

**BLESSED TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
AT ROSEMONT  
1705 West Broad Street  
Bethlehem, PA 18018**



**LITURGY FOR THE CELEBRATION OF LIFE**

**PALM SUNDAY  
SUNDAY OF THE PASSION**

**April 13, 2025**



*Remember finally, that the ashes that were on your  
forehead are created from the burnt palms of last Palm Sunday.  
New beginnings invariably come from old false things that are allowed to die.  
-Richard Rohr*

**OUR MISSION**

*Christ has called us together to do God's Work.*

**Blessed Trinity Lutheran Church at Rosemont  
is a safe place for all people to worship regardless of  
race, creed, age, national origin,  
cultural background, sexual orientation, class,  
physical or mental or ability.**

## **WELCOME**

Lector Peace be upon all who enter this house. A warm welcome is extended to all, especially those who are gathering here at Blessed Trinity Lutheran Church at Rosemont for the first time, or who have returned after an absence. Your presence both enriches us and this time of celebration together. Everything you need to follow along is found in your bulletin. Everyone is welcome to join us for a time of fellowship following the gathering. Thanks for the gift of you!

## **LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES**

Leader We light our Altar candles to illuminate the world we seek.  
In the search for truth, may we be just.  
In the search for justice, may we be loving.  
And, in loving, may we find peace.

*The altar candles are lit.*

## **INVITATION**

Leader Let us begin the worship service by quieting our hearts and minds with a musical offering.

Leader The Lord is with you.  
Assembly **And also with you.**

**MUSIC FOR MEDITATION** *Trumpet Voluntary* – John Stanley (1712-1786)

### **THE SHOCKING THING**

The shocking thing about the story of Jesus is that it turns common wisdom on its head. It is not the story of a child born in a palace to rich powerful parents, but a child born in a stable to a poor carpenter and his wife. And when, having preached all around the countryside, he decided that he would ride into the local capital city, Jerusalem, he didn't ride on a fine powerful horse, but on a donkey – the lowliest beast of burden, in solidarity with the poor and oppressed of the city.

*The assembly stands as able.*

## **LITURGY OF THE BRANCHES**

Leader For the past five weeks of the Season of Lent  
we have been on a journey  
remembering the story of Jesus' journey.  
Now we're one week from the season called Easter!  
Today is what has traditionally been called "Palm Sunday".  
But you won't hear about 'palms' in this story from Luke.  
That's in the story as told by John.  
And Mark and Matthew mention only "leafy branches".  
Anyway... This is the day on which, our tradition tells us,  
Jesus entered Jerusalem just days before his death.  
So I invite you to reflect on some of the feelings  
associated with Holy Week.

## **BLESSING OF THE PALMS**

Leader Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God.

**Assembly Hosanna in the highest.**

Leader During Lent we have been preparing to remember  
the death and resurrection of Christ.

Leader On this day, Jesus entered the city of Jerusalem.  
He was welcomed with palms and shouts of praise.  
Today we begin our pilgrimage through Holy Week.  
While travelling the path of suffering,  
we reach out and embrace the gift of Easter –  
abundant life for all!

Pastor God is here.

**Assembly God's Spirit is with us.**

Pastor Let us give thanks to our loving God.

**Assembly It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Pastor It is right to praise you, gracious God,  
for the acts of love by which you have drawn us to yourself.  
May these † palm branches  
signify that we are walking in the way  
that leads to fullness of life with Jesus.

**Assembly Amen.**

*Palms will be brought to each pew during the singing of the hymn.*

***PALM SUNDAY*** (Tune: *Ellacombe 2*)

The day of palms is come again,  
day of triumphant praise,  
when crowds excited ran to sing  
the song the psalmist raised.  
'Blessed the one who comes,' they cry,  
'to set his people free.'  
Gladly we join our song with theirs  
who yearn for liberty.

How soon the gladness disappears  
and darkness stalks the streets!  
The king who rides a donkey's foal  
with coats beneath its feet  
will soon a crown of thorns endure,  
a throne of rough-hewn wood.  
A day of agony draws near  
when evil strikes at good.

