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Notice of live streaming:
Today's worship service is being live streamed to YouTube with video coverage of leaders and worshippers.

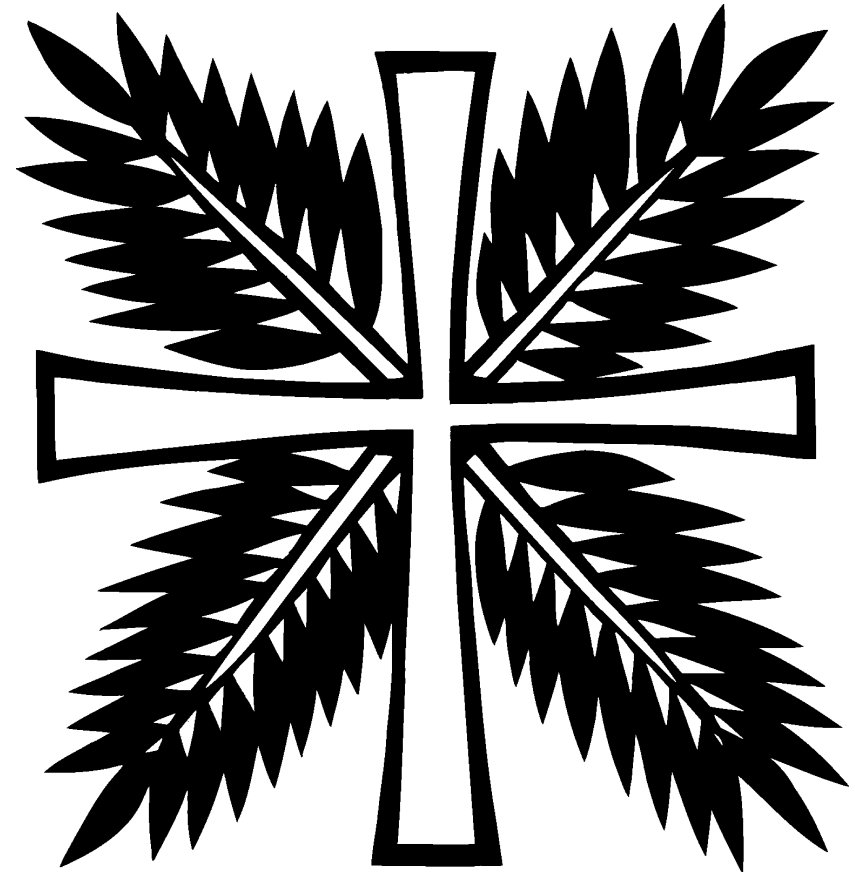


St. John's Lutheran Church Parkville



stjohnsparkville

Sunday of the Passion
Palm Sunday
March 29, 2026



St. John's Lutheran Church of Parkville

stjohnsparkville.org

(410) 665-1234

office@stjohnsparkville.org

Text SJPARKVILLE to 22828 to join our email list.

Welcome to St. John's—we are glad you're here! Whether you have worshiped with us many times, or this is your first time, there is a place for you here. Your presence among us is a gift.

Introduction to the Day

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 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 that stands at the center of the church year, anticipating the completion of God's astounding work.

(Please take a moment to silence all electronics. Thank you!)

(Hymns are taken from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, the red book in the pew rack.)

WELCOME

PRELUDE *Pachelbel Canon* *Yoon-Mee Chong, violinist*
(Music: Johann Pachelbel, 1653-1706; Arr. Daniel Dorff; Arr. © 1990, 1993, Theodore Presser Co.)

(Please stand as you are able.)

GATHERING

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

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL

Matthew 21:1-11

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus enters Jerusalem

¹ When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ² 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. ³ If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." ⁴ This 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."

⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷ they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ The 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!"

This week's schedule		
Today	9:00 am	Sunday School & Faith & Fellowship
	9:00 am	Handbell Choir (Music Room)
	10:00 am	Live & Online Worship
Mon.	7:00 pm	Preschool Board Meeting (Preschool Room)
Tues.	11:00 am	Cemetery Committee Meeting (Music Room)
Wed.	9:30 am	Busy Bees (Smith Building)
	7:00 pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
Thurs.	6:00 pm	Maundy Thursday/Community Meal
	7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Service
Fri.	12:00 pm	Good Friday Ecumenical Service (begins at St. Ursula)
	7:00 pm	Good Friday Service with Choir Cantata
Sat.		

