

# The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday Year A

April 2, 2023

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85887946777?pwd=eio4MEdsMUh6clV6b2dUblFOQ3I2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 858 8794 6777

Passcode: 782611

*The people gather in the parish hall so that all may process into the church.*

## Liturgy of the Palms

*The people standing as they are able, the Presider says*

People Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.  
**Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.**

*The Presider then continues*

Let us pray.

Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Matthew 21:1-11

<sup>1</sup>When [Jesus and his disciples] had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” <sup>4</sup>This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

<sup>5</sup>“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.”

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

<sup>10</sup>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 Presider then says the following blessing

The Lord be with you.

People

**And also with you.**

Presider

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right to praise you, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was proclaimed as King of kings by those who spread their garments and branches of palm along his way.

Let these branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Presider Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

People **Hosanna in the highest.**

Presider **Let us go forth in peace.**

People **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

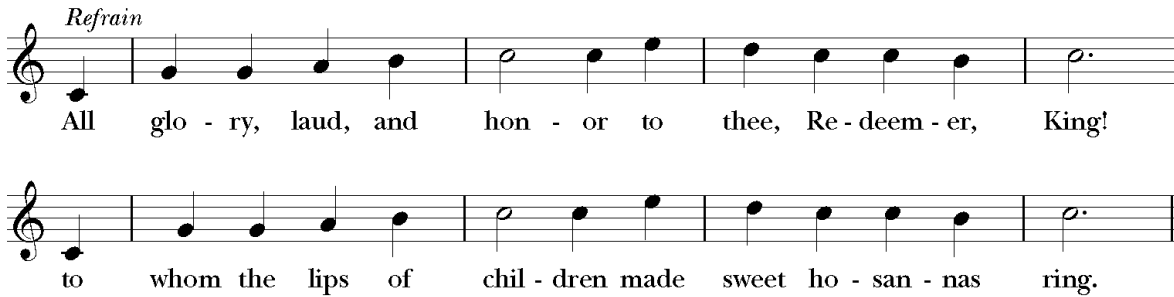
The people will process as they are able, from the parish hall into the church, all holding palm branches in their hands.

## Processional Hymn

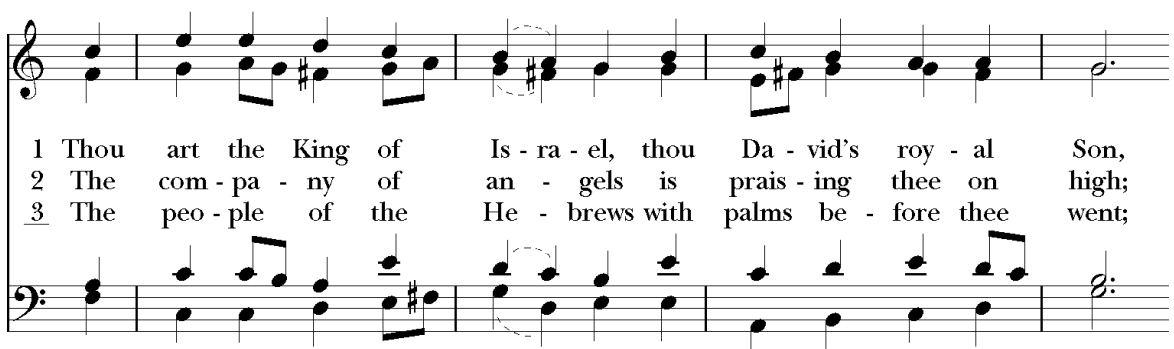
## Hymnal 154

All Glory Laud and Honor

*Refrain*



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re - deem - er, King!  
to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



1 Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,  
2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels is prais - ing thee on high;  
3 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;

*Repeat Refrain*

1 who in the Lord's Name com - est, the King and Bless - ed One.  
 2 and we with all cre - a - tion in cho - rus make re - ply.  
 3 our praise and prayers and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent.

*All then halt while this Collect is prayed.*

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The processional hymn then continues, and the people may go to their places in the pews.*

4 To thee be - fore thy pas - sion they sang their hymns of praise;  
 5 Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

*Repeat Refrain*

4 to thee, now high ex - al - ted, our mel - o - dy we raise.  
 5 who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King.

## Collect of the Day

*Presider*            The Lord be with you.  
*People*              **And also with you.**  
*Presider*            Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his

resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*All sit.*

## **First Reading**

Isaiah 50:4-9a

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

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?

