

ST.MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

PENNSBURG, PA

March 28, 2021

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Soloist

Jill Haldeman

Lay Reader

Amy Hagenbuch

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the keeper of the covenant,
the source of steadfast love,
our rock and our redeemer.

Amen.

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Fountain of living water,

**pour out your mercy over us.
Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.
Rebuild what we have ruined
and mend what we have torn.
Wash us in your cleansing flood.
Make us alive in the Spirit
to follow in the way of Jesus,
as healers and restorers of the world you so love.
Amen.**

Beloved, God's word never fails.
The promise rests on grace:
by the saving love of Jesus Christ,
the wisdom and power of God,
your sins are † forgiven, and God remembers them no more.
Journey in the way of Jesus.
Amen.

Refrain: All glory, laud and honor to you, redeemer king; to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

v.1: You are the king of Israel and David's royal Son, now in the lord's name coming, our King and Blessed one. R.

v.2: The company of angels are praising you on high, creation and all mortals in chorus make reply. R.

v.3: The multitude of pilgrims with palms before you went; our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present R.

v.4: To you, before your passion, they sang their hymns of praise. To you, now high exalted, our melody we raise. R.

v.5: Their praises you accepted, accept the prayers we bring, great author of all goodness, O good and gracious King. R.

***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.

***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 image of the servant of God is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.

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,
⁸he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.
^{9a}It is the Lord GOD who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Please join in the reading of the Psalm)

PSALM: Psalm 31:9-16

⁹Have 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.**

¹¹I 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.**

¹³For 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.**

¹⁵My 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

Paul quotes from an early Christian hymn that describes Jesus' humble obedience in his incarnation as a human being, even to death, and his exaltation and glory as Lord of all.

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.

***GOSPEL: Mark 14:1 ---15:47**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John

Glory to you, O Lord.

(please be seated during the reading of today's gospel)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Russ

SPECIAL MUSIC

My Inmost Heart Now Yearneth

Buxtehude
Judith Love, organ

APOSTLE'S CREED

Together, with the whole church, let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed:

**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 PEOPLE**

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

In Jesus you came among us as a suffering servant. Give your church humility. Redeem your people from pride and the certainty that we always know your will. Heal us and empower us to confess Christ crucified. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In creation, life springs from death. Redeem your creation awaiting resurrection: restore lost habitats and endangered species. Create new possibilities for areas affected by climate change, grant relief from natural disasters, and nurture new growth. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Jesus was handed over to the powers of this world. In all nations, instruct the powerful, that they would not exploit their power but maintain justice. Sustain soldiers, and guide those who command them, that they serve those in greatest need. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

On the cross Jesus joined all who feel forsaken. Abide with those who are condemned to death. Defend those who are falsely accused. Console and strengthen those who are mocked or bullied. Accompany all who suffer especially **Lillie, Lisa, Jack, Marilyn, Randy, Andrew, Renae Charlie, Marie, David, Harold, Marie, Dennis, Steve, Barbara, Pat, Kenneth, Deb, Barbara, Lenny, June, Mary Jane and Charlene**; grant respite and renewal. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You called followers to tend Jesus' body in death. Sustain hospice workers and funeral directors. Bless this congregation's ministries at times of death: those who plan and lead funerals, those who prepare meals, all who offer support in grief. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You inspired the centurion to confess Jesus as your Son. We praise you for the faith you have given to people of all places and times. Give us also such faith to trust the promises of baptism and, with them, to look for the resurrection of the dead. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Faithful God,
you walk beside us in desert places,
and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven.
Accompany us in this meal,
that we may pass over from death to life
with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread,
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.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us 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, the power and the glory, forever and forever. Amen**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus draws the whole world to himself.
Come to this meal and be fed.

COMMUNION

Gathered together in your homes, you may now offer communion to each other saying
“This is the body of Christ given for you” when you offer the wafer/bread; and then hold up
the juice/wine, give thanks, offer the juice/wine saying “this is the blood of Christ shed for you.”

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of steadfast love,
at this table you gather your people
into one body for the sake of the world.
Send us in the power of your Spirit,
that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

BLESSING

You are what God made you to be:
created in Christ Jesus for good works,
chosen as holy and beloved,
freed to serve your neighbor.
God bless you ☩ that you may be a blessing,
in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.
Amen.

*HYMN

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

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Jill Haldeman, soloist

v.1: O sacred head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down, now scornfully surrounded
with thorns, thine only crown. O sacred head what glory, what bliss till now was thine! Yet, though
despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine.

v.2: How pale thou art with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn, how does thy face now languish,
which once was bright as morn! Thy grief and bitter passion were all for sinners' gain; mine, mine
was the transgression, but thine the deadly pain.

v.3: What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend, for this thy dying sorrow, thy pity
without end? Oh make me thine forever and should I fainting be, Lord, let me never, never outlive my
love to thee.

v.4: Lord, be my consolation, shield me when I must die, remind me of thy passion when my last
hour draws nigh. These eyes, new faith receiving from thee shall never move, for all who die
believing die safely in thy love.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.



CALENDAR NOTES:

Sunday, March 28th 8:30 AM CAT Class via Zoom
8:30 AM Adult Bible Study via Zoom
10:15 AM Worship Service in the courtyard

We are also holding this Palm Sunday worship service in the courtyard! We will have a parking lot option as well. We will broadcast the service through your car radio. Just tune in to 99.3FM. We plan to have Sunday worship services outdoors going forward.

April 1st is Maundy Thursday.

There will be a recorded service available for viewing. Please go to our website at www.stmarkspennsburg.com

April 2nd is Good Friday.

The Upper Perk Ministerium will be holding The Stations of the Cross. The Stations will conclude here on the front steps of St. Mark's. Pastor Russ will then offer Good Friday Prayer & Meditation at 1:00 PM. This will take the place of the evening service.

April 4th is Easter Sunday

There will be a sunrise service at the cemetery at 6:30 AM

The Easter Sunday Worship Service is at 10:15 AM. This service will be held in the courtyard – or in your car if you prefer. If you wish to remain in your car, please tune in to 99.3 FM to hear the service.

The Adult Bible Study Group meets every Sunday at 8:30 AM via Zoom. They are beginning a new book and welcome all who would like to join. Please contact Deb at debra.reed588@comcast.net She will send you the Zoom link to use.

Remarks & Reminders

This is a weekly newsletter that is sent out via email. If you are not receiving this, please contact the church office to update your email address.

Yesterday, tulips were delivered to 70 of our St. Mark's members to brighten up their Easter celebration. Thank you to all who donated for the tulips and to those who spent a good part of the day delivering the plants.

Preparing for next week:

Monday: Psalm 36:5-11; Isaiah 42:1-9; Hebrews 9:11-15, John 12:1-11
Tuesday: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31, Psalm 71:1-14; Isaiah 49:1-7; John 12:20-36
Wednesday: Isaiah 50:4-9a, Psalm 70; Hebrews 12:1-3; John 13:21-32
Thursday: 1 Corinthians 11:23-36; 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: Romans 6:3-11; Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26; Genesis 1:1—2:4a; John 20:1-18

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