

***“People of Christ
Making a
Difference”***

**Sunday of the Passion/
Palm Sunday**

March 29, 2026

8:30 & 11:00AM

WELCOME TO ST. STEPHEN'S!

A nursery is provided for children through age 4 for both worship services and for infants and toddlers during Sunday School. The nursery is located at the end of the hall on the right side.

Children's bags can be found in the "Kid's Corner" of the narthex.

Restroom facilities are located down the hall on the left side.

First Aid, Emergency Equipment, and a wheelchair are located down the hall on the right by the stairwell.

If for any reason you must leave the sanctuary, the service is live streamed in the Agape Sunday School classroom. Any usher will be glad to direct you.

Sunday school classes are provided for 2 year olds through adults.

Listening devices and larger print bulletins are located in the narthex.

Ushers are also available to assist you.

If you are a visitor feel free to sign-in using the QR code. Here's how it works: Point your camera at the image, tap the link that appears on your screen, and share whatever information you desire. Thank you! Hope to see you again soon!



(We gather in the church yard)

GREETING, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND PEACE

THE PROCESSION WITH PALMS

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

Hosanna in the highest.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Oh God of mercy and might, in the mystery of the passion of your son you offer your infinite life to the world. Gather us around the cross of Christ, and preserve us until the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one god, now and forever.

Amen.

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL

St. Matthew 21:1-11

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." ⁴This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, ⁵"Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the

foal of a donkey.”⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!” ¹⁰When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” ¹¹The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

BLESSING OF PALMS
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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.
Amen.

PROCESSION
Let us go forth in peace,
in the name of Christ. Amen.

(We process into the sanctuary waving palms)

PROCESSION MUSIC

“Fanfare in E Flat”

Colin Mawby

GATHERING HYMN

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

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.

GREETING

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

(We Sit)

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Jason

(We Stand)

PRAYER OF THE DAY INTRODUCTION

As we now enter into the contemplation of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and meditate on the salvation of the world through his sufferings, death, burial, and resurrection, let us pray.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

(We Sit)

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD—Part I

St. Matthew 26:14-56

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD—Part II

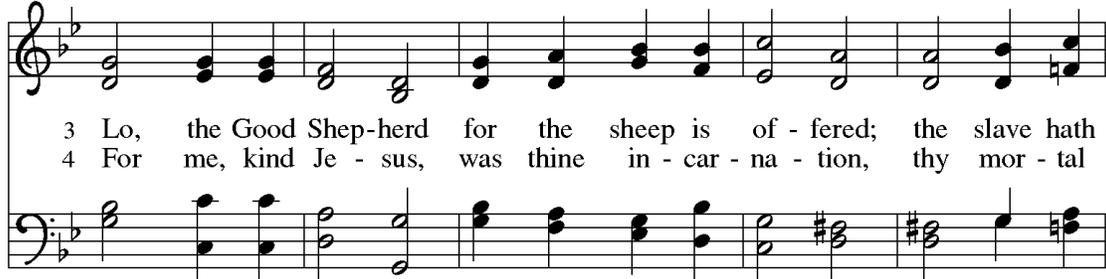
St. Matthew 26:57-27:44

(We Stand)

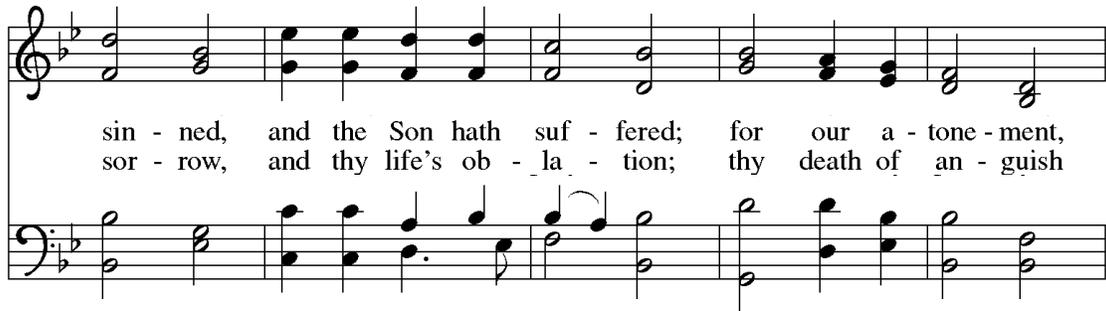
GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL

"Ah, Holy Jesus" (Stz. 3)

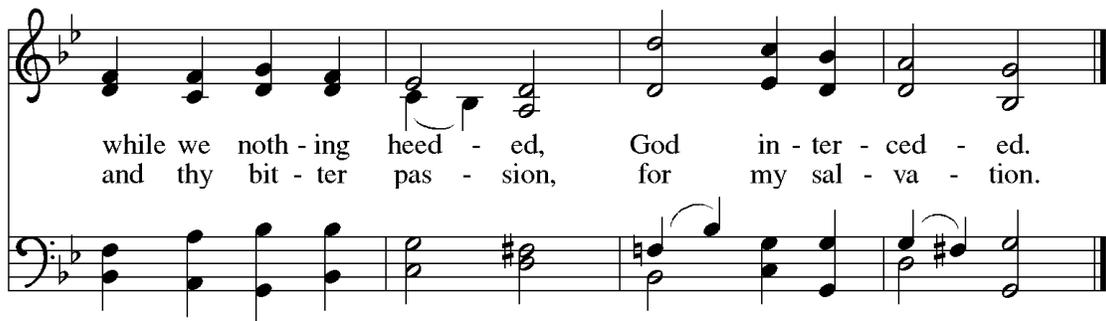
ELW 349



3 Lo, the Good Shep-herd for the sheep is of - fered; the slave hath
4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thine in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal



sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for our a - tone - ment,
sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish



while we noth - ing heed - ed, God in - ter - ced - ed.
and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD—Part III

St. Matthew 27:45-66

GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL

"Ah, Holy Jesus" (Stz. 4)

ELW 349

(We Sit)

Silence for reflection upon the Word.

