

The Liturgy of the Palms

The congregation gathers in the parish hall, so that all may go into the church in procession.

The branches of palm to be carried in the procession may be distributed to the people before the service.

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

Celebrant 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.*

Mark 11:1-11a

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately."' They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

The Celebrant then says the following blessing as the people hold palm branches high.

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him 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*.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. *Hosanna in the highest*.

Deacon Let us go forth in peace.

People In the name of Christ. Amen.

The procession to the church begins. At All Souls' Garden (weather permitting), the procession may halt while the following Collect is said

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 following is sung as all enter the church



Celebrant The Lord be with you. *People* And also with you.

Celebrant 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*.

A Reading from the Book of 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?

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 31:9-16 In te, Domine, speravi

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 Paul's Letter 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People. Thanks be to God.

People

Sequence Hymn 435 vv. 1-3

"At the Name of Jesus"

King's Weston



The congregation is seated.

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark [14:1-15:47]

The customary responses before and after the Gospel are omitted.

Narrator It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened

Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to

arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; for they said,

Chief priest "Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people."

Narrator While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat

at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the

ointment on his head. But some were there who said to one another

in anger,

Disciples "Why was the ointment wasted in this way? For this ointment

could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the

money given to the poor."

Narrator And they scolded her. But Jesus said,

"Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good

service for me. For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done

will be told in remembrance of her."

Narrator Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief

priests in order to betray him to them. When they heard it, they were greatly pleased, and promised to give him money. So he

began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is

sacrificed, his disciples said to him,

Disciples "Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to

eat the Passover?"

Narrator So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them,

"Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you;

follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks, Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there."

Narrator So the disciples set out and went to the city, and found everything

as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

When it was evening, he came with the twelve. And when they had

taken their places and were eating, Jesus said,

Jesus "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with

me."

Narrator They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another,

Disciples "Surely, not I?"

Jesus "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl

with me. For 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 While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing

it he broke it, gave it to them, and said,

Jesus "Take; this is my body."

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

all of them drank from it. He said to them,

"This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many.

Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

Narrator When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of

Olives. And Jesus said to them,

Jesus "You will all become deserters; for it is written,

'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.' But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee."

Narrator Peter said to him,

"Even though all become deserters, I will not."

Narrator Jesus said to him,

Jesus "Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will

deny me three times."

Narrator But he said vehemently,

"Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you."

Narrator And all of them said the same.

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples,

Jesus "Sit here while I pray."

Narrator He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and

agitated. And he said to them,

"I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake."

Narrator And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it

were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said,

"Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not

what I want, but what you want."

Narrator He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter,

Jesus "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and

pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but

the flesh is weak."

Narrator And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he

came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not

know what to say to him. He came a third time and said to them,

"Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the

Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See,

my betrayer is at hand."

Narrator Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and

with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying,

"The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard."

Narrator So when he came, he went up to him at once and said,

Judas "Rabbi!"

Narrator and kissed him. Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. But one of those

who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off

his ear. Then Jesus said to them,

Jesus "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a

bandit? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not

arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled."

Narrator All of them deserted him and fled.

A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They

caught hold of him, but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.

They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself

at the fire. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for

testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. Some stood up

and gave false testimony against him, saying,

Witness "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in

three days I will build another, not made with hands.""

Narrator But even on this point their testimony did not agree. Then the high priest stood

up before them and asked Jesus,

Chief Priest "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?"

Narrator But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him,

Chief Priest "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?"

Jesus "I am; and 'you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the

Power, 'and 'coming with the clouds of heaven."

Narrator Then the high priest tore his clothes and said,

"Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy! What is your

decision?"

Narrator All of them condemned him as deserving death. Some began to spit on him, to

blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him,

Witness "Prophesy!"

Narrator The guards also took him over and beat him.

While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high

priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said,

Servant girl "You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth."

Narrator But he denied it, saying,

Peter "I do not know or understand what you are talking about."

Narrator And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed. And the servant-girl,

on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders,

Servant girl "This man is one of them."

