

**St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church & Elementary School**  
**Our Mission: Learn God's Truth,**  
**Share Spirit's Healing, Follow Jesus' Ways.**  
**Procession with Palms, Sunday of the Passion**  
**HOLY WEEK, March 24, 2024**  
**Virtual Prayer and Preaching Worship**  
+ + + + + + + + +  
**CHRIST'S ENTRANCE into the HOLY CITY**



**CALL to WORSHIP**

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

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**GREETING and PRAYER of the DAY**

God's mercy, grace, and love are with you all. **And also with you.**

Holy God, hear our prayer. *A brief silence.* Sovereign God, you have established your rule in the human heart through the servanthood of Jesus Christ. By your Spirit, keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues confess Jesus as Lord and with their lives praise him as Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen**

**HOLY GOSPEL: John 12:12-16** *New Testament for Everyone*

On the next day, the large crowd that had come up for the festival heard that Jesus had come to Jerusalem. They took palm branches and went out to meet him.

They shouted, "Hosanna! Welcome in the name of the Lord! Welcome to Israel's king!"

Jesus found a little donkey and sat on it. As the Bible says,

Do not fear, daughter of Zion!

Look! Your king is coming now;

sitting on a donkey's colt.

His disciples didn't understand this to begin with. But when Jesus was glorified, they remembered that these things had been written about him, and that these things had been done to him.

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

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**MESSAGE:** *the WAY* *Silence for reflection follows.*

**HYMN of the DAY: #347 "Go to Dark Gethsemane"**

- 1 Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter's pow'r;  
your Redeemer's conflict see. Watch with him one bitter hour;  
turn not from his griefs away; learn from Jesus Christ to pray.

- 2 Follow to the judgment hall, view the Lord of life arraigned;  
oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sustained!  
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.
- 3 Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb; there, adoring at his feet,  
mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete.  
"It is finished!" hear him cry; learn from Jesus Christ to die.
- 4 Early hasten to the tomb, where they laid his breathless clay;  
all is solitude and gloom. Who has taken him away?  
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Savior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854

### **The CHURCH PRAYS**

#### **PRAYERS of the PEOPLE**

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need. *A brief silence.*

Blessed One, today the church sings glad hosannas as we enter Holy Week. Prepare us to bear witness to Christ's suffering and death endured for our sake. Gather your people around the cross and comfort us with resurrection hope. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Renew your good creation and protect the balance of life on earth. Encourage the work of foresters, scientists, arborists, gardeners, and river keepers. We pray for the health of pollinating insects, songbirds, and native plants. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Establish peace and justice among the nations: Ukraine, Yemen, Myanmar, and throughout the Middle East and the Holy Land. Hold to account any with authority to judge others. Grant that courts, legislatures, and local governments will serve with integrity and compassion. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Bring hope to any who feel forsaken or forgotten. Make a way for refugees and asylum seekers. Reunite families enduring separation. We pray for any who are incarcerated, institutionalized, or in foster care, that they may know your love. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Give energy and joy to Pastor Lans, and all deacons, worship leaders, and musicians of the church. Bless baptismal candidates and those receiving their first communion today: Grayson, Sephia, Nina, Ashlynn, Blake, Alice,

Vivian, & Jimmy; for their parents, sponsors, and teachers. Watch over those who travel this holiday season. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We especially pray for John, our at-home worshippers, Genevieve, George, ... Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Blessed One, our times are in your hand. Sustain us in discipleship throughout our lives and receive us into everlasting life. We give thanks for the courage of Oscar Arnulfo Romero, bishop and martyr, whom we commemorate today. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

So that evil may not tempt us, we pray as Jesus taught us.

**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**

### **SPIRIT'S SENDING**

#### **PRAYER for MISSION**

As we serve, we pray. *A brief silence.* Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Leader and Savior. **Amen**

#### **BLESSING and PEACE**

P: Receive the blessing. *A brief silence.*

Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed.  
God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy,  
fill you with courage, and give you ☩ peace.

**Hosanna and Amen!**

The peace of Christ is always with you.

Please share it in your household & with our online friends!

At the time of this writing, please keep the following in your prayers: ELCA Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Synod Bishop Bill Gohl, those hospitalized or at home recuperating, and our at-home worshippers, and those receiving first Holy Communion on 3/24: Grayson Byron, Ashlynn Connelly, Vivian Fargus, James Frederick V, Alice Maina, Sephia Perez, Blake Styles, and Nina Torres.

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Today's Altar Flowers are Given to the Glory of God

*Altar Palms*

Given for the Glory of God  
by the Sykes family.

In Memory of my mother,  
May LeBrun's March 26<sup>th</sup> birthday.  
Given by Patty Read.

In Celebration of Kathy Sykes' birthday.  
Given by Lena Frankenfeld.

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Today's Worship Folders are Given to the Glory of God

In Honor of our March 24<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.  
Given by Leah and Tom Knoerlein.

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Attendance for March 17, 2024: 42

## ***Learning, Serving, & Fellowship Opportunities***

### ***Sing "Hosannah!" to the King!***

**Welcome to God's Table!** Celebrating 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion on Sunday (3/24) are: Grayson Byron, Ashlynn Connelly, Vivian Fargus, James Frederick V, Alice Maina, Sephia Perez, Blake Styles, and Nina Torres.

