

THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION: PALM SUNDAY

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

MARCH 29, 2026, 10:00AM

Christ Church Episcopal

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The Rev. Scott P. Bellows, Vicar

Maggie Ribb, Minister of Music

Todd Woolley, Sexton

Lisa Berman, Parish Administrator

Vestry

Sandy Allard, Mary Ellen Eichmann, Wardens; Lisa DeLong, Treasurer; Elaine Mason, Clerk

Janet Cassidy, Jennifer Lutz, Cathy Walsman, Members

Sharing Christ's love in the world and creating a nurturing place for all.

All spoken texts for this liturgy are contained within this printed Service Bulletin; people's parts in **BOLD**.
Hymns are found in The Hymnal 1982 (blue, hardcover) or Wonder, Love, and Praise (WLP - green, softcover)
in the pew rack in front of you. Additional music will be included either printed in the Bulletin or on an Insert.
Service Music, designated by "S", is found in the front section of The Hymnal 1982.

The Holy Eucharist, Rite Two with the Liturgy of the Palms and Reading of the Passion

Beginning on page 270 of The Book of Common Prayer (BCP)

The Liturgy of the Palms

Presider: Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.**

Presider: 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.**

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. (21:1-11)

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Blessing over the Branches

Presider: May God 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.**

The Presider continues

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 he 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.**

Refrain

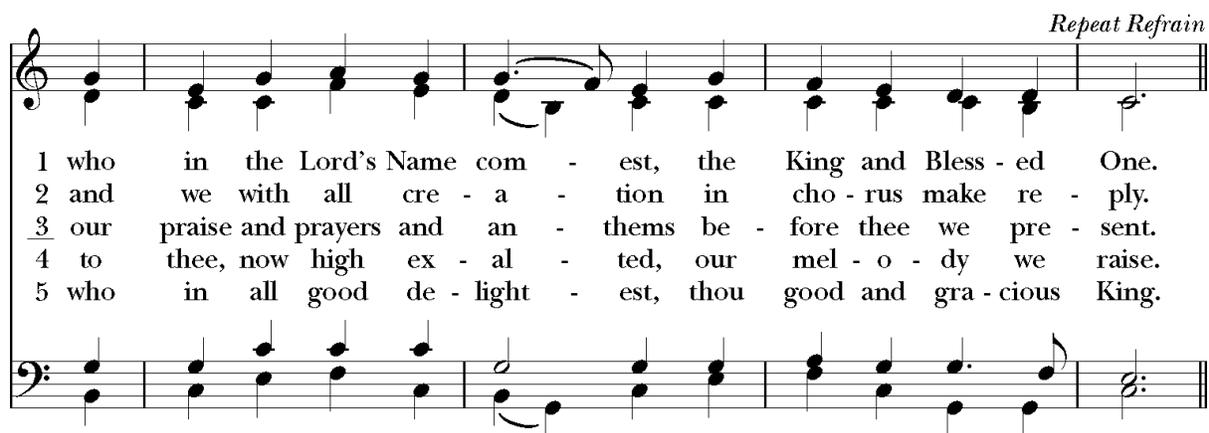


All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re - deem - er, King!
to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



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;
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



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.
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

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.**

A Reading from the prophet Isaiah (50:4-9a)

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?

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 31:9-16

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

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

11 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.

12 **I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; * I am as useless as a broken pot.**

13 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.

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

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

16 **Make your face to shine upon your servant, * and in your loving-kindness save me."**

A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians (2:5-11)

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.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymnal 458 vv. 1-5

My song is love unknown

Tune: *Love Unknown*

*All are seated for the reading of the Passion until the point where indicated "All Stand."
The usual responses before and after the Gospel are omitted.*

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew (26:15 – 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 Jesus 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,

Disciple: "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?"

Narrator: He 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,

Disciple: "Surely not I, Lord?"

Narrator: He 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: He 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,

Witness: "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,

CROWD: "He deserves death."

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

CROWD: "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 Girl: "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 Girl: "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,

CROWD: "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,

CROWD: "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."

Now 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.

Narrator: 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,

CROWD: "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.

ALL WHO ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND

Narrator: As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. 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,

Bystander 1: "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, lamah sabachthani?"

Narrator: that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

Bystander 2: "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,

Bystander 3: "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him."

Narrator: Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last.

A MOMENT OF SILENCE IS KEPT; SOME MAY WISH TO KNEEL

Narrator: 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,

High Priest: "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.

All are seated for a period of silence.

On Palm Sunday it is a tradition to proclaim the passion narrative so that Jesus Christ's love for all is made clear. Over time, this narrative has been used to promote anti-Judaism. The responsibility for the suffering and death of Jesus Christ cannot be attributed, in either preaching or teaching, indiscriminately to all Jews of that time, nor to Jews today. The Jewish people should not be referred to or represented as rejected or cursed by God, as this claim cannot be found in Scripture. Christians must remember that Jesus, his mother Mary, and his early disciples were Jewish. We must affirm the long-standing teaching of the church that Jesus Christ entered into suffering and death by his own free will as a sign of God's saving and reconciling love to the world.

