

A Mighty Fortress Lutheran Church

Palm Sunday

March 24, 2024



Today, we encounter the paradox that defines our faith: Jesus Christ is glorified king and humiliated servant. We begin this week that stands at the center of the church year by waving palms, anticipating the completion of God's astounding work at Easter. Welcome to worship today!

To the parents of young children:

God put the wiggle in children, don't feel like you have to suppress it in God's house - all are welcome! If you need to bring your child out of the service, the nursery is open for you with a TV in it streaming worship.

* *Indicates an invitation to rise or stand*

Welcome*Gathering Hymn*Blessed is the One*

ACS #929

Bless-ed is the one who comes in the name, who comes
in the name of the Lord. Bless-ed is the one who comes
in the name, who comes in the name of the Lord.

*Palm Sunday Greeting

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

All: Hosanna in the highest.

*Gospel Processional Hymn*All Glory, Laud, and Honor (verses 1, 2)*

ELW #344

Refrain

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re-deem-er, king,
to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.

1 You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,
2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais-ing you on high;
3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;
4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.
5 Their prais-es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Refrain

now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless-ed One.
cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.
our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.
To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

***Processional Gospel - Mark 11:1-11**

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the eleventh chapter.

¹When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, [Jesus] sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" ⁴They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. ⁷Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

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

¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

¹¹Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

***Gospel Recessional Hymn** *All Glory, Laud, and Honor (verses 3,4,5)*

ELW #344

***Prayer of the Day**

Leader: Let us pray. Everlasting God,

All: 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.

Children's Message

Hymn

Ho-Ho-Ho Hosanna

The Passion According to Mark - Mark 14:1-15:47

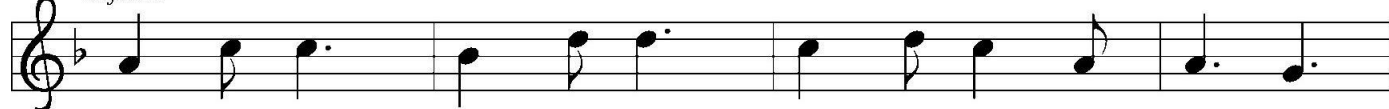


- 1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
- 2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
- 3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
- 4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,

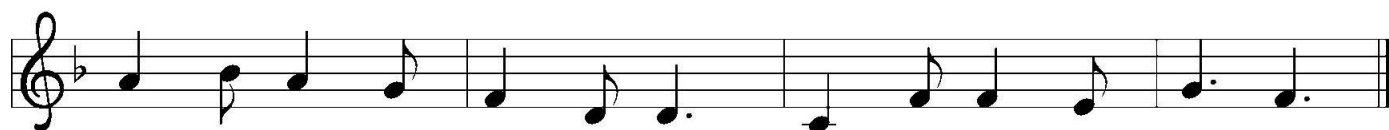


free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

*Apostles' Creed

Leader: Gathered into one body, we profess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**All: 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 power of 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

Leader: Surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Leader: Faithful God, shower the world with your lovingkindness,

All: that all may know your peace.

Leader: Open our eyes to the needs of our neighbors,

All: that all may know your love.

Leader: Comfort the sick and dying,

All: that all may know your mercy.

Leader: Guide our leaders in the way of truth,

All: that all may know your justice.

Leader: Focus our hearts on the way of the cross,

All: that all may have faith in you.

Leader: Let us pray in the words of Martin Luther:

All: Behold, Lord, an empty vessel that needs to be filled. My Lord, fill it. I am weak in the faith; strengthen me.

Leader: I am cold in love; warm me and make me fervent, that my love may go out to my neighbor.

All: I do not have a strong and firm faith; at times I doubt and am unable to trust you altogether.

Leader: O Lord, help me. Strengthen my faith and trust in you.

All: In you I have sealed the treasure of all I have. I am poor; you are rich and came to be merciful to the poor. I am a sinner; you are upright.

Leader: With me, there is an abundance of sin; in you is the fullness of righteousness.

All: Therefore, I will remain with you, of whom I can receive, but to whom I may not give. Amen.

