

Palm Sunday

extra **ORDINARY**

**A very large crowd
spread their COATS
on the road, and
others cut branches
from the trees and
spread them on the
road.**

Muhlenberg Lutheran Church



A Wellspring of God's Grace

Palm Sunday ~ APRIL 5, 2020

WELCOME TO WELLSTREAM WORSHIP

We welcome you in the name of Christ to this digital form of worship. The Wellstream is a digital ministry that allows Muhlenberg Lutheran Church to **livestream our 11:00 am Sunday morning worship services** through our Social Media platforms. You are encouraged to join in all parts of worship, responding and worshipping as you would in person. Everything you need is printed in this worship booklet so that you may follow along with the worship leaders. Portions of worship in bold print are to be spoken/sung by the whole congregation, wherever you are. We stand for portions of our worship service, and invite you do this as it is comfortable. **If you are watching this service LIVE, we encourage you to engage with other members of the community in the comments on either Facebook or YouTube—responding to prayers, offering prayer requests, or sharing the peace.**

We recognize that **Worship** and the formation of **Community** is central to living out our mission in the world. Worship is where we gather around the true Wellspring of God's Grace—the Word and Sacraments of Jesus Christ—in order that we might find renewal, and become a source of this same grace in our daily living. Worship, and the community we find there, is at the heart of who we are. However, in this season of Social Distancing in the midst of COVID-19, the best way to be community, is to not be in community. This service is not meant to replace face-to-face community, and digital worship cannot provide the sacramental nature of worship to those who engage online. However, this can be a powerful tool in this difficult season for connecting God's people when life gets in the way and *equipping all people to live out Christ's love.*

CONNECT WITH US LIVE AT 11:00 AM

To access the service LIVE, visit our [Facebook Page](#) or [YouTube Channel](#) at 11:00 am. Both are also accessible from the homepage of our website.

COFFEE HOUR

Join members of the community for a digital coffee hour at 10:30am by following this link:

<https://zoom.us/j/388500586?pwd=VUYraGFZMEZTTDk5ekRQZUx1Q3pSQTo9>

GIVE ONLINE

While we aren't meeting in person, the work of the church has not ceased. Please don't forget your financial gifts to God's mission in this place. You may mail your check to the church (281 E. Market St, Harrisonburg, VA 22801) or give online at www.muhlenberglutheran.org/give.

BEST PRACTICES FOR 'ATTENDING' CHURCH ONLINE

- Get out of bed and get dressed—it will put you in the right mindset to worship
- Go through your normal Sunday routine—minus the “hurry up we're running late” part
- Gather your family together—avoid distractions and make worship something for all
- Project the feed on your largest screen—it will feel more like you're “there”
- Sing along loud and proud—yes, it feels weird, but it feels weird for those leading worship in an empty room too!
- Engage in the message—let this hour be the beginning of a conversation with your friends and family, call and check in with others who “went to church”

MUHLENBERG LUTHERAN CHURCH: A WELLSPRING OF GOD'S GRACE

Open ✚ Authentic ✚ Relational ✚ Serving

Pastor Lauren Eanes

Pastor Alex Zuber

281 E. Market Street

(540) 434-3496

Harrisonburg, VA 22801

www.muhlenberglutheran.org

If you're interested in why we do what we do, follow the notes in this column.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

GATHERING

We come from our homes, our labor, our struggles, and our joys – which we share in fellowship as a Christian community. We are gathered together as God's people to worship. In this first part of our worship, we share together honestly – our sins in confession, our joy in forgiveness.

WELCOME

CHILDREN'S TIME *Children are invited forward for a brief message with the pastor.*

(We stand)

PROCESSION

The presiding minister addresses the congregation.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna to the Son of David!

BLESSING OF THE COATS AND BRANCHES

All may raise their coats and branches for the blessing and the processional hymn.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ.

Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these coats and those who wear them, and these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

On this day, united with Christians around the world, we mark Jesus' triumphant entry into the holy city of Jerusalem to complete the work of our salvation. We follow in his footsteps as we acclaim the one whose throne was the cross.

We sing as the Spirit gathers us for worship. This hymn sets the tone for the day.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN ~ All Glory, Laud, and Honor

VALET WILL ICH DIR G



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,



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.

GREETING

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! **Hosanna in the highest!**

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.**

(We sit)

This prayer collects the themes from today's scripture readings.

WORD

The first half of our liturgy focuses on the Word of God through the reading of scripture and preaching. The pattern of reading, singing, reading, singing is an ancient one, which comes from Christianity's roots in Jewish synagogue worship.

Liturgy, from the Greek, means "the work of the people." Our worship is designed so we all take part. We are far more than just spectators.

The scripture readings follow a three-year cycle, called a lectionary. We are connected with other Christians all over the world, in many denominations, reading the same texts.

PSALM 118:1-2, 19-29 (read responsively)

¹O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!

²Let Israel say,
"His steadfast love endures forever."

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 chief 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 beseech you, O LORD!
O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!

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

²⁷The LORD is God,
and he has given us light.
Bind the festal procession with branches,
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.**

²⁹O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

The reading concludes:

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

(We stand).

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Glo - ry to you, O Word of God, Lord Je - sus Christ.

We stand during the gospel because we believe our Lord is present with us in the reading.

GOSPEL Matthew 21:1-11

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 21st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." ⁴This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, ⁵"Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey." ⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" ¹⁰When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" ¹¹The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

After the reading:

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(We sit)

SERMON

Pastor Lauren Eanes

Silence for reflection follows.

(We stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY ~ # 341 Now Behold the Lamb



1 Now be - hold the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God, who
2 Ho - ly is the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God. Why
3 Thank you for the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God. Be -



bore all my sin, that I may live a - gain: the pre-cious Lamb of God.
you love me so, Lord, I shall nev - er know; the pre-cious Lamb of God.
cause of your grace I can fin - ish the race; the pre-cious Lamb of God.

This hymn complements the day's scripture readings and sermon.

The creeds (statements of faith) date back to the 4th century and contain the basics of what Christians around the world hold to be true.

APOSTLES' CREED

Let us confess our faith:

**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.

We pray as a community. The assisting minister leads this time to gather the prayers of all, and at his/ her invitation you may add others aloud or silently in your heart.

Much more than a pleasant greeting — we do this to proclaim God's promise of peace to one another.

Our offerings are collected and dedicated to our Lord's service. They support the ministries of Christ's church in this congregation, the Virginia Synod, ELCA, and our global mission partners. This song becomes our prayer as our gifts are collected and dedicated to our Lord's service.

PRAYERS

After each petition:

. . . Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

The presiding minister concludes the prayers:

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

Have a prayer concern to share? Share it live or email it to info@muhlenberglutheran.org.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

The congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words:
“**Peace be with you.**”

(We sit)

THANKSGIVING

We give thanks for the saving word and all the gifts of God, who then sends us to share the good news we have received and to care for those in need.

OFFERING

Just as I Am, Without One Plea

(We stand)

OFFERING SONG ~ God Loved the World

~see next page~

We sing verse 1

1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made
3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives all
5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly

Son the lost to save, that all who would in
flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in
trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus res - cues
sins that you have done, and jus - ti - fied by
Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed

him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
Christ a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
us from death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.
Je - sus' blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.
Trin - i - ty, be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

OFFERING PRAYER

Holy and generous host, you set a table where we feast as friends. Prepare us to witness to your goodness with every ordinary gift you have given us to share, that all people may know your extraORDINARY peace through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.

This Service of the Word derives its pattern from the service of Holy Communion. Although a weekly celebration of the Lord's Supper is the norm, a service of the word of God is also celebrated regularly or occasionally in many places.

