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*Sunday of the Passion*

**April 10th 2022**

St. Paul Lutheran Church

210 N Deerfield Rd.

Pontiac Illinois 61764

815-842-2095

### Introduction

Today we follow Christ from triumphal entry to the cross, each waypoint of the journey marked by Jesus’ compassion for those who would betray, mock, accuse, or do violence to him. Though persecuted and beaten, Jesus the Son of God is not disgraced; instead, he asks forgiveness for those who put him to death. We have walked the Lenten pathway these forty days, each of us invited through baptism to “let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus.” We enter this holy week accompanying Jesus to the cross with both grief and thanksgiving in our hearts, trusting in God’s redeeming love.

**The Cry of the Whole Congregation**

**Worship for the “Way of the Cross” *By Walt Wangering Jr.***

*Participants- Narrator: Pastor Wayne Ciaphas: Joel Rapp*

*Judas: Jack Bristow Peter: Marty Heller*

*Pilate: Cody Leach*

**\*1. The Entry into Jerusalem (Luke 19:29-44)**

**Narrator** As he came near Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, he sent two   
disciples ahead with these instructions: “Go to the village there ahead of you; as you go in, you will find a colt tied up that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If someone asks you why you are untying it, tell him that the Master needs it.”

They went on their way and found everything just as Jesus had told them.

**People As they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, “Why are you untying it?”**

**Peter** “The Master needs it,” they answered, and they took the colt to Jesus. Then they threw their cloaks over the animal and helped Jesus get on.

**Narrator**  As he rode on, people spread their cloaks on the road.

When he came near Jerusalem, at the place where the road went down the Mount of Olives, the large crowd of his disciples began to thank God and praise him in loud voices for all the great things that they had seen:  “God bless the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory to God!”

**People Sing Hymn ELW 344 – “All Glory, Laud and Honor”**

**Refrain All glory, laud, and honor to you redeemer, king**

**To whom the lips of children made sweet hosanna ring**

**Verse 1 You are the king of Israel and David’s royal Son**

**Now in the Lord’s name coming, our King and Blessed one. (Refrain)**

**Verse 2 The company of Angels are praising you on high.**

**Creation and all mortals in chorus make reply. (Refrain)**

**Verse 3 The multitude of Pilgrims with palms before you went**

**Our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present. (Refrain)**

**Ciaphas** Then some of the Pharisees in the crowd spoke to Jesus. “Teacher,” they said, “ command your disciples to be quiet!”

**Narrator** Jesus answered, “I tell you that if they keep quiet, the stones themselves will start shouting.”

**People Sing Hymn ELW 344 “All Glory, Laud and Honor”**

**Refrain All glory, laud, and honor to you redeemer, king**

**To whom the lips of children made sweet hosanna ring**

**Verse 4 To you before your passion, they sang their hymns of praise**

**To you now high exalted, our melody we raise (Refrain)**

**Verse 5 Their praise you accepted; accept the prayers we bring,**

**Great author of all goodness, O good and gracious King. (Refrain)**

**Caiaphas** He came closer to the city, and when he saw it, he wept over it,saying, “If you only knew today what is needed for peace! But now you cannot see it! O Jerusalem the time will come when your enemies will surround you with barricades, blockade you, and close in on you from every side. They will completely destroy you and the people within your walls; not a single stone will they leave in its place, because you did not recognize the time when God came to save you!”

**\*2. The Preparation and the Eating of the Last Supper (Luke 22:1-34)**

**Narrator** The time was near for the Festival of Unleavened Bread, which is called the Passover. The chief priests and the teachers of the Law were afraid of the people, and so they were trying to find a way of putting Jesus to death secretly

**Judas** Then Satan entered into Judas, called Iscariot, who was one of the twelve disciples. So, Judas went off and spoke with the chief priests and the officers of the Temple guard about how he could betray Jesus to them. They were pleased and offered to pay him money. Judas agreed to it and started looking for a good chance to hand Jesus over to them without the people knowing about it.

**Narrator** The day came during the Festival of Unleavened Bread when the lambs for the Passover meal were to be killed. Jesus sent Peter and John with these instructions: “Go and get the Passover meal ready for us to eat.”

**People “Where do you want us to get it ready?” they asked him.**

**Narrator** He answered, “As you go into the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him into the house that he enters, and say to the owner of the house: ‘The Teacher says to you, where is the room where my disciples and I will eat the Passover meal?’ He will show you a large furnished room upstairs, where you will get everything ready.” They went off and found everything just as Jesus had told them, and they prepared the Passover meal. When the hour came, Jesus took his place at the table with the apostles. He said to them, “I have wanted so much to eat this Passover meal with you before I suffer! For I tell you, I will never eat it until it is given its full meaning in the Kingdom of God.”

