

Palm Sunday March 29, 2026
8:30 & 11:00 a.m. and Livestream



the good news is..
inspiring us to act

FAITH . DISCIPLESHIP . COMMUNITY
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

The Rev. Drew McCaffery, Pastor

At The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, we embrace the uniqueness of every individual and respect their dignity and worth, for all are created in the image of God. We strive to welcome everyone in the fullness of who they are.

Let us call together for reconciliation, and live out God's vision of love for people of every sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, socio-economic status, age, physical or mental ability, political persuasion, race, ethnicity, and personal history. Let us walk together to strive for racial equity, as Jesus calls us to do.

All people are welcome here to worship, build community, and grow together as Jesus' disciples at this place.



✦ GATHERING ✦

Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness

P *The very first Palm Sunday was a day of action. It was a day of movement, of crowded city streets, and cries of "Hosanna!" It was a day of peaceful protest and dreams for a better world. The first Palm Sunday was a day of peaceful, hopeful action.*

So friends, on this Palm Sunday, let us join the saints before us in an act of faith. Let us begin with an act of prayer, an act of honesty, an act of transformation. Let us begin by drawing close to God and sharing the truth of our lives. Let us begin with confession.

Silence for reflection and confession.

P *Let us pray, Jesus of Nazareth,*
C **we know that you spent your days teaching and healing. You marched through the streets and walked on water. You laid hands on the sick and broke bread at crowded dinner tables. Your good news was not confined to conversation. It was not confined to the Temple. Your good news was an act of love, alive in the world. Holy God, we long for a faith like that. Forgive us for the times when we confine our faith to something we think about, as opposed to something we act upon. Inspire us to love as you loved. Inspire us to act. With hope for tomorrow we pray, amen.**

P *Church family, whether or not you wave your palm branch, whether or not you live out your faith, whether or not you allow this good news to inspire your actions, God will never stop loving you. Jesus will never stop marching for you. The Spirit will never stop listening to you.*


**C We are claimed, loved, and held in grace. What good, good news.
Amen!**

Gathering Hymn

All Glory, Laud, and Honor
Verses 1,3, & 5

No. 344

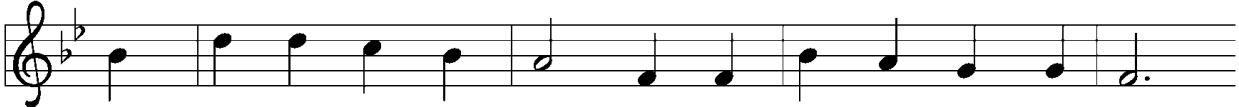
Refrain




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.

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.**

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Refrain

My chains are gone I've been set free
My God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine

P *The Lord be with you.*

C **And also with you.**

A *Let us pray. Holy One,*
C **if we've heard this story before, the story of Jesus entering Jerusalem riding on a donkey, then help us to hear it again. And if we've never heard this story before, if we've never heard the story of Palm Sunday or the cries of "Hosanna," then give us the wisdom to follow along. Give us the wisdom to hear these words. Give us the wisdom to take them into our hearts. Give us the wisdom to act on their truth. We are listening. Amen.**

✦ **THE WORD** ✦

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.

Lesson

Mark 11:1-11

P *The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the eleventh chapter.*

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

P *¹ When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples ² and 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. ³ If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this: 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.' "* *⁴ They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵ some of the bystanders*

said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” ⁶ They told them what Jesus had said, and they allowed them to take it. ⁷ Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. ⁸ Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹ Then 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.*

P *The Gospel of the Lord.*

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Sermon

The Rev. Drew McCaffery

Visual Art Project

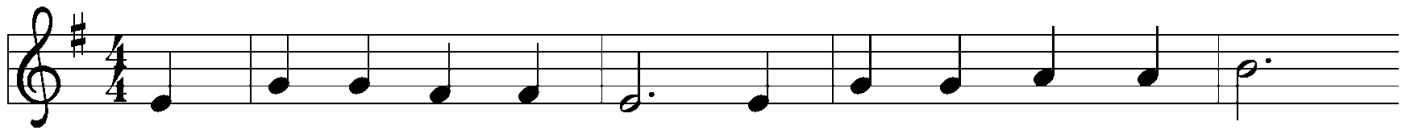
Tell Me Something Good!

Each week this Lent, we are practicing the art of noticing goodness. In a world where bad news is loud and constant, we are choosing to listen for the good news Jesus proclaimed and embodied. So, we ask one simple question: Tell me something good? Take a moment to reflect on the question this week, write your response on a leaf, and as you come up for communion place it in the leaf basket. As we name goodness together, we trust that it will take root among us and grow.

Today's question

What good news is stirring you to act?

Please rise, as you are able.



1 Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin;
 2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, by anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;
 3 Lord Je - sus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray;
 4 Lord Je - sus, think on me, that, when the flood is past,



from self - ish pas - sions set me free and make me pure with - in.
 let me your lov - ing ser - vant be and taste your prom - ised rest.
 through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty point out your cho - sen way.
 I may the_e - ter - nal bright - ness see and share your joy at last.

A *Let us confess our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed.*

C **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

A *God of the peaceful parade, God of the humble entry, God of the people and the song, we come to you today with the prayers of our hearts. We come to you today because we know that you are a God who listens. You are a God who walks with us. You are a God who acts.*

A brief silence.

After each portion of the prayers:

A *Hear us O God,*

C **Your mercy is great.**

The prayers conclude:

P *We do not want to simply talk about our faith. We want to act on it, so may these prayers be the first step. May these prayers, and the earnestness in our hearts, move us closer to you. Receive them, we pray, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.*

C **Amen.**

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

C **And also with you.**

Choir Anthem

God So Loved the World

Sir John Stainer

As the gifts are presented, please stand, as you are able.



