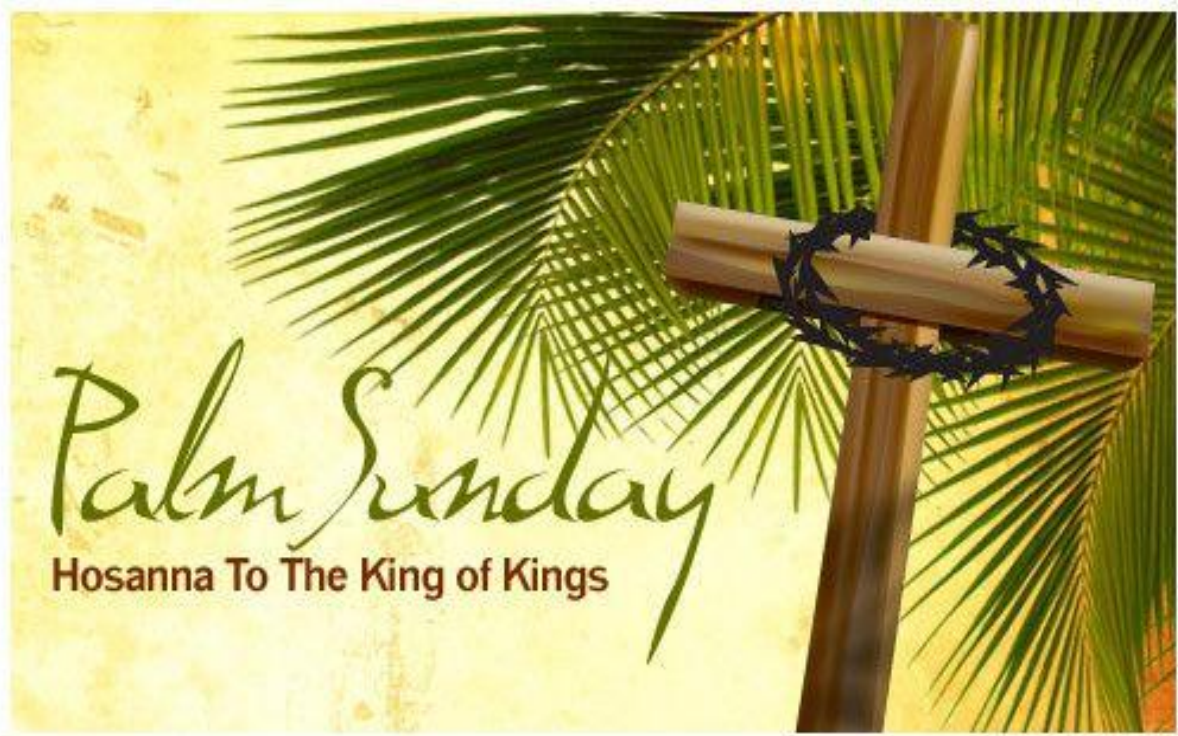




Faith
Lutheran Church
of Rotonda West
Listening • Caring • Serving



Faith Lutheran Church - Rotonda West - Florida

Divine Service Order

** Indicates a time to stand (if you are able)*

THE GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Welcoming of Guests and Visitors

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Jim Porter, Sharon Ulissi, George Myers, Ruth Hallam, Cathie VanAllsburg, Sara Speth, Rosie Buccine, Cyndy Hoops, Gene Goldsberry, Candace Montesi, Steve LeVasseur, Linda Jasper, Steve & Debby Wolfe, Ernie & Linda Ovitz, and Ken & JoAnne Stephens.

Prelude

***Call to Gather**

P We gather in the name of God, ✚ Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C We gather to praise our triune God.

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

C Hosanna in the highest!

[Please, be seated.]

INTRODUCTION TO PALM SUNDAY

L Today, we encounter the paradox that defines our faith: Jesus Christ is glorified king and humiliated servant. We, too, are full of paradox: like Peter, we fervently desire to follow Christ, but find ourselves afraid, denying God. We wave palms in celebration today as Christ comes into our midst, and we follow with trepidation as His path leads to death on the cross. Amid it all, we are invited into this paradoxical promise of life through Christ's broken body and outpoured love in a meal of bread and wine. We begin this week, which stands at the center of the church year, anticipating the completion of God's astounding work.

THE BLESSING OF PALMS

L Together we pray,

C 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.


[Please, stand in body or spirit.]

***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,
4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.

Refrain



now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One.
To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.