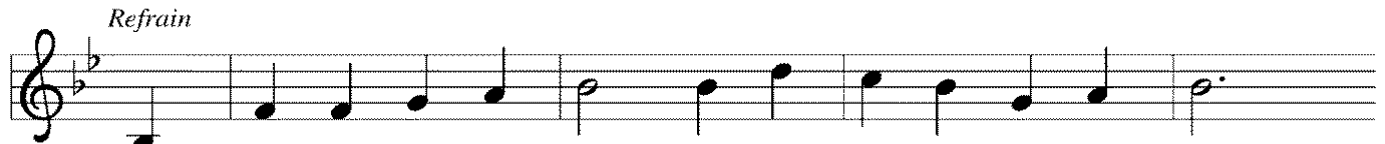
'Hosanna!' turns to 'Crucify!';  
rejoicing turns to scorn.  
If this were all there were to tell,  
how deeply we should mourn.  
Yet death is not the final step  
that Christ our Savior trod.  
Onward he marches, leading home  
the world he won for God.

**Palm Sunday** is like a little glimpse of Easter, a bit of celebration after the somber tone of Lent. In many churches, the palms are saved and burned, and the ashes set aside to use the following year on Ash Wednesday. The cyclic connection of these rituals provides us with touchstones, markers in the blur of our passing days. "We've done this before and we will do it again. All is well."

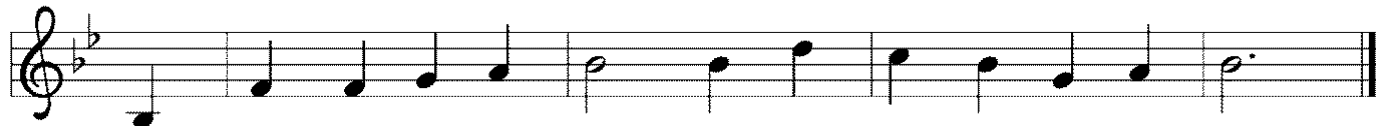
Pastor Let us journey in faith  
Assembly trusting in God's love.

**GATHERING HYMN ELW 344**

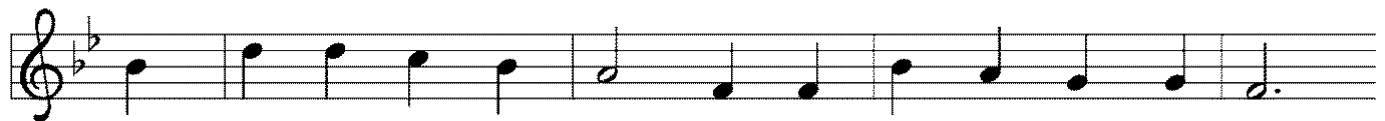
**All Glory, Laud, and Honor**



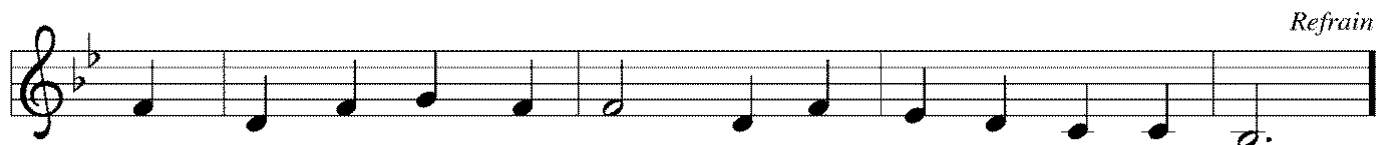
All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re - deem - er, king,



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,



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.

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
Music: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN, Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635

*The assembly may be seated.*

**THE PASSION OF OUR LORD ACCORDING TO LUKE**

The assembly stands as able.

**HYMN OF THE DAY**    ELW 338

**Beneath the Cross of Jesus**



1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;  
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see  
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,  
the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.  
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with - in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,  
And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:  
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.  
the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.  
my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830–1869  
Music: ST. CHRISTOPHER, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

## PRAYERS

Lector We are people of all ages who enter this space  
bringing our joys and concerns.

*Take a moment of silence to remember in your heart  
your Joys and Celebrations, Grievs and Concerns.*

Lector In this abundant blessing  
**Assembly We share the joy.**

Lector In this, our time of need,

**Assembly May love abound.**

Lector And so we take this flame and light our special care candle...