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

*Remain seated.*

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

<sup>9</sup>Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; \*  
my eye is consumed with sorrow,  
and also my throat and my belly.

<sup>10</sup>**For my life is wasted with grief,  
and my years with sighing; \*  
my strength fails me because of affliction,  
and my bones are consumed.**

<sup>11</sup>I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors,  
a dismay to those of my acquaintance; \*  
when they see me in the street they avoid me.

<sup>12</sup>**I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; \*  
I am as useless as a broken pot.**

<sup>13</sup>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.

<sup>14</sup>**But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. \*  
I have said, "You are my God.**

<sup>15</sup>My times are in your hand; \*  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,  
and from those who persecute me.

<sup>16</sup>**Make your face to shine upon your servant, \*  
and in your loving-kindness save me."**

## Second Reading

Philippians 2:5-11

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Philippi.

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.

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

*All stand as they are able.*

## Sequence Hymn

Hymnal 156

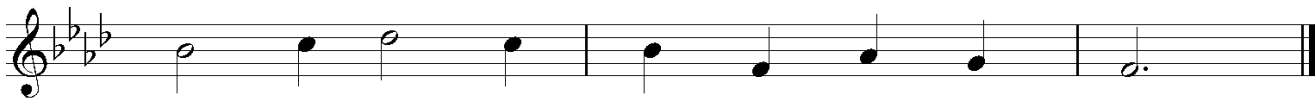
*Ride on! Ride on in majesty!*



1 Ride on! ride on in ma - jes - ty! Hark! all the  
2 Ride on! ride on in ma - jes - ty! In low - ly  
3 Ride on! ride on in ma - jes - ty! The an - gel  
4 Ride on! ride on in ma - jes - ty! Thy last and  
5 Ride on! ride on in ma - jes - ty! In low - ly



1 tribes ho - san - na cry; thy hum - ble beast pur - sues his  
2 pomp ride on to die; O Christ, thy tri - umphs now be -  
3 ar - mies of the sky look down with sad and won - dering  
4 fierc - est strife is nigh; the Fa - ther on his sap - phire  
5 pomp ride on to die; bow thy meek head to mor - tal



1 road with palms and scat - tered gar - ments strowed.  
2 gin o'er cap - tive death and con - quered sin.  
3 eyes to see the ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.  
4 throne ex - pects his own a - noint - ed Son.  
5 pain, then take, O God, thy power, and reign.

All may then be seated for the reading of the Passion Gospel. The people read the parts of **the Disciples** and **the Crowd**

At the verse which mentions the arrival at Golgotha, all stand as they are able.

**Narrator: The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 26:14--27:66**

*Narrator:* One of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said,

*Judas:* What will you give me if I betray him to you?

*Narrator:* 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,

**Disciples: Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?**

*Narrator:* Jesus said,

*Jesus:* 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.’

*Narrator:* 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,

*Jesus:* Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.

*Narrator:* And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another,

**Disciples: Surely not I, Lord?**

*Narrator:* Jesus answered,

*Jesus:* 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.

*Narrator:* Judas, who betrayed him, said,

*Judas:* Surely not I, Rabbi?

*Narrator:* Jesus replied,

*Jesus:* You have said so.

*Narrator:* While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said,

*Jesus:* Take, eat; this is my body.

*Narrator:* Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying,

*Jesus:* 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.

*Narrator:* When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them,

*Jesus:* You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.

*Narrator:* Peter said to him,

*Peter:* Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.

*Narrator:* Jesus said to him,

*Jesus:* Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.

*Narrator:* Peter said to him,

*Peter:* Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.

*Narrator:* And so said all the disciples.

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples,

*Jesus:* Sit here while I go over there and pray.

*Narrator:* He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them,

*Jesus:* I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.

*Narrator:* And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed,

*Jesus:* My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want.

*Narrator:* Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter,

*Jesus:* So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

*Narrator:* Again he went away for the second time and prayed,

*Jesus:* My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.

*Narrator:* Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them,

*Jesus:* Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.

*Narrator:* While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying,

*Judas:* The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.

*Narrator:* At once he came up to Jesus and said,

*Judas:* Greetings, Rabbi!

*Narrator:* and kissed him. Jesus said to him,

*Jesus:* Friend, do what you are here to do.

*Narrator:* Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to him,

*Jesus:* Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?

*Narrator:* At that hour Jesus said to the crowds,

*Jesus:* Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled.

