

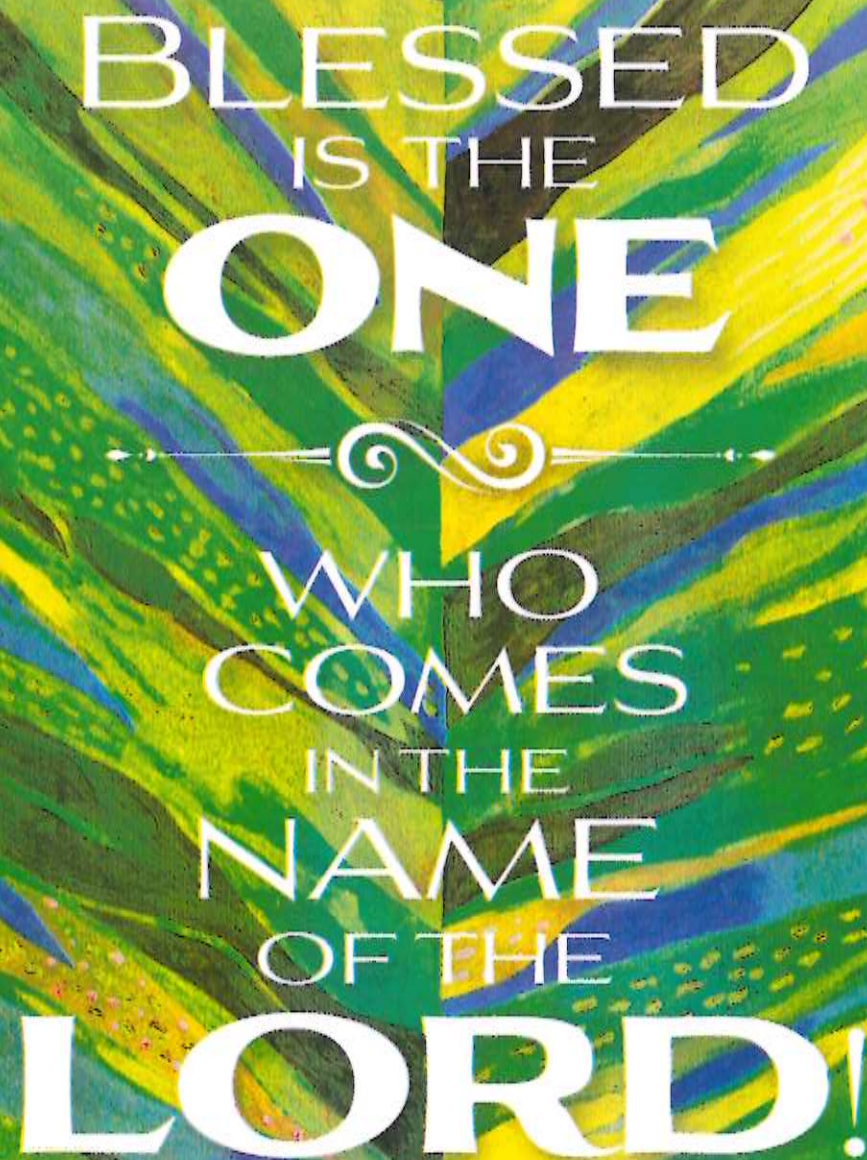
The Heart of the Story

Martin Luther called the Psalms a “little Bible.” He wrote that all the rest of the Holy Scriptures could be found in them. Luther went so far as to suggest that in the Psalms the church can glimpse the death and resurrection of Christ. In these ancient songs and prayers of the Hebrew people, every human emotion is laid bare: joy and contentment, anger and sorrow, hope and despair. The Psalms give voice to the wide spectrum of experiences that mark our human lives. This is their power—they speak the heart’s language, turbulent as our hearts may sometimes be.

In a similar way, Holy Week places us at the center of the whole story of Christ’s life, death, and resurrection. From the “hosannas” of Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem to the seeming abandonment of the cross, emotions run high this week as the story of Christ’s passion reaches into the depths of our human experience. The palm and passion stories are themselves a “little Bible” of salvation for the church within the wider story of God’s saving love for all.

As we gather to hear the story of Christ’s passion anew, the words and rituals of the church’s worship life invite us to feel our way into this story from the inside out. We hear the shouts of blessing and come to the Passover in quiet hope. We follow to Gethsemane and to the cross, with mixed emotions. What does betrayal feel like in our bodies? What about amazement? Fear? How have we experienced ridicule or shame? How have we ourselves dismissed or derided others?