Counting our Blessings			
Wed.	Attendance: 42	2026	
3/18	Offering: \$ 200	January Offering Income	\$ 18,316
		January Other Income	\$ 8,199
Sun.	Attendance: 138	January Total Income	\$ 26,515
3/22	Offering: \$7,282	January Expenses	\$ 37,858
	Homebound: 16		
		YTD Offering Income	\$18,316
		YTD Other Income	\$ 8,199
		YTD Total Income	\$26,515
		YTD Expenses	\$37,858



Prayer List

Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

For health & healing: Gerry Steg, Jim Morrow, Bill Arnold, Sue Wenneson, Judy Jasinski, Ruth Albrecht, Sheila Bender, Ethan Alford, Barbara Conrad, Lou Carletti, Landon Ullmann, John McLaughlin, Barbara Mueller, Tony Jasinski, Danyiel Cleckley, Pat Denk, Olusegun Fowode, Marge Jasper, Julie Hastings, Kim Townsley, Bill Fliegel, Diane Carroll, Richard Souders, Oluseye Fowode, Robert Suznick, Lisa Duerling, Debbie Miller, Sandy Scott and Vickie Jasinski

For family & friends: Megan Erpenstein, Bill Beck, Henry Davis, Anita, Peggy Denk, Marianne Widderich, Patricia Dunn, Jerre Keller, Ian Miles, Robin Bailey, Jennifer Ward, Elaine Perzan, Tommy Martin, Joe Brown, Karen Alban, Janet Barney, Tony & Barb Distefano, Jane Esterby, Leroy Harrison, Cierra Harrison, Owen Hastings, Peggy Van Houten, Lou Ermer, and Joong In Rhee

For the military and their families: Ryan McCann, Mason Arnold, Kalib McCann, Leroy Keller, Seaman E-3 Carson Anthony Bowser, Corporal Justin Ferro, Staff Sgt. Brandan Hartmann, Michael Anthony Tucker, and all those in harm's way

For those grieving family & friends of: Roxann Kelly, Marion McDonough, Charles Bender and Janet Roth

For St. John's Caring Friends: Patricia Becker, Agatha Biensach-Daniels, Larry Conley, Barbara Conrad, Margaret Eubert, June Franz, Betty Glassband, Richard Hoerner, Audrey Lentz, Carl Lotterer, Barbara Mueller, Paul Nolder, Doris Rye, Mildred Schaffer, Kim Townsley, and Emma Volz

Note regarding the Prayer List

Those on the family & friends prayer list will remain for 6 weeks and then be removed—unless otherwise specified. If at any time you would like to add or remove someone from the list, please contact the church office.

¹⁰ When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” ¹¹ The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

BLESSING OF PALMS

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

PROCESSION

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

You are invited to join in the procession, following behind the cross. You are also welcome to remain in your pew and wave a palm branch as “All Glory, Laud, and Honor” is sung.

GATHERING HYMN

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

ELW 344 (vv. 1-4)

(Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760-821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.; Music: Melchior Teschner, 1584-1635)

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

GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

(The assembly is seated.)

Announcements & Upcoming Event

Next Week— Sunday, April 5th—Easter Sunday

† 9:00 am—Handbell Choir

† 9:00 am—Faith + Fellowship

† 10:00 am—Live & Worship in-person
and livestreamed on our YouTube Channel


*There will be no Sunday School


Visit stjohnsparkville.org




The beautiful flowers gracing our worship service today are given in honor of all who have loved and sacrificed for others by Darlene Kestler.


We are taking altar flower dedications for 2026. The cost is \$50. Contact Rachel Hills at rm_hills@yahoo.com if you would like to sponsor the flowers. Dates available are May 3rd and 24th, June 28th, July 19th, September 6th and 27th, October 4th and 18th, November 1st, 8th and 29th, December 6th and 27th.


Nursery Care for infants through age 2 is available during the Sunday School hour while parents are attending Faith and Fellowship. During worship, care is available for infants through kindergarten. 

 Sunday School takes place on Sunday mornings from 9 am-9:45 am. Children ages 3 through 5th grade meet on the third floor. Middle and High School students meet in the Youth Room on the second floor. **Please Note...There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday.**

Faith and Fellowship meets in the Fellowship Hall on the first floor from 9 am—9:45 am each Sunday. This is an opportunity for adults to gather for light refreshments and to grow in faith. 