*Narrator:* Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said,

*Witnesses:* This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.'

*Narrator:* The high priest stood up and said,

*High Priest:* Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?

*Narrator:* But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him,

*High Priest:* I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.

*Narrator:* Jesus said to him,

*Jesus:* You have said so. But I tell you, From now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.

*Narrator:* Then the high priest tore his clothes and said,

*High Priest:* He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?

*Narrator:* They answered,

*Priests:* He deserves death.

*Narrator:* Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, saying,

*Priests:* Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?

*Narrator:* Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said,

*Servant 1:* You also were with Jesus the Galilean.

*Narrator:* But he denied it before all of them, saying,

*Peter:* I do not know what you are talking about.

*Narrator:* When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders,

*Servant 2:* This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.

*Narrator:* Again he denied it with an oath,

*Peter:* I do not know the man.

*Narrator:* After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter,

***Crowd:* Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you.**

*Narrator:* Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath,

*Peter:* I do not know the man!

*Narrator:* At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: 'Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.' And he went out and wept bitterly.

When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor.

When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he repented and brought back



the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. He said,

*Judas:* I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.

*Narrator:* But they said,

*Priests:* What is that to us? See to it yourself.

*Narrator:* Throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said,

*Priests:* It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money.

*Narrator:* After conferring together, they used them to buy the potter's field as a place to bury foreigners. For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah, 'And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one on whom a price had been set, on whom some of the people of Israel had set a price, and they gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me.'

*Narrator:* Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him,

*Pilate:* Are you the King of the Jews?

*Narrator:* Jesus said,

*Jesus:* You say so.

*Narrator:* But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him,

*Pilate:* Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?

*Narrator:* But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed. Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them,

*Pilate:* Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?

*Narrator:* For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him,

*Pilate's wife:* Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.

*Narrator:* Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them,

*Pilate:* Which of the two do you want me to release for you?

*Narrator:* And they said,

**Crowd: Barabbas.**

*Narrator:* Pilate said to them,

*Pilate:* Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?

*Narrator:* All of them said,

**Crowd: Let him be crucified!**

*Narrator:* Then he asked,

*Pilate:* Why, what evil has he done?

*Narrator:* But they shouted all the more,

**Crowd: Let him be crucified!**

*Narrator:* So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying,

*Pilate:* I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.

*Narrator:* Then the people as a whole answered,

**Crowd:** **His blood be on us and on our children!**

*Narrator:* So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying,

*Soldiers:* Hail, King of the Jews!

*Narrator:* They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him. As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross.

**All stand** *And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.' Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying,*

**Crowd:** **You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.**

*Narrator:* In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying,

**Crowd:** **He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, 'I am God's Son.'**

*Narrator:* The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice,

*Jesus:* Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?

*Narrator:* that is,

*Jesus:* My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

*Narrator:* When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

**Crowd:** **This man is calling for Elijah.**

*Narrator:* At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said,

**Crowd:** **Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.**

*Narrator:* Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the

holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said,

*Centurion:* Truly this man was God's Son!

*Narrator:* Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had provided for him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said,

*Priests:* Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' Therefore command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, 'He has been raised from the dead,' and the last deception would be worse than the first.

*Narrator:* Pilate said to them,

*Pilate:* You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can.

*Narrator:* So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

## **Homily**

### **Nicene Creed**

*Presider* Let us proclaim the faith of the Church using the words of the Nicene Creed.

*Presider and People*

**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.**

## **Prayers of the People**

*Remain standing as you are able.*

*Presider* Brothers and sisters, children of God, are we not wholly reliant on God's tender love and mercy? So let us cry out to our Lord, saying, "Look upon us in mercy; and with compassion remember us."

*Intercessor* Have mercy on your Church, O Lord, for the times and the ways we have denied you. We have not been humble as you are humble. We are too often quick to speak, and slow to love. Look with kindness on all the people of St Barnabas in their many ministries, and on those on the St Barnabas Cycle of Prayer. Look upon us in mercy; **and with compassion remember us.**

*Silence is kept.*

*Intercessor* Have mercy on those who hold authority in the all the nations of the world, O Lord, especially those who are threatened by your message of love and mercy. Forgive us for our silence and complicity. Look upon us in mercy; **and with compassion remember us.**

*Silence is kept.*

*Intercessor* Have mercy on all who are called to be stewards of your creation, O Lord. We have exploited and mistreated your masterpiece. Teach us to love what you have called good. Look upon us in mercy; **and with compassion remember us.**

*Silence is kept.*

*Intercessor* Have mercy on our enemies, O Lord, and on those who persecute us. Teach us to walk in the love and the way of Jesus, who from the cross prayed, "Father, forgive them." Look upon us in mercy; **and with compassion remember us.**

*Silence is kept.*

*Intercessor* Have mercy on all who are sick and suffering, O Lord. Strengthen the afflicted. Comfort and care for those wasted with grief. Make your face to shine upon your servants [especially \_\_\_\_\_].

