

IN THE NAME OF GOD, WELCOME to worship on this Palm Sunday. We enter the most central eight days of our faith. Christ did not get to Easter Sunday without going through Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Neither can we. Only by facing the awful loss of Friday can we really face the awesome joy of Sunday. Share in the depths and the heights of the Christian faith through faithful worship this week.

The WORSHIP SERVICE at 10:45 a.m.

PREPARATION

Silent Prayer and Reflection

Prelude: "Fanfare"

Kenneth Leighton

*Invocation

*Antiphon:

William Hawley

*Hosanna to the Son of David,
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
O King of Israel: Hosanna in the highest.*

*The Entry Gospel – Mark 11: 1-11

*Prayer

*Versicles:

One: Let us go forth in peace.

All: In the name of Christ.

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

All: Glory to God in the Highest.

*Processional Hymn 344 "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

*Versicles:

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

All: Hosanna in the highest.

*Prayer of the Day (in unison)

Pastor: 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.

GOD'S WORD THROUGH WORDS

Word of Welcome

Liz Peck

First Lesson - Isaiah 50: 4-9a

Nola Booth

Psalm 31: 9-16 (sung responsively)

Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I¹ am in trouble; my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat¹ and my belly.

¹⁰**For my life is wasted with grief, and my¹ years with sighing; my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones¹ are consumed.**

¹¹I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to¹ my acquaintances; when they see me in the street¹ they avoid me.

¹²**Like the dead I am forgotten,¹ out of mind; I am as useless as a¹ broken pot.**

¹³For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is¹ all around; they put their heads together against me; they plot to¹ take my life.

¹⁴**But as for me, I have trusted in¹ you, O LORD. I have said, "You¹ are my God.**

¹⁵My times are¹ in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who¹ persecute me.

¹⁶**Let your face shine up-¹ on your servant; save me in your¹ steadfast love."**

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Second Lesson - Philippians 2: 5-11

Angus Godwin

Gospel Acclamation

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*The Holy Gospel - Matthew 23: 1-13

Children's Sermon "Equal"

Pastor Bair

Antiphon:

When the Lord entered the holy city, the children of the Hebrews, foreseeing the resurrection of life, with palm branches, cried: Hosanna in the highest.

Sermon "See(k)ing Another Way"

Pastor Bair

*Hymn "Ride On, Ride On" (see insert)

ST. DROSTANE

*The Apostles' Creed

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A RESPONSE OF PRAYER, PRAISE AND LIVES

Offering

Antiphon:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Antiphon:

With the angels and loyal children, may we be found faithful, crying to the one triumphant over death: Hosanna in the highest.

*Congregational Offertory Hymn 188 "Create in Me..."

*Prayers of Intercession

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*The Lord's Prayer

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*Hymn 347 "Go to Dark Gethsemane"

GETHESMANE

*Antiphon:

On the Mount of Olives he prayed to the Father: Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak. Thy will be done.

*Silent Reflection

*The Benediction

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*The Dismissal

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**Please stand for this part of liturgy or please feel free to remain seated as you need.*

† † † † † † †

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God by Judy and Nader Mehravari to celebrate of our adopted students.

NEXT SUNDAY there will be no Church School or Forum. All classes resume on April 19, 2009.

CELEBRATE THE JOY OF EASTER with good fellowship and food. All are invited to attend the breakfast from 9:00 until 10:15 a.m. Easter morning. Bring your parents, friends, roommates, or apartment mates. Sign up sheets are in the narthex for breakfast and if you wish to help provide food.

FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN are invited to sit up front on the font side of the church. The font side allows easier coming and going. It is important for children to be able to see in order for them to participate in the service.

ST. LUKE NEWS

PALM SUNDAY

5 APRIL 2009

IN 1990, BILL HAWLEY composed for the St. Luke Choir and then-director Jim Porterfield the antiphons sung this morning. These five short pieces have Latin texts taken from the Gregorian tradition of chant. In medieval worship, antiphons were refrains chanted with psalms. All of Hawley's texts but one (the "Sanctus" from the communion liturgy) were written to be sung with psalms for Holy Week. Most were chanted at the services for Palm Sunday itself, and consequently describe and refer to Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. However, mixed with the excitement of Palm Sunday is our awareness of the week ahead and of how quickly the crowd's "Hosanna's" will change to "Crucify him." Thus the final piece, a Maundy Thursday tract, foreshadows the Passion. Within all of the pieces, the music describes the conflicting emotions of the day.

Almighty and everlasting God, speak to us during these holy days that we may hear you. Then speak to us again and yet again so that, if in our hearts we answer you by saying "No", we may at least know well to whom we say it, and what it costs us to say it, and what it costs our brothers and sisters, and what it costs you. And when at those moments that we do indeed say "Yes" to you, forgive our halfheartedness, accept us as we are, work your miracle within us, and of your grace give us strength to follow wherever love may lead. We bless you for the One who shows us the way and is the way. AMEN.
Frederick Buechner

EASTER SUNDAY BRUNCH and recipes. The Congregational Life Committee has a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board along with recipes for the Easter Brunch. If you have any questions, please contact Joan Carlson at 256-1498.



