



Our Saviour Lutheran Church

56 Cleveland Drive Croton on Hudson New York 10520

E-mail: mail@oursaviourcroton.org Telephone: (914) 271 4632

March 24, 2024

PALM SUNDAY **Embodied Joy**

Order of Worship

The order of worship is set out in this bulletin. The congregation responds in parts marked in bold. Hymns are taken from our hymnal, the *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, (ELW).

WE GATHER

Centering Music

The ringing of the *Morningstar*

Prelude

Liturgy of the Palms

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Gospel Reading

Mark 11:1-11

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 11th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

11 When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he 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!

10 Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

11 Then 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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Blessing of the Palms

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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 these branches and those who bear them, 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.

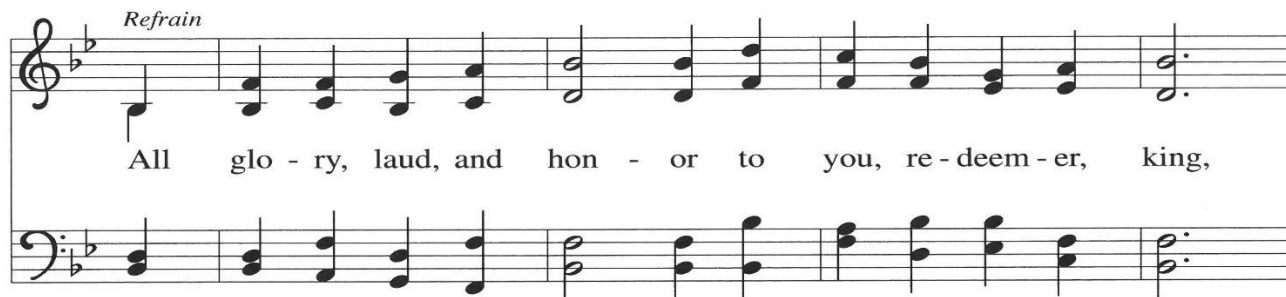
Amen

Procession

Let us go forth in peace,

In the name of the Lord. Amen.

