, and Honor**

Refrain: All glory, laud, and honor to You, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

- 1 You are the King of Israel and David's royal Son,  
Now in the Lord's name coming, our King and Blessèd One. Refrain
- 2 The company of angels Is praising You on high,  
And we with all creation In chorus make reply. *Refrain*
- 3 The multitude of pilgrims with palms before You went;  
Our praise and prayer and anthems before You we present. *Refrain*
- 4 To You before Your passion they sang their hymns of praise;  
To You, now high exalted, our melody we raise. *Refrain*
- 5 As You received their praises, accept the prayers we bring,  
O Source of ev'ry blessing, our good and gracious King. Refrain

*Public domain.*

- P** Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. **C Hosanna in the highest!**
- P** Let us pray... Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C Amen.**

**THE READINGS** - Hear the word of the LORD. (*Jeremiah 2:4*)

**A reading from Isaiah the Prophet**

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>9</sup>It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty? *Isaiah 50:4-9a*

**A** The word of the Lord.      **C** **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 31:9-16** (*chant responsively*)

Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am | in distress;\*

my eye is wasted from grief; my soul and my body | also.

<sup>10</sup>For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with | sighing;\*  
my strength fails because of my iniquity, and my bones waste | away.

**<sup>11</sup>Because of all my adversaries I have become a reproach,  
especially to my neighbors, and an object of dread to my ac- | quaintances;\*  
those who see me in the street | flee from me.**

**<sup>12</sup>I have been forgotten like one | who is dead;\***

**I have become like a broken | vessel.**

<sup>13</sup>For I hear the whispering of many— terror on | every side!—\*  
as they scheme together against me, as they plot to | take my life.

<sup>14</sup>But I trust in you, | O Lord;\* I say, "You are my | God."

**<sup>15</sup>My times are | in your hand;\***

**rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my perse- | cutors!**

**<sup>16</sup>Make your face shine on your | servant;\***

**save me in your steadfast | love!**

## **A reading from the Epistle to the Philippians.**

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. *Philippians 2:5-11*

The word of the Lord.

**☩ Thanks be to God.**

## **Verse for Lent.**

**☩ Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

## **THE HOLY GOSPEL, the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ**

according to St. Matthew, the 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> chapters.

## **☩ Glory to you, O Lord**

*(the congregation shall read the text in bold print)*

When Jesus had finished all these sayings, he said to his disciples, <sup>2</sup>*"You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified."*

<sup>3</sup>Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas, <sup>4</sup>and plotted together in order to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. <sup>5</sup>But they said, **"Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar among the people."**

<sup>6</sup>Now when Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, <sup>7</sup>a woman came up to him with an alabaster flask of very expensive ointment, and she poured it on his head as he reclined at table. <sup>8</sup>And when the disciples saw it, they were indignant, saying, **"Why this waste? <sup>9</sup>For this could have been sold for a large sum and given to the poor."** <sup>10</sup>But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, *"Why do you trouble the woman? For she has done a beautiful thing to me. <sup>11</sup>For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. <sup>12</sup>In pouring this ointment on my body,*

she has done it to prepare me for burial. <sup>13</sup>Truly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will also be told in memory of her."

<sup>14</sup>Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests <sup>15</sup>and said, "**What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?**" And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. <sup>16</sup>And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him.

<sup>17</sup>Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "**Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the Passover?**" <sup>18</sup>He said, "Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is at hand. I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" <sup>19</sup>And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover.

<sup>20</sup>When it was evening, he reclined at table with the twelve. <sup>21</sup>And as they were eating, he said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me." <sup>22</sup>And they were very sorrowful and began to say to him one after another, "**Is it I, Lord?**" <sup>23</sup>He answered, "He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. <sup>24</sup>The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born." <sup>25</sup>Judas, who would betray him, answered, "**Is it I, Rabbi?**" He said to him, "You have said so."

<sup>26</sup>Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." <sup>27</sup>And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, <sup>28</sup>for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>29</sup>I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

<sup>30</sup>And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. <sup>31</sup>Then Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away because of me this night. For it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' <sup>32</sup>But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." <sup>33</sup>Peter answered him, "**Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away.**" <sup>34</sup>Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." <sup>35</sup>Peter said to him, "**Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!**" And all the disciples said the same.

