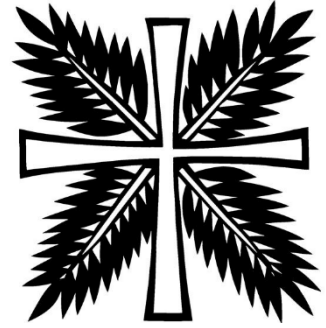


Palm Sunday

March 29, 2026

10:30 a.m. Worship



We ask that all present sign our Friendship Sheet. After you add your name to the sheet, please pass it toward the center aisle. Then return it to the outside aisle so that you become familiar with our family in Christ. These sheets help our pastor and congregation with our ministry. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to join us here at St. Matthew to worship and serve Christ together!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain the living water Christ offers:

Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:

Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:

Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace. **C: Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN**

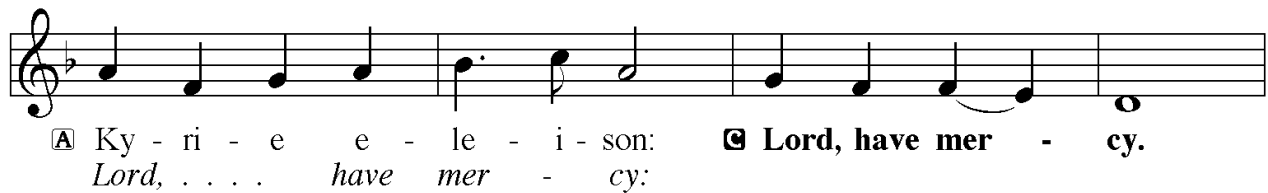
All Glory, Laud, and Honor

ELW # 344

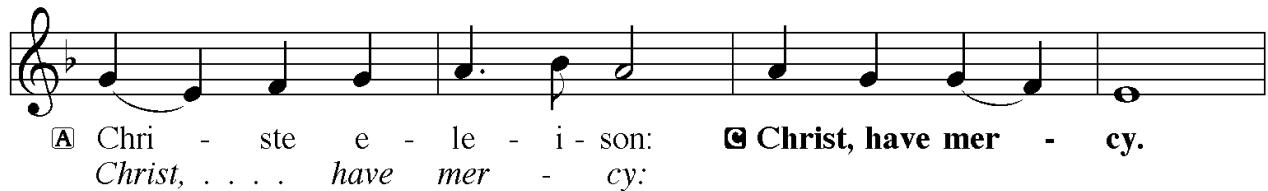
***GREETING**

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.**


***KYRIE**



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **B** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **B** Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **B** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

*HYMN OF PRAISE

You Are Holy

ELW #525



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.



Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

* *May be sung in canon.*

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray ... 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. **C: Amen.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a

⁴ The Lord God has given me
a trained tongue,
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.

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

⁶ 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.

⁷ 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;
⁸ he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?
Let us stand in court together.

Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.

^{9a} It is the Lord God who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

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

⁹ Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble;
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

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

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

¹² **Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind;
I am as useless as a broken pot.**

¹³ For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around;
they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

¹⁴ **But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord.
I have said, “You are my God.**

¹⁵ My times are in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

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

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:5-11

⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,

⁷ but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a human,

⁸ he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name
that is above every other name,

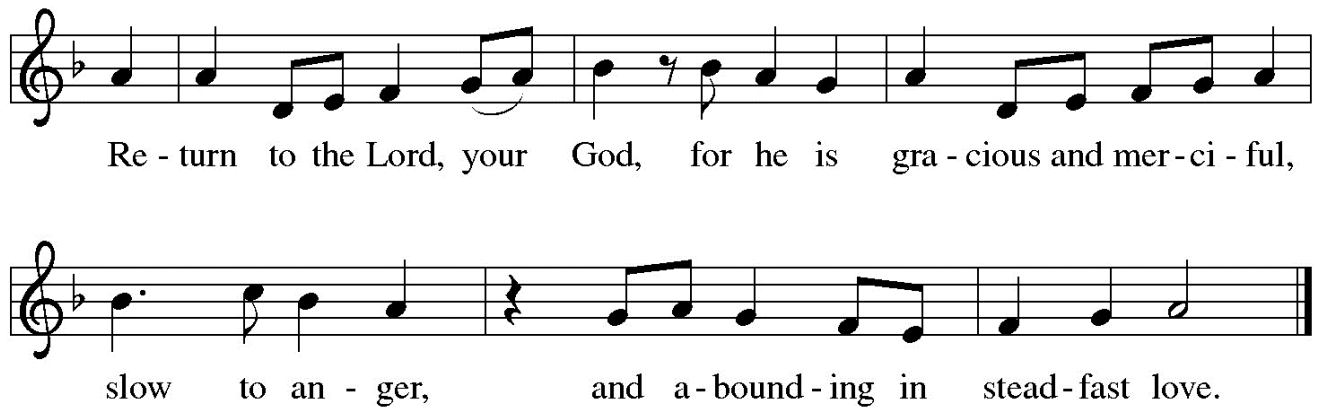
¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