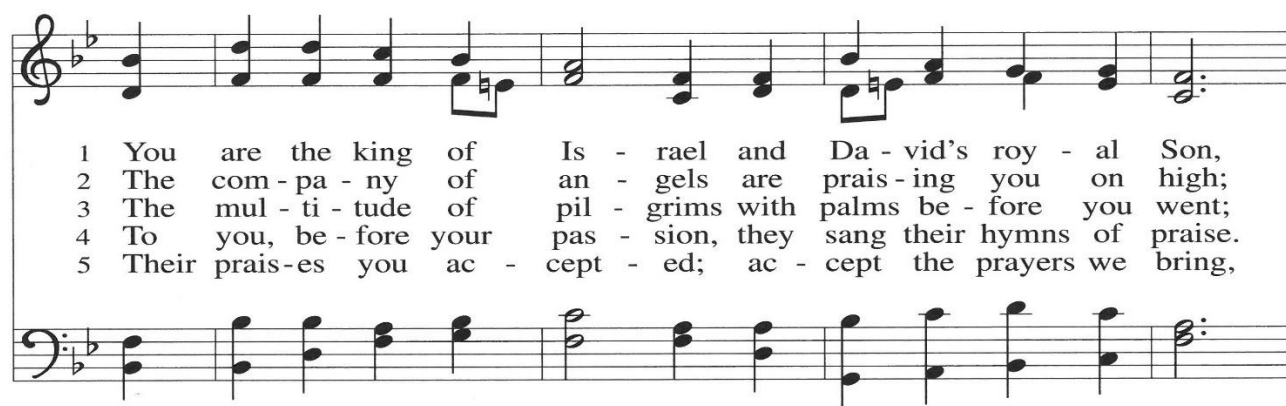
Refrain



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re - deem - er, king,

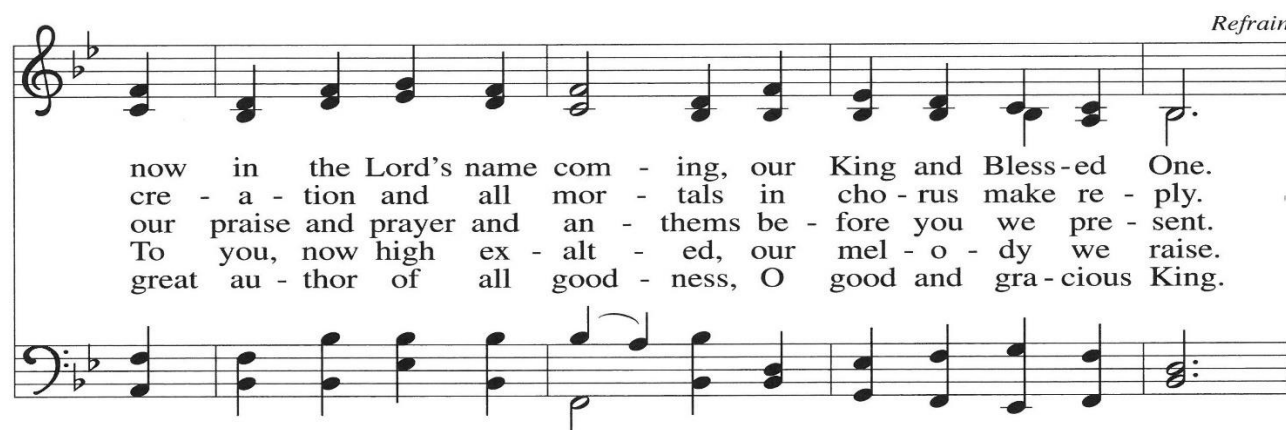


to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



1 You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,
 2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais - ing you on high;
 3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;
 4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.
 5 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Refrain



now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One.
 cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.
 our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.
 To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
 great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
 Music: Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN
 7 6 7 6 D

Apostolic Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all

And also with you.

Let us pray.

God, this is the day when everything changes, and we are pulled along: bodies dancing, voices singing, calling for you to change us. In the heart of the whirl, there is no warhorse for you, only the quiet steps of a colt. Sweep us up with exuberance and still us with quiet joy. Prepare us to meet you again at the cross and the empty tomb. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Lesson

Isaiah 50:4-9a

⁴The 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. 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?

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm

Psalm 31:9-16

⁹Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress; my eye wastes away from grief, my soul and body also.

¹⁰**For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing; my strength fails because of my misery, and my bones waste away.**

¹¹I am the scorn of all my adversaries, a horror to my neighbors, an object of dread to my acquaintances; those who see me in the street flee from me.

¹²**I have passed out of mind like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel.**

¹³For I hear the whispering of many— terror all around!— as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life.

¹⁴**But I trust in you, O LORD; I say, “You are my God.”**

¹⁵My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.

¹⁶**Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.**

Second Reading

Philippians 2:5-11

2 ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, 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.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Lenten Verse

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

The Holy Gospel

Gospel Reading

Mark 15:1-39

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 15th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵As 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, "Are you the King of the Jews?" He answered him, "You say so." ³Then the chief priests accused him of many things. ⁴Pilate asked him again, "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you." 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, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" 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, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" ¹³They shouted back, "Crucify him!" ¹⁴Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!" 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, "Hail, King of the Jews!" 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.

