



## Holy Communion

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*

† *Congregation stands as able*

†

## GATHERING

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

C: **Amen**

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

### † PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL: Mark 11:1-11

<sup>1</sup>When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, [Jesus] sent two of his disciples <sup>2</sup>and 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. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" <sup>4</sup>They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, <sup>5</sup>some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" <sup>6</sup>They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it.

<sup>7</sup>Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. <sup>8</sup>Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. <sup>9</sup>Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna!

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

<sup>10</sup>Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

<sup>11</sup>Then 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.

### BLESSING OF PALMS

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

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.

C: **Amen.**

## PROCESSION

P: Let us go forth in peace,

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

### Gathering Hymn

*"All glory laud and honor"*

**ELW #344**

Kyrie

A: In peace, let us pray to the Lord

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

A: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

A: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

A: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

A: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: **Amen, amen.**

Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray,

Sovereign God, you have established your rule in the human heart through the servanthood of Jesus Christ. By your Spirit, keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues confess Jesus as Lord and with their lives praise him as Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

## PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Anthem

*"Hosanna! Blessed is He"*

Choir

Children's Message

Donna Doughty

### First Reading

**Isaiah 50:4-9a**

<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?

L: The word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 31:9-16**

<sup>9</sup>Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I <sup>1</sup>am in trouble;  
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat <sup>1</sup>and my belly.

<sup>10</sup>**For my life is wasted with grief, and my <sup>1</sup>years with sighing;  
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones <sup>1</sup>are  
consumed.**

<sup>11</sup>I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to <sup>1</sup>my  
acquaintances; when they see me in the street <sup>1</sup>they avoid me.

<sup>12</sup>**Like the dead I am forgotten, <sup>1</sup>out of mind;  
I am as useless as a <sup>1</sup>broken pot.**

<sup>13</sup>For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is <sup>1</sup>all around;  
they put their heads together against me; they plot to <sup>1</sup>take my life.

<sup>14</sup>**But as for me, I have trusted in <sup>1</sup>you, O LORD.  
I have said, "You <sup>1</sup>are my God.**

<sup>15</sup>My times are <sup>1</sup>in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and  
from those who <sup>1</sup>persecute me.

<sup>16</sup>**Let your face shine up- <sup>1</sup>on your servant;  
save me in your <sup>1</sup>steadfast love."**

### **Second Reading**

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

<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.

L: The word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### **† Gospel**

### **Mark 14:1--15:27**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 14th and 15th Chapters.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The  
chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth  
and kill him; <sup>2</sup>for they said, "Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among  
the people."

<sup>3</sup>While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the  
table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and  
she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. <sup>4</sup>But some were  
there who said to one another in anger, "Why was the ointment wasted in this

way? <sup>5</sup>For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor." And they scolded her. <sup>6</sup>But Jesus said, "Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. <sup>9</sup>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."

<sup>10</sup>Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. <sup>11</sup>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.

<sup>12</sup>On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to him, "Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" <sup>13</sup>So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, <sup>14</sup>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?' <sup>15</sup>He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there." <sup>16</sup>So the disciples set out and went to the city, and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

<sup>17</sup>When it was evening, he came with the twelve. <sup>18</sup>And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." <sup>19</sup>They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another, "Surely, not I?" <sup>20</sup>He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. <sup>21</sup>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."

<sup>22</sup>While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." <sup>23</sup>Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. <sup>24</sup>He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. <sup>25</sup>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."

<sup>26</sup>When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. <sup>27</sup>And Jesus said to them, "You will all become deserters; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.'

<sup>28</sup>But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." <sup>29</sup>Peter said to him, "Even though all become deserters, I will not." <sup>30</sup>Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." <sup>31</sup>But he said vehemently, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And all of them said the same.

