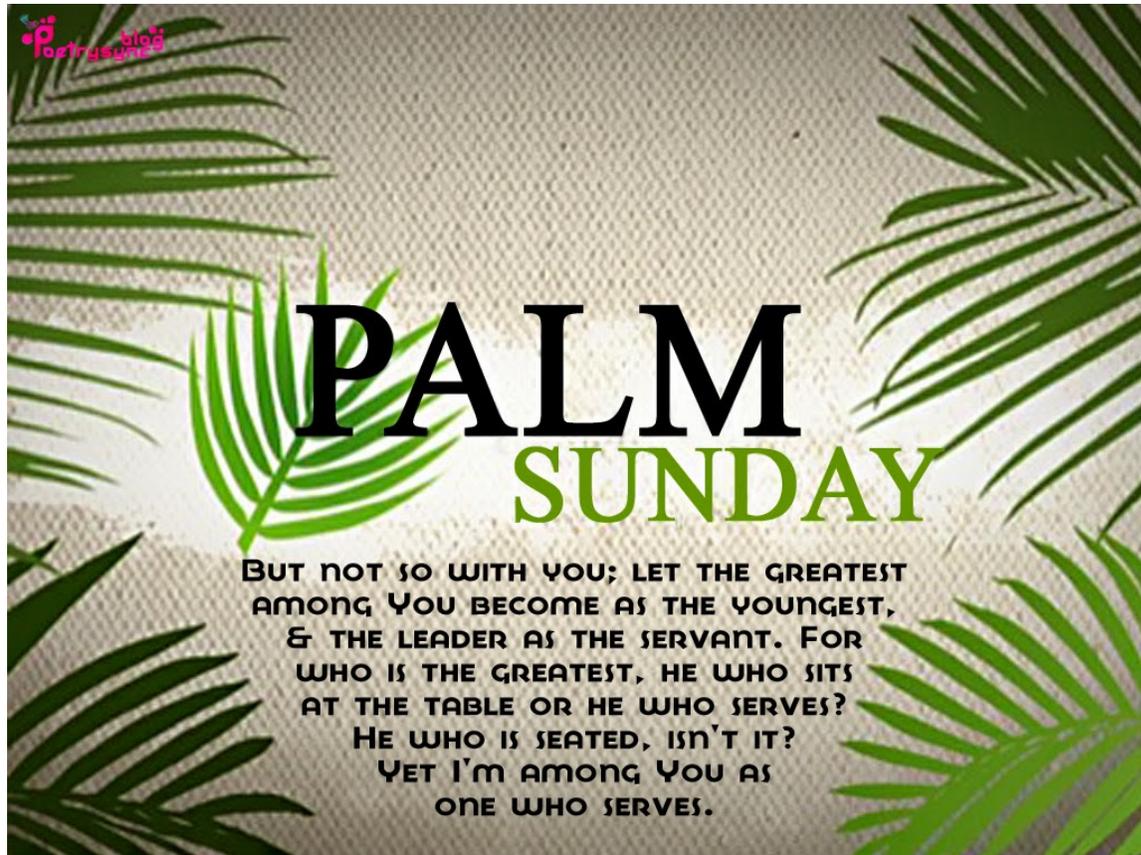


St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Palm Sunday

April 9, 2017



Rev. Arden Dorn, Transitional Minister

Sandra Dickens, Lay Reader

408 S. Davidson Street | Karnes City, TX 78118

Office (830) 780-2251 Pastor Dorn (602) 565-9793

www.StPaulsLutheranKC.org

www.facebook.com/StPaulsLutheranKarnesCity

Welcome!

We have all come to St. Paul's by different paths, and from various walks of life. Through worship, study, prayer and fellowship we each seek to deepen our faith, comfort and encourage one another and dedicate our lives more fully to sharing Christ in our homes, our community and the world. All are welcome at St. Paul's. We are eager to know you, and we invite you to get to know us.

Communion and Visitor Registration Cards are located in the pew racks. We ask that each member and visitor complete a Communion Card when communing, and visitors complete a Visitor card. Completed cards may be placed in the offering plate as it is passed.