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

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

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

ELW # S151b



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.

***Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ² 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. ³ If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” ⁴ This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:

⁵ “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.”

⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷ they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ 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!”

¹⁰ When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” ¹¹ The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

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

HOMILY

Pastor Traci

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

ELW # 335

***APOSTLES' CREED**

P: Let us confess our faith through the words of the Apostles' Creed.

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 CHURCH**

A: Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

A: O God, you announce words of grace and truth. Give wisdom to all preachers in your church both globally and locally. Open our hearts to encounter the infinite life you offer in Jesus. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

A: You hold the whole universe. Gather sun and moon, clouds and stars, land and sea, and plants and animals around the cross, so that all creation bears witness to your saving love. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Your power is sure. Destroy inequity and division in every place, and build your beloved community among all people. Guide judges, attorneys, and juries so that they act with justice and fairness. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Your heart breaks open at our pain. Send healing and vindication to all who, like Jesus, know the sting of betrayal, denial, abuse, or false accusations. Be with those experiencing pain or loss this day. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Your ways show compassion. Let this same mind be in us as we enter Holy Week. Bless those here who will lead worship and tell the story of Jesus' death and resurrection. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

A: O God, your embrace is eternal. Praise and thanks to you for all the faithful departed who rest in your mercy. Deliver us all from death's power and raise us to life in you. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

P: Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.
C: Amen.

***THE PEACE**

P: The peace of the LORD be with you always.

C: And also with you.

*Please share the peace with those around you using a greeting
that is comfortable for both you and them.*

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

*An offering plate is located near the entrance to the nave;
we offer thanks for the abundance God has first shown us:*

*A: Let us pray... O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all
creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty.
Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son,
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name.*

C: Amen.

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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 our thanks and praise.

***PROPER PREFACE**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior
Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for
the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness
of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
 might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
 who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
 who preached good news to the poor,
 and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