LAST CHANCE...WOULD YOU LIKE TO PROVIDE AN EASTER LILY in honor or memory of a loved one? Forms are available on the back of the bulletin or in the narthex.

EASTER EGG HUNT. The mothers in the Nursery would like to invite all children (young and young at heart) to participate in an Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday, at 10:10 (between breakfast and the 10:45 service). Older children and those young at heart that would like to be an egg hider, or help the younger children hunt for eggs, please contact Mary Van Donsel. All are welcome to participate! Eggs will be plastic and contain prizes. So, bring your Easter Baskets and enjoy this Easter activity!

ST. LUKE ADOPTED STUDENTS AND FAMILIES! Hope your winter was ok, and you're moving happily into spring. I'm hoping you have kept in touch with each other since the fall. With Easter coming up, families - please be sure your student has some place to go for Easter dinner! Also, if you have a graduating senior, see if there is anything you can either help with or participate in. Students - don't just sit back and wait to be invited - please take the initiative to keep in touch with your families as well. I'd like to hear from all of you - on how the year has gone. Please email me at mjudy@twcny.rr.com or call 257-8653. Thanks! Judy Mehravari

HANDICAP PARKING. There is a 'Handicap Parking' space on Oak Avenue across from the entrance to St. Luke. There are also four parking spaces behind the Church, and on Sunday mornings these are for the use of our members who have difficulty walking.

SIGN UP FOR MAY FAITH AND CARE. The sign-up sheet for May Faith and Care is available at the Faith and Care table today. Take this opportunity to enable Sunday morning worship. Tasks include ushering, reading, preparing communion and providing for fellowship after the service. There are five Sundays in May. Check your calendar. Add your name to the list. Serve the community. See a Faith and Care Coordinator for more information, (Susan Hoskins, Jo Ann Ekdahl, Doris Mowson, and Linda Muckstadt).



THERE WILL NOT BE A FAITH AND CARE LUNCHEON in April, due to the Easter breakfast.

QUILTING FOR THOSE IN NEED: If you sew, have extra fabric to share or can tie knots, check out how you can help make quilted blankets for distribution by Lutheran World Relief. Details are on flyers in the narthex. Meet with us at 9:30 a.m. on every 1st & 3rd Thurs. in the Adult Ed room downstairs.

STUDENT DISCUSSION GROUP. Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. in the Study.

NAMETAGS. Thanks for helping us all remember by wearing one. Your help in returning your tag to the rack in alphabetical order is appreciated. Magnetic nametags should not be worn with people who have pace makers. Please let us know if need a paper nametag.

MOBILIZATION TO END POVERTY APRIL 26-29 IN WASHINGTON D.C. The mobilization is an opportunity to connect your faith values to discipleship and action! In this economic crisis, more people are losing their jobs, their savings, their homes, and their healthcare. More from the middle class are falling into the ranks of 36 million Americans living below the poverty line, and the billions worldwide who live in extreme poverty. Learn more about social issues through workshops, speakers (such as ELCA Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson). and lobby day training. On lobby day visit your members of Congress with other faith-based advocates.

ELCA members receive a special reduced group rate of \$199 until April 24. That is a \$50 savings, but you must register at the special www.sojo.net/mobilizationelca Web link to receive the discount. For ELCA scholarship applications please go to <http://www.elca.org/advocacy>, or call Jackie Maddox at 202-626-7944.

Contact Jodi Deike, ELCA Director for Grassroots Advocacy and Communication at 202-626-7947 or jodi.deike@elca.org with questions regarding the Mobilization event.

MONDAY MIDDAY BROWN BAG STUDY (MMBBBS) – will continue the study their study and meets on Mondays at 12:15-1:00 p.m. at St. Luke in the Education Room. For more information contact Susan Hoskins, sbh1@cornell.edu, Day: 255-4864, Eve: 564-3483.

FAITH IN ACTION: DIRECT PRAYER REQUESTS to Louise McGee at 844-4303. A prayer chain of St. Luke folks prays regularly, privately, and confidentially for the parishioners' concerns.

FAITH & CARE: *USHERS:* Ronald Shewchuk & Debbie Antal & Brittany Clark; *GREETER; ASSISTING MINISTER:* Everett Nelson; *ACOLYTES:* Brittany Clark & Peter Hoskins; *READER:* Nola Booth & Angus Godwin; *COMMUNION SET-UP & CLEAN-UP:* Debbie Antal; *COFFEE SERVERS: SET-UP:* Linda Muckstadt; *CLEAN-UP* Ruth Sherbon & Kaye Westfall; *BAKERS (after church):* Susan Wohlhueter & Joan Carlson.

THE WEEK OF PILGRIMAGE CONTINUES

MAUNDY THURSDAY, April 9

12:15 pm Spoken Communion
7:00 pm Spoken Communion with Hymns

GOOD FRIDAY, April 10

12:00-3:00 pm Tre Ore (*Three Hours*)
The Church will be open for prayer and meditation.

