

PASTOR Rev. Orin W. Cummings, PhD  
 LECTOR 1 Ken Edstrom  
 LECTOR 3 Jack Dimond  
 LECTOR 5 Dean McDowell  
 LECTOR 7 Jolynn Szesny  
 A/V Drew Bowman, Kenny Lourwood

PREACHING Vicar Abbey Knappman  
 LECTOR 2 Cathy Murrell  
 LECTOR 4 Mary Keidle  
 LECTOR 6 Nathanael Cummings  
 Special Music Revelations Praise Band, Alleluia Singers  
 ORGANIST/KEYBOARDIST Marilyn Boston, Karen Bowman

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

### GATHERING HYMN

ELW 340

## A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

1 A lamb goes un - com - plain - ing forth  
 2 This lamb is Christ, our great - est friend,  
 3 He an - swered from his ten - der heart  
 4 Of death I am no more a - fraid;

to save a world of sin - ners.  
 the Lamb of God, our Sav - ior,  
 that he would take the bur - den:  
 his dy - ing is my liv - ing.

He bears the bur - den all a - lone,  
 the one, his on - ly Son, God sent  
 "My Fa - ther's will is my com - mand;  
 He clothes me in his roy - al robes

dies shorn of all his hon - ors.  
 to win us reb - els o - ver.  
 I'll do as I am bid - den."  
 that he is al - ways giv - ing.

He goes to slaugh - ter, weak and faint,  
 "Go down, my child," the Fa - ther said,  
 Oh, won - drous love! Oh, lov - ing might!  
 His love is dress e - nough for me

is led to die with - out com - plaint;  
 "and free my chil - dren from their dread  
 To right what mor - tals can - not right  
 to wear through all e - ter - ni - ty

his spot - less life he of - fers.  
 of death and con - dem - na - tion.  
 God sent his Son from heav - en.  
 be - fore the high - est Fa - ther,

He bears the shame, the stripes, the wrath;  
 The pain - ful stripes are hard to bear,  
 What love, O Love, who came to save  
 where we shall stand at Je - sus' side,

his an - guish, mock - er - y, and death  
 but by your death they all can share  
 by lov - ing e - ven to the grave  
 his church, the well - ap - point - ed bride,

for us he glad - ly suf - fers.  
 the joy of your sal - va - tion."  
 un - til the stone was riv - en.  
 when all the faith - ful gath - er.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978  
 Music: AN WASSERFLÜSSEN BABYLON, Wolfgang Dachstein, c. 1487–1553

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Merciful God, your Son was lifted up on the cross to draw all people to himself. Grant that we who have been born out of his wounded side may at all times find mercy in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

**Ken Edstrom:** *The Cross – the most visible symbol of Christianity. As we make our journey through the final week of the life of Jesus, let us focus on the cross. Beginning with his triumphal entry into Jerusalem, continuing with the final days of his ministry, the Last Supper, the trial and crucifixion, and ending with his glorious resurrection, may we always have the cross of Christ before us.*

*Ah, Holy Jesus, how have you offended, that we to judge you have in hate pretended? By foes derided, by your own rejected, O most afflicted.*

*Jesus... Teacher...Preacher...Friend...Messiah – God’s sacrifice for us, sent in our place. Because man was born into sin, God came to us in the form of Jesus. By his death on the cross, he paid the price for our sins.*

*Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon you? Alas, my treason hath undone you. I crucified you.*

**For God so loved the world that he gave his only son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. – John 3:16-17**

THE FIRST CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

## SPECIAL MUSIC

Tears of the Father, Blood of the Son

Alleluia Singers

**Cathy Murrell:** *The drama surrounding the last week of Jesus’ life began with a celebration. What could have been more joyous than a parade to welcome the Messiah into Jerusalem? Crowds gathered, cheering him as the procession moved into the city. People put their garments on the street and tore palm branches from the trees, placing them in his path as a welcoming gesture.*

*People of all ages welcomed him. The air was filled with cries of “Hosanna” and “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.” Jesus entered the city on a lowly donkey – a symbol of peace.*

*The words of Matthew: When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethpage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples saying 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. If anyone asks anything to you, just say this 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." – Matthew 21:1-3

**Let us raise our voices as we join the procession that welcomed Jesus into the Holy City.**

THE SECOND CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

**SONG**

Hosanna, Blessed One

Revelations Praise Band

**Jack Dimond:** The festival of the Passover was near. The authorities in Jerusalem became increasingly more nervous about Jesus and his disciples being in Jerusalem. They knew his influence over people was strong, and that crowds were spellbound by his teaching. The priests and scribes hoped to find some way to silence him. It was then that Judas, one of the twelve of Jesus' inner circle, met with the chief priests and officers of the temple, conspiring against Jesus about how he might betray him.