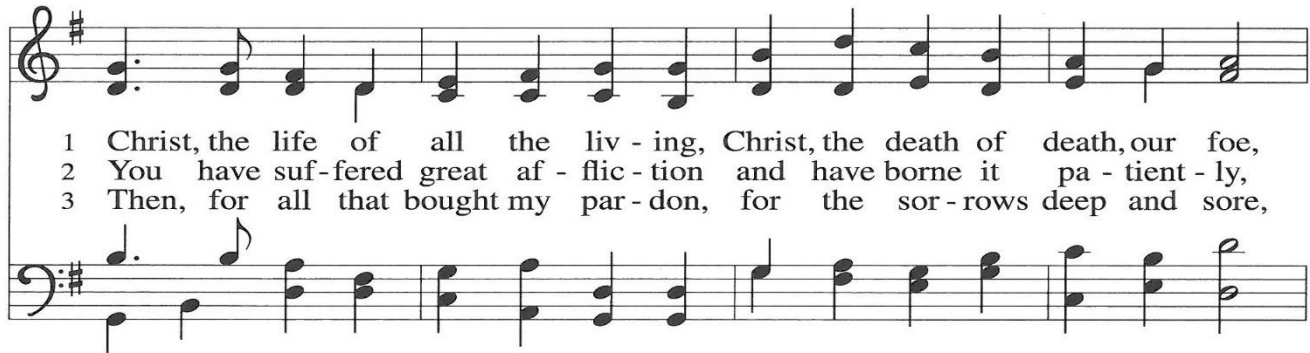
²⁵It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. ²⁶The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." ²⁷And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. ²⁹Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy

the temple and build it in three days, ³⁰save yourself, and come down from the cross!" ³¹In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "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." 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, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" 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, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." ³⁷Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. 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!"

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

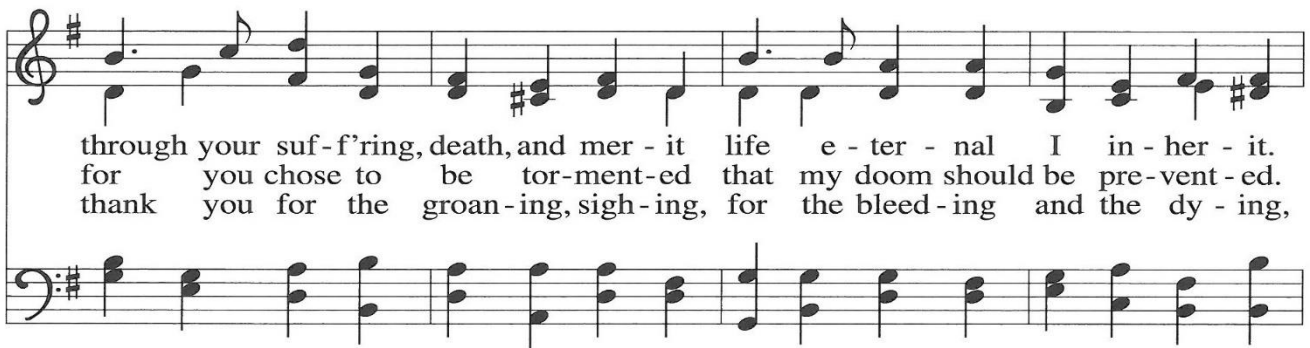
Sermon



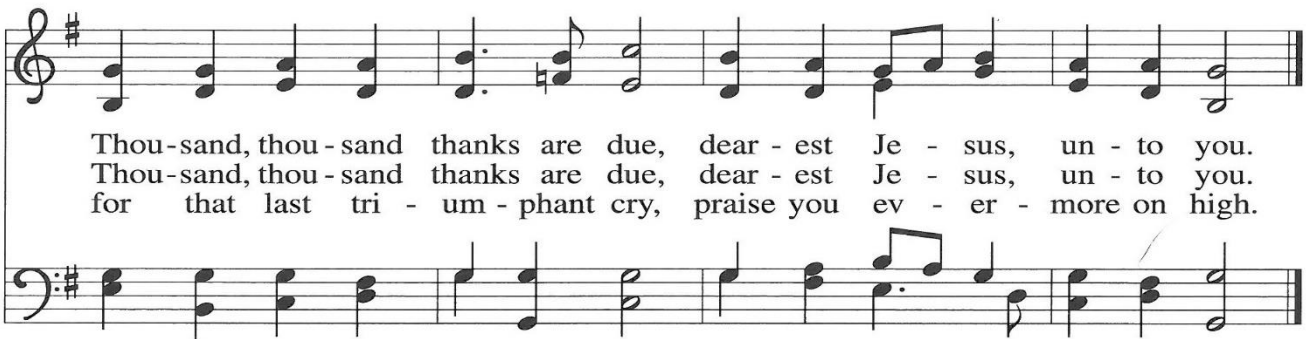
1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
2 You have suf - fer - ed great af - flic - tion and have borne it pa - tient - ly,
3 Then, for all that bought my par - don, for the sor - rows deep and sore,