7:00 pm Tenebrae (*Shadows*)
A stark and dramatic service which includes reading The Passion and extinguishing candles.

HOLY SATURDAY, April 11

9:30 am Setting up for Easter. All volunteers are welcome as we haul and clean chairs, set-up tables, arrange lilies and, "spruce up" a bit.

THE FEAST OF VICTORY BEGINS

EASTER SUNDAY

The Resurrection of our Lord

8:00 am Service of Holy Communion. A full, sung service with brass. Regular children's and big sermons.
9:00 am Breakfast (in the Fellowship Hall).
10:45 am A Service of Holy Communion. A full, sung service with brass. Regular children's and big sermons.
5:00 pm A spoken service of Holy Communion.

EASTER 2, April 19

9:30 am Church School and Forum
10:45 am A Hymn Festival of the Resurrection. We will have a "pick-your-favorite" hymn sing in place of the big sermon.
12:30 pm Youth - Lily Deliveries
5:00 pm A spoken service of Holy Communion.

ST. LUKE MINISTERS: The People of this Community
ST. LUKE STAFF:
Rick L. Bair [rlb8@cornell.edu] (h) 387-3479 Pastor
Erik Kibelsbeck [ekibelsbeck@ithaca.edu] Music Director
Michelle Gray [lluthera@twcny.rr.com] Admin. Asst.
Stephen Devlen [srd4@cornell.edu] Sexton
Tammy Devlen Sexton
ST. LUKE OFFICE 607 273-6811
ST. LUKE WEBSITE www.stlukeithaca.org
ST. LUKE MISSION CENTER: 109 Oak Avenue, Ithaca, NY

EASTER LILIES and GIFTS

You may enhance the Easter proclamation by selecting one or both of these options:
_____ **YES**, I/we wish to order _____ (indicate number) @ \$10.00 per lily.

Please check all the appropriate lines and indicate the total amount of your donation.

YOUR NAME: _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

IN HONOR OF: _____

Payment enclosed _____ **Payment to follow**

AND / OR World Hunger, Disaster Relief DONATION

_____ **YES**, I/we wish to provide a donation in the amount of \$ _____ to:

_____ *World Hunger* _____ *Disaster Relief*
Total Donation _____

Payment enclosed _____ **Payment to follow** _____

*Orders for Easter lilies should be into the church by **Monday, April 6, 2009**. Easter lilies may be picked up after the 5:00 p.m. service on Easter Sunday, April 12, 2009.*

EASTER BREAKFAST

Communion Service, 8:00 a.m.
Breakfast, 9:00 a.m.
Communion Service, 10:45 a.m.

_____ **YES**, I/we plan to share in breakfast

NAME: _____

NUMBER ATTENDING: _____

Place forms in offering plate, hand to an usher, or mail to church office, 109 Oak Ave., Ithaca, NY 14850, or call Michelle Gray at 273-6811, weekday mornings or e-mail: lluthera@twcny.rr.com.

ST. LUKE'S MISSION STATEMENT. The council has had discussions over the last several months about whether to recommend that St. Luke become a Reconciling in Christ Congregation. This would involve joining a network of Lutheran churches that declare that they welcome anyone, regardless of his or her sexual orientation. The council has decided, for various reasons, not to recommend that St. Luke take this step at this time. We are, however, considering the following addition to our mission statement (additions in italics):

The people of St. Luke Lutheran Church are called by God to be a community of Christians, a part of the body of Christ. This community of faith is called to listen, hear, receive, reflect, serve, embody, and witness to God's creating and redeeming Word and activity in the world. We are called to follow God and called to invite others to share in God's Kingdom and mission of reconciliation and justice. That journey of discipleship is celebrated here in an open and diverse mix of people with special appreciation for the privileged responsibility of our campus-related mission. *We welcome all to share in the life and ministry of St. Luke Lutheran Church regardless of age, race, gender, socio-economic status, physical or mental capabilities or sexual orientation.*

As a community of Christians in the Lutheran heritage, God calls us to be:

-centered in the Christ,
-enabled by Scripture,
-enlightened by the Spirit,
-informed by the Lutheran Confessions,
-nourished by the sacraments,
-engaged in the world.

There will be an after-church meeting at **12:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 19**, so members of the St. Luke community can share their thoughts on this proposed mission statement. The council will vote on whether to recommend the mission statement to the congregational meeting at the April 23 Council Meeting. If the council votes to recommend it, the congregation will vote on it at the Congregational Meeting on May 3. Any council member would be happy to talk to you about this mission statement. Please feel free to approach any of us. The council members this year are Lexa Liepe, Nader Mehravari, Tom McSweeney, Beth Housel, Jim Hedlund, Judy Jensvold, Luke Dewalt, Steve Peterson, Allison Danner, Gabe Hohag, and of course Pastor Bair.