



**St. Andrew Church's "Why" Statement...** *To come together as a worshipping community, nourished by God's love so that we may reflect God's love to others.*  
Adopted April 2023

**March 24, 2024**  
**Palm Sunday**  
**Service of Holy Communion**

This week, the center of the church's year, is one of striking contrasts: Jesus rides into Jerusalem surrounded by shouts of glory, only to be left alone to die on the cross, abandoned by even his closest friends. Mark's gospel presents Jesus in his complete human vulnerability: agitated, grieved, scared, forsaken. Though we lament Christ's suffering and all human suffering, we also expect God's salvation: in the wine and bread, Jesus promises that his death will mark a new covenant with all people. We enter this holy week thirsty for the completion of God's astonishing work.

## +GATHERING+

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

### **WELCOME**

*The assembly gathers with Palms in hand.*

### **ACCLAMATION**

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

### **PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL:**

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **BLESSING OF PALMS**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept.*

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.**

## **PROCESSION**

Let us go forth in peace,

**in the name of Christ. Amen.**

## **GATHERING HYMN    All Glory, Laud and Honor    ELW 344**

Refrain

All glory, laud, and honor  
to you, redeemer, king,  
to whom the lips of children  
made sweet hosannas ring.

- 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*
- 2 The company of angels  
are praising you on high;  
creation and all mortals  
in chorus make reply. *Refrain*
- 3 The multitude of pilgrims  
with palms before you went;  
our praise and prayer and anthems  
before you we present. *Refrain*
- 4 To you, before your passion,  
they sang their hymns of praise.  
To you, now high exalted,

our melody we raise. *Refrain*

- 5 Their praises you accepted;  
accept the prayers we bring,  
great author of all goodness,  
O good and gracious King. *Refrain*

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, 760-821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY.**

As we now enter into the contemplation of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and meditate on the salvation of the world through his sufferings, death, burial, and resurrection, let us pray.

*Silence is kept. Then the presiding minister prays the 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.**

### **+WORD+**

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

### **FIRST READING**      Isaiah 50:4-9a

*The image of the servant of God is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.*

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>4</sup>The Lord GOD has given me  
the tongue of a teacher,  
that I may know how to sustain  
the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens—  
wakens my ear  
to listen as those who are taught.

<sup>5</sup>The Lord GOD has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious,  
I did not turn backward.

<sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who struck me,  
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;  
I did not hide my face  
from insult and spitting.

<sup>7</sup>The Lord GOD helps me;  
therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like flint,  
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;  
<sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?  
Let us stand up together.  
Who are my adversaries?  
Let them confront me.

<sup>9</sup>It is the Lord GOD who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING   Philippians 2:5-11**

*Christ did not act to attain status and glory but was obedient to God even to the point of death. Following Christ's example, we do not seek personal status or glory but care for others as God cared for us in Christ's death.*

A reading from Philippians.

<sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,  
<sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God,  
 did not regard equality with God  
 as something to be exploited,  
<sup>7</sup>but emptied himself,  
 taking the form of a slave,  
 being born in human likeness.  
 And being found in human form,  
<sup>8</sup>he humbled himself  
 and became obedient to the point of death—  
 even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him  
 and gave him the name  
 that is above every name,  
<sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus  
 every knee should bend,  
 in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
<sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess  
 that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
 to the glory of God the Father.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **HOMILY**

**Hymn A Stable Lamp is Lighted**

**ACS 910**



*Jesus:* "Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her."

*Narrator:* Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. When they heard it, they were greatly pleased, and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to him,

**ALL: "Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?"**

*Narrator:* So he sent two of his disciples, saying...

*Jesus:* Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks, Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there."

*Narrator:* So the disciples set out and went to the city, and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.



When it was evening, he came with the twelve. And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said,

*Jesus:* "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me."

*Narrator:* They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another,

**ALL:** "Surely, not I?"

*Jesus:* ..."It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born."

*Narrator:* While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said,

*Jesus:* "Take; this is my body."

*Narrator:* Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it,

*Jesus:* "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

*Narrator:* When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. And Jesus said...

*Jesus :* "You will all become deserters; for it is written,  
'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.'  
But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee."

*Narrator:* Peter said to him,

*Peter:* "Even though all become deserters, I will not."

*Jesus:* ... "Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the  
cock crows twice, you will deny me three times."

*Peter:* "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you."

*Narrator:* And all of them said the same.

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to  
his disciples,

*Jesus:* "Sit here while I pray."

*Narrator:* He took with him Peter and James and John, and began  
to be distressed and agitated, and ... said ...