A Nursery is located at the rear of the sanctuary in the overflow area.

If you are unable to hear, require a bulletin, or need any other assistance, please signal an usher.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

The Palm Sunday Liturgy recreates the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem as we wave our palms and make our procession into the church. This joyful mood soon changes to sober contemplation of our Lord's Passion at the Gospel. Thus, Holy Week begins.

THE PROCESSION WITH PALMS

The congregation gathers outside the church doors, weather permitting.

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

Hosanna in the highest!

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL: MATTHEW 21:1-11

1 As they all approached Jerusalem, they came to Bethphage. It was on the Mount of Olives. Jesus sent out two disciples. **2** He said to them, "Go to the village ahead of you. As soon as you get there, you will find a donkey tied up. Her colt will be with her. Untie them and bring them to me. **3** If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them. The owner will send them right away." **4** This took place so that what was spoken through the prophet would come true. It says, **5** "Say to the city of Zion, 'See, your king comes to you. He is gentle and riding on a donkey. He is riding on a donkey's colt.'"

6 The disciples went and did what Jesus told them to do. **7** They brought the donkey and the colt. They placed their coats on them for Jesus to sit on. **8** A very large crowd spread their coats on the road. Others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. **9** Some of the people went ahead of him, and some followed. They all shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

10 When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up. The people asked, "Who is this? **11** The crowds answered, "This is Jesus. He is the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The people raise their palm branches.

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 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

Let us go forth in peace,

In the name of the Lord.

The people follow the cross and the minister in procession into the church and remain standing.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN (ELW p. 344) *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

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

Hosanna in the highest!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

With honesty of heart, let us confess our sin.

The assembly shall kneel as they are able.

Merciful God,

you sent Jesus Christ to save the lost.

**We confess that we have strayed from you
and turned aside from your way.**

**We fail in love, neglect justice,
and ignore your truth.**

Have mercy on us and wash away our sin.

Create in us clean hearts

for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

People of God, look to the + Son,
given to heal you and set you free
because God loved the world so much.
Take hold of life—eternal life!

Amen.

LITANY ON THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." In the name of Jesus, we pray:

Lord, help us to take up our cross and follow you.

You stood before Pilate, your life condemned, your word rejected, your innocence ignored:

Keep us from rejecting your word of truth and salvation.

You carried your cross on the wounded stripes of your back, for love of us and for all the world.

Help us to bear our cross, for love of you and for love of others.

The weight of your cross was the weight of our sins which make us stumble and fall.

In our weakness, we turn to you for strength.

Although you suffered, you still reached out to care for your mother.

May our cross-bearing never keep us from caring for our families.

As you struggled to bear your cross to Calvary, a passerby was drafted to help you.

Make us as willing as Simon to bear the burdens of those in need.

Others also took risks to comfort you.

Strengthen our faith to take loving risks for our needy brothers and sisters.

Sin weighed heavily upon you as you stumbled along the way.

Forgive us, Lord, for the sins which make us fall.

Your suffering under the cross caused the women of Jerusalem to weep.

Make our suffering in life a share in your suffering.

The full burden of our sin crushed you mightily to the earth.

Do not forsake us in our falling, but bring us to repentance and faith.

Stripped and jeered, you endured humiliation without complaint.

Humble us in our work and daily lives.

Nailed to the cross, you took your place among the condemned.

Take your place beside us sinners, and bring us through faith to the Paradise of God.

When your sacrifice was complete, you handed your life to the Father, and he did not forsake you.

Keep us close to your cross and death, now and at the hour of our death.

Faithful friends and loving women took loving care of your lifeless body.

Turn the darkness of death into the brightness of day for those we love.

In the tomb you were laid, but from the tomb you arose.

Be the Lord of the resurrection for us and for all the baptized.