*The Care Candle is lit.*

Lector May we be blessed as we embrace the future.  
Blessed as we lay down the past.  
And blessed in the present moment  
with lively hope and unexpected wonder.

**CHOIR ANTHEM** *Ah, Holy Jesus* – Rouen church melody, setting by William  
Roger Price (b. 1955)

*The assembly stands as they are able.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Leader Let us pray,

**Assembly Living God, when we are afraid, walk beside us.**

**When we are empty, restore us.**

**When we lack purpose, give us strength.**

**For you meet us in the wilderness and, with Christ,  
you bring us home.**

Leader Thanks be to God, the Humble One,

the One who travels towards

all that we fear and all that overpowers us.

Thanks be to God who invites our love

and moves through the center of our life in hope and truth.

Journey with us Humble One as we walk the way of the cross.

**Assembly Amen. May it be so!**

## OFFERTORY HYMN

### Create in Me a Clean Heart

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.

Text: Psalm 51:10–12  
Music: FRANCKE, J.A. Freylinghausen, 1670–1739

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and to view our website and social media sites.



### THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

#### THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

**Pastor** No one comes as a stranger to this holy table.  
All of us are honored and expected guests.  
Each of us is invited to come as we are, holding nothing  
in our hands other than these humble offerings of bread and wine,  
the food and drink of ordinary life made with human hands  
from the gifts which lie in God's creation.

**Assembly** **Blessed be God for ever.**



## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor The Lord is with you.

Assembly **And also with you.**

Pastor Lift up your hearts.

Assembly **We lift them up to God.**

Pastor Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

Assembly **It is right to offer our thanks and praise.**

Pastor We thank you, desert Mother, for in the valley of dry bones  
you create hearts of flesh quickened by the Spirit's breath.

We thank you, wise Sister, that you walk in cloud and fire  
with your lost and faithless people.

We thank you, Son of Heaven, that you empty yourself  
of might and glory and set your face towards the fickle crowd,  
the cruel empire, the faithful despisers.

Pastor We welcome you as God's own fool who's cross brings to nothing the  
violence of the world and reveals another wisdom  
outside the city walls.

Therefore, with all who follow your way with  
the traders and tax collectors, the soldiers and prostitutes,  
and all who caught a glimpse of glory in the humanity you shared, we  
worship God's own holiness revealed in sweat and tears:



Pastor We ask that your Holy Spirit will fall upon us and upon these gifts that these fragile, earthly things may be to us the body and blood of our brother, Jesus Christ, who, on the night that he was betrayed, gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom.

Calling them to his table, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me."

In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me."

As on that night, so here and now he offers himself in touch and taste beyond all words can hold.

## **THE OUR FATHER**

**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,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

Pastor We break the bread of life,  
and that life is the light of the world.

**Assembly God here among us,  
Light in the midst of us,  
Bring us to light and life.**

## **THE INVITATION**

Pastor Come, bringing your varied faiths and backgrounds,  
for all are welcome to share in this act of communion.

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.

## HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

*For the Bread Which You Have Broken* – Hymnal 494

*O Bread of Life from Heaven* – Hymnal 480

*The assembly stands as they are able.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Leader Let us pray,

Assembly **Living God, when we are afraid, walk beside us.**

**When we are empty, restore us.**

**When we lack purpose, give us strength.**

**For you meet us in the wilderness and, with Christ,  
 you bring us home. Amen.**

## Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!



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!

Text: Henry H. Milman, 1791–1868, alt.

Music: THE KING'S MAJESTY, Graham George, 1912–1993

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## PARTING WORDS - Philippians 2:5-11

Pastor

In your relationships with one another,  
have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

Who, being in very nature God,  
did not consider equality with God  
something to be used  
to his own advantage;  
rather, he made himself nothing  
by taking the very nature of a servant,  
being made in human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a man,  
he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—  
even death on a cross!

Therefore, God exalted him to the highest place  
and gave him the name that is above every name,  
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue acknowledge  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.



## WORDS OF BLESSING

Pastor May the blessings of God † Father, Son and Holy Spirit  
go and remain with you Always.

**Assembly Amen. May it be so!**

In observance of the Lenten season, postludes will not be played until Easter Day.

**Thank you** for worshiping with us at BT@R today.  
We are grateful for your presence and pray that you were blessed  
by the service.

