

# HOLLYWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday of the Passion / Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 2, 2023



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



## **WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

**Empowered by the Holy Spirit, our mission is to offer God's Word of Love, Grace, Mercy and Justice to our homes, congregation, city and all creation.**

### **Welcome**

We are delighted you have come to worship. Relax, sing, and center yourself on the presence of God here today. Let the congregation and this bulletin guide you and follow along as you are able. Join us after the service for refreshments. **Due to the new city ordinance, please wear your mask at all times. Regardless of vaccination status.**

### **Visitor**

Please complete the attendance card located in the pew, you may also include a prayer, concerns, and other information you would like the church to know. If you are interested in meeting with pastor, learning more about or community or becoming a member, please make a note on the card.

### **Music**

If you don't know a song, sing along as you are able and don't worry about getting it right. Just praise.

### **Children are Welcomed Here**

Children enrich our worship experience. The sounds of crying, laughing, and talking are welcome in our church; these sounds are a true gift and remind us of God's presence. Children may find crayons and coloring sheets helpful during worship, you can find some in our narthex.

### **Holy Communion**

The congregation will be celebrating Holy Communion this morning. All are welcome no matter your background. Both wine and grape juice, and gluten-free bread are offered at the table. **Due to covid we ask that when you stand at the rail you keep 3-6 feet from others. Once you have received communion, please go back to your seat using the far left or right walkways.**

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

*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to or feel comfortable.*

**ACCLAMATION**

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.**

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, 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 says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

“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.”

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

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?”<sup>11</sup> The 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

## 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 - tal s in cho - rus make re - ply.  
 our praise and prayer and an - them s 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.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

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.**

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

## FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a

A reading from Isaiah.

*The servant of the Lord expresses absolute confidence in his final vindication, despite the fact that he has been struck and spit upon. This characteristic of the servant played an important role in the early church's understanding of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus.*

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher,  
that I may know how to sustain

the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens—  
wakens my ear

to listen as those who are taught.

The Lord God has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious,  
I did not turn backward.

I gave my back to those who struck me,  
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;  
I did not hide my face  
from insult and spitting.

The Lord GOD helps me;  
therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like flint,  
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;  
he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries?

Let them confront me.

It is the Lord GOD who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 31:9-16**

*Refrain:* Into your hands, O LORD, I commend my spirit. **R**

Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble;  
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

**For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing;**

**my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.**

I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to my acquaintances;  
when they see me in the street they avoid me.

**Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind;**

**I am as useless as a broken pot. R**

For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around;  
they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

**But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD.**

**I have said, "You are my God.**

My times are in your hand;  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

**Let your face shine upon your servant;**

**save me in your steadfast love." R**

### **SECOND READING: Philippians 2:5-11**

A reading from Philippians.

*Paul uses an early Christian hymn to help us comprehend Jesus' obedient selflessness on the cross and how God has made Christ lord over all reality. The perspective of the cross becomes the way we rightly understand God, Christ, our own lives, and fellowship within the community of Christ.*

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,  
who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form,  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.

Therefore, God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and 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.**

*The Congregation Is Invited To Stand As They Are Able To Or Feel Comfortable Proclaiming The Word Of God.*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 26:14-29**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, "What will you give me if I betray him to you?" They paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, my time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal. When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, "Surely not I, Lord?" He answered, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born." Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" He replied, "You have said so."

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The congregation is invited to be seated.*

## **SERMON**

Ted Goulet

**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.

**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 INTERCESSION**

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Save your church, O God. Enable us to boldly confess in every time and place that Jesus Christ is Lord. With the humility of a servant, equip congregations, synods, and other ministry settings to proclaim your extravagant love for all. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Save your creation, O God. Every living being you have made has a purpose. Give us a renewed appreciation of farm animals who labor in the fields, service animals who accompany their human companions, and beloved pets who live alongside us. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Save the peoples of the earth, O God. Restore dignity to those who are scorned and persecuted for their religious beliefs or political activism and deliver them from the hand of their enemies. Bring peace to places where conflict runs deep. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Save those who cry to you in any need, O God. Watch over all who are incarcerated or awaiting trial and stand with those who are unjustly accused. Be present with those feeling isolated, lonely, or fearful. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Save us in your love, O God. Guide the work of church musicians, pastors, choirs, readers, deacons, technicians, acolytes, and all who assist in worship. Sustain them in their leadership as they accompany congregations through this Holy Week. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Save us at the last, O God. We give you thanks for your saints of old who embodied your servant love. As you came to their aid, so deliver us in times of trial, that every knee would bend in praise to you. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

For what else shall we pray for?

*We invite prayers from the congregation to be shared.*

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*The congregation is invited to be seated.*

*The usher will now pass with the offering plate.*

**MUSIC** *Majesty arr. Dick Torrans*

Ma-Li Lin

*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to or feel comfortable.*

## OFFERING

### **Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Offering Song**



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and dreams of  
all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble  
with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

**God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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 might,**  
**heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -**  
**san - na. 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.**

**NOTE:** The bread, wine, and juice were consecrated at the previous service by Pastor Marc Mohr.

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy God,  
you alone are holy,  
you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:  
beyond the stars;  
beneath the sea;  
within each cell;  
with every breath.

**We praise you, O God.**

Generations bless your faithfulness:  
through the water;  
by night and day;  
across the wilderness;  
out of exile;  
into the future.

**We bless you, O God.**

We give you thanks for your dear Son:  
at the heart of human life;  
near to those who suffer;  
beside the sinner;  
among the poor;  
with us now.

**We thank you, O God.**

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.  
Again, 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.