The palm and passion stories offer us a chance to contemplate Christ’s sufferings and meditate on our salvation—to come side by side with Christ’s passion and so to know and access our own. We are invited to honestly glimpse the workings of our own hearts. Nothing is off limits to God’s grace. No human experience is untouched by the story of God’s redemptive love.



BLESSED
IS THE
ONE
— — — — —
WHO
COMES
IN THE
NAME
OF THE
LORD!

MARK 11:9

Millcreek Lutheran Church
Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday
March 24, 2024

A warm welcome to our church! We appreciate your presence here today and enjoy the new and the familiar faces as we gather together. If you are a visitor and believe that Christ is your Savior and present in the Sacrament, you are welcome to receive Holy Communion with us. All children who have received Communion instruction and have been approved to receive Holy Communion either here or at another church are also welcome to commune with us. Any child may come forward for a blessing. Visitors, please sign our guest book, fill out a visitor's card in the pew rack and introduce yourself to Pastor Scott as you leave. We're glad you're here!

Prayer: Heavenly Father, who led your Son to the cross, that sinners may experience the power of your love: Take us to the cross, that we may experience Christ's victory in atonement for our sins, and give witness to that experience with our praise. In his name we pray. Amen

The Service

- Prelude of Entrance
- Announcements
- Prelude of Preparation
- *Blessing of Palms: (see The Palms insert)
- *Hymn: ***The Palms*** (see The Palms insert)
- *The Greetings: Page 57, line 5
- *Prayer of the Day: (On the lesson insert, read in unison)
- Children's Sermon
- The First Reading
- The Psalmody: (On the lesson insert, read responsively)
- The Second Reading
- *The Gospel: ***The Passion of Our Lord*** according to Mark
(See The Passion booklet)
- Hymn of the Day: **No. 555 NCH, *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded***
- *The Nicene Creed, Page 64
- *The Prayers: Page 65, line 22
- *The Greeting of Peace: Page 66, line 23
- Ryan Fisher, Luthercare (Spang Crest)
- Choir Anthem: ***On That Day When He Rode into Jerusalem***

*The Great Thanksgiving: Pages 68-71, lines 28, 29 & 31

*The Lord's Prayer, Page 71 (sung)

Holy Communion (Continuous)

*Post Communion Prayer: Page 74, line 40

*Benediction & Dismissal: Page 74, lines 42 & 43

*Departing Hymn: ***Christ Jesus, On Sunday*** (see *The Palms* insert)

Moments of Meditation: Congregation seated

Postlude

*** Please stand**

Serving You This Morning:

Pastor,	The Rev. Scott J. Paradise
Lay Leader,	Susan Long
Organist/Pianist,	Debra Tice
Lay Reader,	David Staaby
Ushers, Audio,	Frank Hoffman and Scott Johnson

Thank you to those participating in the reading of the Passion of Our Lord According to Mark: Rachel Mock, David Staaby, Deb Buffington, Dara Wolfe, Mary Ream, Debbie Tice, Pastor Scott and Sunday School Students.

The altar flowers and bulletins are given to the honor and glory of God and in memory of Derick Sites. Love Mom, Dad and Susan

When we are baptized, we are baptized into the body of Christ. We understand this body to be the communion of saints, a diverse witness of men and women across time and space. Throughout its history, the church has sought to lift up Christians who have been unique, exemplary people of faith.

Today, the church invites us to remember Óscar Arnulfo Romero, Bishop of El Salvador, and martyr, who died on this day in 1980. Romero is remembered for his advocacy on behalf of the poor in El Salvador, though it was not a characteristic of his early priesthood. After being appointed as archbishop of San Salvador, he preached against the political repression in his country. He and other priests and church workers were considered traitors for their strong stand for justice, especially defending the rights of the poor. After several years of threats to his life, Romero was assassinated while presiding at the Eucharist in a hospital chapel near the cathedral in San Salvador.

Blessing of the Palms

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Let us pray. Mercifully assist us, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts whereby you have given us life everlasting; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

The holy gospel according to _____.
Glory to you, O Lord.

The processional Gospel appointed for the year is read.

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

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray. We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way.

Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Let us go forth in peace,
in the name of Christ. Amen.



