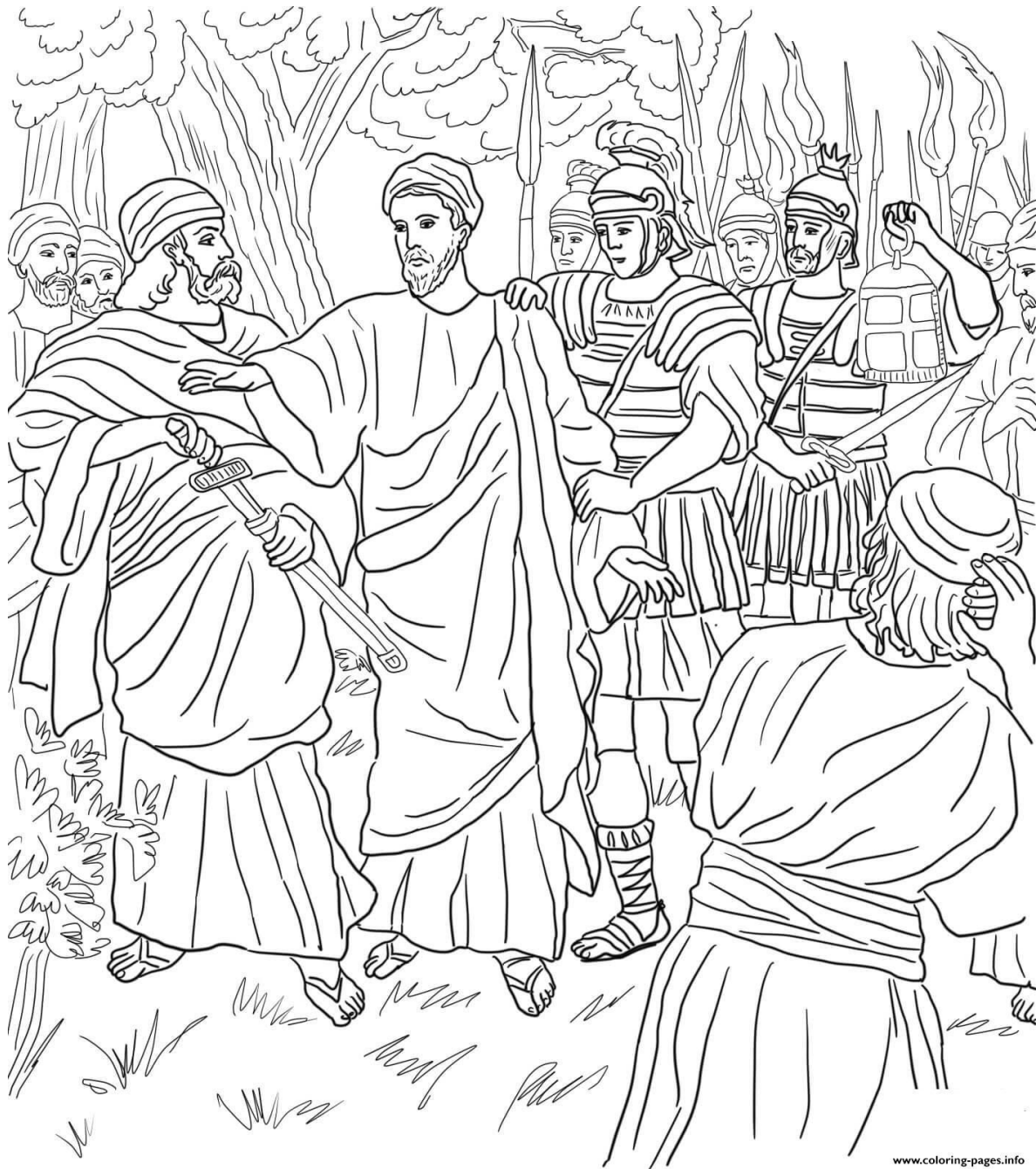


† Palm Sunday †

“The Journey to the Cross”



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“Put Your Sword Away!”
John 18:1-27

✠ The Divine Liturgy ✠

“Love the Creator & His Creation Like Jesus”
Saint Luke Lutheran Church | March 28, 2021

