

**St. Paul's Free Methodist Church**  
**Palm/Passion Sunday**

**Call To Worship**

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

**Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.**

Let us pray: Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

***Processional Reading/Gospel***

***Luke 19:28-40***

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

Let us pray: It is right to praise you, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was proclaimed as King of kings by those who spread their garments and branches of palm along his way. Let these branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

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

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**Procession/Hymn Of Praise**

**Hosanna, Loud Hosanna**

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***Processional Psalm***

***Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29***

**O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever! Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever." ... Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD. This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it. I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Save us, we beseech you, O LORD! O LORD, we beseech you, give us success! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD. We bless you from the house of the LORD. The LORD is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar. You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you. O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.**

**Prayer**

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***Old Testament Lesson***

***Isaiah 50:4-9a***

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. The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. 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. 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; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn

## What Wondrous Love Is This

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### *Epistle Lesson*

### *Philippians 2:5-11*

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

## Kyrie Eleison

URW 412

### *Gospel*

### *Luke 22:14-23:56*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke.

### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*When the hour came, he took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. He said to them,*

“I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.”

*Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said,*

“Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.”

*Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying,*

“This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

*And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying,*

“This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table. For the Son of Man is going as it has been determined, but woe to that one by whom he is betrayed!”

*Then they began to ask one another, which one of them it could be who would do this.*

*A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. But he said to them,*

“The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves.

For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

“You are those who have stood by me in my trials; and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

“Simon, Simon, listen! Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.”

*And he said to him,*

“Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death!”

*Jesus said,*

“I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day, until you have denied three times that you know me.”

*He said to them,*

“When I sent you out without a purse, bag, or sandals, did you lack anything?”

*They said,*

**“No, not a thing.”**

*He said to them,*

“But now, the one who has a purse must take it, and likewise a bag. And the one who has no sword must sell his cloak and buy one. For I tell you, this scripture must be fulfilled in me, ‘And he was counted among the lawless’; and indeed what is written about me is being fulfilled.”

*They said,*

**“Lord, look, here are two swords.”**

*He replied,*

“It is enough.”

*He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them,*

“Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.”

*Then he withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, knelt down, and prayed,*

“Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.”

*Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground. When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, and he said to them,*

“Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial.”

*While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said to him,*

“Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?”

*When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked,*

**“Lord, should we strike with the sword?”**

*Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said,*

“No more of this!”

*And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him,*

“Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!”

*Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest’s house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said,*

“This man also was with him.”

*But he denied it, saying,*

“Woman, I do not know him.”

*A little later someone else, on seeing him, said,*

“You also are one of them.”

*But Peter said,*

“Man, I am not!”

*Then about an hour later still another kept insisting,*

“Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean.”

*But Peter said,*

“Man, I do not know what you are talking about!”

*At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, ‘Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times.’ And he went out and wept bitterly. Now the men who were holding Jesus began to mock him and beat him; they also blindfolded him and kept asking him,*

**“Prophesy! Who is it that struck you?”**

*They kept heaping many other insults on him. When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought him to their council. They said,*

**“If you are the Messiah, tell us.”**

*He replied,*

“If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I question you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God.”

*All of them asked,*

**“Are you, then, the Son of God?”**

*He said to them,*

“You say that I am.”

*Then they said,*

**“What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!”**

*Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying,*

**“We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king.”**

*Then Pilate asked him,*

“Are you the king of the Jews?”

*He answered,*

“You say so.”

*Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds,*

“I find no basis for an accusation against this man.”

*But they were insistent and said,*

**“He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.”**

*When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he was under Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies.*

*Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them,*

“You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him.”

*Then they all shouted out together,*

**“Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!”**

*(This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting,*

**“Crucify, crucify him!”**

*A third time he said to them,*

“Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him.”

*But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished. As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said,*

“Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.’ Then they will begin to say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us’; and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’ For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?”

*Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said,*

“Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.”

*And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying,*

**“He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!”**

*The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying,*

**“If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!”**

*There was also an inscription over him, ‘This is the King of the Jews.’*

*One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying,*

“Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!”

*But the other rebuked him, saying,*

“Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.”

*Then he said,*

“Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

*He replied,*

“Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

*It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun’s light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said,*

“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit!”

*Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said,*

“Certainly this man was innocent!”

*And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.*

*Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning. The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments.*

*On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.*

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Apostles' Creed**

### **Confession And Prayers Of The People**

Hear this encouragement from scripture: "Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us ... approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." Dearly beloved, so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind for worship at the Lord's Table, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by God's infinite goodness and mercy.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

### **The Peace**

By dying, Christ destroyed our death; in rising, he restores our life; in giving us his Spirit, he grants us peace.

In that peace we affirm, with joy:

**In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

So we can say to one another: the peace of the Lord be with you!

**And also with you.**

Let us take a few moments to greet one another with signs of peace and reconciliation.

## **Doxology**

### **Communion**

**Pewback Insert**

### **Prayer After Communion**

**God of mercy, God of grace, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you give yourself to us. By your Spirit may the mind be in us which was in Christ Jesus, that we may go into the world, giving ourselves for others, in his name. Amen.**

### **Community Sharing**

### **Offering**

### **Hymn Of Response**

**We Give Thee But Thine Own**

*lyrics 360*

*(gospel rhythm, clapping on beats 2 and 4)*

### **Hymn Of Dismissal**

**When I Survey The Wondrous Cross**

**510**

### **Dismissal With Blessing**

May the Triune God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, restore you and accomplish in you the work of salvation, that you may show forth God's glory in the world, loving and serving God and your neighbor. **Amen.**

Our service is ended—go in Christ's peace!