Christ, your - self for me once giv - ing to the dark - est depths of woe:
e - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion, ful - ly to a - tone for me;
for the an - guish in the gar - den, I will thank you ev - er - more;



through your suf - f'ring, death, and mer - it life e - ter - nal I in - her - it.
for you chose to be tor - ment - ed that my doom should be pre - vent - ed.
thank you for the groan - ing, sigh - ing, for the bleed - ing and the dy - ing,



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
for that last tri - um - phant cry, praise you ev - er - more on high.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Prayers of the People

God of mercy and grace, you are present. You are within each person here and you are among us as your gathered people. Trusting in your presence, your promises, and your joy, even when we cannot perceive them, we bring to you our gratitude for all you have done, and the burdens that weigh on our hearts.

We pray for creation.

Thank you for its beauty and bounty and for the ways it reminds us of your presence... *(Name specific places or events for which your congregation is grateful: a sunny day, needed rainfall, a local park, a nearby waterway, flowers beginning to sprout, the joy of pets and animal companions.)*

Guide the work of those who advocate for the wellness of your wondrous creation, and help us to better tend and keep it. We pray for all habitats, creatures, and peoples harmed by natural disasters... *(Name those impacted locally or worldwide this week.)*

God of unending joy,

answer us.

We pray for the nations and their leaders.

Thank you for cooperation among world leaders and for the ways people work together for the wellbeing of everyone. *(Name a recent, specific example.)*

We pray for places that know violence, famine, and economic hardship... *(Name one or more places here.)* Pour out your spirit of wisdom on all who govern, that they will care for the most vulnerable and work for the good of those they vowed to serve.

God of unending joy,

answer us.

We pray for peace throughout the earth.

Thank you for the gift of peace. We pray that you send peace with power into our world, our neighborhoods, *(name your specific community)*, our hearts, and our homes. Bring an end to gun violence. Stop cycles of domestic abuse. Give peace to every nation. *(Name local or national instances of violence or specific places in need of peace.)*

God of unending joy,

answer us.

We pray for those who are vulnerable.

Thank you for giving us gifts to share with others. Bring justice to anyone who has been used or abused. Feed those who are hungry for food or for companionship. House those who need shelter. Protect those who live in fear. *(Name specific prayers for vulnerable people in your community.)* Work through our hands and hearts to provide for them.

God of unending joy,

answer us.

We pray for the church.

Thank you for the goodness we know when we gather as your people, for the gifts of community, shared ministry, and the chance to pray for and with one another. We thank you for the work of the church around the world... *(Name an international ministry, perhaps from your denomination.)* ...and for the ways in which the church is at work close to home... *(Name national and/or local denominational leaders, judicatories, or ministry efforts.)* Renew us in the promises of baptism and draw us into closer relationships with other people of faith.

God of unending joy,

answer us.

We pray for healing and wholeness.

Thank you for gifts of healing and recovery... *(Name any among your congregation who have experienced healing.)* We pray for all those known to us in need of healing and wholeness...

(Name individuals or groups of people for whom your congregation has been asked to pray: the homebound, those who are ill or injured, those in need of mental health support, those who are seeking recovery from drug and alcohol addiction, those who are lonely, those who mourn.)