The Palms

1. O'er all the way green palms and blos-soms gay Are strewn this day in
2. His word goes forth, and peo-ple by its might Once more their free-dom
3. Sing and re-joice, O blest Je - ru - sa - lem, Of all thy songs sing

fest-ival prep - a - ra - tion, Where Je - sus comes, to wipe our tears a - way;
gain from deg - ra - da - tion; Hu - man - i - ty doth give to each his right,
the e - man - ci - pa - tion; Thro' bound-less love, the Christ of Beth-le - hem

RESPONSE
E'en now the throng to wel-come Him pre-pare. Join, sing His name di-vine,
While those in dark-ness find re-stored the light.
Brings forth the hope to thee for - ev - er - more. Join all, and sing Ho - san - na!

Let ev-ry voice re-sound with u - nit - ed ac - cla - ma - tion, Ho - san - na!
Praised be the

na! Praised be the Lord, Bless Him who cometh to bring us sal - va - tion.
Lord, Ho - san - na!

Christ Jesus, On Sunday, You Rode Into Town
 ST. DENIO 11.11.11.11 ("Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise")
 Text by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. Used by permission.

**Christ Jesus, on Sunday, you rode into town;
 The crowds laid their coats and some palms on the ground.
 They made you a welcome and called you their king,
 But they did not know of the reign you would bring.**

**Christ Jesus, on Monday, you went up to pray;
 The sellers were filling the Temple that day.
 But who could be reverent? That courtyard was loud;
 You overturned tables, dispersing the crowd.**

**Christ Jesus, on Thursday, you readied a place;
 You hosted a meal and you offered the grace.
 You told your disciples, "Now eat of this bread,"
 "Now drink of the cup of salvation," you said.**

**With basin and towel, with washing of feet,
 You showed us where love and humility meet.
 You loved till your love led to suffering and loss;
 You knelt down to serve us, then hung on a cross.**

**On Friday, you died, and the next day was bleak.
 O Christ, we remember your whole Holy Week.
 We can't avoid suffering, or turn from what's true,
 For out of your death, we find new life in you.**

The Triumphal Entry

"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"
 Luke 19:38 (NIV)



S	P	R	E	A	D	O	D	E	A	E	E	Q	R	X
Y	K	I	D	D	Y	E	R	S	S	Y	D	K	C	S
H	U	M	W	Y	S	K	E	I	H	V	V	T	G	M
L	N	O	U	S	T	L	A	L	D	I	O	H	A	V
X	R	Z	E	F	P	R	N	O	E	L	I	M	X	F
C	E	L	T	I	P	M	X	R	D	L	C	U	U	Y
C	B	L	C	N	P	P	R	D	N	A	E	B	R	C
H	O	S	L	X	A	V	E	L	V	G	S	O	P	L
C	I	O	U	Z	F	M	R	A	P	E	L	F	E	O
D	U	G	R	O	A	D	E	N	C	G	W	I	O	A
S	X	I	H	H	E	A	V	E	N	E	H	E	P	K
B	S	Y	D	E	J	E	S	U	S	M	H	U	L	S
X	U	D	Z	C	S	C	Y	V	A	H	N	I	E	V
B	F	A	V	Y	J	T	K	C	R	O	Z	H	L	P
N	Y	B	M	I	R	A	C	L	E	S	T	C	K	L

BLESSED	MIRACLES	HIGHEST	HEAVEN	CROWD
SPREAD	GLORY	PRAISE	VILLAGE	PEOPLE
DISCIPLES	CLOAKS	VOICES	LORD	PEACE
NAME	ROAD	JESUS	HILL	COLT





Today's Readings

Sunday of the Passion / Palm Sunday

March 24, 2024

Processional Gospel Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16 [not printed]

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, [Jesus] sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" ⁴They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. ⁷Then they brought the colt to

Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

¹¹Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Prayer of the Day

Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading Isaiah 50:4-9a

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 awakens—
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.

⁵The Lord God has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backward.

⁶I 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.

⁷The 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;

⁸he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.

⁹It is the Lord God who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

Psalm

Psalm 31:9-16; tone 11



Have mercy on me, O LORD,
for I ¹am in trouble;
my eye is consumed with sorrow,
and also my throat ¹and my belly.

¹⁰For my life is wasted with grief,
and my ¹years with sighing;
my strength fails me
because of affliction,
and my bones ¹are consumed.

¹¹I am the scorn of my enemies,
a disgrace to my neighbors,
a dismay to ¹my acquaintances;
when they see me in the street
¹they avoid me.

¹²Like the dead I am forgotten,
¹out of mind;

I am as useless as a ¹broken pot.

¹³For I have heard
the whispering of the crowd;
fear is ¹all around;

they put their heads together
against me;
they plot to ¹take my life.