*Jesus:* "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and  
keep awake."

*Narrator:* And going a little farther, he threw himself on the  
ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour  
might pass from him

*Jesus:* ... "Abba, Father, for you all things are possible;  
remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what  
you want."

*Narrator:* He came and found them sleeping; and ... he said to Peter,

*Jesus:* "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

*Narrator:* And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. He came a third time and said to them,

*Jesus:* "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

*Narrator:* Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying,

**MEN: Judas: "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard."**

*Narrator:* So when he came, he went up to him at once and said,

**MEN: Judas: "Rabbi!"**

*Narrator:* and kissed him. Then they laid hands on him and arrested him.

But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to them...

*Jesus:* "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled."

*Narrator:* All of them deserted him and fled.

A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.

*Narrator (2):* They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying,

**ALL: We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.'**

*Narrator:* But even on this point their testimony did not agree. Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus,

**MEN: High Priest: "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?"**

*Narrator:* But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him,

**MEN: High Priest: Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?"**

*Jesus:* "I am; and 'you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power,' and 'coming with the clouds of heaven.'"

*Narrator:* Then the high priest tore his clothes and said,

**MEN: High Priest: "Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?"**

*Narrator:* All of them condemned him as deserving death. Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him,

**ALL: "Prophecy!"**

*Narrator:* The guards also took him over and beat him.

While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said,

**WOMEN: Servant-Girl: "You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth."**

*Narrator:* But he denied it saying

*Peter:* ... "I do not know or understand what you are talking about."

*Narrator:* And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed.

And the servant-girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders,

**WOMEN: *Servant-Girl:* " This man is one of them."**

*Narrator:* But again he denied it.  
Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter,

**ALL: "Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean."**

*Narrator:* But he began to curse, and ... swore an oath,

*Peter:* "I do not know this man you are talking about."

*Narrator:* At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, "Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." And he broke down and wept.

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him,

*Pilate:* "Are you the King of the Jews?"

*Jesus:* ... "You say so."

*Narrator:* Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again,

*Pilate:* "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you."

*Narrator:* But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them,

*Pilate:* "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?"

*Narrator:* For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again,

*Pilate:* "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?"

*Narrator:* They shouted back,

**ALL:** "Crucify him!"

*Pilate:* ... "Why, what evil has he done?"

*Narrator:* But they shouted all the more,

**ALL:** "Crucify him!"

*Narrator:* So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

*Narrator (3):* Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); & they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him,

**ALL: "Hail, King of the Jews!"**

*Narrator:* They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying,

**ALL: "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!"**



*Narrator:* In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying,

**ALL:** "He saved others; he cannot save himself.  
Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe."

*Narrator:* Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice,

*Jesus:* "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?"

*Narrator:* which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

**ALL:** "Listen, he is calling for Elijah."

*Narrator:* And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying,

**WOMEN: Bystander:** "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down."

*Narrator:* Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said,

**MEN: Centurion:** "Truly this man was God's Son!"

*Narrator:* There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where the body was laid.

This is the Passion of Our Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY    O Sacred Head, Now Wounded    ELW 351**

1 O sacred head, now wounded,  
with grief and shame weighed down,  
now scornfully surrounded  
with thorns, thine only crown;  
O sacred head, what glory,

what bliss till now was thine!  
 Yet, though despised and gory,  
 I joy to call thee mine.

2 How pale thou art with anguish,  
 with sore abuse and scorn;  
 how does thy face now languish,  
 which once was bright as morn!  
 Thy grief and bitter passion  
 were all for sinners' gain;  
 mine, mine was the transgression,  
 but thine the deadly pain.

3 What language shall I borrow  
 to thank thee, dearest friend,  
 for this thy dying sorrow,  
 thy pity without end?  
 Oh, make me thine forever,  
 and should I fainting be,  
 Lord, let me never, never  
 outlive my love to thee.

3 Lord, be my consolation;  
 shield me when I must die;  
 remind me of thy passion  
 when my last hour draws nigh.  
 These eyes, new faith receiving,  
 from thee shall never move;  
 for all who die believing  
 die safely in thy love.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, based on Arnulf of Louvain, d. 1250; tr. composite

## APOSTLES' CREED

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.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

*A brief silence.*

**A** Blessed One, today the church sings glad hosannas as we enter Holy Week. Prepare us to bear witness to Christ's suffering and death endured for our sake. Gather your people around the cross and comfort us with resurrection hope.

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

**A** Renew your good creation and protect the balance of life on earth. Encourage the work of foresters, scientists, arborists, gardeners, and river keepers. We pray for the health of pollinating insects, songbirds, and native plants.