Gathered by the Holy Spirit, we hear and proclaim the saving word of God for all the world. We give thanks for that saving word and all the gifts of God, who then sends us to share the good news we have received and to care for those in need.

Jesus taught his disciples this prayer. In this prayer, all our needs and concerns are addressed. See ELW page 1163 for Martin Luther's explanation of this prayer in the small catechism.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

O God, you are extraORDINARY! You formed the earth from chaos; you encircled the globe with air; you created fire for warmth and light; you nourished the lands with water. You molded us in your image, and with mercy higher than the mountains, with grace deeper than the seas, you made us your people. For your Word of life, O God,

We give you thanks and praise.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

We give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: you provide for your people, you invite us to your way of self-denial, you promise to be with us always, you empower us for the ministry we share, and you anoint your church to share your love. For your Word of life, O God,

We give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

SENDING

Our worship does not end, but continues in the world. In our daily lives we are called to be ministers of God's love and mercy as we live and serve by the power of the risen Christ.

We gather once more in song as our worship concludes, and we prepare to take this good news into the world.

SENDING HYMN ~ #347 Go to Dark Gethsemane we sing v. 1-3

The congregation turns & faces the cross reminding us that we follow Christ into the world & our daily lives.



1 Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, all who feel the tempt - er's pow'r;
2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, view the Lord of life ar - rained;
3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; there, a - dor - ing at his feet,
4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath - less clay;



your Re - deem - er's con - flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;
oh, the worm - wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus - tained!
mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete.
all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?



turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.
"It is fin - ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.



We turn our attention to the path Jesus follows after his entry into Jerusalem. We prepare ourselves for the Three Days worship, during which we participate once again in the saving power of Jesus' passing over from death into life.

CLOSING WORDS ~ Let the Stones Remain Silent

may we remain here
to whisper our hosannas
throughout this week
in every moment

when the world goes silent
on the cause of God
may we remain
crying out the beat
the hosanna beat
that marks the rhythm
of this week

in the sound of the breaking bread
hear the broken hosanna
still we believe in love's way

in the sound of coins being counted
hear the betrayed hosanna
still we trust in love's choice

in the twisting of the crown of thorns
hear the tortured hosanna
still we believe in love's way

in the sound of the lashes, all thirty-nine
hear the scourged hosanna
still we trust in love's choice

in the sound of nails being hammered
hear the crucified hosanna
still we believe in love's way

in the sound of silence
hear the empty hosanna
still we trust in love's choice

may we remain here
to whisper our hosannas
throughout this week
in every moment
may we remain with you
O Jesus
still believing
still following
still your companions

and let the stones remain silent

We depart in silence.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

PREACHING MINISTER ~ Pastor Lauren Eanes

PRESIDING MINISTER ~ Pastor Alex Zuber

SOUND TECHS ~ Mike Koch, Mark Byerly

LIVESTREAM OPERATOR ~ Bo Boisen

MUSICIAN ~ Elizabeth Williams, Music Minister

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Printed music for today's service is from the ELW and reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701538.

Let the Stones Remain Silent: written by Roddy Hamilton, and posted on **Mucky Paws**. <http://www.nkchurch.org.uk/index.php/mucky-paws>





We recognize that the extended suspension of our in-person gathering means we will not be together for Holy Week and Easter Sunday. We grieve this missed opportunity for our community to gather during the most important days of our Liturgical year, but we also recognize this as a unique opportunity to practice our faith in new ways.

Worship services during Holy Week will be livestreamed on [Facebook Live](#) and [YouTube Live](#). Find resources for “Holy Week at Home” on our website and Facebook page.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday of Holy Week
(April 6, 7, 8) ~ Evening Prayer, 7 pm

Maundy Thursday (April 9) ~ 7 pm

Good Friday (April 10) ~ 7 pm

Easter Vigil (April 11) 7 ~ pm

Easter Sunday (April 12) ~ 11 am

We Hope You Will Join Us!