¹⁴But as for me,
I have trusted in ¹you, O LORD.

I have said, "You ¹are my God.

¹⁵My times are ¹in your hand;
rescue me

from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who ¹persecute me.

¹⁶Let your face shine up- ¹on your servant;
save me in your ¹steadfast love."

Second Reading

Philippians 2:5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁵who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,

⁷but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,
⁸he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point
of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,

¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under
the earth,

¹¹and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Mark 14:1—15:47 or Mark 15:1-39 [40-47] [not printed]

TODAY'S READINGS March 24, 2024

Volume 55, Number 2

Next Sunday's Readings: Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or Acts 10:34-43; Mark 16:1-8 or John 20:1-18.

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Tracks 1 and 2

The Passion of Our Lord

according to

Mark

14:1-15:47



Please return this booklet at the end of worship so
that we may reuse it. Thank you!

Narrator: ^{14:1} It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; ²for they said,

Crowd: **Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.**

Narrator: ³While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. ⁴But some were there who said to one another in anger,

Crowd: **Why was the ointment wasted in this way? ⁵For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor.**

Narrator: And they scolded her. ⁶But Jesus said,
Jesus: Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. ⁷For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. ⁸She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. ⁹Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.

Narrator: ¹⁰Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray [Jesus] to them. ¹¹When they heard it, they were greatly pleased, and promised to give him money. So [Judas] began to look for an opportunity to betray [Jesus].

Disciples: ¹²On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to [Jesus],
 Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?

Narrator: ¹³So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them,
 Jesus: Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, ¹⁴and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, "The Teacher asks, Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?" ¹⁵He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.

Narrator: ¹⁶So the disciples set out and went to the city, and found everything as [Jesus] had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

Jesus: ¹⁷When it was evening, he came with the twelve.
¹⁸And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said,
 Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me.

Narrator: ¹⁹They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another,
 Disciples: Surely, not I?
 Narrator: ²⁰He said to them,
 Jesus: It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. ²¹For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.

Narrator: ²²While they were eating, [Jesus] took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said,
 Jesus: Take; this is my body.
 Narrator: ²³Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it.
²⁴He said to them,
 Jesus: This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. ²⁵Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.

Narrator: ²⁶When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ²⁷And Jesus said to them,
 Jesus: You will all become deserters; for it is written, "I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered." ²⁸But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee. ²⁹Peter said to [Jesus],
 Peter: Even though all become deserters, I will not.

Narrator: ³⁰Jesus said to [Peter],
 Jesus: Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.

Narrator: ³¹But [Peter] said vehemently,
 Peter: Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.
 Narrator: And all of them said the same.
³²They went to a place called Gethsemane; and [Jesus] said to his disciples,
 Jesus: Sit here while I pray.
 Narrator: ³³He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. ³⁴And he said to them,

Jesus: I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.

Narrator: ³⁵And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. ³⁶He said,

Jesus: Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.

Narrator: ³⁷[Jesus] came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter,

Jesus: Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? ³⁸Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Narrator: ³⁹And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. ⁴⁰And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. ⁴¹[Jesus] came a third time and said to them,

Jesus: Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴²Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.

Narrator: ⁴³Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. ⁴⁴Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying,

Judas: The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard.

Narrator: ⁴⁵So when he came, he went up to him at once and said,

Judas: Rabbi!

Narrator: and kissed him. ⁴⁶Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. ⁴⁷But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. ⁴⁸Then Jesus said to them,

Jesus: Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? ⁴⁹Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled.

Narrator: ⁵⁰All of them deserted him and fled. ⁵¹A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, ⁵²but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked. ⁵³They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. ⁵⁴Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire. ⁵⁵Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. ⁵⁶For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. ⁵⁷Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying,

Crowd: ⁵⁸**We heard him say, “I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.”**

Narrator: ⁵⁹But even on this point their testimony did not agree. ⁶⁰Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus,

High Priest: Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?

Narrator: ⁶¹But [Jesus] was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him,

High Priest: Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?

Narrator: ⁶²Jesus said,

Jesus: I am; and “you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power,” and “coming with the clouds of heaven.”

Narrator: ⁶³Then the high priest tore his clothes and said,

High Priest: Why do we still need witnesses? ⁶⁴You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?

Narrator: All of them condemned him as deserving death. ⁶⁵Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him,

Crowd: **Prophecy!** (PROF-uh-sigh.)

Narrator: The guards also took [Jesus] over and beat him.

⁶⁶While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by.