Loving Jesus, for the sake of your cross and passion, we are justified in faith, washed cleaned of our sins by baptism and repentance, and made one with God. We thank you for your cross and for the depths of your love for us. Help us to bear our cross in the world and follow you until you bring us into your heavenly kingdom; where you reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a

The servant of the Lord expresses absolute confidence in his final vindication, despite the fact that he has been struck and spit upon. This characteristic of the servant played an important role in the early church's understanding of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

4 The Lord and King has taught me what to say. He has taught me how to help those who are tired. He wakes me up every morning. He makes me want to listen like a good student. **5** The Lord and King has unplugged my ears. I've always obeyed him. I haven't turned away from him. **6** I let my enemies beat me on my bare back. I let them pull the hair out of my beard. I didn't turn my face away when they made fun of me and spit on me. **7** The Lord and King helps me. He won't let me be dishonored. So I've made up my mind to keep on serving him. I know he won't let me be put to shame. **8** He is near. He will prove I haven't done anything wrong. So who will bring charges against me? Let's face each other in court! Who can bring charges against me? Let him come and face me! **9** The Lord and King helps me. So who will judge me?

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM: PSALM 31:9-16

R Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

9 Lord, have mercy on me. I'm in deep trouble.
I'm so sad I can hardly see.
My whole body grows weak with sadness.

10 Pain has taken over my life.

My years are spent in groaning.

I have no strength because I'm hurting so much.

My body is getting weaker and weaker.

11 My neighbors make fun of me
because I have so many enemies.

My closest friends are afraid of me.

People who see me on the street run away from me.

12 No one remembers me. I might as well be dead.

I have become like broken pottery. R

13 I hear many people whispering,
"There is terror all around him!"

Many have joined together against me.

They plan to kill me.

14 But I trust in you, Lord.

I say, "You are my God."

15 My whole life is in your hands.

Save me from the hands of my enemies.

Save me from those who are chasing me.

16 May you look on me with favor.

Save me because your love is faithful. R

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:5-11

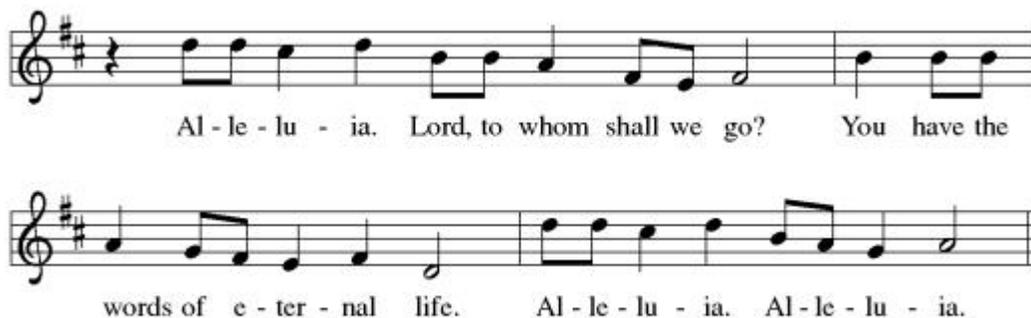
Paul uses an early Christian hymn to help us comprehend Jesus' obedient selflessness on the cross and how God has made Christ lord over all reality. The perspective of the cross becomes the way we rightly understand God, Christ, our own lives, and fellowship within the community of Christ.

5 As you deal with one another, you should think and act as Jesus did. **6** In his very nature he was God. Jesus was equal with God. But Jesus didn't take advantage of that fact. **7** Instead, he made himself nothing. He did this by taking on the nature of a servant. He was made just like human beings. **8** He appeared as a man. He was humble and obeyed God completely. He did this even though it led to his death. Even worse, he died on a cross! **9** So God lifted him up to the highest place. God gave him the name that is above every name. **10** When the name of Jesus is spoken, everyone will kneel down to worship him. Everyone in heaven and on earth and under the earth will kneel down to worship him. **11** Everyone's mouth will say that Jesus Christ is Lord. And God the Father will receive the glory.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO: Mark 15:1-39

Glory to you, O Lord.