<sup>36</sup>Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here, while I go over there and pray." <sup>37</sup>And taking with him Peter and

the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. <sup>38</sup>Then he said to them, *"My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me."* <sup>39</sup>And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, *"My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will."* <sup>40</sup>And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, *"So, could you not watch with me one hour?"* <sup>41</sup>*Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."* <sup>42</sup>Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, *"My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done."* <sup>43</sup>And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. <sup>44</sup>So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again. <sup>45</sup>Then he came to the disciples and said to them, *"Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners."* <sup>46</sup>*Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand."* <sup>47</sup>While he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. <sup>48</sup>Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, **"The one I will kiss is the man; seize him."** <sup>49</sup>And he came up to Jesus at once and said, **"Greetings, Rabbi!"** And he kissed him. <sup>50</sup>Jesus said to him, *"Friend, do what you came to do."* Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him. <sup>51</sup>And behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. <sup>52</sup>Then Jesus said to him, *"Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword."* <sup>53</sup>*Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels?"* <sup>54</sup>*But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?"* <sup>55</sup>At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, *"Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me."* <sup>56</sup>*But all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled."* Then all the disciples left him and fled.

<sup>57</sup>Then those who had seized Jesus led him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. <sup>58</sup>And Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards to see the end. <sup>59</sup>Now the chief priests and the whole Council were seeking false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death, <sup>60</sup>but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward <sup>61</sup>and said, **"This man said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to rebuild it in**

**three days.**" <sup>62</sup>And the high priest stood up and said, "**Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?**" <sup>63</sup>But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to him, "**I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.**" <sup>64</sup>Jesus said to him, "*You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.*" <sup>65</sup>Then the high priest tore his robes and said, "**He has uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard his blasphemy. <sup>66</sup>What is your judgment?**" They answered, "**He deserves death.**" <sup>67</sup>Then they spit in his face and struck him. And some slapped him, <sup>68</sup>saying, "**Prophecy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?**"

<sup>69</sup>Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came up to him and said, "**You also were with Jesus the Galilean.**" <sup>70</sup>But he denied it before them all, saying, "**I do not know what you mean.**" <sup>71</sup>And when he went out to the entrance, another servant girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, "**This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.**" <sup>72</sup>And again he denied it with an oath: "**I do not know the man.**" <sup>73</sup>After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "**Certainly you too are one of them, for your accent betrays you.**" <sup>74</sup>Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "**I do not know the man.**" And immediately the rooster crowed. <sup>75</sup>And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, "*Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.*" And he went out and wept bitterly.

<sup>1</sup>When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death. <sup>2</sup>And they bound him and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate the governor.

<sup>3</sup>Then when Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he changed his mind and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, <sup>4</sup>saying, "**I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.**" They said, "**What is that to us? See to it yourself.**" <sup>5</sup>And throwing down the pieces of silver into the temple, he departed, and he went and hanged himself. <sup>6</sup>But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, "**It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since it is blood money.**" <sup>7</sup>So they took counsel and bought with them the potter's field as a burial place for strangers. <sup>8</sup>Therefore that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. <sup>9</sup>Then was fulfilled what had been spoken by the prophet Jeremiah, saying, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him on whom a price had been set by some of the sons of Israel, <sup>10</sup>and they gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord directed me."

<sup>11</sup>Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, **“Are you the King of the Jews?”** Jesus said, *“You have said so.”* <sup>12</sup>But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he gave no answer. <sup>13</sup>Then Pilate said to him, **“Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?”** <sup>14</sup>But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

<sup>15</sup>Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. <sup>16</sup>And they had then a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. <sup>17</sup>So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, **“Whom do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?”** <sup>18</sup>For he knew that it was out of envy that they had delivered him up. <sup>19</sup>Besides, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, **“Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much because of him today in a dream.”** <sup>20</sup>Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. <sup>21</sup>The governor again said to them, **“Which of the two do you want me to release for you?”** And they said, **“Barabbas.”** <sup>22</sup>Pilate said to them, **“Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?”** They all said, **“Let him be crucified!”** <sup>23</sup>And he said, **“Why, what evil has he done?”** But they shouted all the more, **“Let him be crucified!”**

<sup>24</sup>So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, **“I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.”** <sup>25</sup>And all the people answered, **“His blood be on us and on our children!”** <sup>26</sup>Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.

