

Listening for the Promise

Weekly Devotional

Palm/Passion Sunday - April 13, 2025

“And being found in human form, [Christ] humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

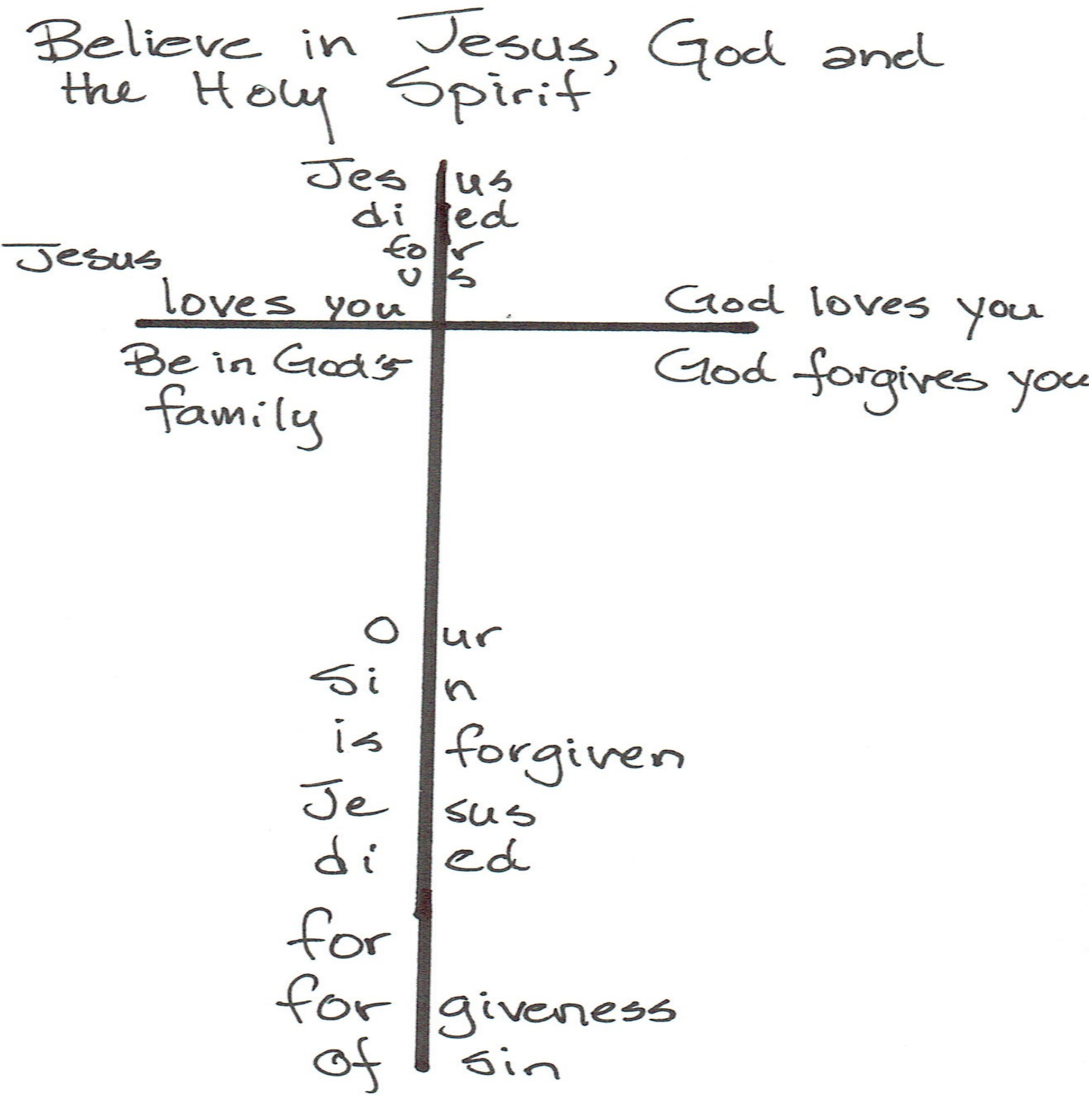
- Philippians 2:8-11 -

The famous inventor and painter Samuel Morse is probably most well-known for his invention of the telegraph and the ability to communicate with Morse Code, hence the name. This invention was huge for the advancement in communication. The telegraph allowed instant communication over great distances for the first time in human history. Samuel Morse was once asked if he ever encountered situations where he didn't know what to do. Morse responded, "More than once, and whenever I could not see my way clearly, I knelt down and prayed to God for light and understanding."