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

**A** Establish peace and justice among the nations. Hold to account any with authority to judge others. Grant that courts, legislatures, and local governments will serve with integrity and compassion.

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

**A** Bring hope to any who feel forsaken or forgotten. Make a way for refugees and asylum seekers. Reunite families enduring separation. We pray for any who are incarcerated, institutionalized, in foster care, homebound or ill, especially Bill, Marge, Callum, Paul, Charles, Steven, Johanna, Carole, Anna, Nancy, Tracey, Donna, Larry, Denise, Robert, Roy, Lee, Sandy, Charlie, Todd, Patricia, Ann, and those we name before you, on our lips or in the silence of our hearts, that they may know your love.

(Pause for silence)

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

**A** Give energy and joy to our pastor/s, deacons, worship leaders, and musicians. Bless baptismal candidates, their sponsors, confirmands, and teachers. Watch over those who travel.

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

**A** Guide and nurture our Lutheran congregations in Bristol and Plainville — Grace, Zion, Gloria Dei and St. Andrew — as we continue exploring and charting pathways of joining together in proclaiming your Good News and building a servant community of healing, hope and new life. Open our hearts and minds to visions of your church for a new day.

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

**A** Blessed One, our times are in your hand. Sustain us in discipleship throughout our lives and receive us into everlasting life.  
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

**A** Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
**Amen.**

### **SHARE THE PEACE**

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

### **+MEAL+**

*God feeds us in the presence of Jesus Christ.*

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

**CHOIR ANTHEM** *View from the Upper Room* Words by P. Martin;  
Music by C. Courtney

*In the upper room I see a simple man and unashamed to bend,  
He kneels to serve His friends. And in the upper room  
I see them as they dine upon the bread and wine, His life and death  
entwined.*

*From the upper room I see Gethsemane, I see His anguished plea  
beneath the olive trees.  
And from the upper room I see His arms stretched wide as He is lifted high  
against the blackened sky.*

*In an upper room I see a table there where one day I will share the feast  
He has prepared.*

*And in an upper room I'll see the Savior's face, beneath His loving gaze I'll  
drink the cup of grace.*

*My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine;  
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign;  
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art Thou:  
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.*

OFFERTORY HYMN      **Come to the Table**      ELW 481

Come to the Table



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y,      come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion;      drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Text: Claire Cloninger, b. 1942

Music: COME TO THE TABLE, Martin J. Nystrom, b. 1956

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## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray:

Jesus, you are the bread of life  
and the host of this meal.

Bless these gifts that we have gathered  
that all people may know your goodness.

Feed us not only with this holy food  
but with hunger for justice and peace.

We pray this in your name

**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

### DIALOGUE

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.**

## PREFACE

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:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

ACS p. 36

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

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE****ECHARISTIC PRAYER**

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ,

your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you, through whom you created all things, and in whom you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary. He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way 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.

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we take this bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church;  
gather into one all who share this bread and wine;

fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth,  
that we may praise and glorify you through your Son  
Jesus Christ; through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father,  
with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us 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**

*You are invited to come forward down the center aisle to the altar railing receive the Meal today. Please fill in along the railing from the pulpit to lectern sides. You may either stand or kneel to receive the Meal. The Meal will be served continuously. After you have received the Meal and after a quiet prayer of thanksgiving you may return to your seats via the side aisles. Gluten free wafers are available as an alternative. Please ask. White grape juice, in the center ring of each serving tray, is available as an alternative to the wine. Praise God for the*

*life giving presence of the crucified-risen Christ in the bread and wine of this holy meal!*

Come, the table is ready. Receive bread for the journey, a feast for hungry hearts. Taste and know the goodness of God.

## COMMUNION

### COMMUNION HYMN “Lamb of God” ACS p. 40

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, grant us peace.

(Please remain seated)

## TABLE BLESSING

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

**Amen**

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray:

Generous God,

at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.

As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,

now make us one loaf to feed the world;

in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

**Amen.**

## **+SENDING+**

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BLESSING

Beloved,

we are God's people,

holy, washed, renewed.

God bless you and keep you,

shower you with mercy,

fill you with courage,

and ☩ give you peace.

**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN **My Song is Love Unknown** ELW 343

- 1 My song is love unknown,  
my Savior's love to me,  
love to the loveless shown  
that they might lovely be.  
Oh, who am I that for my sake  
my Lord should take frail flesh and die?