† Baptism — The Way of Faith †

Remembering Our Baptism Journey

Father, Creator of all heaven and earth, ✠ **you save us from our selfishness and make us your children through Baptism.** ✠ Through your Son, whose example we follow, ✠ **we die to Civilization's Way of arrogance, fear, and control.** ✠ Through your Spirit, who dwells among us, ✠ **we are reborn in Jesus's Way of faith, hope, and love.** ✠ We pray that you will complete this work of Baptism within us, ✠ **as we daily surrender to you and listen to your every word.**

(the Christ candle is lit to remind us that Jesus is present among us)

♪ Lord Jesus, think on me, amid struggle and strife. In all my pain and misery, please be my health and life. ♪ Lord Jesus, think on me, that when the flood is past, I may a new creation be, and walk with you steadfast. ♪ (tune LSB 610)

Surrendering to the Creator

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit ✠ **we surrender our minds, bodies, and whole lives to you.**

(we make the sign of the cross, touching forehead, heart, and shoulders)

We let go of control ✠ **and submit ourselves into your loving hands.** ✠ We leave behind our people-pleasing ✠ **and seek only your approval.** ✠ We walk away from our reliance on self, family, and nation ✠ **and trust you for everything we need.** *♪ Take my life and all my heart, take my whole soul ev'ry part. Take my mouth and let it be, filled with your truth and mercy. ♪ Take my hands and let them love, with compassion from above. Take my feet and let them go, on the Way that Jesus showed. ♪ Take my things and my money, give me faith and set me free. Take my life and teach me how, to love all creation now. ♪ (tune: LSB 783)*

Palm Sunday Litany

Behold! Your king, Jesus, is coming! ✠ **Hosanna! He comes to save us!**
Behold! Jesus is coming to establish his rule! ✠ **Hosanna! He comes to save us!**
Behold! Jesus came to his people in Israel! ✠ **Hosanna! He comes to save us!**
Behold! Jesus is still coming among us today! ✠ **Hosanna! He comes to save us!**
Behold! Jesus will come to set all things right! ✠ **Hosanna! He comes to save us!**

Song ✠ *LSB 444 “No Tramp of Soldiers’ Marching Feet”*

♪ No tramp of soldiers' marching feet with banners and with drums, no sound of music's martial beat: `The King of glory comes!' To greet what pomp of

kingly pride no bells in triumph ring, no city gates swing open wide: `Behold, behold your King!' ♪

♪ *And yet he comes. The children cheer; with palms his path is strown. With every step the cross draws near: the King of glory's throne. Astride a colt he passes by as loud hosannas ring, or else the very stones would cry `Behold, behold your King!' ♪*

♪ *What fading flowers his road adorn; the palms, how soon laid down! No bloom or leaf but only thorn the King of glory's crown. The soldiers mock, the rabble cries, the streets with tumult ring, as Pilate to the mob replies, `Behold, behold your King!' ♪*

♪ *Now he who bore for mortals' sake the cross and all its pains and chose a servant's form to take, the King of glory reigns. Hosanna to the Saviour's Name till heaven's rafters ring, and all the ransomed host proclaim `Behold, behold your King!' ♪*

Prayer of the Day

The Lord Jesus be with you. ✠ **And also with you.** ✠ Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, help us to put down our swords and trust in your protection and deliverance. In the name of Jesus, your Son, our Lord. **Amen.**

(sit)

Listening to the Creator

We gather at the feet of our Lord Jesus, listening to his word and allowing it to change and shape our minds, decisions, and lives. ♪ *Listen to what Jesus teaches, listen to him every day. Listen as you walk and follow, listen also as you pray. Listen to him every moment, listen with an open mind. Listen to find peace and patience, listen so you will be kind.* ♪ (tune: LSB 770)

Remembering the Saints & Martyrs ✠ Cyril of Jerusalem

Father, we give you thanks for your Spirit-filled saints and witnesses who have gone before us and have embodied the Way of Jesus. Today we remember Cyril who underwent eleven years of imprisoned exile in 357 AD for selling the gifts of the Roman Emperor and the goods of the church in order to help feed the poor. Help us learn from his faith and example, **Amen.**

Chanted Psalm ✠ *Psalm 73*



♪ *Surely God is good to | his people,
* to those who are | pure in heart.
But I nearly lost my foothold through | jealousy.
* I saw the prosperity of | the wicked.
Pride and greed adorns | their whole lives,
* they clothe themselves | with violence.
But I turned back to the guidance of | your commands,*