(We Stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"

ELW 335

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.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

(We Sit)

OFFERING

There are three traditional Lenten practices: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. We invite you this Lenten season to consider taking up or becoming more focused on these practices. Alms may be given by putting your offering in the offering plate, mailing your offering to the church, giving online (sslc.org or with the QR Code) or through the Givelify app. If you would like more details on direct deposit giving please contact our Parish Administrator, Mrs. Tonya Reynolds, at (803) 359-6562.



Voluntary

"For God So Loved the World"

Mitch Rorick

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

(We Stand)

OFFERTORY SONG

ELW 188

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The musical notation consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has two measures.

THE PREFACE

THE SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical notation consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has two measures.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

(We Sit)

THE AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

RECEPTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Christ welcomes you to this Holy Meal of the Baptized! We receive communion this morning at the center aisle. Communion will be brought to the front rows for those who wish to remain seated. Children who commune should be assisted by adults near them. Those unable to partake of wine or wheaten bread are assured of our Lord's presence in, with, and under each element alone. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

Communion Music

"Steal Away to Jesus"

Hal H. Hopson

(We Stand)

BLESSING OF THE COMMUNICANTS

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

May almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with the grace and strength to take up your cross and follow Christ, this week and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"Ride On, Ride On in Majesty"

ELW 346



1 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! Hear all the
 2 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly
 3 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! The hosts of
 4 Ride on, ride on in maj - es - ty! In low - ly



tribes ho - san - na cry; O Sav - ior meek, your road pur -
 pomp ride on to die. O Christ, your tri - umphs now be -
 an - gels in the sky look down with sad and won - d'ring
 pomp ride on to die, bow your meek head to mor - tal



sue, with palms and scat - tered gar - ments strewed.
 gin o'er cap - tive death and con - quered sin.
 eyes to see the ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.
 pain, then take, O Christ, your pow'r and reign!

DISMISSAL

Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow"

Thomas J. Williams

Holy Week Worship Schedule:

Holy Wednesday, April 1

11:45 am | Meal | Fellowship Hall
12:30 pm | Wednesday Eucharist | Sanctuary

Maundy Thursday, April 2

Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar
12:30 pm, 5:30 pm (Family Service) & 7:00 pm | Sanctuary

Good Friday, April 3

Tenebrae
12:30 pm, 5:30 pm (Family Service) & 7:00 pm | Sanctuary

Easter Celebrations:

Easter Eggstravaganza Saturday, April 4

10:00 am | Gym

The Resurrection of our Lord/Easter Day, April 5

6:30 am | Easter Sunrise Service with Holy Eucharist
Begin On Front Lawn and Process Into Sanctuary

7:00 am | Easter Breakfast | Fellowship Hall

8:30 & 11:00 am | Easter Celebration Service with Holy Eucharist | Sanctuary
with Brass Quintet Gathering Music beginning at 8:15 & 10:45 a.m.

ALTAR GREENERY is given to the glory of God.

SERVING TODAY:

Ushers: (8:30) Reuben Eargle, Sandy Shealy, Ron Redd, Steve Fowler, Jim Nantz, Rick Loging, and Daryl Hooker;

(11:00) Otis Rawl, G Kolb, Mike Burgess, Myra Strock, Manning Burgess, Roy Windham, and George Mathias

Flutist: Lisa Catalanotto

Communion Assistants: (8:30) Tonya Reynolds; (11:00) Shannon Burnett

Order of St. Stephen's: (8:30) [A] Ethan Kean [C] Andrew Tworzyanski; (11:00) [A] Sarah Ellis Stafford [C] Gavin Gaskins

The Church Staff

Website: www.sslc.org

The Rev. Jason T. Antley	The Rev. Ralph G. Hill
Mrs. Shannon Burnett, Director of Family Life	Mrs. Tonya Reynolds, Parish Administrator
Ms. Susan Wilson, Director of Music/Organist	Mrs. Julie Tworzyanski, Preschool Director
	Mrs. Sylvia Looney, Organist Emeritus

Sunday School Information:

<u>Locations for Children's Classes</u>	<u>Locations for Adult Classes</u>
Nursery – Room #105	Agape Adult Class Room #102 (Closest to Narthex)
2—4 year olds & 5K – Room #103	Saints & Sinners with PJ and PR Room #203 (Large Upstairs Room)
1st—5th Grade – Room # 216	Women Digging Deeper Parlor
6th—8th Grade – Room #212	For those not attending a Sunday School class but waiting on a child to get out of one, feel free to sit in the Social Hall!
9th—12th Grade – Room #217	If you are interested in beginning a new Sunday School class please contact Mrs. Shannon.

If you are not receiving the weekly announcements and monthly newsletter via email and would like to receive them, please email Shannon (Shannon@sslc.org) so she can add you to the distribution list.

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