

Christ Hamilton United Lutheran Church
419 Bossardsville Road
Stroudsburg, PA

Celebrating the Passion of our Lord

April 13, 2025



Over his head they put
the charge against him, which read,

“This is Jesus,
the King of the Jews.”

MATTHEW 27:37

Welcome to Christ Hamilton! Thank you for joining with us in worship in whatever manner you can. This service is also available anytime on Facebook or our website along with a bulletin at www.chrighthamilton.org. Please share in the responses, sing the hymns, and pray the prayers. Call us and connect with us whenever you need. Office hours are Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Please know that all are welcome at Christ Hamilton! Life is difficult enough and shouldn't be when you come to church. Regardless of how you got here, we are glad you did. If you don't know your neighbor please welcome them. **All are welcome here!** At Christ Hamilton we are an intentional community of faith, gathered in worship, united in fellowship and generous in our outreach.

Today's service: *Today we follow Christ from triumphal entry to the cross, each waypoint of the journey marked by Jesus' compassion for those who would betray, mock, accuse, or do violence to him. Though persecuted and beaten, Jesus the Son of God is not disgraced; instead, he asks forgiveness for those who put him to death. We have walked the Lenten pathway these forty days, each of us invited through baptism to "let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus." We enter this holy week accompanying Jesus to the cross with both grief and thanksgiving in our hearts, trusting in God's redeeming love.*

Thank you to everyone who donated to PATH in lieu of flowers for Lent.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

CHOIR ANTHEM

Blessed Is He Who Comes

Please stand.

PALM SUNDAY ANNUNCIATION

LUKE 19:28-40

Minister: ²⁸ After he had said this, [Jesus] went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

²⁹ When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰ saying, “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’” ³² So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” ³⁴ They said,

Passion Readers: “The Lord needs it.”

Minister: ³⁵ Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, ³⁸ saying,

**All: “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!”**

Minister: ³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him,

Passion Readers: “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.”

Minister: ⁴⁰ Jesus answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

PRAYER

Minister: Let us pray. . . . Sovereign God, you have established your rule in the human heart through the servanthood of Jesus Christ. By your Spirit, keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues confess Jesus as Lord and with their lives praise him as Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

GREETING

Minister: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

All: Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.

Please come forward by way of the right aisle and return by way of the left aisle to receive your palms.

HYMN

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

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 - 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.

Minister: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

All: Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest.

Reading

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Reader: A reading from the 50th chapter of Isaiah.

⁴The 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.

⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. ⁶I 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.

⁷The 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; ⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ^{9a}It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Reading

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

Reader: A reading from the 2nd chapter of Philippians.

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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Hymn of the Day

O Jesus, I Have Promised

1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
 2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.
 3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still
 4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you

re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.
 I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt - ing sounds I hear.
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.
 that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.

I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,
 My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
 Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
 And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;

nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
 but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.
 now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard - ian of my soul.
 oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

APOSTLE'S CREED

Minister: Let us confess our faith together.

**All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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

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

Blessed One, today the church sings glad hosannas as we enter Holy Week. Prepare us to bear witness to Christ's suffering and death endured for our sake. Gather your people around the cross and comfort us with resurrection hope. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Renew your good creation and protect the balance of life on earth. Encourage the work of foresters, scientists, arborists, gardeners, and river keepers. We pray for the health of pollinating insects, songbirds, and native plants. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Establish peace and justice among the nations. Hold to account any with authority to judge others. Grant that courts, legislatures, and local governments will serve with integrity and compassion.

Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Give energy and joy to our worship leaders and musicians. Watch over those who travel. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Blessed One, our times are in your hand. Sustain us in discipleship throughout our lives and receive us into everlasting life.

Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

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.

All: Amen.

Offering

Please stand.

OFFERTORY

CREATE IN ME

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 to me the joy of
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. . . Merciful Father,

All: We offer with joy and thanksgiving

what you have first given us—

our selves, our time, and our possessions,

signs of your gracious love.

Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us,

Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Words of Institution

Minister: 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.

Lord's Prayer

Minister: We share in the prayer Jesus taught us.