Narrator But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter,

Bystander 3 "Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean."

Narrator But he began to curse, and he swore an oath,

"I do not know this man you are talking about."

Narrator At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered

that Jesus had said to him, "Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three

times." And he broke down and wept.

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed

him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him,

Pilate "Are you the King of the Jews?"

Jesus "You say so."

Narrator Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again,

Pilate "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you."

Narrator But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they

asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had

committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask

Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them,

Pilate "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?"

For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him

over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for

them instead. Pilate spoke to them again,

"Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?"

Narrator They shouted back,

Congregation "Crucify him!"

Narrator Pilate asked them,

Pilate "Why, what evil has he done?"

Narrator But they shouted all the more,

Congregation "Crucify him!"

Narrator So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after

flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him

in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him.

And they began saluting him,

Soldier "Hail, King of the Jews!"

Narrator They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to

him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own

clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his

cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus.

All stand

Narrator Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of

a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to

decide what each should take.

It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of

the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by

derided him, shaking their heads and saying,

Bystander 1 "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save

yourself, and come down from the cross!"

Narrator In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him

among themselves and saying,

Bystander 2 "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel,

come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe."

Narrator Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the

afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice,

Jesus "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?"

Narrator which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of

the bystanders heard it, they said,

Bystander 1 "Listen, he is calling for Elijah."

Narrator And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to

him to drink, saying,

Bystander 2 "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down."

Narrator Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

A period of silence is observed.

Narrator And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the

centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he

said.

Centurion "Truly this man was God's Son!"

Narrator There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary

Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and

Salome. These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where the body was laid.

The Sermon

The Prayers of the People V

page 389

People Lord, have mercy.

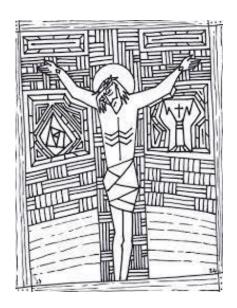
Blessings for birthdays, anniversaries, and other life events

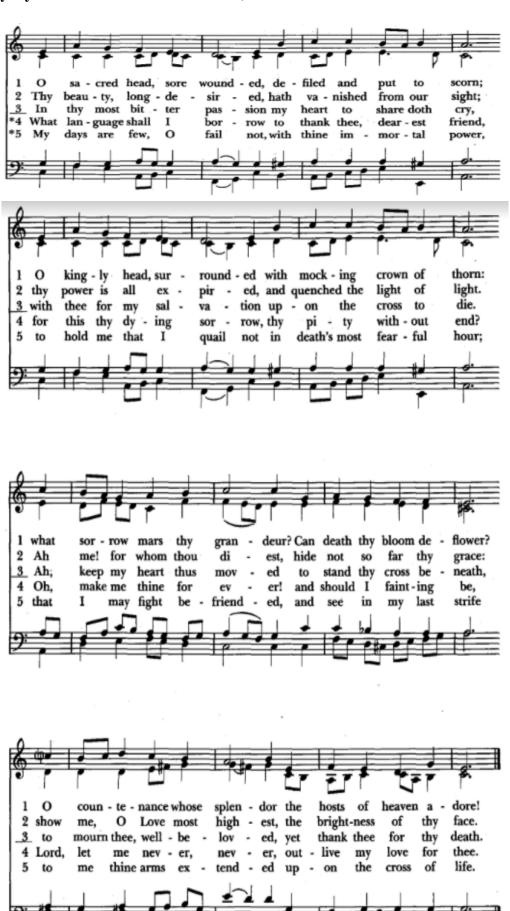
The Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be with you.

People And also with you.

