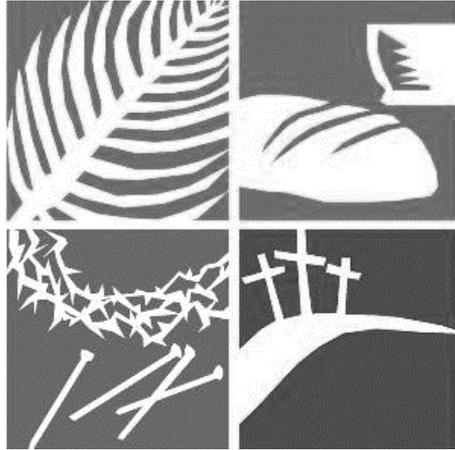


**April 1, 2020**



**Messiah Lutheran Church**

7740 Hwy 72 West, Madison, AL 35758  
(256)721-0041 / [www.mlutheran.org](http://www.mlutheran.org)

Our Lenten Series:

***HOW GOD FIXED WHAT WE BROKE***

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY - April 5

MAUNDY THURSDAY - April 9

GOOD FRIDAY - April 10

RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD: EASTER SUNDAY - April 12

[Online Guest Form](#)

[Online Easter Lily Reservation Form](#)

# SERVICE OF WORSHIP

THE PRELUDE

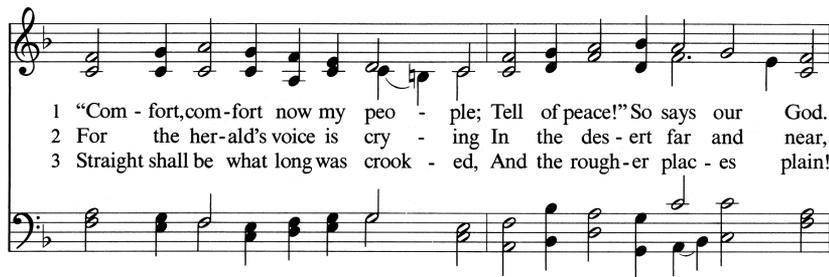
ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE INVOCATION

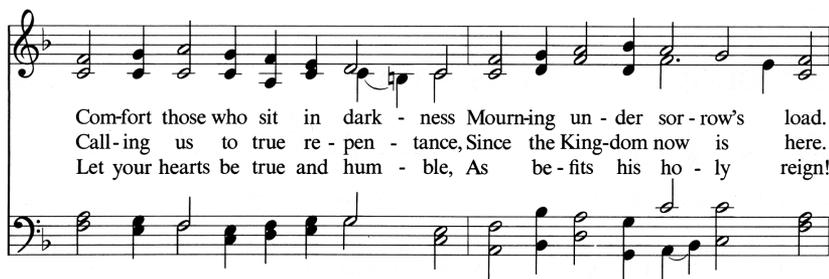
HYMN: "Comfort, Comfort Now My People" vs 1,2 LBW