Jesus and the disciples gathered to celebrate the Passover. Jesus had frequently spoken to them using symbolic language they found difficult to understand. Tonight he would tell them that what they were about to eat and drink represented his body which he would sacrifice for them. How frightening it must have been for them to hear Jesus speak this way.

The words of Luke: 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 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 thing with the cup after supper, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood" – Luke 22:14-16**

THE THIRD CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

**SONG**

Do This

Revelations Praise Band

**Mary Keidle:** After the supper, Jesus took his disciples to a place called the Garden of Gethsemane, just outside the walls of the city. Jesus told them to sit down and pray. After he went a bit further alone, Jesus threw himself on the ground, saying "Father, for you all things are possible, remove this cup from me; yet not what I want but what you want." – Mark 14:36 After praying for an hour, Jesus returned to his disciples, all of whom had fallen asleep in his absence. Judas appeared, betraying Jesus with a kiss. The soldiers seized Jesus and led him away to the house of the high priest, Caiaphas.

**Go to dark Gethsemane, you that feel the tempter's power, your Redeemer's conflict see. Watch with him one bitter hour. Turn not from his griefs away; learn from Jesus Christ to pray.**

**If we had been there would we like the disciples – have fallen asleep? Could we not watch one hour? Would we have allowed Jesus to be betrayed by one of our own, then arrested and taken away by the authorities?**

THE FOURTH CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

**HYMN** (vs. 1, 2 & 3)

**ELW 347**

Go to Dark Gethsemane



1 Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, all who feel the tempt - er's pow'r;  
2 Fol - low to the judg-ment hall, view the Lord of life ar - rained;  
3 Cal - v'ry's mourn-ful moun-tain climb; there, a - dor - ing at his feet,  
4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath - less clay;



your Re - deem - er's con - flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;  
oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus-tained!  
mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com-plete.  
all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?



turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.  
Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.  
"It is fin - ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.  
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

**Dean McDowell:** The trial for Jesus took place the next day. It was the custom at the Feast of Passover for the authorities to release a prisoner. Pilate, the Roman governor, realizing that Jesus was not guilty of the charges against him, asked the people if he should be released. The crowd, however, called for the release of Barabbas, a common criminal. Pilate then asked the crowd what he should do with Jesus. They shouted back, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Although Pilate could find no fault with him, he allowed the soldiers to lead Jesus away to be crucified.

The words of John: Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. Then he handed him over to be crucified. So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha.

**There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. – John 19: 1, 2; 16-18**

THE FIFTH CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

HYMN

ELW 350

They Crucified My Lord



1 They cru - ci - fied my Lord, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;  
 2 They nailed him to a tree, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;  
 3 They pierced him in the side, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;  
 4 The blood came stream - in' down, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;  
 5 He hung his head and died, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;



they cru - ci - fied my Lord, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;  
 they nailed him to a tree, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;  
 they pierced him in the side, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;  
 the blood came stream - in' down, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;  
 he hung his head and died, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin' word;



not a word, not a word, not a word.

*mumbalin' = complaining*

Text: African American spiritual

Music: SUFFERER, African American spiritual

**Nathanael Cummings:** Jesus' fate was sealed. The crowd would have its way. Dragged from the trial, Jesus was made to carry his own cross to the hill where he would be crucified. Many who suffered this cruel punishment lingered for days until the last ounce of air was choked from their bodies. Already weakened from his beatings, Jesus would die within hours. Attended by a few of the disciples, his mother, Mary, and some soldiers, Jesus, the Son of God, died between two common thieves.

The words of Luke: 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. <sup>34</sup> Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." – Luke 23:33-34

The words of Matthew: From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock, Jesus cried with a loud voice, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last.