The Rev. Dr. Daniel Joslyn-Siemiatkoski
Ecumenical and Interreligious Officer
Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

The Homily

Father Scott Bellows

*When the Liturgy of the Palms has preceded,
the Nicene Creed and the Confession of Sin are omitted.*

Prayers of the People

adapted from "Litany of Intercession"
The Worship Book, Westminster Press, Philadelphia © 1970

O Lord our God: you hear our prayers before we speak, and answer before we know our need.
Though we cannot pray, may your Spirit pray in us, drawing us to you and toward our neighbors on earth.

Hear our prayer, O God.

We pray for the whole creation: may all things work together for good, until, by your design, your children inherit the earth and order it wisely.

Let the whole creation praise you, O God.

We pray for the Church throughout the world: in the Anglican cycle of prayer we pray for The Anglican Church of Melanesia; in the diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for churches of the Cape & Islands Deanery, including Church of St. Mary of the Harbor, Provincetown; St. John's Church, Sandwich; and Ministries with Older Adults.

Let the Church be always faithful, O God.

We pray for all serve the Church in special ways: for Sean, our presiding bishop; for Julia, Mary, and Ian, our bishops; for Scott our priest; and for all lay and ordained leaders throughout the church.

Let leadership be strong, O God.

We pray for peace in the world: disarm weapons, silence guns, and put out ancient hate that smolders still, or flames in sudden conflict. Create goodwill among all people.

Bring peace to our earth, O God.

We pray for those in positions of public trust: for those who make, administer, or judge our laws. May our nation ever be a land of free and able leaders who welcome exiles and work for justice.
Govern those who govern us, O God.

We pray for the poor, the hungry, the homeless, and the outcast. Increase in us, and in all who prosper, concern and action for the disinherited.
Care for all your people, O God.

We pray for the sick, and for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit: may they be patient, brave, and trusting, and may they find relief. In our parish cycle of prayer we pray George Arsenault, Chris Axner, Michael Bassett, Sam Bennett, Ann Brown, The Carlin Family, Sam Cohen, Beau Coursen, Sidney Coursen, Nick Czajkowski, Laura DeCaprio, Tim Dyer, Robert Gaston, Amelia Goodfield, Betty Hadfield, Nancy Hardiman, Pat Hart, Paul Horvath, Donna Jacobs, Randy Joiner, Bradley Jugler, Cindy Jugler, Pat MacKinnon, Stephen Mazzur, Tara Russell, Kimberly Schoener, Stephen Shuart, Kathleen Vogt, Dianne Wade, and Debby Waugh; and for those we name now, either aloud or in the quiet of our hearts.
Heal the sick and troubled, O God.

We pray for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week.
Give your people joyful hearts, O God.

We pray for the dying and those who have died: that as they face the final mystery, they may enjoy light and life intensely, experience dignity, and enter the Greater Life unafraid, trusting in your abiding love.
Have mercy on the dying, O God.

We pray for those whose tears are not yet dry, who listen for familiar voices and look for still familiar faces: in loss, may they affirm all that you promise in Jesus, who prepares a place for us within your spacious Love.
Make your presence known to all your people, O God.

The Presider offers the concluding petition

Hear our prayers, almighty God, in the name of the One who prays with us and for us, to whom be praise forever. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider: The peace of God be always with you.

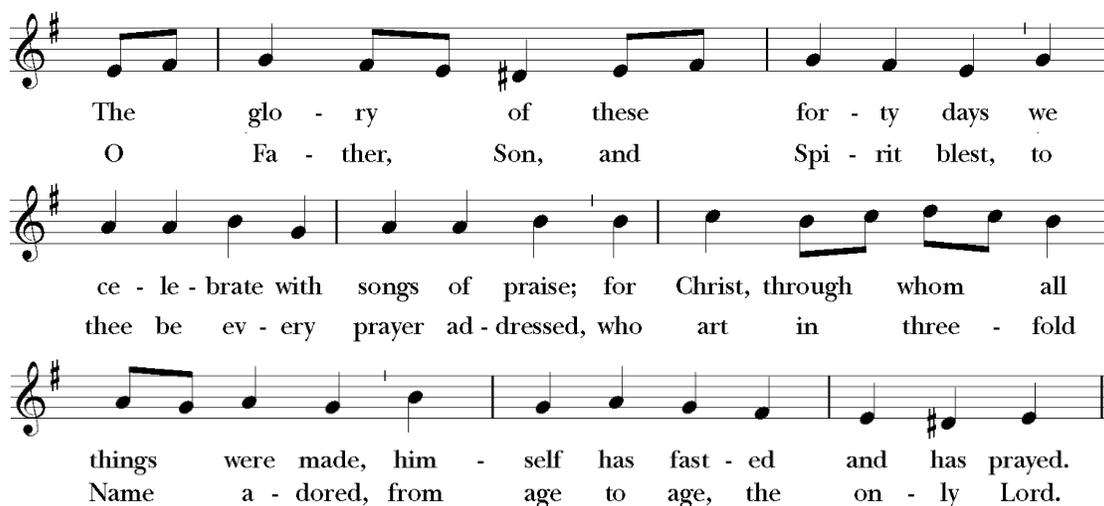
People: **And also with you.**

Those celebrating a birthday or anniversary are invited to come forward for a blessing.