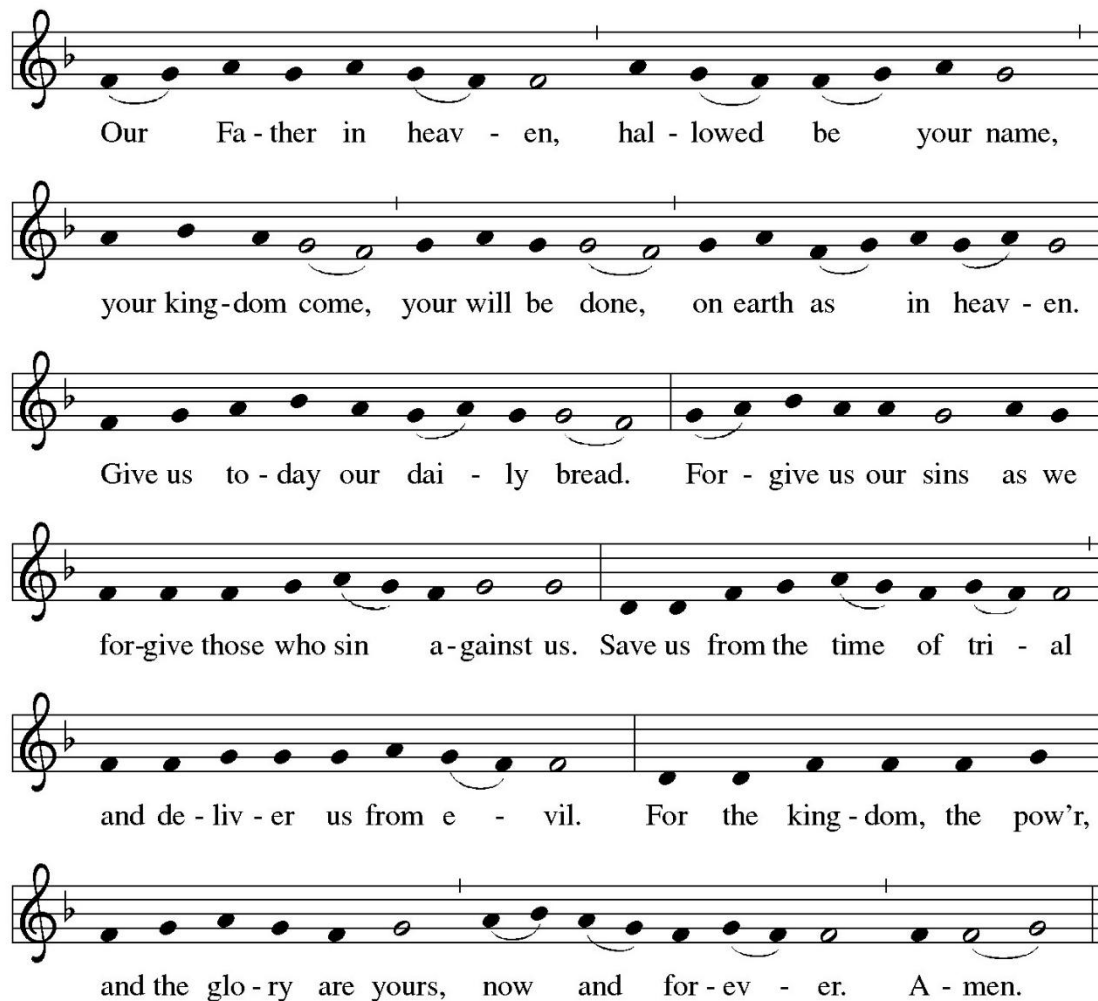
In the night in which he was betrayed,
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
 and gave it for all 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.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us to pray:

***LORD'S PRAYER**



Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-lowed be your name,
your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav-en.
Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as we
for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of tri-al
and de-liv-er us from e-vil. For the king-dom, the pow'r,
and the glo-ry are yours, now and for-ev-er. A-men.

***THE AGNUS DEI**

Lamb of God



☩ 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.

***INVITATION**

P: Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy. **C:** Thanks be to God.

***BLESSING**

P: May the body and blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C:** Amen.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: Let us pray... God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

P: Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, ☩ bless you now and always. **C:** Amen.

***SENDING SONG**

Go to Dark Gethsemane

ELW # 347

***DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Believe the good news. **C:** Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE

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Also, please be advised that our parking lot has surveillance cameras and
that our worship service is video recorded and/or live-streamed on social media.

Serving God and Us

Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew

Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott

Our Organists – Mary Nelson, DeAnna Cree

Our Pianists – Adam Smith, Ben Decker

Our Missionary Family – Robin Abrol, On Eagle’s Wings

Our Administrative Assistant – Jen Ripka

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton – Phil Claar

Our Assisting Minister – Shawn Orczeck

Our Lector – Greg Haffling

Our Acolyte – Gabby Decker, Lily Lightner, Lucy Lightner

Our Usher – Randy McGraw

Our Altar Guild – Tonya Walter, Tina Harclerode

Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

First Quarter Ventures in Faith to “Local Needs”

This Week at St. Matthew:

814-793-2413: Office Hours

Pastor Traci – Tues. – 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Jen – Mon.- Fri. – 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

This Week Events

Today –	<i>Palm Sunday</i> 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
Tuesday –	Yoga 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Wednesday –	*No Wednesday night service or meal
Thursday –	Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 p.m.
Friday –	Good Friday Service 7:00 p.m.
Sunday –	<i>Easter Sunday</i> 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary

Prayers are needed for our homebound: Mary Jane Allision, Fred Brandenburg, Linda Claar, Mary Creps, Betty Helsel, Ruth Johnson, Dan Kensinger, Jean Stonerook, Robert Winston.