⁶⁷When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said,

Servant Girl: You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth.

Narrator: ⁶⁸But [Peter] denied it, saying,

Peter: I do not know or understand what you are talking about.

Narrator: And [Peter] went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed. ⁶⁹And the servant-girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders,

Servant Girl: This man is one of them.

Narrator: ⁷⁰But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter,

Crowd: **Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean.**

Narrator: ⁷¹But [Peter] began to curse, and he swore an oath,

Peter: I do not know this man you are talking about.

Narrator: ⁷²At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him,

Jesus: Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.

Narrator: And [Peter] broke down and wept.

^{15:1}As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. ²Pilate asked him,

Pilate: Are you the King of the Jews?

Narrator: [Jesus] answered him,

Jesus: You say so.

Narrator: ³Then the chief priests accused him of many things. ⁴Pilate asked him again,

Pilate: Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.

Narrator: ⁵But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

⁶Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. ⁷Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. ⁸So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. ⁹Then he answered them,

Pilate: Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?

Narrator: ¹⁰For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. ¹¹But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. ¹²Pilate spoke to them again,

Pilate: Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?

Narrator: ¹³They shouted back,

Crowd: Crucify him!

Narrator: ¹⁴Pilate asked them,

Pilate: Why, what evil has he done?

Narrator: But they shouted all the more,

Crowd: Crucify him!

Narrator: ¹⁵So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. ¹⁶Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. ¹⁷And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him.

¹⁸And they began saluting him,

Crowd: Hail, King of the Jews!

Narrator: ¹⁹They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. ²⁰After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

²¹They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. ²²Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). ²³And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. ²⁴And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

²⁵It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. ²⁶The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews."

Please stand as you are able.

Narrator: ²⁷And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. ²⁹Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying,
Crowd: Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, ³⁰save yourself, and come down from the cross!

Narrator: ³¹In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying,

Crowd: **He saved others; he cannot save himself. ³²Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.**

Narrator: Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

³³When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ³⁴At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice,

Jesus: *Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?*

Narrator: which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

³⁵When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." ³⁶And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying,

Crowd: **Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.**

Narrator: ³⁷Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.
Silence is kept.

Narrator: ³⁸And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom.

³⁹Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, Truly this man was God's Son!

Centurion:

Narrator: ⁴⁰There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. ⁴¹These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee;

and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

⁴²When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, ⁴³Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁴⁴Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time.

⁴⁵When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. ⁴⁶Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. ⁴⁷Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where the body was laid.

Silence is kept.

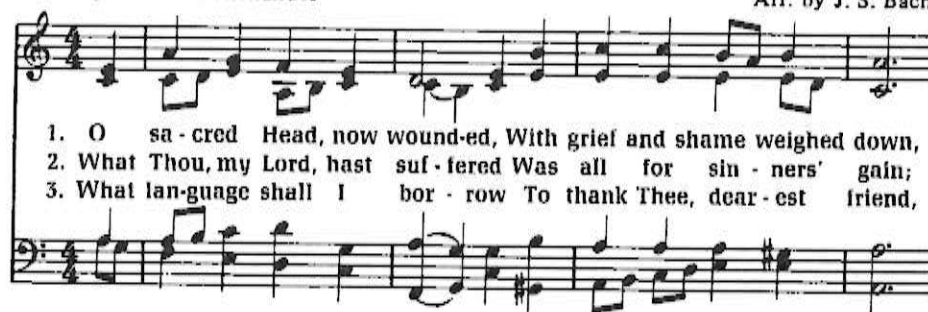


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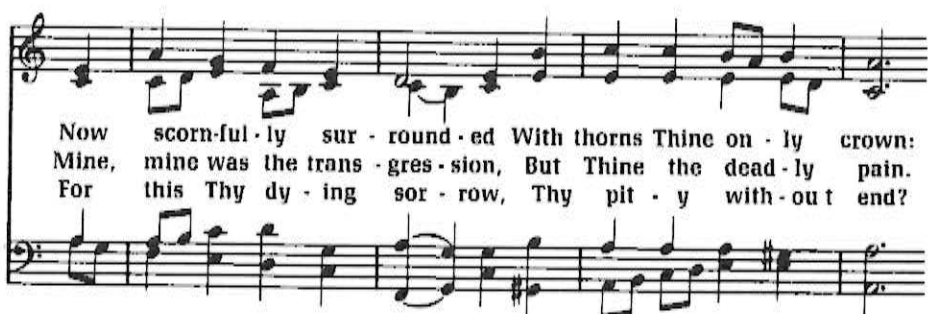
555 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