We give you thanks for pouring your divine life into our lives, as we offer our gratefulness in thanksgiving [especially for \_\_\_\_\_].

Merciful Lord, you became obedient to death, even death upon a cross. Even as you have shared our mortality, mercifully grant us to share in your resurrection. We remember before you those who have died [especially \_\_\_\_\_]. Look upon us in mercy; **and with compassion remember us.**

*Silence is kept.*

*Presider* For what other people or situations shall we pray today?

Gracious God, your Son Jesus endured mockery, pain, and death in order to reveal to us your power that overcomes evil with love, and brings life out of death; guide and guard us in our earthly pilgrimage, that we may gladly share in his passion and be raised with him into your glory, who with the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, One God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

## **Confession of Sin**

*All kneel as they are able.*

*The Presider says*

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence is kept.*

*Presider and People*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;**

**that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*A Priest stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, + forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

*The people are then seated.*

## **Prayers for those celebrating their birthdays and anniversaries**

*Those who will be celebrating their birthday or anniversary in April are invited to the front of the church.*

### ***Prayer for a Birthday***

BCP p.830

**O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants Kitty, Jan S, Kathy W, Katherine, Martin, David, Ellery... as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### ***Prayer for an Anniversary***

BCP p.429

Eternal God, creator and preserver of all life, author of salvation, and giver of all grace: Look with favor upon the world you have made, and for which your Son gave his life, and especially upon all couples. Grant that their wills may be so knit together in your will, and their spirits in your Spirit, that they may continue to grow in love and peace with you and one another all the days of their lives. **Amen.**

*All stand as they are able*

## **Peace**

*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

*The People then are seated.*

## **Announcements**

## **Holy Communion**

*The Presider then says*

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians*  
5:2

*The people stand as they are able when the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.*

## Offertory Hymn

Doxology

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, you heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

*The people remain standing as they are able.*

## Great Thanksgiving

*Presider*           The Lord be with you.

*People*             **And also with you.**

*Presider*           Lift up your hearts.

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

*Presider*           Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*             **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The Presider proceeds*

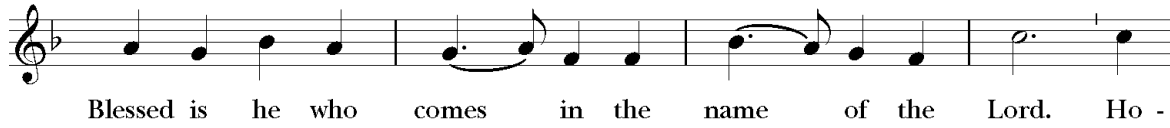
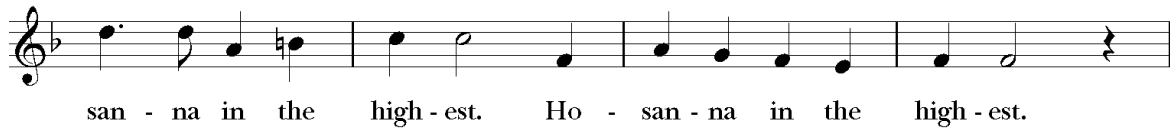
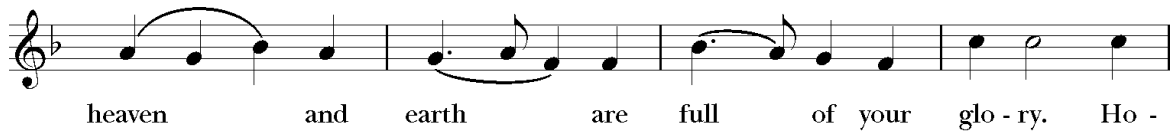
It is our joy and destiny to praise you, Lord God,  
for in wondrous love, you cast stars into space,  
and in meek obedience, your Son surrendered to cruel nails.  
With loving-kindness, you called your people in Abraham,  
and in covenant with Moses, you bound up your life in theirs.  
Through exile, you stayed close to them  
and in Jesus, you came among them  
bearing the fullness of grace and truth.  
Your Son Jesus faced rejection, cruelty, and death,  
yet in resurrection, you exalted him,  
and in sending your Spirit, you shed glory on all people.  
And so we rejoice with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
singing the song of your unending praise:

## Sanctus

Hymnal S-125



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,



*The people continue to stand, or kneel as they are able.*

*The Presider continues*

“Hosanna” is our cry, Blessed One.