In fulfillment of scripture and obedience to God's will, Jesus goes to the cross so that a new covenant in his blood may bring forgiveness of sins. Even the soldiers who crucify him recognize him to be the Son of God.

1 It was very early in the morning. The chief priests, with the elders, the teachers of the law, and the whole Sanhedrin, made their plans. So they tied Jesus up and led him away. Then they handed him over to Pilate. **2** "Are you the king of the Jews?" asked Pilate. "You have said so," Jesus replied. **3** The chief priests brought many charges against him. **4** So Pilate asked him again, "Aren't you going to answer? See how many things they charge you with." **5** But Jesus still did not reply. Pilate was amazed. **6** It was the usual practice at the Passover Feast to let one prisoner go free. The people could choose the one they wanted. **7** A man named Barabbas was in prison. He was there with some other people who had fought against the country's rulers. They had committed murder while they were fighting against the rulers. **8** The crowd came up and asked Pilate to do for them what he usually did. **9** "Do you want me to let the king of the Jews go free?" asked Pilate. **10** He knew that

the chief priests had handed Jesus over to him because they wanted to get their own way. **11** But the chief priests stirred up the crowd. So the crowd asked Pilate to let Barabbas go free instead. **12** "Then what should I do with the one you call the king of the Jews?" Pilate asked them. **13** "Crucify him!" the crowd shouted. **14** "Why? What wrong has he done?" asked Pilate. But they shouted even louder, "Crucify him!" **15** Pilate wanted to satisfy the crowd. So he let Barabbas go free. He ordered that Jesus be whipped. Then he handed him over to be nailed to a cross. **16** The soldiers led Jesus away into the palace. It was called the Praetorium. They called together the whole company of soldiers. **17** The soldiers put a purple robe on Jesus. Then they twisted thorns together to make a crown. They placed it on his head. **18** They began to call out to him, "We honor you, king of the Jews!" **19** Again and again they hit him on the head with a stick. They spit on him. They fell on their knees and pretended to honor him. **20** After they had made fun of him, they took off the purple robe. They put his own clothes back on him. Then they led him out to nail him to a cross. **21** A man named Simon was passing by. He was from Cyrene. He was the father of Alexander and Rufus. Simon was on his way in from the country. The soldiers forced him to carry the cross. **22** They brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha. The word Golgotha means the Place of the Skull. **23** Then they gave him wine mixed with spices. But he did not take it. **24** They nailed him to the cross. Then they divided up his clothes. They cast lots to see what each of them would get. **25** It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. **26** They wrote out the charge against him. It read, the king of the Jews. **27-28** They crucified with him two rebels against Rome. One was on his right and one was on his left. **29** Those who passed by shouted at Jesus and made fun of him. They shook their heads and said, "So you are going to destroy the temple and build it again in three days? **30** Then come down from the cross! Save yourself!" **31** In the same way the chief priests and the teachers of the law made fun of him among themselves. "He saved others," they said. "But he can't save himself! **32** Let this Messiah, this king of Israel, come down now from the cross! When we see that, we will believe." Those who were being crucified with Jesus also made fun of him. **33** At noon, darkness covered the whole land. It lasted three hours. **34** At three o'clock in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" This means "My God, my God, why have you deserted me?" **35** Some of those standing nearby heard Jesus cry out. They said, "Listen! He's calling for Elijah." **36** Someone ran and filled a sponge with wine vinegar. He put it on a stick. He offered it to Jesus to drink. "Leave him alone," he said. "Let's see if Elijah comes to take him down." **37** With a loud cry, Jesus took his last breath. **38** The temple curtain was torn in two from top to bottom. **39** A Roman commander was standing there in front of Jesus. He saw how Jesus died. Then he said, "This man was surely the Son of God!"

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, O Christ!

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

Pastor Arden Dorn

The assembly stands.