Attr. to Bernard of Clairvaux
Trans. by James W. Alexander

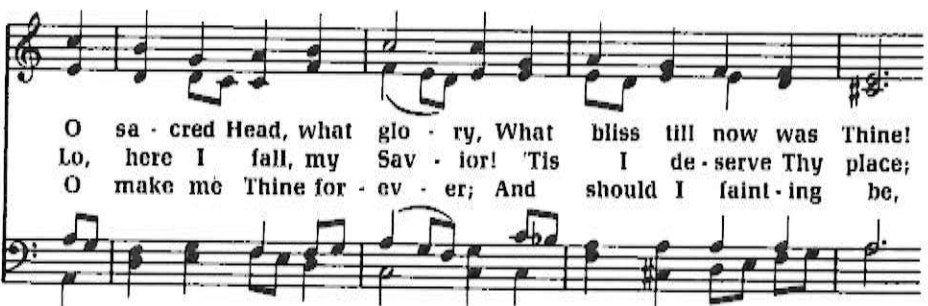
Hans Leo Hassler
Arr. by J. S. Bach



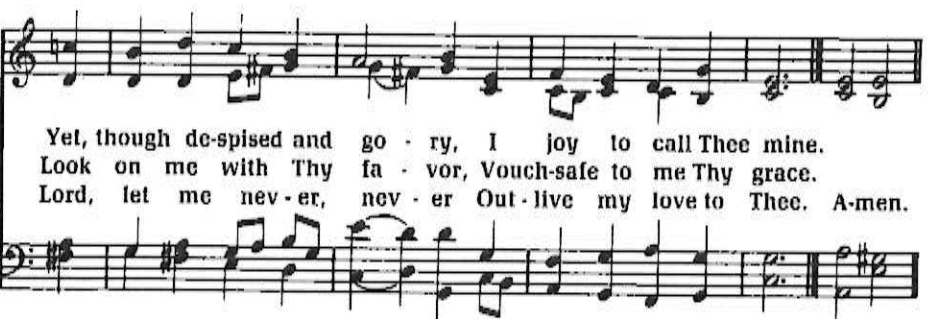
1. O sa - cred Head, now wound-ed, With grief and shame weighed down,
2. What Thou, my Lord, hast suf - fered Was all for sin - ners' gain;
3. What lan - guage shall I bor - row To thank Thee, dear - est friend,



Now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed With thorns Thine on - ly crown:
Mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, But Thine the dead - ly pain.
For this Thy dy - ing sor - row, Thy pit - y with - out end?



O sa - cred Head, what glo - ry, What bliss till now was Thine!
Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior! 'Tis I de - serve Thy place;
O make me Thine for - ev - er; And should I faint - ing be,



Yet, though de - spised and go - ry, I joy to call Thee mine.
Look on me with Thy fa - vor, Vouch - safe to me Thy grace.
Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er Out - live my love to Thee. A - men.



"The Church on the Hill"

Church Office
(610) 589-2570
secretary@millcreeklutheran.com

221 North Sheridan Road
PO Box 399
Newmanstown, PA 17073
www.millcreeklutheran.com

Pastor Scott Paradise
Home: (717) 628-1241
Cell: (540) 335-1693
pastorsscottparadise@gmail.com

Our Mission

Helping God restore and renew our community, our congregation, and our selves.

Sunday March 24, 2024

You can **listen to the worship service** over the phone patch at 10:15 AM. Just dial **717-628-0125**. You will hear a message welcoming you to Millcreek. At that point you are connected to our church sound system, so just stay on the line. You may also watch the service later on You Tube.

Helping God Restore and Renew our Community

HELPING OUR NEIGHBORS DURING LENT: The Sharing Cupboard food pantry has been a local food resource since 2008. It was started at the Myerstown Church of the Brethren for people living in the ELCO School District who experience food insecurity. Since then, the pantry has seen an increase in the number of families needing help. Now they serve approximately 100 families monthly.

THE SHARING CUPBOARD asked area churches if they'd be willing to choose a month during the year to have a food drive. The Evangelism Committee at Millcreek Lutheran decided to take on this challenge and chose the month of March. Coincidentally, Lent and Easter are in March this year. The Committee will have an area in our church narthex for you to place your donations. **Please pick up a list of foods at that display that the pantry is saying they need.** This project will begin March 1 and end March 31. Isaiah 58:10 "Feed the hungry and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from the darkness..."