Announcements





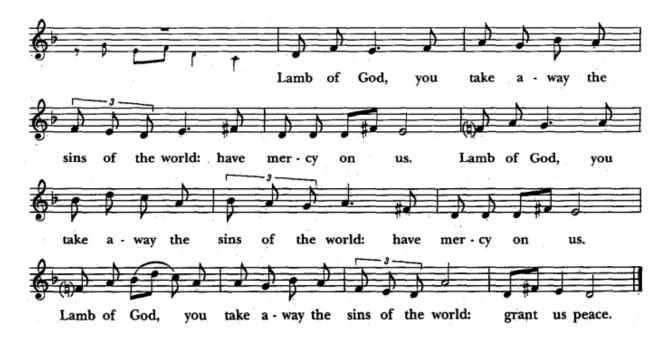
The 8 a.m. Liturgy continues with the Great Thanksgiving on page 333 in <u>The Book of Common Prayer</u>. The 10 a.m. Liturgy continues with the Great Thanksgiving page 361 in <u>The Book of Common Prayer</u>.

Sanctus



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san- na in the high - est.

Fraction Anthem



The Communion

This is God's Table; all are welcome.

Gluten free wafers are available; ask the priest when you come to the altar rail.

You can request that Communion be brought to your pew by letting an usher know.

Following the Postcommunion Prayer and Solemn Prayer over the People, all stand and sing



Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Liturgical Ministers 8 a.m.

Usher: Isa Babb

Lectors: Terry Mello, Sandy Lyle

Intercessor: Jan Lyle

Eucharistic Minister: Sandy Lyle Celebrant: The Rev. Paul Briggs

Liturgical Ministers 10 a.m.

Ushers: Cheryl Reif, Cheryl White

Acolytes:

Lectors: Charlotte Watkins, Roy Gilley

Intercessor: Gwen Prosser Eucharistic Minister: Roy Gilley Deacon: The Rev. Dr. Rosalee Glass Celebrant: The Rev. Paul Briggs

People in our Prayers

Short-term: Jan Dolcater, Helene, John, Cheryl, Phyllis, Michael, Bob, Sylvia, Matthew Jackson, Marlene, Percy, Joan Grey, Bayard Chanler, Evie Bridges, Margery, Cathy, James, Jennifer Smith, Ken, Joseph, Kelli McGuire, Tony, Andrew, Jan, Jo Panayotoff

Long-term: Luke Morelli, Elizabeth and Gerard Gillespie, Leah, Tim Peters, Janice Boetsch, Lucy Ebbert, Shirley, Tiffany Andrews, Budge Walen, Chris, Sandy, Vicki Boetsch, Allison Davis, Catherine G., Annabel, Virginia

Birthdays this Week

Benjy Lowry – March 27

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, March 24

4:00 p.m. Centering Prayer (Lady Chapel)

Monday in Holy Week, March 25

12:00 p.m. Noon Prayer on Facebook Live

Tuesday in Holy Week, March 26

12:00 p.m. Noon Prayer on Facebook Live

Wednesday in Holy Week, March 27

9:30 a.m. Healing Prayer and Holy Eucharist

8:00 p.m. Compline on Facebook Live

Maundy Thursday, March 28

5:30 p.m. Liturgy (Begins in Parish Hall) Agape Meal, Foot Washing, Eucharist, Stripping of the Altar

7:30 p.m. Nightwatch (Lady Chapel)

The chapel will remain open until 9 p.m. for prayer before the Reserved Sacrament

Good Friday, March 29

12:00 p.m. Community Ecumenical Service (Chestnut Street Baptist, Camden)

5:30 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy Passion Gospel, Solemn Collects, Veneration of the Cross, Communion from Reserved Sacrament

Holy Saturday, March 30

9:00 a.m. Liturgy (Church)

A quiet Prayer Book service recalling the burial of Christ

7:00 p.m. **The GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER** – Bring a handbell! (St. John the Baptist, Thomaston) Kindling the New Fire, Stories of Salvation History, Renewal of Baptismal Vows, and the First Eucharist of Easter

Easter Day, March 31

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Hymns - Bring a handbell!

Traditional Rite I

10:00 a.m. Festival Choral Eucharist - Bring a handbell!

Contemporary Rite II



St. Thomas' Episcopal Church

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