Remembering his love for us  
on the way,  
at the table,  
and to the end,  
we proclaim the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:  
in our gathering;  
within this meal;  
among your people;  
throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks  
to you, holy God,  
through Christ Jesus,  
by your Spirit,  
in your church,  
without end.  
**Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

## COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
Amen.

## COMMUNION SONG

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.

*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to or feel comfortable.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## SENDING OF COMMUNION

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick, *homebound, and imprisoned*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

## BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and **+** give you peace.  
**Amen.**

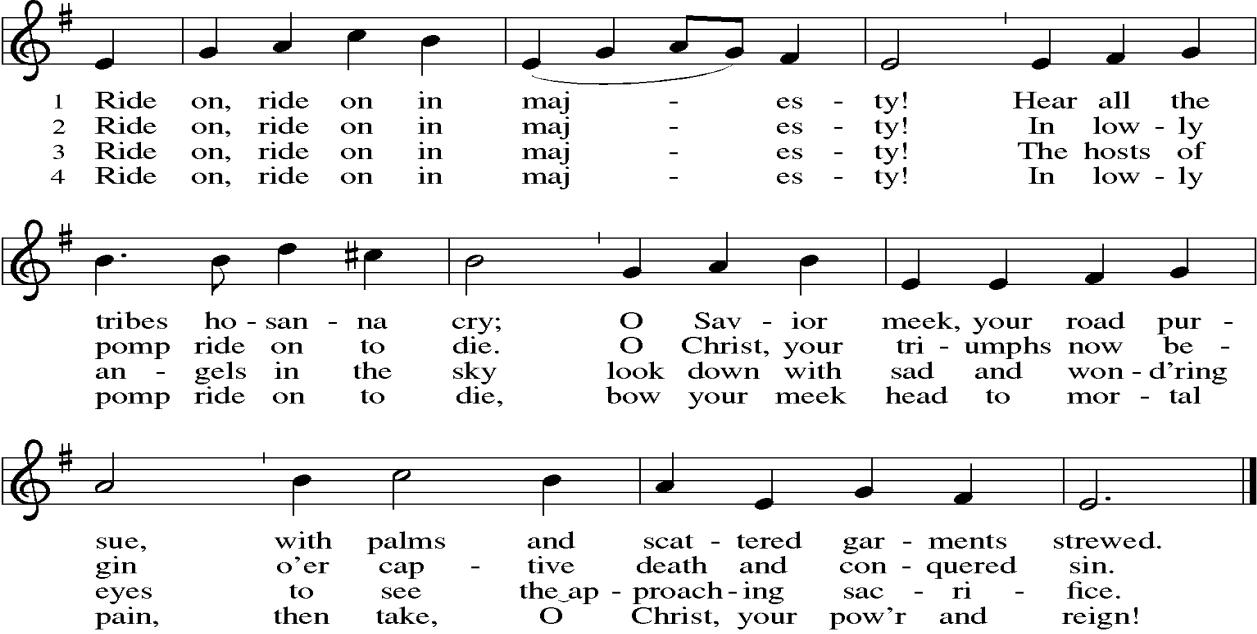
**SENDING SONG****Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!**

(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**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.****POSTLUDE** *Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness* arr. Diane Bish

Ma-Li Lin





Please offer your prayers throughout the week for the following individuals:

**Special Prayer:**

God of peace, give leaders of nations the wisdom to choose peace over war, dialogue over conflict.  
Comfort those who are in fear and are caught in the middle of the conflict.

**For healing:**

Sandy, Patrick Tapia, David Dias

**For trust in your mercy:**

Jason Meadows

**For wholeness and well-being:**

Roy Stone

**For strength and healing in fighting cancers:**

Barbara "B" Wilke, Beverly Harris, Jennifer Yates, Johnny Birge, Will Terry, Jaha Blackwell, Sam Gros, Debra Lande, Tim Pugh

**For hopefulness and strength:**

June Gough, Family of Rosemary Kuhn

For all people in the military who are deployed or serving our country.

**Memorial Candles are lit in memory of:**

Rosemary Kuhn, Bob Halvorson, Elizabeth Woodbury

As a reminder, this community is inclusive and welcomes all of God's people. The rainbow candelabra located on the altar serves as a reminder of this community's inclusive and intentional welcome to the LGBTQ+ community.

The paschal candle located at the entrance of the sanctuary is used by our congregation as the welcoming light of Jesus Christ. In the same way that it has traditionally been utilized as light to the world.

If anyone would like to add or re-add a name please email or call our office.

[hollyluth@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hollyluth@sbcglobal.net) (323)667-1212

Names normally remain on our list for a month or it's removed before by request.



# HOLLYWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH

## 101st Year,

We are a congregation of the Southwest California Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Email: [hollyluth@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hollyluth@sbcglobal.net) Phone: (323)667-1212  
Website: [www.hollywoodlutheranchurch.net](http://www.hollywoodlutheranchurch.net) Youtube:HLCstudios

### In Today's Liturgy

Sermon: Ted Goulet  
Assisting Minister: Bill Richards  
Lector: Tom Scott

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Plants are given to the glory of God

### Upcoming Calendar at a glance

Food Pantry Delivery on Mondays 8:00 am  
Food Pantry Distribution on Wednesdays 10:00am-1:00pm  
Mariposa Ministry March 19<sup>th</sup> (3rd Saturday of the month)

- The HLC Food Pantry serves over 100 families a week. Please see Tom Scott for the next opportunity to lend your support or volunteer.
- Mariposa Ministry is always accepting letter writing volunteers, any help would make a difference. Every 3rd Saturday of the month is when they all get together to write letters. Please see David Conrad for details.



**EASTER LILLIES**  
**DONATION: \$12.00**



In Honor Of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory Of: \_\_\_\_\_

# Of Plants or Flower Bouquets: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

(Plants & Flowers will be available to take home after the Easter service)