Morse received many honors from his invention of the telegraph but felt undeserving: "I have made a valuable application of electricity not because I was superior to other men but solely because God, who meant it for mankind, must reveal it to someone and He was pleased to reveal it to me."

So much of the world that surrounds us today encourages selfishness and entitlement. Everything is about me and what I deserve. A sense of humility seems to be lacking among so many human beings in 2025. Some will say, “Well, that's just a sign of our times.” Can we stop feeling so entitled and being so selfish? And, if so, how? How can we begin to stop focusing so much on “me, myself, and I” and begin to consider others as more important?

Our reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians tells us to have a mind and attitude like that of Jesus. Jesus is divine. He is fully God. He dwelled in the highest of places, and yet, He came down to earth to dwell among us in human form. He voluntarily set aside his esteemed position only to be rejected by others, to be mocked, despised, tortured, and put to death. Jesus Christ chose to come into this world to be a servant. And as he was put to death on the cross, he never once said, “I don't deserve this! I'm God! I'm above this!” He gave himself up for us, though we do not deserve it. God gives us the ability to live, and he can take it from us in an instant. If Jesus was willing to go to the cross for us, certainly we can be willing to humble ourselves before him and others and to consider the needs of those around us.



PALM SUNDAY—PASSION SUNDAY

Holy Communion 11:00 AM

April 13, 2025

*Gathering

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: Hosanna to the Son of David.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

.....through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

*The Processional Gospel:

John 12:12-19

C: Glory to you, O Lord. (response after announcement of the Gospel)

C: Praise to you, O Christ. (response after conclusion of the Gospel)

*Blessing of the Palms

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: We praise and thank You, O God.....now and forever.

C: Amen.

*The Procession

P: Let us go forth in peace.

C: in the name of Christ. Amen

*The Processional Hymn

All Glory Laud and Honor

(ELW) No. 344

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: Hosanna in the highest.

*The Confession and Forgiveness

(ELW) page 94

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy.....of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Sign-up sheets are posted to host a coffee hour in 2025. Please write you names under the month you would like to host. The coffee hours have been a wonderful time of fellowship and the hosts have been awesome! Thank you!!

Sign-up sheets are posted for Lay Readers in 2025. Please sign up.

Adult Catechism class is on Tuesday at 11 and 7 pm. We are discussing the book we read over the summer. All are welcome. We look forward to you joining us in our discussion.

Adult Sunday School is held before our Church Service starting at 9:45 am in the church library. Come join us.

Bell Choir rehearsal is Thursday at 7:00 pm. We would love for you to join us. Please see Kris Briggs if you are interested, kkbrrgs1@gmail.com. All are welcome.

Our **Dartball team** is looking for more members. Practices are Tuesdays at 7 pm. No experience is needed. Come join us for fun and fellowship. We hope to see you soon. Please contact Dennis Schmidt for information.

Chess Club meets on Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm. All are welcome from beginners to experienced. We hope that you will join us for fellowship and fun. Please contact the church office if you have any questions.

We have a new website address

<https://firstlutheranwashington.church/>

April 17th at 7:00 PM will be Maundy Thursday Service with Holy Communion.

April 18th at 3 PM will be Good Friday Service (one service only).

April 20th at 10 AM Easter Sunday Service with Holy Communion.

Welcome to our Visitors! The people of this congregation welcome you as you join us in worship this morning. Please sign the register, located in the narthex. If you have questions, please see the pastor or contact the church office.

Do you wish to become a member of First Lutheran Church? Please contact Pastor Grewe.

Nursery: We welcome all children to be a part of worship, but we realize that sometimes the service can be too long for the little ones. We have a nursery for those attending to the needs of infants and small children. There is a speaker in the nursery so that parents can still hear the service. You are welcome to use the nursery for the entire service, or just a small part.

Please remember to continue contributing donations to our girls in Ethiopia.
Please consider this as a call to help others in need.

The Flower Chart for 2025 is posted in the narthex. If you wish to place flowers, (real or artificial) near the altar, sign your name opposite the date of your choice. You will be reminded of your date and asked for the wording you want in the bulletin two weeks before the due date. Thank you.

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God,.....in the name of the Father, and of the ☩Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

*The Apostolic Greeting *Glory to God in the Highest* (ELW) page 139

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.

*The Kyrie *(sung response)* (ELW) page 138

P:, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

*The Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

C: Almighty and everlasting God, You have sent Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross, that all of humanity should follow the example of His great humility. Mercifully grant that we may both follow the example of His patience and also be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.