Then Jesus took a cup, gave thanks to God, and said, “Take this and share it among yourselves. I tell you that from now on I will not drink this wine until the Kingdom of God comes.” Then he took a piece of bread, gave thanks to God, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in memory of me.”  In the same way, he gave them the cup after the supper, saying, “This cup is God's new covenant sealed with my blood, which is poured out for you.

“But look! The one who betrays me is here at the table with me! The Son of Man will die as God has decided, but how terrible for that man who betrays him!”

**People Then they began to ask among themselves which one of them it could be who was going to do this.**

**Narrator**  Jesus answered, “One who dips his bread in the dish with me will betray me. The Son of Man will die as the Scriptures say he will, but how terrible for that man who will betray the Son of Man! It would have been better for that man if he had never been born!”

**Judas** Judas, the traitor, spoke up. “Surely, Teacher, you don't mean me?” he asked.

**Narrator** Jesus answered, “So you say.”

“Simon, Simon! Listen! Satan has received permission to test all of you, to separate the good from the bad, as a farmer separates the wheat from the chaff. But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith will not fail. And when you turn back to me, you must strengthen your brothers.”

**Peter** Peter answered, “Lord, I am ready to go to prison with you and to die with you!”

**Narrator** “I tell you, Peter,” Jesus said, “the rooster will not crow tonight until you have said three times that you do not know me.”

**\*Offering Special Music**

*Offerings can also be sent by mail or given online. You can send a check to St. Paul Lutheran Church 210 Deerfield Rd Pontiac, IL 61764 or give online at* [*stpaulpontiac.org*](http://www.stpaulpontiac.org/)

**Offering Prayer**

L: Extravagant God,

you have blessed us with the fullness of creation.

Now we gather at your feast

where you offer us the food that satisfies.

Take and use what we offer here, come among us,

and feed us with the body and blood of Christ,

in whose name we pray.

**A: Amen.**

**\*Holy Communion**

**P** Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting, and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

**C** **Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.**

**P** In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

***Communion Song Videos***

***“Blessed Redeemer” by Casting Crowns***

***“Jesus Messiah” by Chris Tomlin***

**Narrator** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**\*3. The Agony In The Garden (Luke 22:29-53)**

**People sing Hymn ELW 347 “Go To Dark Gethsemane”**

**Verse 1 Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter’s pow’r**

**Your redeemer’s conflict see Watch with him one bitter hour;**

**Turn not from his griefs away; learn from Jesus Christ to Pray**

**Narrator** Jesus left the city and went, as he usually did, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples went with him. When he arrived at the place, he said to them, “Pray that you will not fall into temptation.”

**People Lead us not into temptation but deliver us.**

**Narrator** Then he went off from them about the distance of a stone's throw and knelt down and prayed. “Father,” he said, “if you will, take this cup of suffering away from me. Not my will, however, but your will be done.” An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. In great anguish he prayed even more fervently; his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.

**People Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. thy kingdom come; Thy will be done.**

**Women Thy will be done.**

**Men Thy will be done.**

**Narrator** Rising from his prayer, he went back to the disciples and found them asleep, worn out by their grief. He said to them, “Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you will not fall into temptation.”

**People Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, even the evil within ourselves**

**Judas** Jesus was still speaking when a crowd arrived, led by Judas, one of the twelve disciples. He came up to Jesus to kiss him.

**Narrator** But Jesus said, “Judas, is it with a kiss that you betray the Son of Man?”

**People When the disciples who were with Jesus saw what was going to happen, they asked, “Shall we use our swords, Lord?”**

**Peter** And one of them struck the High Priest's slave and cut off his right ear.

**Narrator** But Jesus said, “Enough of this!” He touched the man's ear and healed him.

**People Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us**

**Narrator** Then Jesus said to the chief priests and the officers of the Temple guard and the elders who had come there to get him, “Did you have to come with swords and clubs, as though I were an outlaw?  I was with you in the Temple every day, and you did not try to arrest me. But this is your hour to act when the power of darkness rules.”

**\*4. The Judgement Luke 22:54-71**

**People sing Hymn ELW 347 “Go To Dark Gethsemane”**

**Verse 2 Follow to judgment hall, view the lord of life arraigned**

**Oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sustained**

**Shun not suffering shame or loss learn from him to bear the cross**

**Narrator** They arrested Jesus and took him away into the house of the High Priest.

**Peter** and Peter followed at a distance. A fire had been lit in the center of courtyard, and Peter joined those who were sitting around it.