So we can give special attention to those with pressing needs, names were removed at the end of the month. Please let the office know if a name should be added to the prayer list for an extended period of time.

Prayer Concerns: Baby Campbell, Juls Bratton and Charlee Howsare and family, Greta Buchart, Doug Bush, Julie Dick, Mary Farabaugh, Ken Harkless, Marilyn Horton, Kathy Keith, Rachel Kensinger, J.C. and Naomi (Noni) Lehman & Family, Kristen Malloy, Dan Ross, John Russell, Dan Sinal, Joshua Sollenberger, Kaleb Sollenberger, Bill Stahl, Jim Stewart, and for our **Missionaries: Robin Abrol, On Eagle's Wings.**

Away at School: Max Baker, Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Jay Hoenstine, Jeff Hoenstine, Camden Kuster, Lacey Ripka.

Those Serving in our Armed Forces: Bradley Buchart, Melody Estep.

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

Maundy Thursday 7PM



Good Friday 7PM

Easter Sunday 10:30AM



Come & worship with us!

Good Friday Prayer Vigil



On Friday, April 3, 2026 from 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., St. Matthew Lutheran Church has scheduled our annual Good Friday Prayer Vigil. Members are asked to commit one half hour to pray for any concerns of a personal, church, or worldwide nature. We hope to have enough participation to fill a twelve-hour time period with continuous prayer.

Please sign up on the sheet located on the bulletin board in the Narthex before **Monday, March 30, 2026**. This is an excellent way for you to enrich your spiritual and prayer life.

Card Shower

Let's brighten the day of Dan Sinal who is currently staying at Homewood.

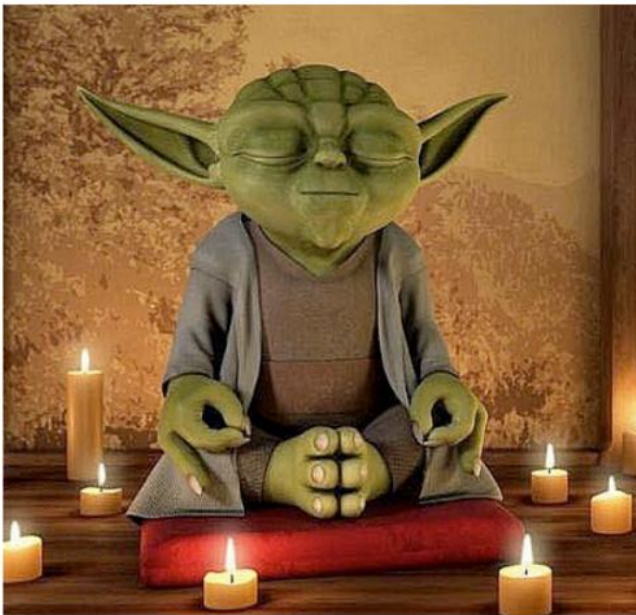


Cards can be sent to:

PO Box 282

Martinsburg, PA 16662

RETURN OF THE YOGA



Join Pastor Traci
in the Fellowship Hall
for Gentle Yoga
for All Abilities

Tuesdays In March:
3rd, 24th, 31st at 6PM

&

Every Wednesday
in March at 7PM-ish,
Following Lenten
Worship



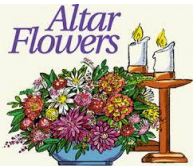
Martinsburg Food Pantry



Volunteers from Clover Creek of the Brethren will be assisting, along with the regular helpers to distribute items on the first and third Thursdays, April 2 and April 16. The pantry will be open from 9:00 until 11:00 a.m. and other times by appointment.

Most needed items for April are: Pasta Sauce, Scalloped Potatoes, Baked Beans, Peanut Butter and Cleaning Supplies. We appreciate all items that are donated!

Thank you!
Linda Smith



The 2026 Altar Flower chart is posted on the Narthex bulletin board. Altar Flowers are a perfect way to remember loved ones. Please sign up now for the Sunday you wish to place flowers on the Altar. Price - \$40.00

St. Matthew Welcomes

Bishop Kevin Shock

Sunday, April 12th for 10:30AM Worship
Followed by Lunch in the Fellowship Hall



Kevin Shock, Bishop of the Allegheny Synod, will preach on the 2nd Sunday of Easter & share in fellowship & a light lunch following worship. Come & get to know Bishop Kevin!