 St. John's Youth Group meets on the first Sunday of the month from about 11:15 am—12:30 pm. This group is for middle and high school students. Join us as we have fun, get to know one another and grow in faith. See you there! **Please Note....We will not have Youth Group in April but will resume in May.**

Join us for our Friday morning Bible Study at 11:00 am in the Smith Building.  Our study is on the Parables of Jesus. All are welcome!

 The Food for Thought Program is providing 60 food bags for 30 students in need at Carney Elementary. **At this time we are in need of: Chef Boyardee single serving meals, pudding cups and pop tarts.** Don't feel like shopping? Monetary donations are always welcome.

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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep - a - rate us from the love of God.



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep - a - rate us from the love of God.

(The assembly is seated.)

GOSPEL *The Passion of Our Lord according to Matthew* Matthew 26:14-27:66

(Please stand as you are able.)

HYMN OF THE DAY

There in God's Garden

ELW 342 (vv. 1-4)

(Text: Kiraly Imre von Pecselyi, c. 1590-c. 1641; tr. Erik Routley, 1917-1982; Music: K. Lee Scott, b. 1950; Text © 1976 Hinshaw Music, Inc.; Music © 1987 Birnamwood Publications, a div. of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc.)

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

PEACE The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

(We offer each other a sign of God's peace. Afterwards, the assembly is seated.)

MEAL

OFFERTORY MUSIC *Meditation on "Martyrdom"* *Craig A. Penfield*
(© 2018 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

Thank you for your generous support of St. John's. During this time an offering is gathered for the mission and ministry of the Church as together we experience and share God's abundant grace and love.

Many in our congregation give online. You can set up one-time or recurring donations on our website stjohnsparkville.org. Checks and cash may be placed in the offering plate. You may also donate via venmo @stjohnsparkville



OFFERING HYMN *Change My Heart, O God* **ELW 801**

Refrain

Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.

End

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.

Refrain

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

(Text and music: Eddie Espinosa; Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. Music Services)

SENDING

BLESSING

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.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN *Christ, the Life of All the Living* **ELW 339**

(Text: Ernest Christoph Homburg, 1605-1681; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.; Music: Das grosse Cantional, Darmstadt, 1687)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Believe the good news.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Jesus Paid It All* *John T. Grape/arr. Richard Dwyer*
(Arrangement © 1983 Broadman Press)

Holy Week Worship Schedule

Maundy Thursday, April 2nd

6:00 pm—Maundy Thursday/Community Meal
7:00 pm—Maundy Thursday Service with Holy Communion

Good Friday, April 3rd

12:00 noon—Procession & Ecumenical Stations of the Cross
(Please note: The Ecumenical Procession begins at St. Ursula Catholic Church)
7:00 pm—Good Friday Service with Choir Cantata

Easter Sunday, April 5th

10:00 am -Service of Holy Communion
Live & Online Worship

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COMMUNION

All are welcome at Christ's table. Bread is received in the hands. Gluten-free wafers are available-if you need one, please ask the pastor. To receive the wine, take an empty cup and the communion assistant will fill it with wine. The cups that are already filled contain grape juice. After drinking, place the used cup in the basket on your way back to your seat.

If you are not communing you are welcome to come forward for a blessing, crossing your arms over your chest.

LAMB OF GOD



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

ELW 338

(Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830-1869; Music: Frederick C. Maker, 1844-1927)

On My Heart Imprint Your Image

ELW 811

(Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634-1703; tr. Peer O. Stromme, 1856-1921, alt.; Music: Johann B. Konig, 1691-1758)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING PRAYER

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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

PREFACE

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;
whose suffering and death gave salvation to all.
You gather your people around the tree of the cross,
transforming death into life.
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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
you have brought us this far along the way.

In times of bitterness you did not abandon us,
but guided us into the path of love and light.

In every age you sent prophets
to make known your loving will for all humanity.

The cry of the poor has become your own cry;
our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire.

In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant
to preach good news to the afflicted,

to break bread with the outcast and despised,
and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

In the night in which he was betrayed...

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection,
we await the day when Jesus shall return
to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death.
Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.

Amen.

Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate,
to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup
with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world.
Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.

Amen.

Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age,
that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection,
we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

(The assembly is seated.)

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table.

Feast on God's goodness and mercy.