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

A *Let us pray. O God, maker of heaven and earth,*
C **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. Amen.**

✦ THE EUCHARIST ✦

P *The Lord be with you.*

C **And also with you.**

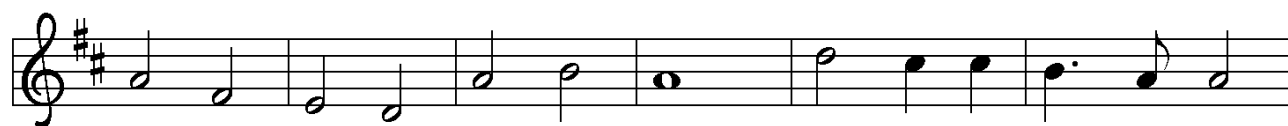
P *Lift up your hearts.*

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.**

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, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n 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.

P *Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.*

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

P *With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:*

C **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P *O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.*

C **Come, Holy Spirit.**

P *Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.*

C **Come, Holy Spirit.**

P *With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.*

C **Amen.**

P *With cries of “Hosanna!” on our tongues, we join our voices together to pray the words your son taught us.*

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

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

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

P *Come to the table. Feast on God’s goodness and mercy.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated.

All are welcome at the Lord’s Table! Whether you are a member of this church or a visitor, the Communion celebrated here is “open” to all who trust that our Lord Jesus Christ—his true Body and his true Blood—is present for All of God’s People.

(Note: should you prefer, we also offer gluten free wafers and white grape juice.)

During the distribution, the following is sung:



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.

Communion Hymn

Lamb of God

No. 336



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have
2 Your gift of love we cru - ci - fied. We laughed and
3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have



sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y
scorned him as he died. The hum - ble king we named a
brought me to your side to be led by your staff and



sod and to be - come the Lamb of God. O Lamb of
fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.
rod and to be called a lamb of God.



God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me



in your pre - cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

After all have communed, please rise, as you are able.

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

C **Amen.**

A *Let us pray. God of our Salvation,*

C **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. Amen**

✦ SENDING ✦

P *As you leave this place, when you meet anger, speak with love. When you meet fear, speak with hope. When you meet pain, speak with gentleness. But no matter what, speak this good news. For the good news of the gospel is love and justice for all. It is joy that surprises, and nonviolence that transforms. The good news of the gospel is alive in the world, so go forth speaking. For if you won't, then who will? Thanks be to God for this good, good news.*

C **Amen.**

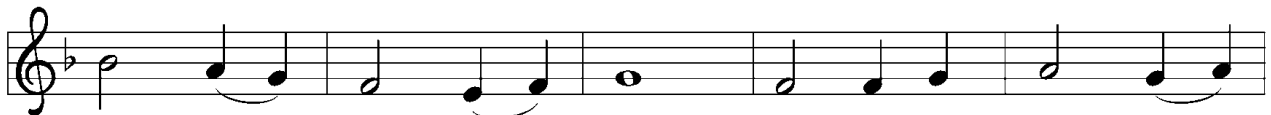
Sending Hymn

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

No. 803



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

A *Go in peace. Believe the good news.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Pray for Those That Need God's Healing

*Gail, Phyllis, Paul, Ann, Kathy, Donna, Andrea, Al,
Joan, Teri, Betty, Carol, Merrill, Jean, Joan S., Jocelyn,
Karen, Nick, Lois, Linda, Barbara & Bruce*

Prayers of Comfort

*for Monica and Bill Thayer on the recent passing
of Bill's father, William S. Thayer.*

And for

Marilyn Tober on the passing of her sister, Joanne Wedin.

*We pray the blessed hope of the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ
comforts the Thayer, Tober and Wedin families as they mourn.*

The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

WORSHIP WITH US!

Lent to Easter

2/25-3/25 Lent Dinner Church: Wednesdays 6:45PM

3/29 Palm Sunday: 8:30 & 11AM

4/2 Maundy Thursday: 6:45PM

4/3 Good Friday: Noon & 6:45PM

4/5 Easter Sunday: 8:30 & 11AM
Easter Breakfast 9:30-10:30AM
in Celebration Hall



Tell me
something
good



1515 EMMORTON ROAD, BEL AIR, MD 21014

410-838-8081

LCGSELCA.ORG



CONTACT INFORMATION

The Rev. Drew McCaffery
Sherman Canapp, OSSD Deacon
Jessie Lim, Music Director
Gina Miller, Office Manager
Dawn Love, Church Secretary
Council President, Tina Zimmerman
Treasurer, Linda Ruese
Communications/Web/E-News
Lois Dobart, Preschool Director
Web address
WiFi access

Pr.Drew@lcgsselca.org
canappsherman501@gmail.com
Music@lcgsselca.org
officemanager@lcgsselca.org
officesecretary@lcgsselca.org
council_president@lcgsselca.org
treasurer@lcgsselca.org
communications@lcgsselca.org
school@lcgsselca.org
www.lcgsselca.org
SSID: LCGS_Public

(O) 410-838-8081
(M) 443-904-7013
(O) 410-838-8081
(O) 410-838-8081
(O) 410-838-8081

(O) 410-838-8457

Passphrase: public@LCGS

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Opportunities to Serve

We invite you to scan the QR code to add yourself to the worship assistant Sign-up for any upcoming worship services.

Thank you for being the Church together!

SERVING TODAY

8:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

Assisting Minister

Sherman Canapp, OSSD

Tina Zimmerman

Communion Assistant

Ushers

Doyle McCracken

John Helmick
Peggy Thomas

Livestream

Joel Raedeke