29

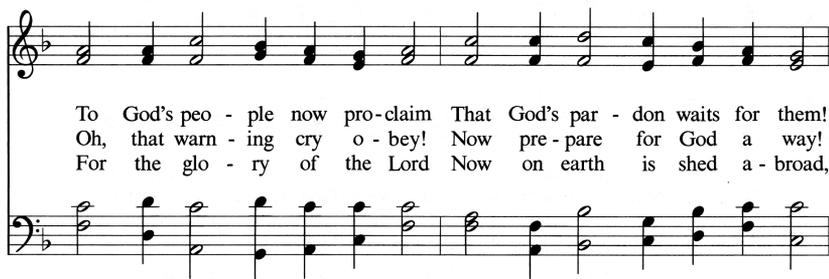
## Comfort, Comfort Now My People



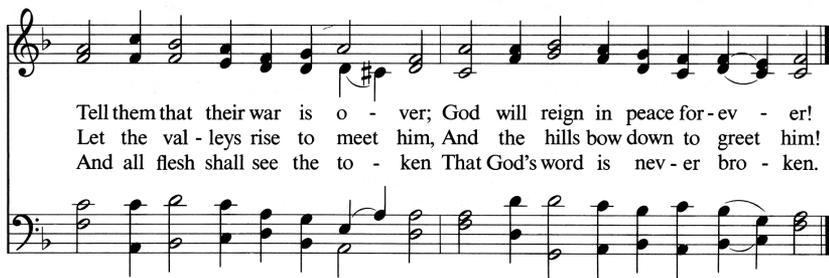
1 "Com - fort, com - fort now my peo - ple; Tell of peace!" So says our God.  
2 For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing In the des - ert far and near,  
3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, And the rough - er plac - es plain!



Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness Mourning un - der sor - row's load.  
Call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, Since the King - dom now is here.  
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, As be - fits his ho - ly reign!



To God's peo - ple now pro - claim That God's par - don waits for them!  
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way!  
For the glo - ry of the Lord Now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for - ev - er!  
Let the val - leys rise to meet him, And the hills bow down to greet him!  
And all flesh shall see the to - ken That God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

**40** Comfort, O comfort my people,  
says your God.

**2** Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and cry to her  
that she has served her term,  
that her penalty is paid,  
that she has received from the LORD's hand  
double for all her sins.

**3** A voice cries out:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

**4** Every valley shall be lifted up,  
and every mountain and hill be made low;  
the uneven ground shall become level,  
and the rough places a plain.

**5** Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,  
and all people shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

**6** A voice says, "Cry out!"  
And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All people are grass,  
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

**7** The grass withers, the flower fades,  
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;  
surely the people are grass.

**8** The grass withers, the flower fades;  
but the word of our God will stand forever.

THE PSALM: *Psalm 25:3-11*

<sup>3</sup>Show me your ways, O Lord and teach me your paths.

<sup>4</sup>**Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.**

<sup>5</sup>Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

<sup>6</sup>**Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>Gracious and upright is the LORD; therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

<sup>8</sup>**He guides the humble in doing right and teaches his way to the lowly.**

<sup>9</sup>All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

<sup>10</sup>**For your name's sake, O LORD, forgive my sin, for it is great.**

<sup>11</sup>Who are they who fear the LORD? He will teach them the way that they should choose.

GOSPEL

Mark 1:1-8

**1** The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

<sup>2</sup>As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way;

<sup>3</sup>the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.’”

<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

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On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry

1 On Jor - dan's banks the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es  
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the  
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge  
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, And make us

that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,  
 way for God with - in, And let us all our  
 and our great re - ward; With - out your grace we -  
 rise to fall no more; Oh, let your face up -

for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.  
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
 on us shine And fill the world with love di - vine.

MEDITATION

VOCAL SOLO: *Preparin' the Way for the Man* from *The Forever Adventure*  
Randall Fields

I live out in the desert. I came out here to preach.  
I eat wild beans and honey. The Lord's comin' you to reach.

*Refrain.*

Preparin' the way for the Man.  
Yeah! John's preparin' for the Lord.  
Messiah, He'll be here soon.  
You sinners, clean up to get on board.

Dark as the shade of midnight. Dark as the stain of sin.  
I been sent here to tell ya', the Lord'll be bargain' in. *Refrain.*

The desert sand is gritty. And gritty is your sin.  
Get down in the water. Through Jordan come on in. *Refrain.*

I'm not your promised Savior. Just pavin' the way for Him.  
You better clean your life up. The Lord'll come crashin' in. *Refrain.*

THE OFFERING

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 BENEDICTION

## Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

30

Gm Dm Gm F Gm

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, Born to set thy peo - ple free;  
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, Born a child, and yet a king;

Gm Dm Eb Bb Dm Gm

From our fears and sins re - lease us; Let us find our rest in thee.  
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.

Gm Bb Gm Dm Eb Bb Gm Dm

Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, Hope of all the earth thou art,  
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;

Gm Dm Gm Dm Gm Eb F Gm

Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.  
By thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

THE POSTLUDE