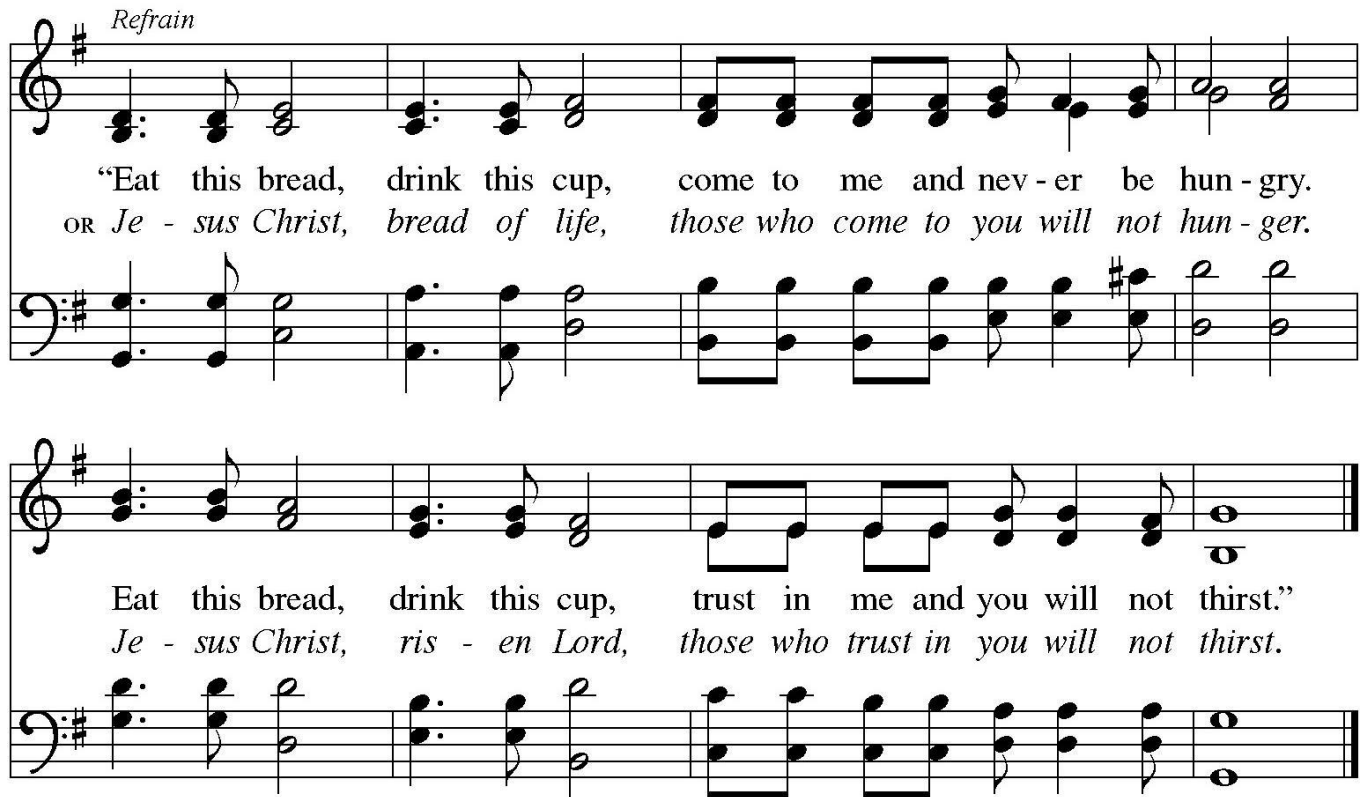
*Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

Refrain



“Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry.
OR Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun - ger.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.”
Je - sus Christ, ris - en Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst.

*Offering Prayer

Leader: Let us pray. Jesus,

All: 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.

*The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Preface

Pastor: 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

Setting 8

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



*Words of Institution

Pastor: 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.

The Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

All: 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

Pastor: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

All: Amen.

Distribution of Holy Communion

All are welcome at the Lord's Table, so please join us! You are invited forward to kneel or stand at the altar rail to receive communion. If you prefer to commune using the individually packaged elements, there are some on the altar rail. We have wine and bread to distribute, but let the pastor or worship assistant know if you prefer juice or a gluten-free wafer. If you are worshipping from home, know that we are joined together by the body of Christ through this special meal.

