



## Palm Sunday

April 9, 2017 | 8:30 + 11:00 am

### We Gather in the Presence of the Living God

**Prelude** | He Is the King of Glory by G.F. Handel, *setting* by Ruby Shaw Hollis

#### Welcome + Announcements

**\*Call to Worship** | based on Psalm 118

O give thanks to the LORD, for God is good;

**God's steadfast love endures forever!**

Open the gates of righteousness,

**that we may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord with generous hearts.**

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

**We thank you that you have answered us and have become our salvation.**

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

**This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. We see it manifest with every gift of time, talent, and treasure offered in Jesus' name.**

This is the day that the LORD has made;

**we will rejoice and be glad for the future God is building for us on Gathering Place Lane.**

O give thanks to the LORD, for God is good,

**God's steadfast love endures forever.**

— From the Next Chapter Prayer Vigil: celebrating the generosity of the people of St. Andrew

**\*Gathering Hymn** | All Glory, Laud, and Honor *red hymnal*, #146

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**Hymns + Songs** | *Lift Up Your Hearts* (red hymnal)

**Bold Print** | Speak or sing together in unison

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit*

# We Seek Renewal in God's Presence

## **\*Call to Confession** (based on Romans 8:39)

We know that nothing is able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Let us in freedom confess the wrong we have done.

*Silence for personal confession*

## **\*Prayer of Confession**

**Merciful God, we confess that 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 and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

## **\*Words of Assurance** (based on Romans 8:1; 2 Corinthians 5:17)

Hear the Good News! There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that in Jesus, God embraces you, forgives you, and strengthens you to live a renewed life. Thanks be to God! **Amen.**

## **\*The Peace** | time of greeting

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

# The Word of the Lord

## **Gospel Lesson** | Matthew 21:1-11 *Bible*, pg. 802

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Choral Response** | Ride On, King Jesus! *setting by L.L. Fleming*

## **Time for Young Disciples** | Heather Woodin, Director of Children's and Family Ministries

*Parents who would like to have their children (3 year old - Kindergarten) participate in Children's Time are welcome to accompany their children downstairs during the Congregational Hymn. Children will be brought back to the sanctuary during the Sending Hymn.*

## **Congregational Hymn** | My Song Is Love Unknown *red hymnal*, #148 stanzas 1-5

## **Gospel Lesson** | Matthew 27:11-54 *Bible*, pg. 810

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Message** | Three Questions for Holy Week Rev. Dr. Matt Paul

# Responding to the Word

## Worship with Tithes and Offerings

*Prayer requests may be written on a prayer card and placed in the offering plate.*

**Offertory** | My Song Is Love Unknown    *setting by J. Bert Carlson*

### **\*Offertory Response** | Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### **\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Minute for Ministry** | Jan Waterhouse, Feed My Starving Children

## Prayers of the People + The 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

# Sending

**\*Sending Hymn** | My Song Is Love Unknown    *red hymnal, #148*    stanza 6

**\*Charge + Blessing** | May the Lord bless you with love and wisdom. *written by Brody Sobolik (\*spark\* participant)*

*Note: Recently participants at \*spark\* learned about the act of Christian blessing and spent time creating their own blessings to share with one another. We are using their blessings in worship as our benediction for the next several weeks.*

*If you desire a personal time of prayer, we're here to pray with you and for you. Please join a prayer partner by the baptismal font at the front of the sanctuary immediately following the worship service.*

# Today's Worship Participants

Rev. Dr. Matt Paul + Rev. Kyle Otterbein, *Pastors*

Matthew Penning, *Director of Music*

Logos Choir

Resound!

Patti Benson, *worship leader*

# Announcements

**Welcome!** We are happy to have you here with us today. If you would like more information about St. Andrew, please indicate your interest on the Connection Card. Join us for a time of fellowship and refreshments between services; this is a wonderful way to meet the St. Andrew family.

**Families with children and infants** are welcomed in our worship services. Worship materials for children are available on the bookshelves outside the sanctuary.

**Infant and toddler care** (up to age 2) is provided downstairs in the Nursery. Children's Time, for ages 3 years through Kindergarten, also is downstairs.

**Connection Cards** are one way we can extend welcome and hospitality to our guests while also helping us consider steps we can take in the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ. We ask each person to fill out the card and place it in the offering plate. Members, once your contact information is correct, you only need to write your name. You may also drop your card off at the Welcome Center. As my next step today, I will . . .

- ◇ Read Matthew 21-28 as part of my Holy Week observance.
- ◇ Make plans to attend one or more of the Holy Week services at St. Andrew.
- ◇ Meditate on Romans 5:6-8 in light of the crucifixion account in Matthew and give thanks to God.
- ◇ Have a conversation with others about the meaning of the cross.
- ◇ Review the draft wedding policy documents provided by session; available here or online.

**Prayer Requests** may be written on a blue Prayer Request Card and placed in the offering plate or in the Prayer Request Box by the office door. You may indicate that you would like your prayer shared with the congregation during worship, or only shared with the Pastors and Prayer Ministry. Need more? A Stephen Minister is a trained member that provides high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care and support during times of need, grief, and crisis. If you know someone who might need a friend during a life transition, please contact one of the pastors or the Stephen Ministry referrals coordinators Graham Dameron (319/337.9270 | [graham3076@gmail.com](mailto:graham3076@gmail.com)) or Mary Beth Ross (319/338.0082 | [iawoodsunrise@gmail.com](mailto:iawoodsunrise@gmail.com)).

The **flowers** today are given by Kathy and David Duys in loving memory of Thelma Brown.

When you are planning your summer schedule, be sure to include **Vacation Bible School**. Kids and leaders are invited to join us from 9 am to 11:30 am, June 12 through the 16 at the church. Registration forms for participants and volunteers are now available on the credenza outside the church office. Registration fee is \$10 by May 31, or \$25 after May 31.

Our **Lenten artwork**, both in and outside the sanctuary, are depictions of Jesus' journey to the cross. The sanctuary banner, created by Cary Maassen and others following our Ash Wednesday service, depicts the lonely road to the cross. It also looks beyond to an empty cross with the dawn of Easter morning in the distance. The hallway posters, illustrated by artist and pastor Adam Walker and colored by children, youth, and adults of St. Andrew, take us on a journey following the footsteps of Christ, immersing us in the biblical account of the last hours and days of Jesus' life. Patterned after the traditional Stations of the Cross, the posters, which appeared gradually over Lent, portray specific scenes of Holy Week.

Are you interested in knowing more about St. Andrew, making connections, or becoming an active member? Join us today for our **Lunch with the Leaders at 12:00 pm** in the Calvin Conference Center.