Your Son comes on a donkey in your name.

As Jesus entered Jerusalem to bear our sorrows and suffer for our sins,  
enter our hearts, and confront our waywardness today.

Send your + Holy Spirit upon us,  
that we may be your Son’s crucified and risen body.

Send your Spirit + upon this bread that it may be living bread,  
and upon this wine, that it may be the cup of salvation, that together  
they may be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ;  
who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks,  
broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying,  
“Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.”

After supper, he took the cup.

Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

“Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

*The Presider continues*

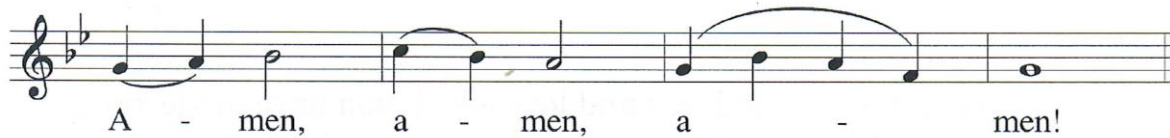
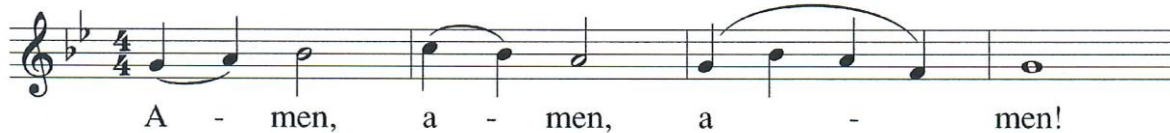


Humble God, your Son did not exploit his status, but emptied himself.

Pour out your Spirit on all who are exploited, in world or church,  
on all who are humbled, by state, or employer, or family member,  
on all who are emptied of hope, faith, or love.

As you highly exalted your Son who had become a slave,  
highly exalt your children who suffer for righteousness,  
or grieve those they have cherished,  
or bend the knee to one who does not honor them.

Fill the earth with your justice and peace,  
until every heart shall sing, and every tongue confess  
that you are the joy of their desiring, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
ever one God, in all ages and forevermore.



*The Presider then continues*

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

*People and Presider*

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

*A period of silence is kept.*

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**Therefore let us keep the feast.**

# Invitation to the Table

*The Presider says*

Come to this table, not because you must, but because you may,  
not because you are strong, but because you are weak.  
Come, not because any goodness of your own gives you a right to come,  
but because you need mercy and help.  
Come, because you love the Lord a little and would like to love him more.  
Come, because he loved you, and gave himself for you.  
**Come and meet the risen Christ, for we are his Body.**

*All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.*

*The following is sung after all have received, and the table is being cleared.*

## Post-Communion Hymn

**Hymnal 337**

\*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most  
pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so  
awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and  
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

*The Presider then says*

Let us pray.

*Presider and People*

**Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of Christ,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
And now, send us out  
to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

## **Blessing**

*A priest blesses the people, saying*

Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who journey the way with us. So be swift to love, and make haste to be kind.

And the blessing of God Almighty, + the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## Concluding Hymn

Hymnal 474

*When I survey the wondrous cross*

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross where the young  
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the  
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet sor - row and  
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were an  
Prince of Glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I  
cross of Christ, my God: all the vain things that  
love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and  
of - fering far too small; love so a - maz - ing,  
count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

## Dismissal

*Minister* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

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## Holy Week Services

- April 6 Maundy Thursday: Agapé Meal and Table Eucharist 7:00 pm  
7 Good Friday: Stations of the Cross, 12 noon; Service, 7:00pm  
8 Holy Saturday service via Zoom, 4:00pm  
9 Easter Day: the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ Holy Eucharist 10:00 am