[Please, remain standing.]

*A BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses. Let us do that responsively, but first individually and in silence.

[Silence is kept for reflection.]

P Gracious God,
C **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you.
C **Gracious God, have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:
C **Gracious God, have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit.
C **Gracious God, have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdaining the living water Christ offers.
C **Gracious God, have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world.
C **Gracious God, have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life.
C **Gracious God, have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

P In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace. Amen.

[Please, remain standing if you are able.]



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -
 2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from
 3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -
 4 Three-per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.
 fruit-less fear un - furl our lives like spring-time bud and flow'r.
 tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.
 we, when all our search-ing ends, may see you face to face.

***THE GREETING**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

***THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Together we pray,

C Everlasting God, 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.

[Please, be seated.]

THE WORD

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

THE WORD IS READ

FIRST READING*Ezekiel 10:18-19; 11:23; 43:1-5*

Ezekiel 10:18 Then the glory of the Lord went out from the entryway of the temple and stopped above the cherubim. ¹⁹The cherubim lifted up their wings and rose up from the earth in my sight as they went out with the wheels beside them. They stopped at the entrance of the east gate of the house of the Lord, and the glory of the God of Israel was above them. [...]

11:23 And the glory of the Lord ascended from the middle of the city and stopped on the mountain east of the city. [...]

43:1 Then he brought me to the gate, the gate facing east. ²And there the glory of the God of Israel was coming from the east; the sound was like the sound of mighty waters, and the earth shone with his glory. ³The vision I saw was like the vision that I had seen when he came to destroy the city and like the vision that I had seen by the River Chebar, and I fell upon my face. ⁴As the glory of the Lord entered the temple by the gate facing east, ⁵the spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court, and the glory of the Lord filled the temple.

L The word of God.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING*Philippians 2:5-11*

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard
equality with God as something to be exploited,
⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name
that is above every name,

¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

L The Word of God.
C Thanks be to God.

[Please, stand if you're able.]

***Gospel Acclamation**

We Are Turning, Lord, to Hear You

S205b

We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind—
slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

***GOSPEL READING**

Matthew 21:1-11

P A reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

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

21 When 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:

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.”

P The Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

[Please, be seated.]

THE WORD IS PROCLAIMED

PASTOR ESTEVEZ

[Please, stand if you're able.]

*Hymn of Response

Jesus, Keep Me Near

ELW 335

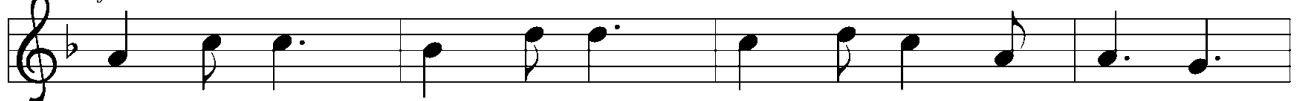


1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



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.

*THE CREEDS WE CONFESS

THE NICENE CREED

L Together we confess our faith,
**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

[Please, be seated.]

THE PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

L Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us

pray for the world and its needs.

each petition concludes... Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

L Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

C **Amen.**

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

THE MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

In thanksgiving for God's blessing, we respond with our tithe and offerings.

Offertory Interlude

[Please, stand if you're able.]

*Offertory Hymn *Praise God From Whom All Blessings* ELW 885

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

L Together we pray,

C **O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

***SURSUM CORDA**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, who was obedient and humble, even to the point of death on the cross. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***Sanctus**

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

S207



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

*THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

- P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.
- P After supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

*THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P Now, with thankful hearts, let us all pray the prayer our Lord taught us. Together we pray,
- C 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.**

[Please, be seated.]

THE INVITATION

- P Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

THE DISTRIBUTION

*As we celebrate the meal of our Lord, all are invited. If you are a guest and regularly commune at your church, you are welcome to commune here. For those not communing, please keep your hands folded, and you will receive a blessing. Bring your child if you wish for him or her to receive a blessing, too. Both **wine (red)** and **grape juice (white)** are available at communion. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer, notify the pastor. If you are unable to come to the altar rail and would like to receive communion in your seat, please notify an usher.*

[After all have communed, please stand.]

***P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C Amen.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P Together we pray,

C **God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

THE SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***THE BENEDICTION**

P Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, **✝** bless you now and always.

C Amen.