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and
the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and
glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic
church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of
sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lifting our voices and turning toward God, let us pray for the church, the earth, and all who are in need. Redeeming God, your church proclaims your gospel of truth and courage. Gather your children together to share in the promise of Christ. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Hosanna, Son of David. Lead your children to care for your good creation and all its inhabitants: lands, waters, plants, and all living creatures. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Softening the hearts of political leaders who ignore or deny suffering, struggle, and injustice. Lift up leaders who seek your will for the sake of their people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord Jesus, we pray for congregations in the call process and for the pastor you will send them. We pray for those outside the church who will come to know Jesus through ministry in his name and for the deacon you will send to serve them. We pray for our congregation's future and for the leaders you will call forward to guide us. Embolden us to invite those in whom we experience gifts for these ministries to prayerfully consider your calling, and give us generous spirits to support them. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Bring companionship to those who feel abandoned, comfort to those in pain, hope to those in despair, and healing to all in need, especially Michael, Pastor Sue, Pauline, Shane, Ryleigh, Norma, Dave, Ann, Lorene, Steve, Francis, Carol, Ella, Emil, Alfred, Johnny, Linda, Charles, Eli, Mike, Steve, Hope, Tom, Bo, Rose, LathanLawrence, Sally, Mary Ruth, Kyle, Cody, and Norma. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Walk with this community as we remember your life-giving passion and death. Send us forth burning with desire to share your word with a hurting world. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Into your hands, merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast love; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

Peace is shared among the assembly, and then the assembly is seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

The assembly stands.

OFFERING HYMN (ELW 186) *Create in Me a Clean Heart*

OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God, receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, whose suffering and death gave salvation to all. You gather your people around the tree of the cross, transforming death into life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

The assembly joins hands to pray:

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, forever and ever. Amen.**

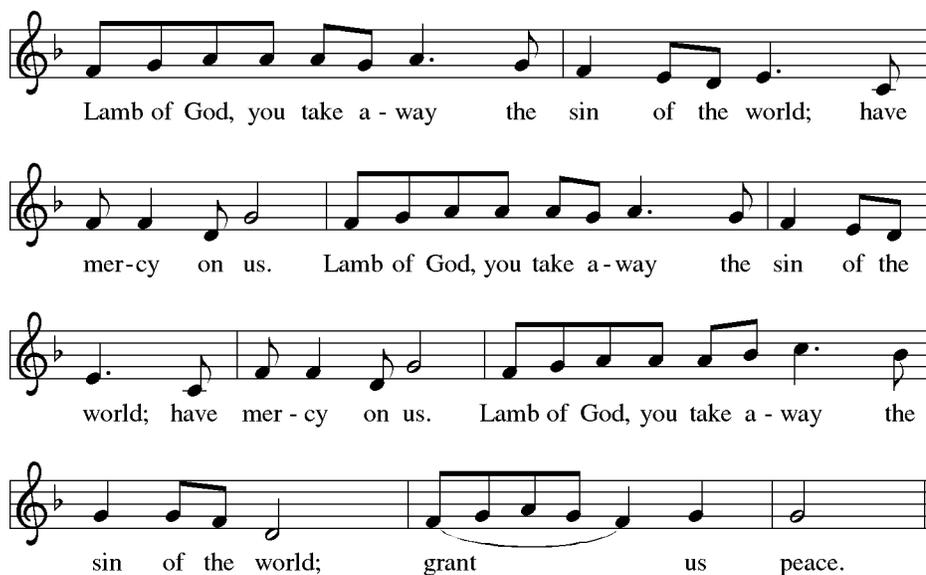
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Return to God with all your heart. Receive bread for the journey, drink for the desert.

The assembly is seated.

DISTRIBUTION – All are WELCOME at the table of the Lord.

No matter what you have done or your situation, Christ invites, to His table, all who love Him and earnestly repent of their sin and who seek to live in peace with one another. Children or anyone choosing not to commune, but wishing to be blessed, may indicate this by folding their arms across their chest. Anyone who is unable to come forward may indicate to an usher that you wish to receive communion where you are seated.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Following Communion, the assembly stands.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Relay For Life of Karnes County will be on May 20, 2017 at Joe Gulley Park in Kenedy from 5pm - 12am. Anyone interested in this event, would like more information, or to register as a survivor or participant visit relayforlife.org/karnescotx/ or contact Barbara Jonas.