<sup>27</sup>Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor’s headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. <sup>28</sup>And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, <sup>29</sup>and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, **“Hail, King of the Jews!”** <sup>30</sup>And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. <sup>31</sup>And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him.

<sup>32</sup>As they went out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. They compelled this man to carry his cross. <sup>33</sup>And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), <sup>34</sup>they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. <sup>35</sup>And when they had crucified him, they divided

his garments among them by casting lots. <sup>36</sup>Then they sat down and kept watch over him there. <sup>37</sup>And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." <sup>38</sup>Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. <sup>39</sup>And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads <sup>40</sup>and saying, "**You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.**" <sup>41</sup>So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, <sup>42</sup>"**He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. <sup>43</sup>He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, 'I am the Son of God.'**" <sup>44</sup>And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way.

<sup>45</sup>Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. <sup>46</sup>And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "*Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?*" that is, "*My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?*" <sup>47</sup>And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, "**This man is calling Elijah.**" <sup>48</sup>And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink. <sup>49</sup>But the others said, "**Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.**" <sup>50</sup>And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit.

<sup>51</sup>And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. <sup>52</sup>The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, <sup>53</sup>and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. <sup>54</sup>When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, "**Truly this was the Son of God!**"

<sup>55</sup>There were also many women there, looking on from a distance, who had followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him, <sup>56</sup>among whom were Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Joseph and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

<sup>57</sup>When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. <sup>58</sup>He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. <sup>59</sup>And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud <sup>60</sup>and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the

rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away. <sup>61</sup>Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

<sup>62</sup>Next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate <sup>63</sup>and said, **"Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise.'** <sup>64</sup>**Therefore order the tomb to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away and tell the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last fraud will be worse than the first."** <sup>65</sup>Pilate said to them, **"You have a guard of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can."** <sup>66</sup>So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard. *Matthew 26:1 – 27: 66*

**P** This is the Gospel of our Lord.      **G** Praise to you, O Christ.

## Homily



## Hymn: 542 When I Behold Jesus Christ

1 When I behold Jesus Christ, True God who died for me,  
I wonder much at His love As He hung on the tree. *Refrain.*

Refrain: What kind of love is this? What kind of love is this?  
You showed Your love, Jesus, there to me on Calvary.  
What kind of love is this? What kind of love is this?  
You showed Your love, Jesus, there to me on Calvary.

2 For me You gave all Your love, For me You suffered pain;  
I find no words, nothing can Your selflessness explain. *Refrain.*

3 You had no sin, holy Lord, But You were tortured, tried;  
On Golgotha there for all My sins You bled and died. *Refrain.*

4 What love is this? Greater love No one has ever known.  
My life with God— this I owe To You, and You alone. *Refrain.*

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## 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*

### Prayer of the Church

*We pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus  
and for all people according to their needs ...*

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.      **☩** And also with you.

**The Offering** *is received.*

### Offertory: 422 On My Heart Imprint Your Image

On my heart imprint Your image, Blessèd Jesus, King of grace,  
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures Never may Your work erase;  
Let the clear inscription be: Jesus, crucified for me,  
Is my life, my hope's foundation, And my glory and salvation!

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Peer O. Strømme, 1856–1921, alt. Text: Public domain

## Offertory prayer (stand)

- P** Let us pray... **C** **Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us: our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Liturgy of Holy Communion

### The GREAT THANKSGIVING (stand)

- P** The Lord be with you. **C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts. **C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**
- P** It is indeed right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:
- C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed † is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**



- P** Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, for you have had mercy on us and given your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for the priceless grace you have bestowed upon us through Jesus Christ, who died upon the tree of Calvary and rose again to make us living branches, drawing our life from him and bearing fruit in all the world. Send your Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth and power, to renew our faith as we receive our crucified and risen Lord who comes to us in his body and blood.