** for the world has nothing I desire | besides you. ♪*

Law & Prophets ✕ Jeremiah 26:8-15

The Prophets reading comes from Jeremiah 26. ✕ **We listen with open hearts.**
This is the word of our Creator. ✕ **Thank you, Lord, for speaking to us.**

Epistle ✕ Philippians 3:17—4:9

The epistle reading comes from Philippians 3. ✕ **We listen with open hearts.**
This is the word of our Creator. ✕ **Thank you, Lord, for speaking to us.**

(stand)

† Holy Gospel † John 18:1-11

We stand for the word of Jesus. ♪ ***If you lose your life for my sake, you will find it; if you want to save your life, let it go. Take up your cross, deny yourself. Come, follow me, follow me.*** ♪ (tune: GC2 688)

The holy Gospel comes from John 18. ✕ **Jesus, we listen, ready to follow you.**
This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus. ✕ **We will trust and obey.**

(sit)

Message

† Repentance — The Way of Hope †

Confronting Our Past

Let us reflect on how the word of Jesus is speaking into our lives this day.

(silence for reflection)

For serving the false gods of self, family, and nation, ✕ **Father, forgive us.** ✕
For trusting the technology and works of human hands, ✕ **Father, forgive us.**
✕ For being hypocrites who misrepresent your name, ✕ **Father, forgive us.** ✕
For not living in restful harmony with land, animals, and each other, ✕ **Father, forgive us.** ✕
For not listening to and caring for our fathers and mothers in Christ, ✕ **Father, forgive us.** ✕
For being violent to our bodies and your creation, ✕ **Father, forgive us.** ✕
For not keeping our sexuality within marriage, ✕ **Father, forgive us.** ✕
For trying to possess and control your creation, ✕ **Father, forgive us.** ✕
For not being vulnerable and truthful with others, ✕ **Father, forgive us.** ✕
For competing with others and not being content with our lives, ✕ **Father, forgive us.** ✕
Father, turn us back to walking in your Spirit. ♪ ***Lord Father we have wandered and hidden from your face. Rescue your whole creation with your almighty grace. From trust in wealth and weapons and blindness to your Way, save us and all creation with your own hands, we pray.*** ♪ (tune: LSB 449)

Will you turn away from the Way of Civilization and reaffirm the Creator's claim upon you through your Baptism into the Way of Jesus? ✕ **Yes, I**

renounce the Way of Civilization and pledge my full allegiance to Jesus. ✠ Will you release all debts and grudges that you hold against anyone—including yourself and every member of this church? ✠ **Yes, I forgive all those who have hurt me, frustrated me, or owe me anything.** ✠ Our heavenly Father heals all those who return to his loving arms. You are forgiven and set free from all slavery to live life in the Way of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit! ✠ **Amen.**

(stand)

Song ✠ **GC2 718 “World Peace Prayer”**

REFRAIN: ♪ Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth, from despair to hope, from fear to trust. Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace; let peace fill our hearts, let peace fill our world, let peace fill our universe.

♪ Still all the angry cries, still all the angry guns, still now your people die, earth’s sons and daughters. Let justice roll, let mercy pour down, come and teach us your way of compassion. ♪ REFRAIN

♪ So many lonely hearts, so many broken lives, longing for love to break into their darkness. Come, teach us love, come, teach us peace, come and teach us your way of compassion. ♪ REFRAIN

♪ Let justice ever roll, let mercy fill the earth, let us begin to grow into your people. We can be love, we can bring peace, we can still be your way of compassion. ♪ REFRAIN

Waiting on the Creator

♪ Our Father, bring your Rule and will to earth. Give what we need for worry-free rebirth. Bring peace among us and forgive us too, as we forgive and love in all we do. ♪ Protect us from all things that will mislead. Keep us from selfishness, violence, and greed. We place our lives into your hands this day. Teach us to listen and to walk your Way. Amen. ♪ (tune: LSB 637)

(incense is lit to symbolize our prayers ascending to God and as its smell fills this space we are reminded of his presence among us)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, ♪ Lord have mercy. ♪

Our Father in heaven, make your name holy, bring your Rule, make your will be done—on earth as in heaven. ✠ Father, heal your creation that we have harmed and destroyed by reuniting heaven and earth through Jesus and your Spirit. Bring your loving discipline, judgment, and peace upon us, all those in authority, and all creation. Open the hearts of all, so we may trust and obey the word of Jesus. *Let us pray to the Lord, ♪ Lord have mercy. ♪*