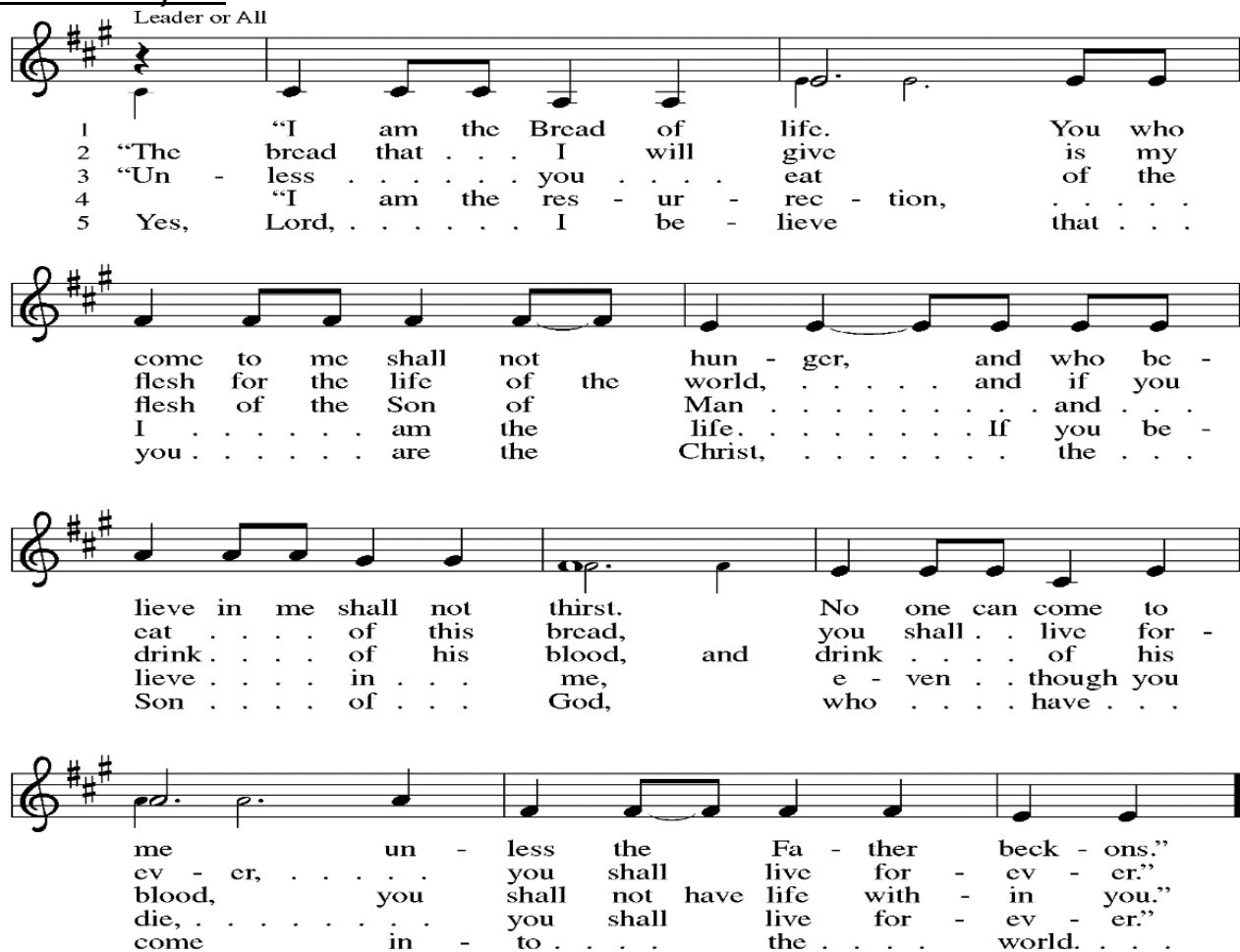
Lamb of God

Jesus, Lamb of God

W&P # 76



Leader or All



1 "I am the Bread of life. You who
 2 "The bread that . . . I will give is my
 3 "Un - less . . . you . . . eat of the
 4 "I am the res - ur - rec - tion, . . .
 5 Yes, Lord, . . . I be - lieve that . . .

come to me shall not the hun - ger, and who be -
 flesh for the life of the world, . . . and if you
 flesh of the Son of Man . . . and . . .
 I . . . am the life. . . . If you be -
 you . . . are the Christ, . . . the . . .

lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
 eat . . . of this bread, and you shall . . . live for -
 drink . . . of his blood, and drink . . . of his
 lieve . . . in . . . me, e - ven . . . though you
 Son . . . of . . . God, who . . . have . . .

me ev - er, . . . un - less the Fa - ther beck - ons,"
 blood, . . . you shall live for - ev - er."
 die, . . . you shall not have life with - in you."
 come in - to . . . you shall live for - ev - er."
 the . . . world. . . .

Refrain
All



"And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,
 and I will raise you up on the last day."

***Prayer After Communion**

Leader: Let us pray. Blessed Jesus,

All: in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need. Amen.

*Blessing

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

All: Amen.

*Sending Hymn

Lord, You Give the Great Commission

ELW # 579



1 Lord, you give the great com - mis-sion: "Heal the sick and
2 Lord, you call us to your ser - vice: "In my name bap -
3 Lord, you make the com - mon ho - ly: "This my bod - y,
4 Lord, you show us love's true mea-sure: "Fa - ther, what they
5 Lord, you bless with words as - sur - ing: "I am with you



preach the word." Lest the church ne - glect its mis - sion,
tize and teach." That the world may trust your prom - ise,
this my blood." Let us all, for earth's true glo - ry,
do, for - give." Yet we hoard as pri - vate trea - sure
to the end." Faith and hope and love re - stor - ing,



and the gos - pel go un - heard, help us wit - ness
life a - bun - dant meant for each, give us all new
dai - ly lift life heav - en - ward, ask - ing that the
all that you so free - ly give. May your care and
may we serve as you in - tend and, a - mid the



to your pur - pose with re - newed in - teg - ri - ty:
fer - vor, draw us clos - er in com - mu - ni - ty:
world a - round us share your chil - dren's lib - er - ty:
mer - cy lead us to a just so - ci - e - ty:
cares that claim us, hold in mind e - ter - ni - ty:



With the Spir - it's gifts em - pow'r us for the work of min - is - try.

