

Christ Lutheran Church
23425 Davis Mill Road
Germantown, Maryland 20876

A Congregation of the American Association of Lutheran Churches



Our Mission Statement

We strive to be worthy witnesses to the world.

At Christ Lutheran, we strive to lead lives worthy of our calling as witnesses to the Good News of Jesus Christ in God's world.

(Ephesians 4:1)

Web Site: christlutheranofgermantown.org

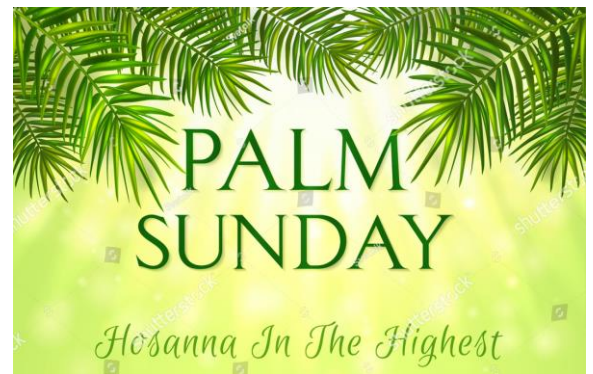
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Church Secretary: Carrie Shriver Perini
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Pastor Emeritus: Irvin Stapf
Pastor: Vacant
Liturgist: Bob Petersen
Organist: Helen Gibson



Palm Sunday

April 2, 2023

During the music before the service let us join in a time of prayer and meditation as we prepare our hearts for worship.

*Please stand as you are able where marked****

Greetings and Announcements

Prelude

****The Confession and Absolution*

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

People: Amen.

Liturgist: If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(A time of silent reflection and self-examination.)

Liturgist: Most merciful God.

People: We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. 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

Liturgist: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ, He gives the power to become children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God.

****Opening Hymn:*

Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!

Hymn #73

Ride on, ride on in majesty! Hark! all the tribes Hosanna cry;
O Saviour meek, pursue thy road With palms and scattered garments strowed.

Ride on, ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die!
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin O'er captive death and conquered sin.

Ride on, ride on in majesty! The winged squadrons of the sky
Look down with sad and wondering eyes To see the approaching sacrifice.

Ride on, ride on in majesty! Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh:
The Father on his sapphire throne Expects his own anointed Son.

Ride on, ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die!
Bow thy meek head to mortal pain, Then take, O God, thy power and reign.

*****Psalm: Psalm 31:9-16 (read responsively)**

Liturgist: Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am in distress;

People: my eye is wasted from grief; my soul and my body also.

Liturgist: For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing;

People: my strength fails because of my iniquity, and my bones waste away.

Liturgist: Because of all my adversaries I have become a reproach, especially to my neighbors, and an object of dread to my acquaintances;

People: those who see me in the street flee from me.

Liturgist: I have been forgotten like one who is dead;

People: I have become like a broken vessel.

Liturgist: For I hear the whispering of many—terror on every side!

People: as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life.

*****The Gloria Patri: (sung)** Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*****The Kyrie: (responses are sung)**

Liturgist: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Liturgist: Christ, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Liturgist: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Liturgist: Glory be to God on high!

*****Gloria in Excelsis: (sung)** And on earth peace, goodwill toward men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

*****Collect:**

Liturgist: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Liturgist: Let us pray.

People: Almighty and everlasting God, who hast sent thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, to take upon him, our flesh, and to suffer death upon the Cross, that all mankind 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 thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Scripture Lessons:

First Lesson: Isaiah 50:4-9a

⁴ The Sovereign LORD has given me a well-instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed.

⁵ The Sovereign LORD has opened my ears; I have not been rebellious, I have not turned away.

⁶ I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard; I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting.

⁷ Because the Sovereign LORD helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore have I set my face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame.

⁸ He who vindicates me is near.

Who then will bring charges against me? Let us face each other! Who is my accuser? Let him confront me!

⁹ It is the Sovereign LORD who helps me. Who will condemn me?

Liturgist: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson: Philippians 2:5-11

⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,

¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Liturgist: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

The Lenten Sentence: Christ hath humbled himself, and become obedient unto death: even the death of the Cross.

Presenter: Lift up your hearts and hear the Holy Gospel as it is recorded in the twelfth chapter of Saint John, beginning with the twentieth verse.

*****People (sung)** Glory be to thee, O Lord

Gospel Lesson: John 12:20-43

²⁰ Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. ²¹ They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. “Sir,” they said, “we would like to see Jesus.” ²² Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.

²³ Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. ²⁵ Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

²⁷ “Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name!” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and will glorify it again.” ²⁹ The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.

³⁰ Jesus said, “This voice was for your benefit, not mine. ³¹ Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. ³² And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³ He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.

³⁴ The crowd spoke up, “We have heard from the Law that the Messiah will remain forever, so how can you say, ‘The Son of Man must be lifted up’? Who is this ‘Son of Man’?”

³⁵ Then Jesus told them, “You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you. Whoever walks in the dark does not know where they are going. ³⁶ Believe in the light while you have the light, so that you may become children of light.” When he had finished speaking, Jesus left and hid himself from them.

³⁷ Even after Jesus had performed so many signs in their presence, they still would not believe in him. ³⁸ This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet: “Lord, who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?”