**Penny Harvest:** This is the last week of our Sunday school collection. If you've filled a jar with pennies, please return it to a Sunday school participant. If you need a jar, see Heather Frederick. The Sunday school students agreed that the money from the jars would go toward purchasing Bibles for the Gideons. Please return all jars on Easter Sunday.

**We have exciting news!** You can now make donations on-line through PayPal! Login to your PayPal account and search for our tag: @Spl367.

### **Holy Week Worship Schedule**

**Maundy Thursday:** 11:30 am. in Grace Chapel  
7:00 pm. in the church

**Good Friday:** 7:00 pm. in the church

**Easter Sunday:** 6:30 am. – gather in Grace Chapel  
8:45 & 10:15 am. in church

Prayers for the Monday-Wednesday of Holy Week are included at the end of this bulletin. They will also be posted on our Facebook page and website.

**Pancake Breakfast:** All are invited to celebrate Easter breakfast from 7-11 am. in the fellowship hall on Easter Sunday. Enjoy fresh, hot pancakes with your favorite toppings!

**Easter Break:** The church office and school will be closed from March 28<sup>th</sup> to April 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Sponsorship Available:** Altar flowers for 8:45 am. on 4/28 (contact the church office).

**Prayer Group:** Are you hoping to keep up "Jesus Time" as we slide into spring? TRY US on Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11 am. in Grace Chapel (lower level, elevator access). Thirty minutes, minimum, of talking to God and each other, at a mid-week time of renewal!

**For every NEW regular deposit account** opened at Eastern Savings Bank (Fullerton branch only) St. Peter's Lutheran Church receives \$5! Visit the Fullerton branch at 4113 Wholesale Club Drive, Suite 130 or go to EasternSavingsBank.com.

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***News from St. Peter's Elementary School***

"Open Enrollment" for the 2024-25 school year continues. Contact the office at 410-665-4521 if you have questions, want to schedule a tour, or to register. Referrals are always welcome!

Our weekly chapel services are every Wednesday at 9:15 am. Parents and families are always welcome to join us!

PACE invites everyone to a spaghetti lunch in the fellowship hall on Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup> after the 10:15 am. worship!

SPES Annual Art Show in the hall on Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. Come see the artistic talent of the students in our school!

SPES is hosting an electronics upcycling/recycling event through April 23<sup>rd</sup>. They're collecting working and non-working electronics, including: computers, monitors, tvs, small kitchen appliances (blenders, toasters, etc.), electronic game devices, and much, much, more! Lists of acceptable items are available upon request. For additional items not on the list, contact Lauren at [lauren1@upcyclellc.com](mailto:lauren1@upcyclellc.com).

## **Monday of Holy Week**

### **Prayer of the Day**

O God, your Son chose the path that led to pain before joy and to the cross before glory. Plant his cross in our hearts, so that in its power and love we may come at last to joy and glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

### **Introduction**

*During Holy Week some communities gather each day to meditate on Jesus' final days before his death on the cross. Today's gospel commemorates the anointing of Jesus by Mary, a foreshadowing of his death and burial. Jesus' suffering is the path to resurrection and new life. We eagerly wait for the celebration of the great Three Days later this week.*

### **John 12:1-11**

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred silver coins and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came not only because of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus to death as well, since it was on account of him that many of the Jews were deserting and were believing in Jesus.

## **Tuesday of Holy Week**

### **Prayer of the Day**

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you. Grant that our love may not grow cold in your service, and that we may not fail or deny you in the time of trial, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

### **Introduction**

*In today's gospel, Jesus speaks of the grain of wheat that falls into the earth and dies in order that it may bear fruit. We die with Christ in baptism that we may be raised with him to new life.*

### **John 12:20-36**

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say— 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. The crowd answered him, "We have heard from the law that the Messiah remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?" Jesus said to them, "The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.

After Jesus had said this, he departed and hid from them.



## **Wednesday in Holy Week**

### **Prayer of the Day**

Almighty God, your Son our Savior suffered at human hands and endured the shame of the cross. Grant that we may walk in the way of his cross and find it the way of life and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

### **Introduction**

*This day was formerly called "Spy Wednesday," an allusion to the gospel accounts in which Judas is identified as the betrayer of Jesus. As Jesus endured the suffering of the cross, we are called to run the race of life with perseverance, confident of the joy to come. In the Three Days, which begin tomorrow evening, we will journey with Christ from darkness to light, from captivity to freedom, from death to life.*

### **John 13:21-32**

Jesus was troubled in spirit, and declared, "Very truly, I tell you, one of you will betray me." The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he was speaking. One of his disciples—the one whom Jesus loved—was reclining next to him; Simon Peter therefore motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking. So while reclining next to Jesus, he asked him, "Lord, who is it?" Jesus answered, "It is the one to whom I give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish." So when he had dipped the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas son of Simon Iscariot. After he received the piece of bread, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, "Do quickly what you are going to do." Now no one at the table knew why he said this to him. Some thought that, because Judas had the common purse, Jesus was telling him, "Buy what we need for the festival"; or, that he should give something to the poor. So, after receiving the piece of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night.

When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once.