<sup>32</sup>They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." <sup>33</sup>He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to

be distressed and agitated. <sup>34</sup>And he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake." <sup>35</sup>And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. <sup>36</sup>He said, "Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want." <sup>37</sup>He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? <sup>38</sup>Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." <sup>39</sup>And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. <sup>40</sup>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. <sup>41</sup>He came a third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. <sup>42</sup>Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

<sup>43</sup>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. <sup>44</sup>Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard." <sup>45</sup>So when he came, he went up to him at once and said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him. <sup>46</sup>Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. <sup>47</sup>But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. <sup>48</sup>Then Jesus said to them, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? <sup>49</sup>Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled." <sup>50</sup>All of them deserted him and fled.

<sup>51</sup>A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, <sup>52</sup>but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.

<sup>53</sup>They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. <sup>54</sup>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. <sup>55</sup>Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. <sup>56</sup>For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. <sup>57</sup>Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying, <sup>58</sup>"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.' <sup>59</sup>But even on this point their testimony did not agree. <sup>60</sup>Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?" <sup>61</sup>But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" <sup>62</sup>Jesus said, "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.'"

<sup>63</sup>Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "Why do we still need witnesses? <sup>64</sup>You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?" All of them condemned him as deserving death. <sup>65</sup>Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him, "Prophesy!" The guards also took him over and beat him.

<sup>66</sup>While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by. <sup>67</sup>When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said, "You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth." <sup>68</sup>But he denied it, saying, "I do not know or understand what you are talking about." And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed. <sup>69</sup>And the servant-girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders, "This man is one of them." <sup>70</sup>But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, "Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean." <sup>71</sup>But he began to curse, and he swore an oath, "I do not know this man you are talking about." <sup>72</sup>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.

<sup>15:1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" He answered him, "You say so." <sup>3</sup>Then the chief priests accused him of many things. <sup>4</sup>Pilate asked him again, "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you." <sup>5</sup>But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

<sup>6</sup>Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. <sup>7</sup>Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. <sup>8</sup>So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. <sup>9</sup>Then he answered them, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" <sup>10</sup>For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. <sup>11</sup>But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. <sup>12</sup>Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" <sup>13</sup>They shouted back, "Crucify him!" <sup>14</sup>Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!" <sup>15</sup>So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

<sup>16</sup>Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. <sup>17</sup>And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. <sup>18</sup>And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" <sup>19</sup>They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. <sup>20</sup>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.

<sup>21</sup>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. <sup>22</sup>Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). <sup>23</sup>And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. <sup>24</sup>And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

<sup>25</sup>It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. <sup>26</sup>The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." <sup>27</sup>And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

*Following to the End*

Reverend Taylor Burton Edwards

**Silence**

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**

*You may sit, stand or kneel for the prayers.*



## Prayers of Intercession

A: 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.

**C: 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.

**C: 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.

**C: 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, or in foster care, that they may know your love. Hear us, O God.

**C: 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.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: For all those who have asked us to pray for them...

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Blessed One, our times are in your hand especially Keandra Bashful, WJ Barrs and Eva Brown. Sustain us in discipleship throughout our lives and receive us into everlasting life. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C: Amen**

## MEAL

*The gifts may be brought forward.*

Offering Prayer

A: 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.

C: **Amen**

Great Thanksgiving Page 107

Holy, Holy, Holy-Spoken Page 108

Anaphora Page 111

Lord's Prayer      "Our Father, who..." Page 112

### Communion

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*and each person may respond Amen*

† Prayer after Communion

A: 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.