Talk-O Tuesday



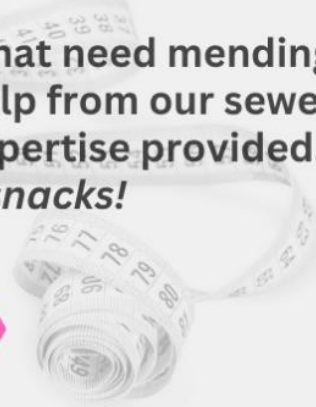
Fellowship, Food, & Faith Conversation
Tuesday, April 7th at 6PM
La Fiesta at the Airport
RSVP to the office by Noon

Community Mending Ministry at St. Matthew

 *Favorite clothing in need of repair?* 
Give it another chance!

Bring laundered clothes that need mending
to work on yourself or get help from our sewers.
Materials, machines, & expertise provided.
And we'll have snacks!

Wednesday, April 15th
2PM to 4PM



St. Matthew Lutheran Martinsburg Fellowship Hall
115 E Penn Street (Maple Street Parking Lot)

See what is going on in the Synod!

Blair-Huntingdon Conference Spring Caucus Meeting

Thursday, April 30th at 7PM

The Lutheran Home, Hollidaysburg

Assembly Voting Members are requested to attend this meeting in preparation for June's Assembly, but everyone is welcome to come hear about what is happening in the Synod.



Allegheny Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Save the Date...

The Weekend.

Allegheny Synod Youth Event

December 11-13, 2026

St. James Lutheran Church & Comfort Inn

Huntingdon, PA

***OPENING HYMN**

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

ELW # 344

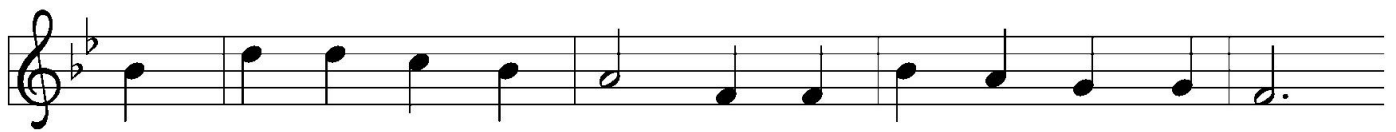
Refrain



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: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN, Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635

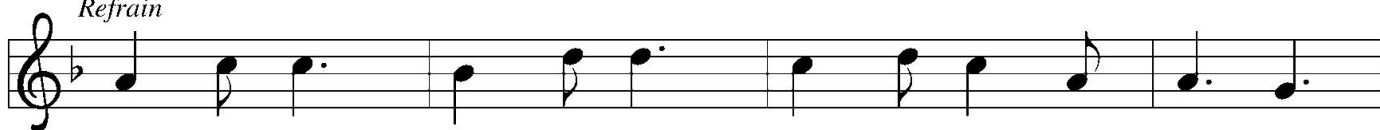


1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915

Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832–1915

***SENDING SONG**

Go to Dark Gethsemane

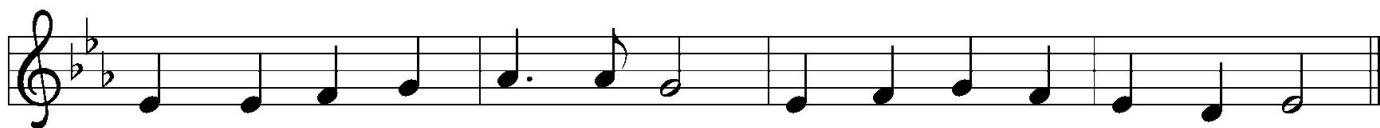
ELW # 347



1 Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, all who feel the tempt - er's pow'r;
2 Fol - low to the judg-ment hall, view the Lord of life ar - rained;
3 Cal - v'ry's mourn-ful moun-tain climb; there, a - dor - ing at his feet,
4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath - less clay;



your Re - deem - er's con - flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;
oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus-tained!
mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com-plete.
all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?



turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.
"It is fin - ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854

Music: GETHSEMANE, Richard Redhead, 1820-1901