On behalf of the Sharing Cupboard at the Myerstown Church of the Brethren, we thank you kindly for the donation of groceries to our Sharing Cupboard. Your donation is greatly appreciated. Thank you for thinking of the less fortunate in our ELCO Community. If you know of an individual or family that is in need, please let them now of our services. They only need to reside in the ELCO Community. God Bless you all! The Volunteers at the Sharing Cupboard

Lists for information on Lenten services are on the table in the narthex. The next service (March 27 @ 7:00 PM) will be held at Elias UCC, N. 9th Sheridan Rd., Newmanstown with Pastor Scott J. Paradise speaking. Topic: Return to the Table - John 15:1-4. Light snacks and refreshments will be served after the service.

Please see the lavender insert for Holy Week events and services.

Many thanks to Debbie Buffington for organizing the bi-monthly blood drive held this past Thursday, March 21st. Thank you to all who donate and to those who come out to help set up and clean up afterwards. Many lives are saved with each blood drive.



CAMP KIRCHENWALD SUMMER CAMP: Pamphlets for camp registration are in the wall rack in the narthex.

THE FRIENDS OF SPANG CREST 2024 annual membership drive is presently going on and will continue till March 31. By donating towards this membership drive Friends of Spang Crest help provide special activities and projects for the Spang Crest residents. In the last year Millcreek has lost two of its longtime faithful givers to this wonderful cause and we need some additional new faces to step in with any donation certainly appreciated. Last year Millcreek helped this cause by having 23 contributors and raising \$456 - please consider stepping forward this year if you didn't already. Please see Margie to contribute.

Helping God Restore and Renew our Congregation

Our Easter Sunday Worship Service on March 31st will start at 9:00 AM (one service). We will share in the Sacrament of Holy Communion as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord. There will be a special activity time for the children.

TREASURER'S REPORT: March 17, 2024-Current Offerings-\$1,120.00, Plate-123.00, Easter-350.00, World Hunger-50.00, Bulletins-10.00, Coffee-11.00. **Total-\$1,674.00.** Easter Egg Hunt donation-\$20.00. Attendance-68, Sunday School-19

EASTER FLOWERS: If you ordered Easter Flowers, they will be available on Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024. Contact Carol Sova at 717-507-4721 with questions or concerns.

EASTER EGG HUNT PRIZES: Millcreek's annual egg hunt will be held on March 30. We are requesting prizes to be donated by the congregation for ages 0-12. Deadline for prizes is March 24. Prizes may be put in the Sunday School wing- last room on the right. Contact Nikki Johnson with questions - 717-639-1300.

EGG HUNT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to help the day of the egg hunt. There are signup sheets on the table in the narthex on the table. We need at least 10 volunteers to help the morning of the egg hunt. I will be at the church around 10am on April 30th to start putting the eggs out if people would like to come and help. Thank you! Nikki Johnson

CHOIR REHEARSAL: Our rehearsals are Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM. Consider joining us in our music ministry. Contact Debbie Tice with questions.

2024 FLOWER AND BULLETIN SHEETS are available for folks to sign up for sponsoring. They are on the bulletin board outside the nursery. Prices are \$30 for flowers and \$10 for bulletins.

Helping God Restore and Renew Our Selves



Dear MLC Family,

Thank you so much for the snacks and Subway Gift Card. It warms my heart and I really appreciate it. Much Love and God Bless, Julieanne Strickler

Dear Millcreek,

Thank you so much for the gift card to Subway and for thinking about me. I will definitely be using it. Cole Pennington

The "foam submarine puzzle" was included in the mailing of the Subway gift cards to each college student. Cole put his crafty talent to work and included a photo of the finished sub with his thank you!

SCRAP PAPER is available in the office on the shelf to the far right for anyone interested. You will see it clearly marked. Feel free to take as much or as little as you may need.

THIS WEEK WE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) WITH CARDS & PRAYERS:

Ann Welling, Rm. 238, Country Meadows, 1800 Tulpehocken Rd., Wyomissing, PA 19610

IF YOU ASKED FOR A MILLCREEK MEMBER TO BE PUT ON THE PRAYER LIST, PLEASE TELL THE CHURCH SECRETARY WHEN OUR PRAYERS HAVE BEEN ANSWERED SO SHE CAN KEEP THIS LIST CURRENT.