Offertory Anthem

What Wondrous Love is This

Trevor Manor



The glo - ry of these for - ty days we
O Fa - ther, Son, and Spi - rit blest, to
ce - le - brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all
thee be ev - ery prayer ad - dressed, who art in three - fold
things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
Name a - dored, from age to age, the on - ly Lord.

Words: Latin, 6th cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell (1862-1947), alt.

Music: *Erhalt uns, Herr*, melody from *Geistliche Leider*, 1543

The Great Thanksgiving – Eucharistic Prayer “A”

BCP p. 361

Presider: May God 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.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. For our sins he was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; and, by his suffering and death, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of

Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -

- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth

— in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Hymnal S-158

Agnus Dei

Healey Willan

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -
way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
on us. O Lamb of God, that
ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have
mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of
God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the
world, grant us thy peace.

Invitation to Communion

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It has been made ready for those who love God and for those who hope to love God more. So come if you have been here often, and come if you have not been here long. Come if you have followed, and come if you have stumbled. Come because it is the Lord who invites you. It is Christ's will that those who seek him will meet him here at His table. These are the gifts of God for all the people of God.

Please follow the Usher's guidance to come forward and either kneel or stand at the altar rail, as you are able.

First, the priest will place the wafer/bread (gluten-free on request) in your outstretched hand. The Eucharistic Minister will then offer you the cup (containing wine), from which you are invited to sip. If you prefer, you may carefully intinct (dip) the wafer in the cup. If you are unable or prefer not to receive from the cup, simply cross your arms over your chest and the Eucharistic Minister will say the words "The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation" in front of you. Please be assured that no matter how you receive – bread and wine, bread or wine only, or spiritually, you will receive the full grace of the Sacrament. If you prefer not to receive the Sacrament today, you are invited to come forward, cross your arms over your chest, and receive a Blessing in the name of the One God.

Hymnal 160

Cross of Jesus, cross of sorrow

Tune: *Cross of Jesus*

Post-communion Prayer *in unison*

Source: *Enriching Our Worship*

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

May God give you the grace never to sell yourself short; Grace to risk something big for something good; and Grace to remember the world is now too dangerous for anything but the truth and too small for anything but love.

attributed to the Rev. William Sloane Coffin (1924 – 2006)

May the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Presider: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymnal 172

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Tune: *Were You There*

You are invited to leave the worship space in silence.

We warmly welcome Lois Pfister, violinist, to our service today.

Thank you to those serving today*

Brad Goodwin, lector/intercessor; Lisa DeLong, greeter; Elaine Mason, usher
Bill Walsman, Lay Eucharistic Minister
Jean Bertrand and Karen Butler, coffee fellowship
Elizabeth Salomé and Leslie Meier, Altar Guild servers

News & Noteworthy

Holy Week, and Easter Day Schedule of Service

April 2, 5:00pm	Maundy Thursday
April 3, 12:00pm	Good Friday (with Communion from the Reserved Sacrament)
April 3, 2:00pm	Stations of the Cross
April 5, 10:00am	Festival Easter Liturgy

Dates of Note

- Tuesday, March 31, 2:15pm – Wardens’ meeting with Fr. Scott
- Friday, April 3 – Thrift Shop closed for Good Friday

Ongoing

- Tuesdays, 12:00pm – Book Lovers’ Gathering; the current book is a biography of Eleanor Roosevelt by David Michaelis
- Thursdays, 5:00pm -- choir rehearsals

Office Hours

- Week of March 29
 - Closed March 31 -April 1; open Thursday and Friday, April 2-3, 10:00am – 2:00pm

Easter Flowers -- It is lovely tradition that flowers decorate the church on Easter. If you wish to have someone remembered with flowers – in memory or thanksgiving – please use one of the Easter flower envelopes that are throughout the church and parish hall. Place the envelope in the offering plate or give it to Lisa B. in the office.

Building Use

- Every other Tuesday or Wednesday, 6:00pm – Scouts
- Saturdays, 7:30pm – AA meeting

*Passion Readers listed on next page

***Passion Readers**

Deborah Aylesworth, Narrator

Lisa DeLong, Judas

Kat Connelly, Disciple

Robert Lawton, Jesus

Elizabeth Salome, Witness

Ellen Veinotte, High Priest

Karen Butler, Servant Girl

Brad Goodwin, Peter

Bill Walsman, Pilate

Elaine Mason, Pilate's Wife

Todd Woolley, Bystander 1

Elaine Mason, Bystander 2

Janet Cassidy, Bystander 3

Todd Woolley, Centurion