## FELLOWSHIP

Morning coffee and tea are now served.



You are invited upstairs to Laros Hall to share in this time of fellowship.



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For upcoming events at  
Blessed Trinity Lutheran Church at Rosemont



## **Holy Week**

### Connected Stations of the Cross

April 16<sup>th</sup>

12noon

6:00pm

### Maundy Thursday

April 17<sup>th</sup>

5:30pm

Potluck dinner, worship with communion,  
play *The Longest Night* by Audrey Surma (3 person play)  
to be performed during worship.

### Good Friday

April 18<sup>th</sup>

12noon Stations of the Cross

7:00pm Tenebrae

### Easter Sunday

April 20<sup>th</sup>

9:30am Worship



# Till We Meet Again

April 13, 2025 - Worship 9:30am

## Thank You Letter

Dear Church Family at Blessed Trinity at Rosemont, it was so wonderful to see you and spend time with you last weekend. I truly enjoy visiting your church and being a part of your church family. Thank you for all your hard work and effort to make the blankets for our families. I can't wait to pass them along. Have a wonderful and joyous Easter!

Jennifer M. Driscoll, MBA, Founder/Executive Director of Lily's Hope Foundation

## Church Triumphant

Wilma Kolman entered the Church Triumphant on Thursday, March 27th. Please keep Wilma's family and friends in your prayers. Services will be private. Read Wilma's obituary on the Heintzelman Funeral Home website.

## Last to Leave?

If you are the last to leave after a committee meeting, worship service, or any other event at church, please lock the doors and turn off the lights. Leigh, Pastor Jack or any Property Committee member will be happy to show you which light switches go to which lights, how to adjust fans and the heat/AC and how to lock and unlock the doors, just ask. Thank you for your help in keeping our building safe, secure and energy efficient!

## Offering Statements

This is the last week to pick up your offering statement for 2024. They are in Laros Hall on the table next to the piano. Homebound members can call to have their statement mailed. All statements not picked up by April 15<sup>th</sup> will be destroyed.

## Today's Worship Ministers

*April 13, 2025*

**Acolyte** – John Faulch

**Altar Guild** – Ron & Sandy Horwath, Joan Erb

**Assisting Minister** – Charlie Kuhns

**Coffee Hour Hosts** – Maria Skrilec, Kathy Coffin, Carol Quirk, Kathy Gerhard, Jean Finn, Joan Erb

**Communion Assistants** – Loree Kuhns, Joan Erb

**Counters** – Diane Case, Cheryl Achey, Mickey Curry

**Flower Delivery** – Karen Favinger

**Greeters** – Kathy Gerhard, Cindy Kemp

**Key Attendant** – Barry Sterner

**Lector** – Nancy Kostas

**Ushers** – Rich Romig, Steve Pescek

*April 20, 2025*

**Acolyte** – Joan Erb

**Altar Guild** – Cheryl Achey, Mickey Curry, Gayle Nemeth

**Assisting Minister** – Charlie Kuhns

**Coffee Hour Hosts** – (No Coffee Hour)

**Communion Assistants** –

Helga Rimonneau, Cindy Kemp

**Counters** – Donna Machin, Tom Starrett, Bill Schellhaas

**Flower Delivery** – No Altar Flowers

**Greeters** – Kathy Coffin, Jean Finn

**Key Attendant** – Barry Sterner

**Lector** – Charlie Kuhns

**Ushers** – Dolores Kennedy, Pat & Ed Little

04/06/2025 Attendance: 102

Offering \$5,547

## This Week at BT@R

### Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup>: Palm Sunday, Pantry Sunday

9:30am Worship

11:00am Congregational Council Meeting (Conference Room)

### Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>:

7:00pm Book Club (Laros Hall)

7:00pm Scout Meeting (Lower-Level Hall)

### Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>:

12:00pm Connected to the Stations of the Cross (Laros Hall)

6:00pm Connected to the Stations of the Cross (Laros Hall)

### Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>: Maundy Thursday

5:30pm Potluck Meal and Worship w/Play & Communion (Laros Hall)

### Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>: Good Friday

12:00pm Stations of the Cross (Nave)

7:00pm Tenebrae (Nave)

### Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup>: Easter Sunday

9:30am Worship

## Staff

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