God of unending joy,

answer us.

God of abundant life, you bring a quiet, constant joy to our most trying times. Remind us of your goodness in grief and your presence in pain. **Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Please be seated.

Offering

Financial offerings are received in the plates. Please stand as the gifts come forward.

*This QR code links
to our PayPal account
and may be used to make
a one-time gift.*



Musical Offering

- flute, Thomas Keil

Please Stand

Offertory Canticle

As the Grains of Wheat

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

Refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Prayer Of Dedication

God of mercy and grace,
you give us so much:
our days, our loved ones,
our passions and talents,
the food we eat, the homes we know,
a place to worship.

God, you pour out an abundance of goodness.
Receive the gifts we offer back to you today.
Bless them and bless us,
that we will give generously,
love boldly, and share widely,
our offering reflecting your joyful gift.
Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

God is with you.

And also with you.

Rejoice with full hearts.

We offer them to God.

Let us give thanks to our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

God, there is no time, no place where you are not present,
and there is no time, no place
where we should not practice the joy of praising you:
even here, even now, in our ordinary lives.
As we give thanks, we join the choir of our ancestors and our heirs
and all God's angels as they time their breath to the rhythm of joy
and sing of heaven despite the world.

Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

God, our ancestors knew the long road toward joy.

Noah saw your rainbow after a devastating flood.

Sarah and Abraham found hope for their future
in a covenant promise.

Moses cradled your law in his arms
and the Israelites found wilderness life
where they should have died.

The prophets read your faithfulness
traced indelibly on their hearts.

Your love sent us Jesus
and his persistent, irrational joy:
dripping with the Jordan's baptismal flood,
teaching in the crowd's beating heart,
tossing the tables of empire and profit,
falling like a seed into warm dark soil
as he offered his life for us all.

On the last night of his life, as evening fell,

Jesus sat down to dinner with his friends.

He took the bread, gave thanks, broke it,
and passed it around the table for everyone to eat, saying,
This is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

When the meal had ended, the shadows closing in,
Jesus took the cup, blessed it,
and invited everyone to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the heart of fear and pain,
God plants the seed of our joy:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Send your Spirit upon this bread and cup,
Christ's body and blood,
the food that gives us the strength to persist
until joy appears.

Send your Spirit upon us
and fortify us to be your body, too,
a wellspring of hope for a world in need.

All glory, power, and honor are yours,
God of brilliant resurrection and quiet joy,
today and every day. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

Agnus Dei



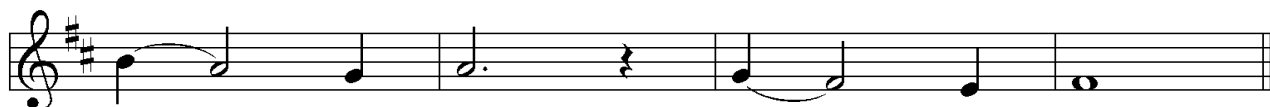
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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



grant us peace, **grant** us peace.

Please Sit

The Distribution

There is a place for you at the banquet.

Come and feast at Jesus' table.

All the baptized are invited to come forward to receive the holy gifts. Those not receiving may come forward for a blessing or remain in the pews in prayer.

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen

Post-Communion Sentence

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

Lord Jesus,
in this simple meal you have set a banquet.
Sustain us on the journey,
strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children,
and give us glad and generous hearts
as we meet you on the way.

Amen.

WE ARE SENT

Blessing

Go with blessing.

The One who wove joy throughout the whole cosmos
weaves joy within your own heart.
The One who experienced all our human joys and sorrows
travels right beside you.
The One who whispers joy to our hearts
is present within you.

You are blessed in the name of God, Holy Three in One.

Amen.