(PAUSE for 10 seconds—Loud sound followed by a moment of silence)

At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said,

“Truly this man was God’s Son.” – Matthew 27:45-46, 50-51, 54

THE SIXTH CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

HYMN

ELW 351

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded



1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,  
2 How pale thou art with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;  
3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,  
4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; shield me when I must die;



now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;  
how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!  
for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?  
re - mind me of thy pas - sion when my last hour draws nigh.



O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!  
Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;  
Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,  
These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall nev - er move;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.  
mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.  
Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.  
for all who die be - liev - ing die safe - ly in thy love.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, based on Arnulf of Louvain, d. 1250; tr. composite  
Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, German melody, c. 1500; adapt. Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612

**Jolynn Szesny:** *The disciples scattered, undoubtedly fearing for their own safety. How could the triumph of a few days ago end in such a tragic way? What would become of his followers? Who would be responsible for bringing the message to others now that he was dead?*

*Jesus was hastily removed from the cross. Granted permission by Pilate, Joseph of Arimathea, also a follower of Jesus, took the body and wrapped it in a clean cloth and put it in a temporary tomb which he owned. Then he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. There the body would remain until after the Sabbath.*

**HOMILY**

Vicar Abbey Knappman

**SONG**

The Lamb 9 (vs 1-4)

Revelations Praise Band

**BIDDING PRAYER**

Let us pray for the holy church throughout the world. Almighty and eternal God, **You have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ. By your Holy Spirit guide the church and gather it throughout the world. Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name, and bring the good news of salvation in Christ to all people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

Let us pray for our sisters and brothers who share our faith in Jesus Christ. Almighty and eternal God, **You give your church unity. Look with favor on all who follow Jesus your Son. Make all the baptized one in the fullness of faith, and keep us united in the fellowship of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

Let us pray for the Jewish people, the first to hear the word of God. Almighty and eternal God, **Long ago you gave your promise to Abraham and Sarah, and your teaching to Moses. Hear our prayers that the people you called and elected as your own may receive the fulfillment of the covenant's promises. We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

Let us pray for those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ. Almighty and eternal God, **Gather into your embrace all those who call out to you under different names. Bring an end to inter-religious strife, and make us more faithful witnesses of the love made known to us in your Son. We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

Let us pray for those who do not believe in God. Almighty and eternal God, **You created humanity so that all may long to know you and find peace in you. Grant that all may recognize the signs of your love and grace in the world and in the lives of Christians, and gladly acknowledge you as the one true God. We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

Let us pray for those in need. Almighty and eternal God, you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart. Heal the sick, especially Allie, Bridget, Jennifer, Lynn, Mr. Broussard, Allison Gregory, Mel Hadley, Madison Herrod, Steve and Cheryl Williams, Mike Long, Dorothy Benthine, Edward Dykman, Tommy Brewer, Cathy Carleton, Joann Crabtree, Naomi Waterland, Rob Rushton, Sally McCarville, Gabe Derr, Terry Touhey, Mary Jane Auld, Linden Cummings, Lou Echols, Larry Sorenson, Juanita Steinbaugh, Andrew Langr, Mark Krueger, Bob White, and Beverly Carlson.

**Give safety to travelers, especially Roger Poland as he rides across the country and Kyle C deployed to the Middle East, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, especially Ukrainians and Haitians, bring peace to Eastern Europe, the Middle East, Asia, Africa, and the Americas, and deliver your world from falsehood, hunger, and disease. Hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE SEVENTH CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

Poem

When Nothing Is Left

Scott Estrem

SPECIAL MUSIC

**Were You There**

**Octet**

Rachel Bergin, Jean Bardy, Karen Bowman  
Lisa Melgren, Mark Herron, Scott Estrem  
David Siewert and Pastor Orin Cummings,

*The church is darkened, silence for meditation, prayer and departure*

**CELEBRATE THE RESURRECTION WITH US THIS WEEKEND**

Easter Service on Saturday, April 4 at 5:30 p.m.

Easter Service on Sunday, April 5 at 9:30 a.m.

Easter Breakfast on Sunday, April 5 following worship.

Easter Egg Hunt for all children on Sunday, April 5 following worship.