**Next Week's Readings:** Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26; Luke 24:1-12

**This Week:** Palm/Passion Sunday Scriptures read in community

**Celebrant:** Niquita Hohm

**Preaching Next Week:** Ben Wayman

**Acolytes:** Caitie McPeak, Caden Wayman

## OBSERVING HOLY WEEK TOGETHER

- **MORNING PRAYER CONTINUES**—Join us this Holy Week from **7:30-8:00a** in the sanctuary for prayer, scripture and Communion **Mon-Thurs**; on **Good Friday, April 19**, we will meet for prayer and scripture reading but not Communion.
- **COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE**—The final community Lenten service will be hosted by our sister Free Methodist church, **Greenville FMC** (1367 IL Route 140) this **Friday, April 19**, with worship at **noon**, and a complimentary luncheon immediately following; a **freewill offering** supports the Bond County Ministerial Alliance's **benevolence fund**.
- **JOINT FREE METHODIST SUNRISE SERVICE**—Gather to worship the Risen Christ in the **east parking lot of the Greenville FMC** (1367 IL Route 140) at **6:00 Easter morning, April 21**. We will recount and rejoice in Christ's resurrection through **scripture, prayer and song**. (Alternate location Young Teen Room, should weather require.) Please do dress warmly and **bring your folding chairs!**
- **EASTER GODLY PLAY & BREAKFAST POTLUCK**—Our children invite us to the Godly Play room at **9:45a** to **hear the Easter story with them**; we'll then adjourn to the Fellowship Hall, **in place of our regular Sunday School schedule**, to share an **Easter Breakfast Feast** together in St. Paul's favorite **potluck** style.
- **EASTER WORSHIP AT 11:00 A.M.**—Celebrate the **Resurrection of our Lord** with us in worship on this, the highest day of the Christian year! This Easter Sunday four of our acolytes will **complete their confirmation class** by sharing with us what it means to them to **affirm their baptism**.

### POTLUCK TODAY

Please join us downstairs in the Fellowship Hall for an **all-church potluck** following worship; **all are welcome**, whether bringing a dish to share or not! (Please ID your **vegetarian/vegan/gluten-free** dishes with a **Post-It note**.) Following we'll join in **community conversation** with a **financial update** on St. Paul's, and a **report from Leadership Summit**, etc.

### FINANCIAL UPDATE FOR 2019 (THROUGH MARCH)

Income: **\$25,145.19** (cancelled 3 Sundays due to weather)

Expenses: **\$24,995.64** (includes \$1634.34 in mission giving for 2018 given/sent in January)

### LAST CALL TO JOIN IN CELEBRATING THE EASTER SEASON '4 X 4'

Love that "**table fellowship**"? **Sign up today at potluck** or email [stpaulsfmc@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsfmc@gmail.com) (**by next Sunday**) to **opt in for 4 X 4**, to feast with a smaller group (4ish individuals, couples and/or families) several times across the Season of Easter. Groups will form based on **preferred day(s) of the week**; **your group decides** which **4 (or fewer) days/times April 22 – June 9** you'll meet, for mini-potluck, picnic, dessert, dinner or breakfast out, whatever your group desires!

### GU MUSIC DEPARTMENT PRESENTS DANIEL HUNG IN *ECHOES FROM PAST GRANDEUR*

You're invited to enjoy a free hour of excellent music by **Taiwanese violinist Daniel Hung** and colleagues (including **Joe Noble's good friend Oliver Shon, tenor**) **THIS Tuesday, April 16, at 7p in Whitlock**.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL GOLF SCRAMBLE SUPPORTING EDEN'S GLORY APRIL 27

Spend a day on Indian Springs Golf Course (Fillmore, IL) while benefitting the outreach of Eden's Glory to human trafficking survivors. **\$400/foursome** includes breakfast (following 7:30 registration) and lunch (12:30— with prizes!) **Register at: <http://bit.ly/EG-Golf>** You may also **register (or volunteer, or sponsor) by emailing: [rachelwayman6@yahoo.com](mailto:rachelwayman6@yahoo.com)**.

### ANNOUNCING 2019-20 ELECTION RESULTS FROM MARCH 31

Congratulations to those newly elected at our Society meeting! Our **2019-20 delegates** are Elizabeth Ahern, Ann L. Zahniser and Eric Nord, with **reserve delegates** Jennifer Munshaw and Naomi Brown. (Other members of our 2019-20 Board of Administration include Dave Holden, Tim Wayman, Shannan Bernico, Pedro Valentin, and the four pastors *ex officio*). The newly elected **Nominating Committee** includes Meg File, Darlene Hartley, Jordan Hohm and Megan McPeak.

### FEEDING THE HUNGRY IN BOND COUNTY

Our local food pantry gladly accepts all nonperishable food (& toiletry) donations, especially **canned/boxed pasta meals, soup, peanut butter, jelly, and canned meat**. Please place your donations in the **box** in the **mural room**.

### CONSIDER JOINING A TEAM

Might you enjoy serving with our **Ministry Team, Mission Team** or **Property Team**, helping St. Paul's engage thoughtfully in ministry, mission and stewardship? **All who attend St. Paul's** are invited; for information email [stpaulsfmc@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsfmc@gmail.com)