NON-MEMBER REQUESTS ARE LISTED ON A WEEKLY BASIS. TO BE INCLUDED, YOU MAY CONTACT LINDA EACH WEEK WITH YOUR REQUESTS BY NOON ON THURSDAY. secretary@millcreeklutheran.com or 610-589-2570

MILLCREEK MEMBERS PRAYER LIST: R. Hart Beaver, Debbie Hartman, Violet Hepler, Abbie Keath, Shad Kreitz, The Leibig Family, Ronald Merkel, Barbara Potteiger, Nancy Sauter, Norm Sharp, Thomas Tice, Debra Webber, Stewart Wolf, Aaron Yiengst, Devon Yiengst, Michael Yiengst, Jr., Greer Zellers



Easter Card Collection

The Sunday School classes are making a craft and organizing gift bags for our members who are unable to attend church. The list of folks is on the table in the narthex. They are asking members for Easter cards to add to the craft and palm branch. We are requesting volunteers to deliver the card and gift bags. A delivery sign-up will be located next to the gift bags in front of the display case. Cards can be dropped in the gift bags now **through Palm Sunday.**

Thank you, Nikki Johnson SS Superintendent



Easter

EGG HUNT

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

AT 11 AM

PRIZES FOR ALL

AGES 0-12

*Millcreek Lutheran Church
221 N. Sheridan RD,
Newmanstown, PA 17073*

EVENT HELD RAIN OR SHINE!



Holy Week at Millcreek

Sunday March 24 – Palm Sunday

Choir anthem-*On That Day When He Rode Into Jerusalem*

Reading of Passion of Our Lord According to Mark

Wednesday, March 27, 7:00 PM– Lenten service continues at

Elias UCC, 9 N. Sheridan Rd., Newmanstown with Pastor Scott

Paradise speaking. Topic: Return to the Table – John 15:1-4

Thursday, March 28 – Maundy Thursday

Service@Millcreek- 7:00 PM

Friday, March 29, 7:00 PM– GOOD FRIDAY service at Richland

Community Bible Church, 215 S. Race St., Richland with

Pastor Jim Artz speaking. Topic: Return and See Life-John

10:10-11

Saturday March 30 – Easter Egg Hunt- Held Rain or Shine

10 AM – Prepare for egg hunt

11 AM - Infants thru 5th grade

Sunday March 31-Easter Service

ONE SERVICE @ 9 AM

Communion & Special Music

Special Activities for children

*The Lord is risen!
He is risen indeed!*

Thanks to all who supported the
American Cancer Society with their
Purchase of daffodils or Gift of Hope

- ❖ Roy & Dotti Hoglund in honor of Branson, An, and Roy Hoglund
- ❖ Gerry & Julie Strickler
- ❖ David & Ann Marie Engle
- ❖ Lisa Martin
- ❖ Greta McMullan
- ❖ Cheryl Batdorf
- ❖ David & Aislinn Staaby
- ❖ Debbie Tice



Celebrate * Remember * Fight back



Friends of Spang Crest

2024 Annual Membership Drive

The Annual Membership Drive is your chance to join or renew your membership to the Friends of Spang Crest. This year's membership drive will run through March 31, 2024.

The Friends of Spang Crest is an auxiliary organization dedicated to supporting activities and projects benefitting the residents of Spang Crest, LutherCare's Senior Living Community in Lebanon, PA. In 2022-2023, the Friends of Spang Crest donated **over \$26,000** to Spang Crest for programs, services and purchases including:

- Benevolent Care • Resident Christmas Presents
 - Outdoor Patio Furniture
 - Activity Program Equipment
- Outdoor Band Concerts • Fish Tank Maintenance

Your membership dues, combined with generous donations from congregations, individuals, annual fundraising events and proceeds from the Spang Crest Gift Shop, will allow the Friends of Spang Crest to continue its work in 2024. Membership Levels for 2024 are:

Member:	\$2.00	Sustaining:	\$10.00
Contributing:	\$5.00	Patron:	\$25.00

You may submit your membership contribution directly to your congregation's Key Person: Margie Kriss, 103 Hardwood Street, Box 205, Schaefferstown, PA 17088. Please add "Friends of Spang Crest Membership" on the memo line of your check.

Thank You for Supporting the Friends of Spang Crest
Together We Make A Difference!

SHARING CUPBOARD

WISH LIST

CEREAL

CRACKERS

COOKIES

TUNA

SPAM

CANNED CHICKEN

PEANUT BUTTER

SPAGHETTI SAUCE

PASTA MEALS

BEEFARONI

BEEF STEW

CHUNKY SOUPS

GRANOLA BARS

INSTANT MASHED POTATOES