Give us this day our daily bread. ✠ Father, be our provider and protector. Take care of us and heal our brokenness. Especially, we remember Charlene Sargent, Jack Wagner, Jan Zugelder, Jamey Story, Maggie Belcher, COVID-19 victims, the Disciple Garden, and those we name in our hearts... Father, give us exactly what we need this day and teach us to be content with that. *Let us pray to the Lord, ♪ Lord have mercy. ♪*

Forgive us our debts as we forgive those in debt to us. ✠ Father, forgive us

and free us from all that enslaves us. Help us to walk away from our addictions to Civilization's Way so we may walk in Jesus's Way. Empower us to forgive the debts and sins of all who repent, even our enemies, in the same way you have forgiven us. *Let us pray to the Lord, ♪ Lord have mercy. ♪*

Do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. ✠ Father, grow our trust in you and keep us from being tested when we are not yet ready. Free us from fear, self-indulgence, competition, ownership, and violence. Comfort us in the hope that your creation and children will be renewed and raised from the dead. *Let us pray to the Lord, ♪ Lord have mercy. ♪*

For all authority, power, and glory are yours—now and forever. ✠ Father, we thank you for all that you give—life, daily provision, and salvation from death and slavery. Empower us to celebrate your love through a life of patient courage, self-discipline, humility, generosity, and kindness. Help us to let go of being in charge so we might entrust our lives fully into your hands, trusting that you work all things to the good of those who love you. ✠ **Amen.**

† Communion — The Way of Love †

Sharing the Lord's Peace

We prepare to be united as one Body and communion at the Lord's table by sharing with each other the peace and love our Father has freely given to us.

(sit)

Offering

Everything belongs to our Father and is to be used to love each other in the same way Jesus has loved us. Therefore, we offer our entire lives as a living sacrifice to him while also offering gifts to support this communion.

Musical Offering

(stand)

Pledge of Allegiance

♪ We come before you, Lord, to bow. We lay our lives at your feet now. All things are yours, we own nothing! Our lives are in your hands this day. Give what we need, O Lord, we pray. Please protect us, provide for us! Watch over us, ever with us, always love us! ♪ (tune: LSB 816)

Lord Jesus, we pledge our obedience and every part of our lives to you...

I pledge allegiance to God the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I pledge allegiance to Jesus the Christ, who is God's only Son and my Lord. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. The third day he rose from the dead. He ascended to heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty. He is coming to judge the living and the dead.

I pledge allegiance to the Holy Spirit, the holy universal Church, the

communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life with God, now and always. Amen.

Thanksgiving

The Lord Jesus be with you. ☩ **And also with you.** ☩ Lift up your hearts! ☩ **We lift them to the Lord!** ☩ Let us give thanks to our Creator! ☩ **It is right to give him thanks and praise!** ☩ Praise and thanks are due to you, Father, ☩ **for you provide, protect, love, and renew us and all creation!** ☩ We are grateful that you bring heaven and earth together through Jesus's love for all creation!

♪ Joyful, joyful we adore you, Creator of all that lives! Earth and heaven praise and thank you, for your love and all you give! Fields and forests, fruit trees and birds, thunderstorms and starry skies, seas and mountains, and grazing herds, praising you who never dies! ♪ (tune: LSB 803)

† Words of Our Lord Jesus †

On the night before our Lord Jesus was crucified, he revealed his Way of rescuing all creation from the Way of Civilization. Before supper, Jesus humbly washed the feet of his students and enemies. He said, "Follow my example. Love each other in the same way I have loved you." During supper, Jesus then took the bread and broke it. He gave it to them, saying, "This is my body which is being given for you. Do the same for each other in my memory." After supper, Jesus then took the cup and gave thanks. He said, "This is my blood which is being shed for you, for the forgiveness of all of your sin. Do the same for each other in my memory." *♪ When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death Lord Jesus. So as we share this feast may we, remember your love for us. Help us now to follow your Way, and to walk in your goodness. Always make us one in you. ♪ (tune: LSB 384)*

Invitation to the Table

We gather around Jesus's table, trusting that he is truly giving his whole self to us through this bread, wine, and communion. As we receive the Lord's gifts, we commit ourselves to laying down our lives for each member of this church in the same Way that Jesus has laid down his life for us. We invite all Baptized members of the holy universal Church, who give their undivided allegiance to Jesus and are at peace with their brothers and sisters in Christ, to join us in this mysterious communion of heaven and earth. *♪ Oh come, Lord Jesus, come and dine, and give yourself through bread and wine. Feed us so we may have new birth, and bring your rule ov'r all the earth. Come now! Come now! Our Lord Jesus, and bring your healing love to us! ♪ (tune: LSB 357)*