C: **Amen**

## SENDING

Blessing

Sending Hymn      "*I heard the voice of Jesus say*" **ELW #611**

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



**The Memorial Book Is Open Today to the Glory of God**

**In Memory of:**

*Earl French, 2000*



**READINGS AND PSALM**  
**SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2024**

Isaiah 25:6-9  
 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
 1 Corinthians 15:1-11  
 John 20:1-18



*“The Bible is alive, it speaks to me; it has feet, it runs after me; it has hands, it lays hold of me.” —Martin Luther*

**March 17, 2024**  
**Fifth Sunday of Lent**

ATTENDANCE — 46  
 (IN-PERSON— 40 , YOUTUBE - 6)

*Thankfully offered*

**OFFERING**

Benevolence	\$ 4,035.00
Building	\$ 2,250.00
Memorial	\$ 0.00
Other	\$ 145.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 6,430.00</b>

**March 13, 2024**  
**Mid-Week Lenten Service**

ATTENDANCE — 14

**OFFERING**

Benevolence	\$ 150.00
Memorials	\$ 0.00
Other	\$ 200.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 350.00</b>

**March 24, 2024**

**Narrators for Passion Reading:**

Shannon Gardner  
 Sean Jeffery  
 Rachel Zarnke

**Serving March 24, 2024**

Opener/Closer	Nancy Gates
Worship Assistant	Rose Johnson
Communion Assistant	Katherine Kelly
Lector	Sean Jeffery
Ushers	Jim Sperry
	Bill Wallace
Altar Guild	Debby Ullman
	Catherine Sayers
Live Streaming	Cecil McGouirk, Jaxson Gardner

**Serving March 31, 2024**

Opener/Closer	Donna Doughty
Worship Assistant	Matt Bonaker
Communion Assistant	Rose Johnson
Lector	David Bonaker
Ushers	Katherine Kelly
	Jim Sperry
Altar Guild	Geri Regnier, Donna Doughty, Nancy Gates
Live Streaming	Cecil McGouirk, Sean Jeffery

# *Pray Without Ceasing*



*“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”*  
—1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

The Armed Forces,  
their families,  
and victims of war  
Persecuted Christians  
The ministries of  
St. Matthew  
Bishop Kevin  
Strickland  
Southeastern Synod  
Staff  
Pastor Taylor Burton  
Edwards  
Laura Alexander  
Carol Bingemann  
Dave Bonaker  
Pat Bonaker  
Betty Davidson  
Ken Hoag  
Myrna Hoag  
Bennie Jackson  
Mairetha Jackson  
Marga Miller  
Traudel Mosely  
Debby Owen  
Dorothy Redden  
Connie Sieg  
Joan Smith  
Carla Stickles

Albert VanHousen II  
Margarete Walsh  
Monika Wright  
Gary Anderson  
Judy Bultman  
George Capps  
Kyle Carter  
Jim Chappel  
Jean Clemmons  
Xavier Danguilan  
Brandy Garnett  
Becky Goldsmith  
Estrella Gonzales  
Doris Grier  
Petra Henderson  
Beverly Huckaby  
Norma Kilby  
Ken Korn  
Boyd Lester  
Laura Lester  
Robert Lowe  
Michelle Matthias  
Tim Moore  
Gary Nearhoof  
Kimberly O'Malley  
Michael Owen  
Angela Paul  
Vincent Pawlowski

Mark Purushotham  
Dwight Redmond  
Tiffany Richardson  
Dayna Ryan  
Yuliia Savitska  
Shirley Scott  
Ricky Skinner  
Betty Townsend  
Charlie VanHousen  
Dawn VanHousen  
Martha Zimmerman

Maui  
Morrocco  
Israel  
Ukraine  
Gaza

Valley Rescue Donation  
Center  
Rooster's Beer & Wine  
Mario's Tire  
Woodville Apartments  
Mariner Finance

Deadline for bulletins is **Tuesday 10:00 a.m.** prior to the Sunday.  
Deadline for May newsletter is April 20.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Welcome to St. Matthew:** Jesus Christ offers himself to all. May you be blessed as we celebrate God's love for us. All the baptized are invited to feast with us at the Lord's Table. The wearing of a mask is optional during worship and social distancing is recommended. The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday.