**Women** **When one of the servant women saw him sitting there at the fire, she looked straight at him and said, “This man too was with Jesus!”**

**Peter** But Peter denied it, “Woman, I don't even know him!”

**Men After a little while a man noticed Peter and said, “You are one of them, too!”**

**Peter** But Peter answered, “Man, I am not!”

**People And about an hour later another man insisted strongly, “There isn't any doubt that this man was with Jesus, because he also is a Galilean!”**

**Peter** But Peter answered, “Man, I don't know what you are talking about!”

**Narrator** At once, while he was still speaking, a rooster crowed. The Lord turned around and looked straight at Peter,

**Peter** and Peter remembered that the Lord had said to him, “Before the rooster crows tonight, you will say three times that you do not know me.” Peter went out and wept bitterly.

**Caiaphas** The men who were guarding Jesus made fun of him and beat him. They blindfolded him and asked him, “Who hit you? Guess!” And they said many other insulting things to him. When day came, the elders, the chief priests, and the teachers of the Law met together, and Jesus was brought before the Council. “Tell us,” They said, “are you the Messiah?”

**Narrator** He answered, “If I tell you, you will not believe me; and if I ask you a question, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right side of Almighty God.”

**Caiaphas** They all said, “Are you, then, the Son of God?”

**Narrator** He answered them, “You say that I am.”

**Caiaphas** And they said, Blasphemy “We don't need any witnesses! We ourselves have heard what he said!”

**\*5. Dawn Friday Jesus before Pilate (Luke 23:1-25)**

**People The whole group rose up and took Jesus before Pilate, where they began to accuse him: “We caught this man misleading our people, telling them not to pay taxes to the Emperor and claiming that he himself is the Messiah, a king.”**

**Pilate** Pilate asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?”

**Narrator** “So you say,” answered Jesus.

**Pilate** Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, “I find no reason to condemn this man.”

**People But they insisted even more strongly, “With his teaching he is starting a riot among the people all through Judea. He began in Galilee and now has come here.”**

**Pilate** When Pilate heard this, he asked, “Is this man a Galilean?” When he learned that Jesus was from the region ruled by Herod, he sent him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem at that time. Herod was very pleased when he saw Jesus because he had heard about him and had been wanting to see him for a long time. He was hoping to see Jesus perform some miracle. So, Herod asked Jesus many questions, but Jesus made no answer. The chief priests and the teachers of the Law stepped forward and made strong accusations against Jesus.Herod and his soldiers made fun of Jesus and treated him with contempt; then they put a fine robe on him and sent him back to Pilate.On that very day Herod and Pilate became friends; before this they had been enemies.

Pilate called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them, “You brought this man to me and said that he was misleading the people. Now, I have examined him here in your presence, and I have not found him guilty of any of the crimes you accuse him of. Nor did Herod find him guilty, for he sent him back to us. There is nothing this man has done to deserve death. So, I will have him whipped and let him go.”

**People The whole crowd cried out, “Kill him! Set Barabbas free for us!” (Barabbas had been put in prison for a riot that had taken place in the city, and for murder.)**

**Pilate** Pilate wanted to set Jesus free, so he appealed to the crowd again.

**People But they shouted back, “Crucify him! Crucify him!”**

**Pilate** Pilate said to them the third time, “But what crime has he committed? I cannot find anything he has done to deserve death! I will have him whipped and set him free.”

**People But they kept on shouting at the top of their voices that Jesus should be crucified, and finally their shouting succeeded.**

**Pilate** So Pilate passed the sentence on Jesus that they were asking for. He set free the man they wanted, the one who had been put in prison for riot and murder, and he handed Jesus over for them to do as they wished.

**\*6. Friday Morning Crucifixion**

**People sing Hymn ELW 347 “Go To Dark Gethsemane”**

**Verse 3 Calv’ry’s mournful mountain climb there adoring at his feet**

**Mark that miracle of time, God’s own sacrifice complete**

**“It is finished!” hear him cry; learn from Jesus Christ to die.**

**Men The soldiers led Jesus away, and as they were going, they met a man from Cyrene named Simon who was coming into the city from the country. They seized him, put the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus.**

**Women A large crowd of people followed him; among them were some women who were weeping and wailing for him.**

**Narrator** Jesus turned to them and said, “Women of Jerusalem! Don't cry for me, but for yourselves and your children.  For the days are coming when people will say, ‘How lucky are the women who never had children, who never bore babies, who never nursed them!’  That will be the time when people will say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us!’ and to the hills, ‘Hide us!’ For if such things as these are done when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?”