First Lesson

Deuteronomy 32:36-39

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Musical Offering

Ride on Ride On in Majesty

(Bell Choir)

The Psalmody For The Day (read responsively)

Psalm 118:19-29

¹⁹Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰**This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.**

²¹I thank You that You have answered me and have become my salvation.

²²**The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.**

²³This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴**This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

²⁵Save us, we pray, O LORD! O LORD, we pray, give us success!

²⁶**Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD! We bless you from the house of the LORD.**

²⁷The LORD is God, and He has made His light to shine upon us. Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar!

²⁸**You are my God, and I will give thanks to You; You are my God; I will extol You.**

²⁹Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever!

Second Lesson

Philippians 2:5-11

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

First Lutheran Church

92 W. Walnut St., Washington, PA

724-225-4040

e-mail: secretary@flcwash.church

Online services posted weekly on website: <https://firstlutheranwashington.church/>

The Rev. Robert B. Grewe

724-705-4050

revrob@flcwash.church

Dennis Schmidt, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

J. Judson Lacko, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

Matthew Cimino, Organist and Music Director

The Flowers on the Chancel are given to the glory of God.

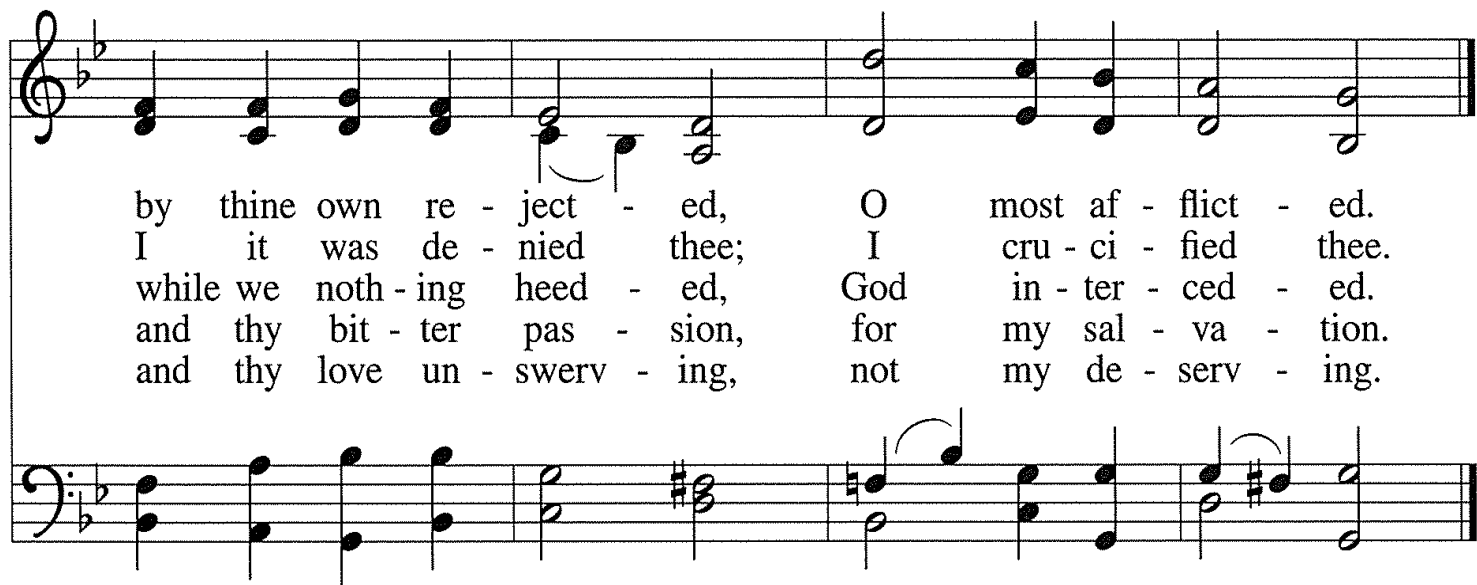
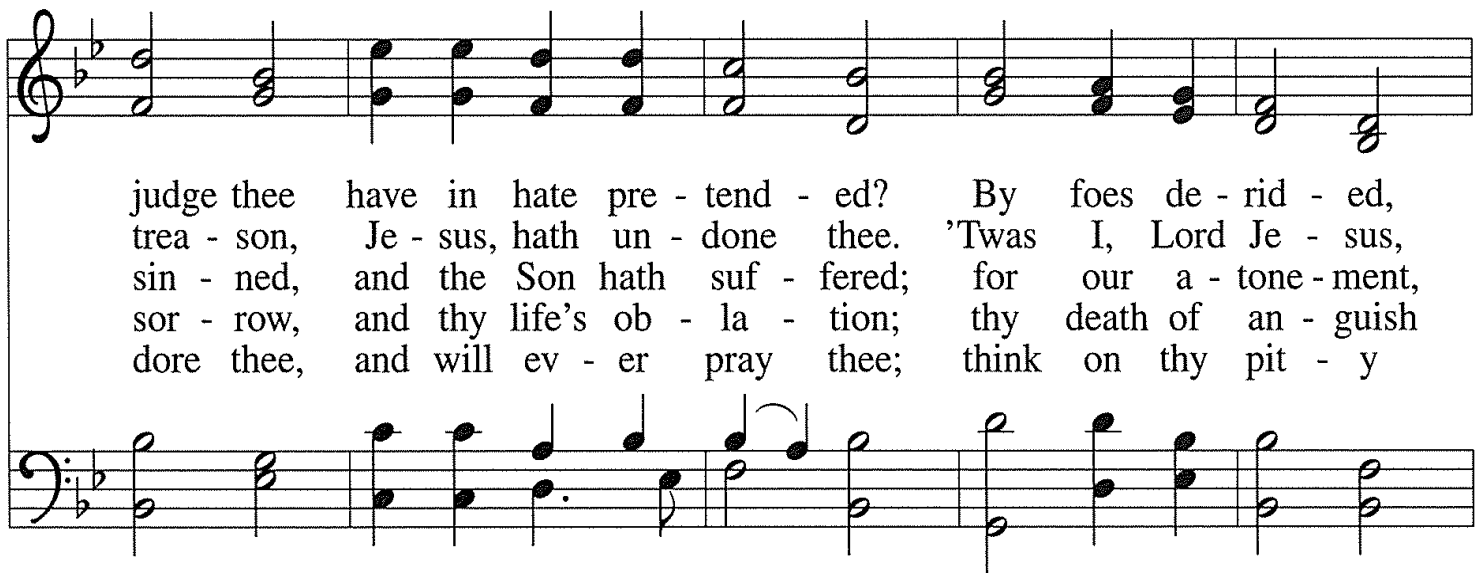
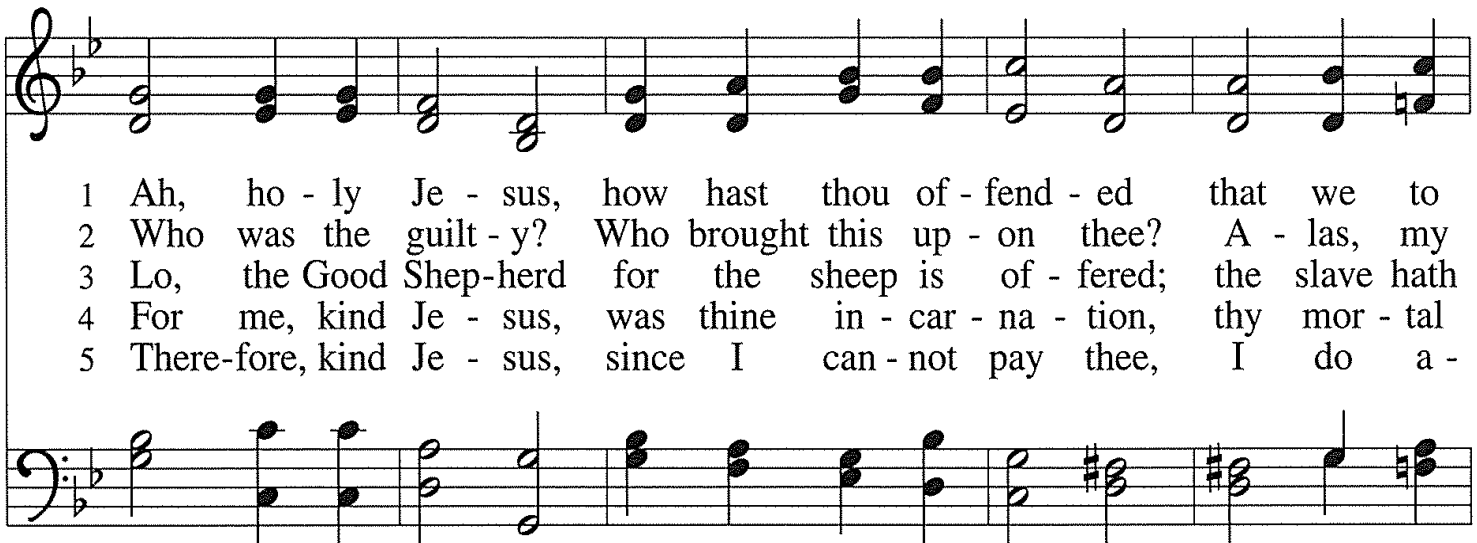
Lay Reader is Dennis Schmidt.