The Living Lutheran magazine is available to all members of the congregation at a greatly reduced rate of \$8.95 for 12 editions. If you are interested in subscribing to this publication, please provide your name and mailing address to a council member before Easter Sunday, April 16.

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

Maunday Thursday, April 13: 7:00 p.m. Worship Service with Communion – *Forgiveness*
An Interview with Marie and Tom

Good Friday, April 14: 7:00 p.m. Worship Service – *Death*
An Interview with Mary, the Mother of Jesus

Easter Sunday, April 16: 7:00 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion
Continental Breakfast and Family Easter Event

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

The assembly stands.

BLESSING

May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you + peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN (ELW p. 335) ***Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross***

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.
Thanks be to God!

DOXOLOGY (ELW p. 884) ***Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow***

The assembly is seated.

Lay Readers for April

April 16 – Dale Tessman

April 23 – Paul Pfeifer April 30 – Stacey Mika

South Sudan Crisis Mounting: Read, Pray and Act

More than 7 million people in South Sudan need humanitarian assistance as a result of drought and renewed violence. According to UNICEF, famine was recently declared in the north-central part of the country, where 100,000 people are facing imminent starvation. Many are fleeing from the drought and violence - 90% are women and children.

What is the ELCA doing in response? Operating through local partners, the ELCA is accompanying survivors through food distribution, temporary shelter, water and sanitation, and psycho-social support. A community center for education and health is currently under construction.

Help us bring hope and healing to our neighbors in need.

Gifts designated for South Sudan Relief will be used in full (100%) to assist our response.

*Make checks payable to
Lutheran Disaster Response.
Write "South Sudan Relief" on your
check's memo line and send to:*

*Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
P.O. Box 1809
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009*

FOR PRAYERFUL CONSIDERATION

Ill or Injured

Michael Braudway, Pastor Sue Briner, Pauline Davidson, Shane Edens, Ryleigh Farnsworth, Norma Foreman, Dave Frazier, Ann Gary, Lorene Janek, Steve Kelly, Francis Kempe, Carol May Liberty, Ella Manka, Emil Manka, Alfred Mann, Johnny Perez, Linda Peterek, Charles Pierce, Eli Rios, Mike Salvagno, Steve Scotten, Hope Segura, Tom Shockome, Bo Skloss, Rose Wagner, Lathan Walleck, Lawrence Waltersdorf, Sally Wiatrek, Mary Ruth Witte, Kyle Worthy, Cody Zaiontz, Norma Zamzow.

For those in the military

Nick Adams, Allen Bowles, Justin Chandler, Justin Elkins, Rodney Foreman, Jamaica Goodhue, Taylor Griffin, Jacob Jones, Felipe Leal, Jr., Garrett Peterson, Michael Rosales, James Skinner, Kassie Thompson, John Vasquez, and Delmiro Villanueva.

Anniversary

Velmon & Peggy Buehring (April 13)



Southwestern Texas Synod Assembly Offering May 5-7, 2017



ELCA Global Church Sponsorship
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

*** Missionaries ***

supporting over 240 missionaries serving in more than 40 countries around the world

*** Young Adults in Global Mission ***

supporting young adults (21-29 years) who accept a call into a life-changing year of service in communities around the world

*** International Women Leaders ***

supporting and empowering international women leaders in a world where most are living in poverty and lack access to education and training

*** Global Ministries ***

supporting ministry and outreach like building new congregations, extending youth outreach in urban areas, training pastors and evangelists, etc.

For more information and the conference goal, visit
www.swtsynod.org/programoffering.

Please note that the offering is supporting ELCA Global Church as a whole. If you specify a gift for one particular area, it will be sent to ELCA but will not be counted toward the assembly offering. To ensure offerings are processed correctly, please mark your offerings "Synod Assembly Offering".

Always
FOR ELCA
New.
THE CHALLENGE FOR THE BLOCK