**We invite you to join our congregation if you have not yet found a church home.** We are people of God that share a living, daring, confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person, questions, complexities and all. Join us, as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

**Nursery:** St. Matthew provides nursery service for children ages 4 and younger. All children are welcome to attend worship with their families. If a child needs a break during the service, they may sit with a parent/guardian in the Narthex.

## **Mission Outreach Opportunities:**

### **Mission Focus:**

St Anne's Outreach - collecting toiletries and Travel size toiletries. We always accept monetary donations.

- Lion's Club: Glasses, sunglasses and old cell phones
- Family House of West GA: Pop tabs
- Flags to Retire: Bring used American flags that you no longer want or need.
- St. Anne's: Personal hygiene products (travel size), toilet paper, and non-perishable food items

Leave donations in the labeled containers in the Narthex between bathrooms.

**Remembrance Gathering:** Please come to the Remembrance Gathering Tuesday, April 9th at 3:00 PM in the Church House. The gathering is an open invitation to members of our congregation to come together and share personal stories or recollections of someone else's life. We began with stories of World War II and our goal for 2024 is to expand our sharing to include all wars and conflicts.

**Growing in Grace:** Meets every Friday from 9:00-11:00 AM in the Church House. God's grace is freely given to us. Join the group to learn to cultivate an attitude of grace in your daily life by learning about and adopting habits to move into a state of grace. Contact Beth Hoag at 706-604-8110 for more information.



Thank you for your generous contributions to the Brown Bag of Columbus Ministry. Thanks to your generosity, we raised \$796 and collected 242 food items. You are an amazing church!

## *Save the Date*

- March 26th 10:30 AM - Bible Study - Church House
- March 28th 7:00 PM - Maundy Thursday Service
- March 29th 9:00-11:00 - Growing in Grace - Church House
- March 29th 7:00 PM - Good Friday Service
- March 31st 9:00 AM - Easter breakfast & Egg Hunt
- April 7th 11:00 AM - Birthday Celebration & Indoor Picnic
- April 8th 12:00 - Wynnton Neighborhood Network Board Meeting
- April 9th 3:00 PM - Remembrance Gathering - Church House



ordered.

It's time to order Easter Lilies for Easter. The Easter Lilies will decorate our sanctuary on Easter Sunday, March 31st. Please fill out the form you will find on the table in the Narthex. These forms need to be turned in by TODAY. It is \$15 per Easter Lily

### **Easter Breakfast and Egg Hunt - Sunday, March 31st at 9:00**

**AM.:** Everyone is invited to attend the Easter Breakfast and Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday, March 31st. Please bring an Easter basket with you. If anyone has Easter baskets that they do not use anymore, please bring those and put in the baskets in the Narthex so we can have an Easter basket for anyone that doesn't bring one Easter morning. Please sign up on the list you will find on the bulletin board in the Narthex to bring something to share.

## *Lent Worship Schedule*

MAUNDY THURSDAY  
MARCH 28  
7:00 P.M.

GOOD FRIDAY  
MARCH 29  
7:00 PM

# **St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Mission Statement**



Reach in to grow in Christ  
Reach up to worship God  
Reach out to welcome and witness

## **ST. MATTHEW EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

4026 Macon Road, Columbus, Georgia 31907

(706) 561-3406 - Office Hours - Tues & Thurs 2:00-5:00 PM, Friday 9:00-1:00 PM

Pastor Taylor Burton Edwards Email: [twbe@liturgyfolks.com](mailto:twbe@liturgyfolks.com)

Office email: [office@stmatthewcolumbusga.com](mailto:office@stmatthewcolumbusga.com)

*A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,*

*Southeastern Synod*

[www.stmatthewcolumbusga.com](http://www.stmatthewcolumbusga.com)

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@st.matthewlutheranchurch4457/streams>

The Rev. Taylor Burton Edwards, Pastor

Sonja Metcalf, Parish Administrator

Lisa Pettit, Sexton

Sandra Nearhoof, Minister of Music

Penny Davis, Nursery Director