1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now on your ho - ly pas - sion;
2 Make me see your great dis - tress, an - guish, and af - flic - tion,
3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a - lone make me see your pas - sion,
4 Let me view your pain and loss with re - pen - tant griev - ing,



let your Spir - it now en - dow me for med - i - ta - tion.
bonds and blows and wretch - ed - ness and your cru - ci - fix - ion;
but its cause to me make known and its ter - mi - na - tion.
nor pre - pare a - gain your cross by un - ho - ly liv - ing.



Grant that I in love and faith may the im - age cher - ish
make me see how scourge and rod, spear and nails, did wound you,
For I al - so and my sin wrought your deep af - flic - tion;
May I give you love for love! Hear me, O my Sav - ior,



of your suf - f'ring, pain, and death, that I may not per - ish.
how you died for those, O God, who with thorns had crowned you.
this the shame - ful cause has been of your cru - ci - fix - ion.
that I may in heav'n a - bove sing your praise for - ev - er.

***THE DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace, believe the good news.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Faith's Weekly Announcements
Welcome to all of you attending this morning!

A Special Invitation

Have you ever wondered what it was like to be in that upper room and celebrate the Passover one last time with Jesus? You can get a taste of that experience this year on Maundy Thursday here at Faith. The seating will be banquet style and you will get to sample some of the foods typically shared during a seder celebration (not an actual meal, small bites). A service of this type was held here many years ago, and it always proved very moving and educational. Plan now to join us this Thursday, April 2nd, at 5:00 pm to enjoy and learn. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

Easter Lilies

A few more lilies are needed to beautify the sanctuary on Easter Sunday. Sign-up sheet is in the narthex on the small bulletin board. Cost is \$12, and you may take your plant home after the Easter Sunday service.

Holy Week and Easter Worship

Thursday, April 2 – Maundy Thursday Seder at 5:00 pm
Friday, April 3 – Good Friday Tenebrae service at 5:00 pm
Easter morning, April 5 – Easter worship at 10:45

Birthdays & Anniversaries

If you did not see your name on our B&A list, that means Barbra doesn't have it. Please call her at the office and she can add your name for next year.

Attendance Last Week: 84

April Ladies Luncheon - Another New Place and Time

In April we will be dining at Grove City Bar & Grill (formerly Ricaltini's). This one has been on my list for us to try for over 2 years and they finally opened recently! Please join us on April 15, 2026, at 12 NOON (note the time change). They are located at 1997 Kentucky Avenue on the corner of Placida Road (near San Casa intersection & stoplight) in Grove City. We will be sitting inside this time. A menu is on the bulletin board in the narthex, along with a sign-up sheet. They have a somewhat limited menu but with lots of great choices: pizza's, sandwiches, salads as well as a nice selection of entrees for those who like a little bit more at lunch. Deadline to sign up is Sunday April 12th. Make tax day something to look forward to. For more information, see or call Kathie Wiley (941-662-5383). Sign up today.

WE PRAY FOR...

Tracie Thompson
Barbara Rodvik

Bob Ash
Ginny Linsberg

Jim Hughs
Shirley Rice

THIS WEEK AT FAITH

Every week day morning	6:30 am	AA meets at church
Monday	8:00 pm	AA meets at church
Tuesday	8:30 am	Work Crew
	9:00 am	Chicks
Thursday	5:00 pm	Maundy Thursday
Friday	5:00 pm	Good Friday
Sunday	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:15 am	Coffee Fellowship
	10:45 am	Easter Morning worship

Serving Today

Altar Guild: Debra Easterday

Lector/ Worship Assistant: Debby Porter

Ushers: Brian Lindhurst, Noma Hickok, Ruthie Rohrbach

Your church council: Jeff Petersen (President), Jeff Kamm (Vice President), Dave Johnsen (Secretary), Jim Porter (Treasurer), Sue Baran, Jan Moynihan, Gene Newlon, Ken Stephens and Dave Woodliff.

Faith Lutheran Church of Rotonda

551 Rotonda Boulevard West – Rotonda West, FL 33947

(941) 697-3313

office@alivingfaith.org

We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation

Pastor: Syl Estevez Secretary: Barbra Davis

Organist: Candace Montesi Custodian: Cyndy Hoops

Secretary Office Hours: 9:00 am – Noon (M-F)

Our Guiding Principle: GOD'S GRACE WINS....

As we WORSHIP Jesus as our Lord and Savior

As we LOVE one another, welcoming everyone

As we SERVE, inspired by the Holy Spirit

As a deep FAITH is taught and caught

As we make WITNESS and MISSION our life



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America