**People Sing Hymn ELW 353 “Were You There”**

**Were you there when they crucified my Lord?**

**Were you there when they crucified my Lord?**

**Oh sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble**

**Were you there when they crucified my Lord?**

**Judas** Two other men, both of them criminals, were also led out to be put to death with Jesus. When they came to the place called “The Skull,” they crucified Jesus there, and the two criminals, one on his right and the other on his left.

**People Sing Hymn ELW 353 “Were You There”**

**Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?**

**Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?**

**Oh sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.**

**Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?**

**Narrator** Jesus said, “Forgive them, Father! They don't know what they are doing.”

**Women Forgive us our trespasses.**

**Ciaphas** They divided his clothes among themselves by throwing dice.

**Men Forgive us our trespasses.**

**Peter**  The people stood there watching while the Jewish leaders made fun of him:

**Ciaphas** “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah whom God has chosen!”

**Women Forgive us our trespasses.**

**Pilate** The soldiers also made fun of him: they came up to him and offered him cheap wine, and said, “Save yourself if you are the king of the Jews!”

Above him were written these words: “This is the King of the Jews.”

**Men Forgive us our trespasses. Forgive us, O Lord, our trespasses.**

**Judas** One of the criminals hanging there hurled insults at him: “Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!”

**Peter** The other one, however, rebuked him, saying, “Don't you fear God? You received the same sentence he did. Ours, however, is only right, because we are getting what we deserve for what we did; but he has done no wrong.” And he said to Jesus, “Remember me, Jesus, when you come as King!”

**People Forgive us our trespasses and deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom**

**Narrator** Jesus said to him,

**People And the power**

**Narrator** “I promise you

**People And the glory**

**Narrator** that today you will be in Paradise with me.”

**People Forever and ever. Amen!**

**People Sing Hymn ELW 353 “Were You There”**

**Were you there when he cried out at the end?**

**Were you there when he cried out at the end?**

**Oh sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.**

**Were you there when he cried out at the end?**

**Pilate**  It was about twelve o'clock when the sun stopped shining and darkness covered the whole country until three o'clock; and the curtain hanging in the Temple was torn in two.

**Narrator** Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “Father! In your hands I place my spirit!” He said this and died.

**Pilate** The army officer saw what had happened, and he praised God, saying, “Certainly he was a good man!”

**Men When the people who had gathered there to watch the spectacle saw what happened, they all went back home, beating their breasts in sorrow.**

**Women All those who knew Jesus personally, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance to watch.**

**\*7. Late Friday Afternoon Burial (Luke 23:50-56)**

**People Sing Hymn ELW 353 “Were You There” (a cappella)**

**Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?**

**Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?**

**Oh sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.**

**Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?**

**Peter** There was a man named Joseph from Arimathea, a town in Judea. He was a good and honorable man, who was waiting for the coming of the Kingdom of God. Although he was a member of the Council, he had not agreed with their decision and action. He went into the presence of Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took the body down, wrapped it in a linen sheet, and placed it in a tomb which had been dug out of solid rock and which had never been used.

**Ciaphas** It was Friday, and the Sabbath was about to begin.

**Women The women who had followed Jesus from Galilee went with Joseph and saw the tomb and how Jesus' body was placed in it. Then they went back home and prepared the spices and perfumes for the body.**

**Men On the Sabbath they rested, as the Law commanded.**

**People Sing Hymn ELW 638 “Blessed Assurance”**

**Verse 1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!**

**Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!**

**Heir of salvation, purchase of God,**

**Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.**

**Chorus This is my story, this is my song,**

**Praising my Savior all the day long;**

**This is my story, this is my song,**

**Praising my Savior all the day long.**

**Verse 2 Perfect submission, perfect delight,**

**Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;**

**Angels descending, bring from above**

**Echoes of mercy, whispers of love**

**Chorus “**

**Verse 3 Perfect submission, all is at rest,**

**I in my Savior am happy and blest,**

**Watching and waiting, looking above,**

**Filled with His goodness, lost in his love.**

**Chorus “**

*This concludes our Passion Sunday worship we invite you to stay as long as you like for silent prayer. We ask that you leave in silence but also in hope: for we know Easter does come, for Christ and us.*

*Scripture taken from the Good News Bible*

**Thank you to all those who contributed to today’s service:**

**Pastor:** Wayne Shelksohn

**Usher:** Mark Mackinson

**Musician:** Sandy Erickson

**Communion Prep:** Marian Brown & Jeanne Rapp

**Communion Asst:** Brad & Sara Solberg

**Hospitality:** Gail Thorson & Ginger Bauknecht

**Livestream:** Louis Kehinde

**Counters:** Carrie Lueker & Marty Heller

*Participants- Narrator: Pastor Wayne Ciaphas: Joel Rapp*

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