*Sending

Leader: Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Lord, You Give the Great Commission

Easter Flowers

Today is the last day for ordering Easter plants is Sunday. Sign-up for your plants on the bulletin board near the wall calendar outside the front sanctuary door or email admin@amflc.org by 5 p.m. today. Payments can be placed in an envelope in the offering plate with your name and a note identifying payment as "EASTER PLANTS." This year Easter lilies are \$15.00 and Begonias are \$16.50.

Easter Breakfast

- Easter morning 3/31 before worship at 8:30 a.m.
- Sign Up Sheet will be posted on the bulletin board for you to volunteer on how many casseroles you would like to make. You can also contact Dwayne Graham @ 704.726.8215.

Holy Week & Easter Worship Schedule

Maundy Thursday – March 28th at 7:00pm

Join us as we hear of Christ's last meal with his disciples. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, we'll participate in a hand washing ritual during the service, symbolizing the call to give and receive love in humble service to one another.

Good Friday – March 29th at 7:00pm

Join us as we hear the story of Jesus on trial before being sentenced to death. We'll extinguish candles as we read the solemn story, knowing the promise that the tree around which we assemble is indeed a tree of life.

Easter Sunday – March 31st at 10:00am

(Easter Breakfast at 8:30am, then Cross Decorating at 9:15am)

This is the day the Lord has made! Christ is risen, and through him all creation is made new! Come hear the story of Jesus' resurrection and help place flowers on the Easter cross!

Holy Week and Easter is a special time of the year and we want everyone to be able to come to worship. If you need a ride, please reach out to Pastor Molly. We have people available who want to help get folks to and from worship!

All our services will be livestreamed to our YouTube channel - A Mighty Fortress Charlotte, NC.



The AMF Women's Group will have its April meeting **Saturday, April 13, at 10:00** in the **AMF Conference Room**. Joyce will lead our book discussion. All Women of AMF are welcome and your participation is important. ZOOM access will also be available.

Refreshed and Updated Bulletin Board

- The LMM bulletin board is now refreshed and updated. Please stop by and take a glimpse to see what the LMM is about, what we are doing, and all the fun activities we have done. Located down the hall just past the sanctuary entrance. While you are there, check out what WELCA is doing. We are both excited to grow in Christ with you.

LMM In Person Meeting

- 4/13 @ 9am. Please join us for some food and fellowship. All Are welcome.
 - 4/13 @ 10am. Please join the Adopt a Street Team keep our community clean and green.
- All supplies will be provided to provide a safe event. All you have to do is show up.

Fishing Trip / Cook Out

- Date and the location are still TBD. Please sign up if you're interested.

Summer Camp

- If you and/or your child would like to attend a Summer Camp, we have some great opportunities for you and the LMM would like to help. Please contact Dwayne Graham @ 704-726-8215 and let's explore the possibilities!

Prayer List

Members: David Bass, Lynda Booth, Karen Bryant, Pastor Mary and Richard Lautensleger, Barbara McGee, Linda Meyer, Pastor John and Nancy Merck, and Betty Mick

Loved Ones: Students and Staff at Paw Creek Elementary School, Russell and Tammy Bridges, Mark Carolla (friend of Edna and John), Jonathan Davis (family of Mia Strong), Carol Howell (friend of the church), Anthony Long (incarcerated friend of the church), Tim Smith (NC Synod Bishop), Isabel and Elmer Sundlie (Karen's family).

Worship Leadership

Pastor – Rev. Molly Kuekes, pastormolly@amflc.org

Organist/Music Director – Penny Damron

Pianist/Choir Director – Patti Skinner

Guitarists – Charles Burton, Paul Lover, & Timothy Gentsch

Acolyte – Wren Graham **Crucifer** – Wade Kuekes

Ushers – Jim McGee and Rick Rozzelle

Worship Assistant– Cheryl Miller

Sound Board Operator – Terry Saunders

Livestream Operator – Karl Kuekes

Come worship in-person:

8200 McClure Circle, Charlotte, NC 28216

Or find us online:

www.amflc.org



[A Mighty Fortress Lutheran Church](#)

[A Mighty Fortress Charlotte, NC](#)

Permission to podcast/stream/reprint the music in this service obtained from

One License # A-401200, CCLI # 21027551 and CCLI # 21027568, Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS012159

All Rights Reserved.