### CHRIST'S WORDS OF INSTITUTION, then the following:

- P** As often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. **C** **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**
- P** Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say "Amen"! **C** **Amen.**
- P** Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say "Amen"! **C** **Amen.**
- P** Join our prayers and praise with your prophets, martyrs and saints of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son.

**P** Hear us, Abba Father, as our Lord has taught to pray...

**C** 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.

### **AGNUS DEI – Lamb of God**

**C** Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

**P** Behold the Lamb of God. Behold Him who takes away the sins of the world.  
Blessed are those who are invited to the Supper of the Lamb.

**C** Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

*The Communion follows.*

### **Nunc Dimittis - Now depart (all stand and sing)**

**C** O Lord, now let Your servant depart in heav'nly peace,  
For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace:  
A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill,  
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.

All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,  
All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One;  
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,  
God's *holy* name resounding Through all eternity.

**P** Let us pray... Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood  
of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a  
living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your  
praise and glory. **C Amen.**

### **THE BENEDICTION**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you;  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **C Amen.**

### **Announcements**

*Stand*

## **Hymn: LSB 430 My Song Is Love Unknown**

- 1 My song is love unknown, My Savior's love to me,  
Love to the loveless shown That they might lovely be.  
Oh, who am I that for my sake  
My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
- 2 He came from His blest throne Salvation to bestow;  
But men made strange, and none The longed-for Christ would know.  
But, oh, my friend, My friend indeed,  
Who at my need His life did spend!
- 3 Sometimes they strew His way And His sweet praises sing;  
Resounding all the day Hosannas to their King.  
Then "Crucify!" Is all their breath,  
And for His death They thirst and cry.
- 4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?  
He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their sight.  
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these  
Themselves displease And 'gainst Him rise.
- 5 They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made away;  
A murderer they save, The Prince of Life they slay.  
Yet cheerful He To suff'ring goes  
That He His foes From thence might free.
- 6 In life no house, no home My Lord on earth might have;  
In death no friendly tomb But what a stranger gave.  
What may I say? Heav'n was His home  
But mine the tomb Wherein He lay.
- 7 Here might I stay and sing, No story so divine!  
Never was love, dear King, Never was grief like Thine.  
This is my friend, In whose sweet praise  
I all my days Could gladly spend!

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**P** Go in peace. Walk with the Lord this most holy week.

**C** **We will follow Him to the garden, the judgement,  
Golgotha and the tomb.**

Worship  
Servants }

**Officiating Minister:** Rev. Peter A.D. Deebrah, Pastor

**Organist:** Roger Clinton

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### **Announcements**

- **Glad that you have worshipped** today in joining with the angels and archangels, and the whole company of heaven around the glorious throne of God.
- **Weekly Worship Service:** Sundays at 1:30 PM
- **Wednesdays in Lent:** Mid-week Lenten Devotions at 7 PM on Zoom

### **Holy Week Worship Schedule**

- **Holy Thursday, April 2:** Worship at 1 pm in person and on Zoom
- **Good Friday, April 3:** Worship at 12 noon in person and on Zoom
- **Easter Sunday, April 5:** Worship at 1:30 pm
- **For daily Bible reading and devotions on the internet,** visit [www.lhm.org/dailydevotions.asp](http://www.lhm.org/dailydevotions.asp)
- **Visit out church website** [www.stmatthewnyc.org](http://www.stmatthewnyc.org)
- **In praise and thanksgiving to God, your offering is an integral part of worship.**  
We return to the Lord a portion of what He has first given us out of His Fatherly love.
- **You may give your Offering electronically:**
  - **click on the DONATE** menu tab on the St. Matthew church website
  - **use the Zelle App** and enter St. Matthew email: **stmatthewnyc@aol.com**
- **LET'S READ THE BIBLE TOGETHER.** We are reading the New Testament and the book of Psalms.
- **"Christians live not in themselves,** but in Christ and in their neighbor... They live in Christ through faith, and in their neighbor through love. By faith they are caught up beyond themselves into God. By Love they descend beneath themselves into their neighbor." *Dr. Martin Luther.*

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