

**\*Post Communion Blessing**  
**\*Prayer After Communion:**

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**Pastor:** God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**C: Amen.**

**\*Blessing**

**Pastor:** Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, + bless you now and always **C: Amen.**

**\*Recessional Hymn:** **Beneath the Cross of Jesus** **LBW 107**

**\*Dismissal**

**Pastor:** Go in peace. Believe the good news. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Please keep the following in your prayers:**

**Our Military Members Carolyn Pinos Emma Rosman Cheryl & Keith Sherbine**

Today Jack Seymour authorized lay worship leader in the Allegheny Synod ELCA, will distribute the gifts of bread and wine.

**EASTER SERVICE TIME HAS BEEN CHANGED TO 7:00 AM.**

**First Communion Classes:** Sign up by March 29. Classes will be held after service on April 12, April 19, April 26 and May 3. First Communion is received on May 10. Please see Brenda Kerch, if you have any questions.

Confirmation classes will begin in the fall. Please reach out to Dan Kerch with interest or questions.

If you need your year-end contribution statement, please see Dan Kerch.

Social hour is following service today. The youth is hosting a pancake breakfast. All are welcome.

Next Council meeting will be on Monday, April 6th, at 6:30 pm.

**If anyone in need of Pastoral care, please call the Allegheny Synod Office, at (814) 942-1042 to make needed arrangements.**

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## Worship Sunday at 9:00 am

**Palm Sunday**  
**March 29, 2026**



### *Communion Hospitality*

*Lutheran Christians believe Christ is truly present in his supper. By faith we receive his Body and Blood "in, with, and under" the forms: of bread and wine for our forgiveness, life, and salvation. All baptized Christians who desire to receive Jesus in his sacrament, are welcome to commune.*

The Sanctuary candle is in loving memory of Patty Shultz by Clarence. The Tall and Small candles are in loving memory of Dave & JoAnne Lamar by Tom & Becky.

Palms are in memory of mom, Stella Brunett, by Bruce Brunett.

Today, we encounter the paradox that defines our faith; Jesus Christ is glorified king and humiliated servant. We too are full of paradox: like Peter, we fervently desire to follow Christ, but find ourselves afraid, denying God. We wave palms in celebration today as Christ comes into our midst, and we follow with trepidation as his path leads to death on the cross. Amid it all we are invited into this paradoxical promise of life through Christ's broken body and outpoured love in a meal of bread and wine. We begin this week that stands at the center of the church year, anticipating the completion of God's astounding work.

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### Setting I

*Parish Announcements*

*Prelude*

**\*= Stand** *(The sign of the cross + may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.)*

**\*Announcements:**

**Pastor:** Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters. **C: Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection. Please kneel as you are able.*

**Pastor:** Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain the living water Christ offers: Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothes in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace. **Amen.**

**Pastor:** The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ; and forgives your sin in +Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others; and bless you with the gift of peace. **C: Amen.**

**\*Entrance Hymn:** **All Glory, Laud, and Honor** **LBW 108**

**\*Pastor:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

**\*Kyrie** **p. 57**

**\*Prayer of the Day:** **Pastor:** The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

**First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a** L: The word of the Lord **C: Thanks be to God**  
**Psalm 31:9-16** (Read Responsively)

**Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11** L: The word of the Lord **C: Thanks be to God**

**\*The Lenten Tract** "Return to the Lord" **p. 63**

Reading of the Passion of our Lord Christ, according to Luke

**\*Please leave the Passion reading on the pews, or place them on the desk in the Narthex, so they can be used again. Thank you.**

**Sermon**

**\*Hymn of the Day** **Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed** **LBW 98**

**\*Nicene Creed** **p. 64**

**\*Prayers of the Church**

**Pastor:** Hear us, O God **C: Your mercy is great.**

**\*Passing of Peace** **Pastor:** The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

*The minister and congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord; and then be seated.*

**Offering** *The offering is received as the Lord's table is prepared.*

**\*Offertory** "Let the Vineyards" **p. 66**

**\*Offertory Prayer**

**Pastor:** O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name.

**C: Amen.**

**Liturgy of Holy Communion**

**\*Great Thanksgiving and Sanctus** **p. 68**

**\*When our brothers and sisters at Zion Lutheran Church in Hollidaysburg gathered for worship, they heard again the story of God's mighty acts and the love shown to us in Jesus' life, death, resurrection, and ascension, and they shared the holy meal of the Lord's Supper. Now, I bring to you this same word of life, and this same bread and cup of blessing, so that we may share these gifts and be strengthened in communion with all the people of God.**

**Gathered at the Lord's table, our brothers and sisters in Christ celebrated with thanksgiving that in the night in which Jesus was betrayed, he took bread and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to his disciples saying: "Take and eat; this is my body given to for you. Do this in 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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me." This is the supper our Lord Jesus Christ, and this meal is shared with assurance of our Lord's presence through the gift of the Holy Spirit. This bread and cup, shared in the gathering of our faith, are now given here for you.**

**\*The Lord's Prayer**

**\*Invitation to Communion:**

**Pastor:** Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

**\*Agnes Dei** "Lamb of God" **p. 72**

*As bread and wine is given, these words are said to each communicant:  
'The body of Christ, given for you.' & 'The blood of Christ, shed for you.'  
After each, the communicant may say: 'Amen.'*

**Distribution of Communion**

**Communion Hymn:** **Where You There** **LBW 92**