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### This week in prayer

**Please remember these persons and congregations in your prayers this week:**

**Our Bishops** Bonnie, Michael, Justin, Moises (TEC); Elizabeth, Donald and Craig (ELCA)  
**and for** all priests, deacons, Ministry Teams, and those in formation

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:**

April 2 Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

**Diocese of Michigan Cycle of Prayer:**

April 2 Canterbury House, Ann Arbor, St James', Grosse Ile; St Ann's, Mendoza, Dominican Republic

**St Barnabas Cycle of Prayer:** Kathy, Bill, Melanie, Larry

**and our continuing prayers for:** Carlos, Robert, Selenah

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### Upcoming Commemorations

- April 2 James Lloyd Breck, Priest, 1876  
3 Mary of Egypt, Hermit, c.421; and, Richard of Chichester, Bishop, 1253  
4 Martin Luther King, Jr., Civil Rights Leader & Martyr, 1968  
5 Harriet Starr Cannon, Monastic, 1896  
6 Pandita Mary Ramabai, Missionary, 1922;  
and, Daniel G. C. Wu, Priest and Missionary, 1956  
7 Tikhon, Patriarch of Russia, Confessor & Ecumenist, 1925  
8 William Augustus Muhlenberg, Priest, 1877; and, Anne Ayres, Monastic, 1896

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### Palm Sunday : The Sunday of the Passion

*“Let these branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life.”*

Today is the first day of Holy Week, known as Palm Sunday or the Sunday of the Passion. The day begins by marking Christ’s triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Many churches participate in the Liturgy of the Palms, first offered

in The Episcopal Church in the 1960 *Book of Offices*. In this liturgy, the celebrant blesses palms or other branches, and, following a reading from the Gospels, leads the congregation in procession into their church—often singing “All Glory, Laud, and Honor” or “Ride On! Ride On In Majesty!”

This liturgy evokes the early observances of Palm Sunday. According to Armentrout and Slocum’s *An Episcopal Dictionary of the Church* (Church Publishing, 2000), by the year 381, the faithful would process from the Mount of Olives into Jerusalem, waving palm or olive branches. As they processed, they sang songs from Scripture – including the exultant antiphon of Psalm 118 sung at Christ’s entrance into the city: “Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!”

When the Palm Sunday service includes the Eucharist, the Liturgy of the Palms is followed by the salutation and the collect of the day. Afterward, the tone of the service shifts noticeably. In contrast to the earlier song of joy, Psalm 31, appointed for today, cries, “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.” The Gospel reading is likewise sorrowful, recalling the events of Jesus’ Passion (that is, the events and suffering before and during his death). Still, we are reminded throughout the difficult days ahead that this is *not* the end of the story.

Despite the Savior’s death on the cross, he promises to rise again. The Man of Sorrows remains the one at whose name, “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” (Philippians 2:10-11).

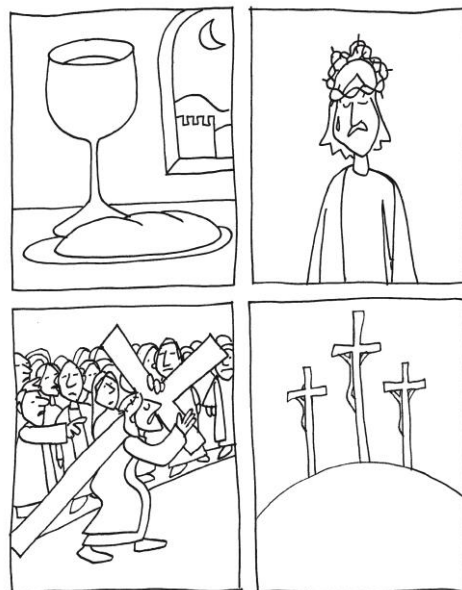
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**Eucharistic Prayer** from Wells, Samuel and Abigail Kocher, *Eucharistic prayers*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2016, pp.150-151  
**Invitation to the Table** <http://thesimplepastor.co.uk/church/invitation-to-the-table/> Accessed 8 February 2018  
**Lenten Blessing** from *Book of Occasional Services*. New York: Church Publishing, 2003, p.25

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**Our Mission:**

We seek to grow as diverse disciples of Jesus Christ,  
 and to serve Jesus by serving others in the world,  
 guided by the values of Ancient Rites, Open Minds, and Affirming Hearts.



**St Barnabas Episcopal Church**  
 20500 W Old US-12 Chelsea MI 48118  
 stbarnabaschelsea.org