Hymn

Ride On , Ride On in Majesty

ELW#660



1 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! Hear all the
2 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly
3 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! The hosts of
4 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly



tribes ho - san - na cry; O Sav - ior meek, your road pur -
pomp ride on to die. O Christ, your tri - umphs now be -
an - gels in the sky look down with sad and won - d'ring
pomp ride on to die, bow your meek head to mor - tal



sue, with palms and scat - tered gar - ments strewed.
gin o'er cap - tive death and con - quered sin.
eyes to see the ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.
pain, then take, O Christ, your pow'r and reign!

Charge

Practice joy.

As you leave this place,
go with the joy beyond perceiving.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Congregation adjourns to engage in loving service in the World

Worship Service Today

Greeters/UshersTBD
Lector.....Eleanor Soderlund
Worship Assistant...Deacon Elect LeeAnn McCarthy
HospitalityTBD
Altar Guild.....Sue Orts
Offering Teller.....Dianne Carroll



No Flower Dedications

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Funeral Service for Barbara Henninger will be held this afternoon at 1:00pm.

Holy Week Services: Maundy Thursday & Good Friday Services are at 7:00pm.
Please join us after Easter Sunday Service for an enhanced Coffee Hour.

Weekly Devotional Readings & Next Sunday's Readings

Monday: Isaiah 42:1-9; Hebrews 9:11-15; John 12:1-11; Psalm 36:5-11.

Tuesday: Psalm 71:1-14; Isaiah 49:1-7; John 12:20-36; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31.

Wednesday: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 70; Hebrews 12:1-3; John 13:21-32.

Thursday: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14.
John 13:1-17, 31b-35.

Friday: John 18:1-19:42; Psalm 22; Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Hebrews 10:16-25.

Saturday: Ezekiel 37:1-14; Exodus 15:1b-13, 17-18; Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21; John 20:1-18.

EASTER Sunday – March 31:

Acts 10:34-43; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Isaiah 25:6-9
Mark 16:1-8.

Those With Special Needs & Concerns

Other Concerns of Our Community

PRAYER LIST

Arlita Hoyt
Christine Olszanski
Kolbe Olszanski
Deanna Platt
Bob Riekert
Catherine Biel

SERVING IN ARMED FORCES

Michael Gabrielsen
Jack O'Brien
John Picucci



Bishop Paul Egensteiner and his staff.
For those who would dare to bring peace.
For the President and his administration.
Communities of Faith in & around
Croton.
For refugees suffering in camps around
the world.
For food to feed all those who hunger.

Welcome to Our Saviour

Do you want to live life to its fullest? Do you want to have resources to cope with the challenges of life? Since his disciples first followed him, Jesus' teachings and example have been providing enduring answers for life's most troubling questions. Jesus' life was given for us. His life remains a gift to be received and God's Word through him waits to be heard. Come and see! The Lord is good!

Our Saviour is a safe, friendly, welcoming place for you and your family to hear Good News and find warm, caring community. We welcome people of all races, ethnicities, political affiliations, sexual orientations and gender identities or expressions. We invite you to join us in any or all of the activities. Please ask any member for further details.

You will find the Order of Worship set out in this bulletin. You will also find a schedule of devotional readings and next Sunday's scripture set out inside the back cover.

HOLY COMMUNION: All are invited to the Lord's Table, as Jesus welcomed all without condition, to commune with Him. You need not be Lutheran or a church member. Young children may receive at their parents' discretion.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Welcome to Our Saviour Evangelical Lutheran Church

Rev. Dr. Justin Johnson, Pastor

Phill Greenland, Music Minister

Sunday School

9:00 am

Sunday Worship Service

10:00 am

Pastor's Office Hours: Mon & Tues: 9:00 am – 12:00 noon;

Wed, Sat & Sun: by appointment; Thurs & Friday: Pastor's Days Off.

Church Secretary's Office Hours: Mon, Tues & Fri: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Church Office Phone: 914-271-4632 **Pastor's Phone:** 914 863-1601

<http://www.oursaviourcroton.org>

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Our Saviour

Your Saviour

Our Saviour