(sit)

Sharing the Bread & Wine

(stand)

Sent to "Do the Same in My Memory"

Lord Jesus, you feed us with the bread of life ☩ **your body, given for us.** ☩

You judge us and heal us with your love and mercy ✠ **your blood, shed for us.**
✠ Now help us to do the same in your memory ✠ **as we share our whole lives with the church and care for all your creation, including our own bodies.**
✠ Lord, fill us with your Holy Spirit so we may always reflect your love. ✠ **Amen.** *♪ Go to dark Gethsemane, you who feel the tempter's pow'r. Your Lord Jesus' conflict see, watch with him one painful hour. Shun not suff'ring, shame or loss, learn from him to bear your cross. ♪ To his cross go make your climb, there to worship at his feet. It is here his kingdom's time, his self-sacrifice complete. "God forgive them," hear his cry; learn from Jesus Christ to die. ♪ (tune: LSB 436)*

Blessing

May the Father bless you and hold you in his hands. May the Son empower you to love all his creation in the way he has loved you. May the Holy Spirit fill your body and give you a peace that is free of all anxiety. ✠ **Amen.**

Song ✠ *LSB 512 "At the Name of Jesus"*

- ♪ At the name of Jesus ev'ry knee will bow, ev'ry tongue confess him King of earth right now. It's the Father's desire we should call him Lord, who from the beginning was the mighty Word. ♪*
- ♪ At his voice creation sprang at once to sight. All the seas and forests, all the stars of light, all plants and animals, rivers on their way, creatures all big and small, in their great array. ♪*
- ♪ In your hearts enthrone him, there let him subdue, all that is not holy, all that is not true. Look to him your Savior, in temptations' hour, let his will embrace you, in its light and power. ♪*
- ♪ Christians this Lord Jesus has not come in vain, through his Father's Spirit he does truly reign. For all wreaths of empire meet upon his brow, and our hearts confess him King of mercy now. ♪*
-

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Scripture Study: Revelation - Join us on Wednesdays as we immerse ourselves in the powerful and metaphor-rich vision that is recorded in the book of Revelation.
- Table Talk - Join us on Mondays at 6:00 pm for our table talk discussions on "The Patient Ferment of the Early Church." Kevin and Luke are leading us in a discussion about the character and practices of the early church and how we can shape our own direction and life as a church in similar ways.
- Holy Week Schedule
 - Maundy Thursday - Apr 1, 6:30 pm @ the Disciple Garden

- Good Friday - Apr 2, 6:30 pm @ the Sanctuary
- Holy Saturday - Apr 3, 6:00 pm @ the Disciple Garden
- Easter Sunday - Apr 4, 9:30 am @ the Sanctuary

Weekly Calendar | March 28 - April 4, 2021

Sun Mar 28	8:30-9:10 am	Individual Confession & Forgiveness
	9:30 am	The Divine Liturgy "Put Your Sword Away" John 18:1-27
	10:45 am	Food & Fellowship
	11:15 am	Text of the Day Study
Mon Mar 29	8:30-11:30 am	Pastor Luke's Office Hours
	6:00 pm	Table Talk: "The Patient Ferment of the Early Church"
Tues Mar 30	8:30-11:30 am	Pastor Luke's Office Hours
Wed Mar 31	8:30-11:30 am	Pastor Luke's Office Hours
Thurs Apr 1	6:30 pm	Maundy Thursday "My Kingdom Is Not of This World" John 18:28—19:16
Fri Apr 2	6:30 pm	Good Friday "It Is Completed" John 19:17-30
Sat Apr 3	6:00 pm	Holy Saturday "There Was a Garden" John 19:31-42
Sun Apr 4	8:30-9:10 am	Individual Confession & Forgiveness
	9:30 am	The Divine Liturgy "While It Was Still Dark" John 20:1-10
	10:45 am	Food & Fellowship
	11:15 am	Text of the Day Study

Thought of the Week

"We should be obedient to God rather than those who have arrogantly made themselves leaders. We will bring great danger upon ourselves if we surrender ourselves to the purposes of men." (1 Clement)

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