

✠ SERVICE OF PALMS AND THE PASSION ✠

April 4-5, 2020

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

GATHERING

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

C: **Hosanna in the highest.**

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL Matthew 21:1-11

GREETING

P: The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY *Unison*

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.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.

Matthew 26:17-29

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor” vs 1 **R344**

Matthew 26:30-75

“Go to Dark Gethsemane” vs 1 **R347**

Matthew 27:1-26

“Go to Dark Gethsemane” vs 2 **R347**

Matthew 27:27-44

“Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross” vs 1 **R335**

Matthew 27:45-61

“They Crucified My Lord” vs 1 & 2 **R350**

MEDITATION

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

(Response after each petition)

P: Lord in your mercy...

C: Hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

SENDING

BLESSING

P: The blessing of God Almighty, the wisdom and power of + Christ Jesus, and the light of the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

R338

P: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C: Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Matthew 21:1-11

Psalm 31:9-16

Philippians 2:5-11

Matthew 26:14—27:66

IN OUR PRAYERS

Vicki Piontkowski, Kay Grove, Michele Amelotte, Bethany Popour, Gerald Lancaster, Joanne Nicholls, Gordon Hansen, Deb Nitchman's Family, Kay Zinsli, Diane Prevost, Tammy Furze, Julie Troy, Harold Kissau, Jim Malaski, Karen & Walter Spigelmyre, Emma Nelson, Bishop Craig Satterlee, Rob VanCleave, Donna Schafer, David Schaedig, Becky, Jodi Kennedy Dinnan, Stephanie Bradford, Kevin Reiser, Karlene Trump, Charlotte Barnard, Jamie Shipman, Bill Estlack, Nick Wittman, Barb Agius, Betty Kelly, Maria Shelton, Emily Cross, Liz, Lucas David, David Delano (David's Dad), Edna Delano, Yvonne Stoll, Joseph Hansen, Scott Coddington, Cody Gustin.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH BUILDING IS CLOSED

With Governor Whitmer's order to Stay Home and Stay Safe, the church building is closed. That is, the building is closed but not the work of Grace Lutheran Church or of the congregation of Grace. God's work goes on regardless of a building. The staff is now working from home as much as possible. We can now check the phone remotely for messages and will respond. Mail will be picked up daily and addressed promptly.

All in-person worship and in-persons gatherings in the church building are suspended until May 10th. Bishop Satterlee has sent this out as part of a letter to congregations following Gov. Whitmer's order:

Given this order, I, again, implore congregations to suspend all in-person worship services and weekly in-person gatherings until May 10. This includes weddings, funerals, memorial services, non-emergency baptisms, and Holy Week and Easter services. I do not have the authority to suspend in-person worship in our congregations; however, the ELCA and I do not support civil disobedience and congregations who choose to continue in-person worship will need to help me understand their decision. This has also been the CDC's recommendation to help reduce the spread of the virus.

The majority of Grace Council has supported this recommendation and is suspending all in-person worship and in-person gatherings until May 10th or an updated recommendation.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Though the building is closed, mail is still dealt with daily. So offering envelopes can be sent in and they will be deposited. We received 14 envelopes in the mail this week. Thank you!

SIMPLY GIVING

If you would like to set up a transfer from one of your bank accounts to Grace's, like automatic utility paying, give the office a call and Peggy will help set that up.

GIVING +

You can also go to our website and use the Donate With Give + link for a one time contribution or set up a recurring contribution through credit cards or bank accounts.

Thank you to one and all for your faithfulness in your stewardship toward God's work at Grace Lutheran.

ONLINE WORSHIP RECORDINGS

From our website or Facebook page you can access a video that we have made of scripture, prayers, music and a meditation for the week. Each week we add something more and hope fully improve our technique for the video.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have changed any contact information since our last church directory, say have a cell phone as your preferred or only contact, do let us know so we have the latest info in the church office and can reach you.

LITTLE FOOD PANTRY GIFTS

Grace received a special grant from United Way for \$500 toward the LFP for this time of the coronavirus pandemic. They had funds to distribute through a grant they had received from Meijer. Again thank you to one and all for supporting and working on this effort of a "Christ-like difference in our community."

PRAYER CONCERNS

We are still taking prayer concerns to be included in the weekly bulletin – now becoming weekly news and announcements and more. Please do have the person's permission for inclusion and realize it is published online, so more than just our congregation will know about it.

A THOUGHT FOR THIS WEEK

When you go out and see empty streets, the empty stadiums, the empty train platforms, don't say to yourself, "My God, it looks like the end of the world."

What you're seeing is love in action.

What you're seeing, in that negative space, is how much we do care for each other, for our grandparents, for our immuno-compromised brothers and sisters, for people we will never meet.

People will lose their jobs over this. Some will lose their businesses. And some will lose their lives. All the more reason to take a moment when you're out for a walk, or on your way to the store, or just watching the news to look into the emptiness and marvel at all of that love.

Let it fill you and sustain you. It isn't the end of the world. It is the most remarkable act of global solidarity we may ever witness. It is the reason the world will go on.

– going around on the web

GENERAL FUND GIVING

| | |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Average needed each week to meet budget | \$ 4,415.00 |
| Weekly giving - March 22 | 1,935.00 |
| Weekly giving - March 29 | 3,945.00 |

Thank you to all who have
dropped off or mailed in envelopes.