**All: 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,
for ever and ever. Amen**

Communion

We invite all baptized Christians to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. Those not communing are invited to come forward for a blessing. For those who would prefer not to have wine, pre-filled glasses of grape juice are available in the tray. Gluten-free wafers are available by asking the Pastor.

Please come forward by way of the right aisle and receive the bread from the pastor and the wine from the assistant.

Minister: The body of Christ given for you.

Assistant: The blood of Christ shed for you.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have
2 Your gift of love we cru - ci - fied. We laughed and
3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have



sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y
scorned him as he died. The hum - ble king we named a
brought me to your side to be led by your staff and



sod and to be - come the Lamb of God. O Lamb of
fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.
rod and to be called a lamb of God.



God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me



in your pre - cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

After all have returned to their places.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Assisting Minister: We give you thanks, Almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Choir Anthem

Behold the King

Please refrain from acclamation and leave after the anthem in silence. Those who wish to may remain for meditation and contemplation in their pew as we enter into Holy Week and acknowledge the passion of our Lord.

Coffee hour is hosted today by Stephens Ministry.

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Worship Leaders

Minister:	Rev. Steven C. Claycomb
Assisting Minister:	John Balas
Reader:	Sharon Sabatine
Organist:	Beth McElroy
Greeters:	Doug & Laura Young, Cathy Peechatka
Choir Director	Tassy Gilbert
Accompanist	Gail Derrer
Announcements	Amanda Balas, Office Administrator
Videographer:	Tech Committee
Coffee Hour:	Stephen Ministry

Passion Readers

Narrator – John Balas	Soldier/Criminal #1
Jesus – Beth Ross	Servant/Criminal #2
Peter – Doug Young	Pilate – Jim Butz
Centurion --	All: Congregation

Easter Egg Hunt will be held on April 19th at 11am. Anyone who would like to help with this event can email Deb Lamson at ark2dir@ptd.net

Prayer at the Rail - Stephen Ministers will be available for prayer at the front of the church after the service for any concerns.

Homebound List—If you know of someone who needs to be added to our homebound list please have them, or a family member call the office. **Please also inform the office if you know of someone in the hospital!**

Bulletin Deadlines: The deadline for information being added to the bulletin is Wednesday noon. Bulletins are printed by 10 a.m. THURSDAY mornings. The office is CLOSED on Friday and Saturday. Please email all non-emergency questions or concerns.

PATH Lenten Donations: Thanks to your wonderful generosity we raised \$765 for PATH during these five weeks of Lent and the March community meal! Awesome job CHULC!

Dinner Out Group

April 16 (Wed) – 5:30 p.m. Mullally’s Clubhouse,
Glenbrook Country Club

May 21 (Wed) – 5:30 pm – Sycamore Grill, Del. Water Gap

June 20 (Fri) – 5:30 pm – Thai Thani (rt 611 - Stroudsburg)

A Place with Jesus

The movement of this day—from shouts of praise to words of denial and cries for crucifixion—mirrors the path of discipleship. The lives of Jesus' followers hang in the balance between faithfulness and betrayal. For Peter, the act of denial is subtle and insidious. He claims not to know Jesus; he claims to have no place as his disciple. On the surface it is seemingly harmless. It happens, and then is over in a moment.

In reality, the harm is deep and lasting. Subtle but harmful denial happens in a split second as disciples compromise faith for the sake of self-protection—as they're too embarrassed to give thanks; as someone knows how to help but fails to do so because it's inconvenient; as resources are hoarded. While Peter withholds everything for his own sake, Jesus, for the sake of others, withholds nothing.

As disciples fail to claim their place with Jesus, Jesus' embrace claims them. From the cross, Jesus offers mercy wide enough to claim even those who do not know what they do.

Worship Schedule for **Holy Week**



April 17th— Maundy Thursday Service 7pm

(Lighthouse)

April 18th—Good Friday Service 7pm

(Lighthouse)

April 19th— Easter Egg Hunt 11am

April 20th —Easter Dawn Service 6:30am,

(Lighthouse parking lot weather permitting)

Easter Day 10am (church)