³⁹ For this reason they could not believe, because, as Isaiah says elsewhere:

⁴⁰ “He has blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts, so they can neither see with their eyes, nor understand with their hearts, nor turn—and I would heal them.”

⁴¹ Isaiah said this because he saw Jesus’ glory and spoke about him.

⁴² Yet at the same time many even among the leaders believed in him. But because of the Pharisees they would not openly acknowledge their faith for fear they would be put out of the synagogue; ⁴³ for they loved human praise more than praise from God.

Presenter: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

*****People:** (sung) Praise be to thee, O Christ

Children’s Sermon: Jesus as a Baby to Riding the Donkey into Jerusalem

Jeane Flesch



*All glory, laud, and honor To thee, Redeemer, King;
To whom the lips of children Made sweet hosannas ring.*

Thou art the King of Israel, Thou David's royal Son,
Who in the Lord's Name comest, The King of Blessed One! *(Refrain)*

The company of angels Are praising thee on high,
And mortal men and all things Created make reply. *(Refrain)*

The people of the Hebrews With palms before thee went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems Before thee we present. *(Refrain)*

To thee before thy Passion They sang their hymns of praise;
To thee, now high exalted, Our melody we raise. *(Refrain)*

Thou didst accept their praises; Accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest, Thou good and gracious King. *(Refrain)*

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Glorified

Sermon:

Cameron Swanson



The Sermon Response: **(sung)** Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right Spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation and uphold me with thy free spirit.

*****Passing of the Peace**

*****The Nicene Creed:**

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church; I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*****The General Prayer: (after each petition)**

Presenter: Lord in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

*****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 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, For ever and ever. Amen.

*****The Prayer Response: (sung)**

Hear our prayer, O Lord. Hear our prayer, O Lord. Incline thine ear to us and grant us thy peace. Amen.

*****The Benediction:**

Presenter: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

People: (sung) The threefold Amen

A-men, A-men, A---men.

*****Closing Hymn:**

The Son of God Goes Forth to War

Hymn #562

The Son of God goes forth to war, A kingly crown to gain;
His blood-red banner streams afar; Who follows in his train?
Who best can drink his cup of woe, Triumphant over pain;
Who patient bears his cross below, He follows in his train.

The martyr first, whose eagle eye Could pierce beyond the grave,
Who saw his Master in the sky And called on him to save;
Like him, with pardon on his tongue, In midst of mortal pain,
He prayed for them that did the wrong: Who follows in his train?

A glorious band, the chosen few, On whom the Spirit came,
Twelve valiant saints, their hope they knew, And mocked the cross and flame.
They met the tyrant's brandished steel, The lion's gory mane;
They bowed their necks the death to feel: Who follows in their train?

*****The Postlude**

Prayers and Praises:

For our church leaders:

Presiding Pastor: The Rev Dr. Carey G. Larson
Assistant Presiding Pastor: The Rev. Roger Twito
AALC Administrator: The Rev Dean Stoner
Secretary Pastor: The Rev Joe Marsh
Home Mission Developer: The Rev Joe Christina
National Office Manager: Bonnie Ohlrich
Seminary President: The Rev Dr. Jordan Cooper
Seminary Administrator: Duane Kleven

Joyce Ballard	Mark & Terri Ballard	Sheila Perini	Robin Nicholson
Michael D'Amico	Hope Johnston	Sharon Phelps	Ken Ford
Lee Ballard	Samantha Shriver	Jimmy Beall	Burk Hill
Dorothy Foster	Elizabeth Ondulich	Ruth Bates	Tammy Stimmell
Rebecca Robinson	Bill Trall	Ted Hawk	Harvey Jester
Debbie Stapf	Jake Greear	Sheri Perini	Irv Stapf
Fred Carlson	Bob Petersen	Wendy Battles	Meryl Benenati
Bruce Gladhill	Brenda Beall	Paul Shriver	Janet and Harry Libby

For the President and the leaders of our nation

For those in the armed Services: Grace Gorevin, Zach Gorevin, Christopher Clarke, Travis Hawk, Bethany Hueter, Chaplain John Reutemann, Chaplain Len Brokenshire, Cameron Donk, Ethan Stone, Rebecca Deppe, Wendy Ahern

For our Seminary Students: Chris Clarke, Cameron Swanson, Kris Johnson

For a Region congregation: Pastor Alexander McNally, Faith Lutheran Church, Watseka, IL

For our missionary work: Care Net Frederick

For those being persecuted for their faith in Christ

For the congregations of our Germantown/Clarksburg/Damascus community: Upper Seneca Baptist Church

For the congregations of the American Association of Lutheran Churches

For our college students: Haven Flesch, Shelby Evans, Maddie Day, Joseph Flesch, Jude Stapf

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Men's Bible Study: TBA**
- **Women's Bible Study: Wednesday at 10 AM**
- **Children's Sunday School: 9:30 AM**
- **Adult Sunday School: 9:30 AM**
- **You may continue to watch the Sunday services (10:30 AM) via Livestream on Facebook – Christ Lutheran Church AALC. The Bulletins for the services are on our Website: christlutheranofgermantown.org. The video of every livestream is on our Facebook page. You can access the livestream by clicking the link at the bottom of the first page of our website or by visiting the Facebook page directly. Be sure to click on the 'videos' tab.**