- 2 He came from his blest throne  
salvation to bestow;  
the world that was his own  
would not its Savior know.  
But, oh, my friend, my friend indeed,  
who at my need his life did spend!
- 3 Sometimes we strew his way  
and his sweet praises sing;  
resounding all the day  
hosannas to our king.  
Then "Crucify!" is all our breath,  
and for his death we thirst and cry.
- 4 We cry out; we will have  
our dear Lord made away,  
a murderer to save,  
the prince of life to slay.  
Yet cheerful he to suff'ring goes  
that he his foes from thence might free.
- 5 In life no house, no home  
my Lord on earth might have;  
in death no friendly tomb  
but what a stranger gave.  
What may I say? Heav'n was his home  
but mine the tomb wherein he lay.
- 6 Here might I stay and sing—  
no story so divine!  
Never was love, dear King,  
never was grief like thine.  
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise  
I all my days could gladly spend!

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Be of good courage. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE****WORSHIP LEADERS for Sunday, March 24, 2024**

Pastor Les Swenson

Gwynne Hopko, Deacon, Minister of Music

**Assistant Minister:** Mike Beaudoin

**Lector:** Keith Clark

**Tech Team:** Abigail Griffin, Ken Griffin, Noah Galvin, Connor Pratt

**Ushers:** Donald Millbrandt, Bill Golden, Kathy Golden

**Altar Guild:** Denise Martin

**Readers for Passion Story:** Jill Little, Mike Beaudoin, Keith Clark, Matt Girard and (at places noted) the whole congregation.

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## **THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

### **Monday, March 25, 2024**

6:00 p.m. Bristol Chorale

### **Tuesday, March 26, 2024**

6:45 p.m. Hand Bells

7:30 p.m. Voice Choir

### **Thursday, March 28, 2024**

7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday at Gloria Dei

7:00 p.m. AA (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 p.m. Al Anon (Youth Room)

### **Friday, March 29, 2024**

7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service

### **Sunday, March 31, 2024** Easter Sunday

9:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary, You Tube, Facebook)

10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour

ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH, BRISTOL, CT

1125 Stafford Ave., Bristol, CT

Church Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Church Phone: 860.583.5809

Email: [churchoffice@standrewct.org](mailto:churchoffice@standrewct.org)

The Rev. Les Swenson, Transition Pastor, phone #: 860.857.9362

Gwynne Hopko, Deacon, Minister of Music

Nicole Gergler, Church Administrator

## Help for Homeless Neighbors

For those willing and able to help put together 'Go-Bags' for people suffering from homelessness, please consider bringing the following items to the shopping cart in the Narthex, or anything else that may be helpful.

- Socks and underwear (all sizes)
- Toiletries
  - Toothbrush and toothpaste
  - Soap and shampoo
  - Feminine hygiene products
  - Hand sanitizer
- Hand warmers
- Notebook and pen
- Something to read (happier or easier books are best)
- Gift cards to local coffee places, restaurants, and grocery stores (\$5 denominations, but we can put multiple cards in each bag)
- Nonperishable snacks
- Lip balm
- Sunblock
- Gloves, hats, scarves, and Long Johns (the weather is getting warmer, but nights are cold)
- Backpacks
- First aid kits
  - Ointments
  - Anti-fungal cream
  - Hydrocortisone cream
  - Bandages
- Waterproof bags
- Reusable water bottle

### Easter Flowers and Special Gifts

You can honor loved ones through a special giving this Easter. Those wishing to adorn our sanctuary with flowers this Easter season may do so by completing the form and placing it in our offering plate on Sunday or leaving it in the church office door slot.

Donations should be submitted by March 24<sup>th</sup>.

#### EASTER FLOWERS

Those wishing to adorn our sanctuary with flowers this Easter season may do so by completing this form and placing it in the offering plate or leaving it in the church office door slot.



Donations of \$20.00 are requested.

All donations received will be used for the purchase of flowers.

Please make checks payable to St. Andrew Lutheran Church.

**GIVEN BY:** \_\_\_\_\_

All gifts are given to the Glory of God. Is there someone you'd like to recognize additionally with this gift?

In loving memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In thanksgiving for: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_



**SPECIAL GIFTS FOR EASTER**

I would like to make a special Easter offering to the following St. Andrew fund:  
(Please designate amounts)

New Hymnal! **All Creation Sings**      \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Donations of \$16 per hymnal

Capital Improvement Fund      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

General Fund      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mission Endowment Fund      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL offering      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

All gifts are given to the Glory of God. Is there someone you'd like to recognize additionally with this gift?

In loving memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In thanksgiving for: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form by **March 24, 2024**