Acolytes are Jacin and Trevor Flowers.

Counters are S. Rea and L. Coleman

Please pray for those in need of healing:

Isaac Christian, the Pollana family, Sylvia Sunstrum, Tyler, Danielle Sherman, Amy Verderber, Lou Mayne, Judy, Brooke, Debbie, Sayward, Jim H., Judy Coble, Linnese, Donna B., Karen John. Neil Bassi, Phyllis Daniels, Beckie Wood, Bridgette, Alex Houck, Stacy Carroll, Ron Erdmann & Belinda, James, Lori Mauer, Budd Platts, Mark V., John, Ed Dupas, Sandy Salerno, the Gavazzi family, Janelle Henderson, Rex Gibson, Pat Dupas, Gwen Roberts, Tammy, Cheyenne Walker, Judi, Lenny & Sandy, Larry Downing, Carol Cancelmi, Amanda Laib, Sandy Hebrank, Jennifer Sasek, Larry Zimmerman, Jean Shearer, Elizabeth, Phyllis, Joe Kern, Lisa Wilds, Julia Jeffcoat, Richard Hager, Rob, John, Terri Newton, Holly Hiser, Shari Kienzle, Susan Westcott, Eric Fritz, Terry Jurkovsky, Karen Dawson, Judd Lacko, Cadence, Sandy Mannsman, Robyn Cameron, Ian, Isaiah, and Alecia, Nettie Walsh and her parents and family, Greg Mason, Joanne Reck, Kenny and Josh, and Linda, Edelgard, Wolfgang, Thomas, Lowell, Matt S., Paula, Klaus and Mel Behrens, and Kim.



Children's Sermon

(children leave for Sunday School)

Pastor Grewe

Gospel

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to St Luke

Luke 22:1-23:56

*Please rise or remain seated if necessary at Luke 23:25

*The Hymn of the Day

A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

(ELW) No. 340

*The Prayers of the Church

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our Prayer.

*Sharing the Peace

*The Offertory

Create in Me a Clean Heart

(SBH) No. 27

*The Great Thanksgiving

(ELW) page 144

The Distribution

Communion Hymn

Let Us Break Bread Together

(ELW) No. 471

*The Benediction (sung response)

C: Amen, Amen, Amen.

*The Recessional Hymn

"Ah Holy Jesus"

(ELW) No. 349

*The Dismissal (response)

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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.

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
 2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
 3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
 let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
 let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

The Communion

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God: and re -

new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -

way from thy pres - ence: and take not thy Ho - ly

Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of

thy sal - va - tion: and up - hold me with thy free Spir - it.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,

we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth



1 A lamb goes un - com - plain-ing forth to save a world of sin - ners.
 2 This lamb is Christ, our great-est friend, the Lamb of God, our Sav - ior,
 3 Our Sav - ior an - swered from his heart that he would take the bur - den:
 4 Of death I am no more a - fraid; your dy - ing is my liv - ing.



He bears the bur - den all a - lone, dies shorn of all his hon - ors.
 whom God in mer - cy chose to send to win us reb - els o - ver.
 "My Fa - ther's will is my com-mand; I'll do as I am bid - den."
 You clothe me in your roy - al robes that you are al - ways giv - ing.



He goes to slaugh - ter, weak and faint, is led to die with -
 "Go down, my child," the Fa - ther said, "and free my chil - dren
 Oh, won-drous love! Oh, lov - ing might! To right what mor - tals
 Your love is dress e - nough for me to wear through all e -



A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth



out com - plaint; his spot - less life he of - fers. He bears the shame,
 from their dread of death and con - dem - na - tion. The pain - ful stripes
 can - not right the Son was sent from heav - en. What love, O Love,
 ter - ni - ty be - fore the throne of heav - en, where we shall stand



the stripes, the wrath; his an - guish, mock - er - y,
 are hard to bear, but by your death they all
 who came to save by lov - ing e - ven to
 close by your side, your church, the well - ap - point -



and death for us he glad - ly suf - fers.
 can share the joy of your sal - va - tion."
 the grave un - til the stone was riv - en.
 ed bride, when all the faith - ful gath - er.

