

Palm Sunday Passion Sunday



**St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Alton, Illinois**

The Rev. Gene Stormer, Celebrant

March 24, 2024

THE EPISCOPAL PARISH OF ALTON

Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday



Welcome to the first service of Holy Week 2024. This Sunday has two names: Palm Sunday, and the Sunday of the Passion. It has two Gospel readings: the jubilant account of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem as a hero in a parade, and the long, detailed, painful account of his arrest, trial, and crucifixion. Today's service stretches from joy to deepest sorrow as we remember Jesus' last days.

We hope you will enter into these events and reflect on what they reveal about God, Jesus Christ, human beings in general, and your own life in particular. By entering into a reflective mode today and throughout Holy Week, you will prepare yourself to celebrate Easter and God's gift of new life.

If you would like to be part of the procession, stand outside (in good weather) or in the back (inclement weather) with the worship leaders. If you do not wish to process, palms will be brought to you in your seat.

Prelude

'Ellacombe' (Hosanna, Loud Hosanna)

arr. J. Innes

Hymn #154 (vs. 1-3)

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;
 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.

The stanzas may be sung by choir alone or alternately by contrasted groups; all sing the refrain.

Words: Theodulph of Orleans (d. 821); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt.

Music: *Valet will ich dir geben*, melody Melchior Teschner (1584-1635), alt.; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

The Liturgy of the Palms

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

People: *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.*

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

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 Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

The Celebrant then says the following blessing over the palms

Celebrant: 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.**

The palms are distributed to the congregation.

Celebrant: Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!

People: *Hosanna in the highest!*

The Procession

Celebrant: Let us go forth in peace.

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

Hymn #154 (vs. 4-5) *All glory, laud, and honor*

The Response

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 *Confitemini Domino*

The People respond with the verses in bold italics

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; * ***his mercy endures for ever.***

Let Israel now proclaim, * ***"His mercy endures for ever."***

Open for me the gates of righteousness; * ***I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the LORD.***

"This is the gate of the LORD; * ***he who is righteous may enter."***

I will give thanks to you, for you answered me * ***and have become my salvation.***

The same stone which the builders rejected * ***has become the chief cornerstone.***

This is the LORD's doing, * ***and it is marvelous in our eyes.***

On this day the LORD has acted; * ***we will rejoice and be glad in it.***

Hosannah, LORD, hosannah! * ***LORD, send us now success.***

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; * ***we bless you from the house of the LORD.***

God is the LORD; he has shined upon us; * ***form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.***

"You are my God, and I will thank you; * ***you are my God, and I will exalt you."***

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; * ***his mercy endures for ever.***

The Liturgy of the Passion

The Liturgy of the Word

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 Prophet Isaiah

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?

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

The Response

Psalms 31:9-16 *In te, Domine, speravi*

The People respond with the verses in bold italics

Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; *

my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; *

my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.

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.

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

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.

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

My times are in your hand; *

rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

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

Phillipians 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.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Hymn #158 *Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended*

*The Hymnal 1982**

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Mark

The congregation remaining seated, the Passion Gospel is read in parts led by a narrator who begins by saying: ^[1-]_[SEP] The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Mark.

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 PRIESTS: "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,

JESUS: "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,

JESUS: "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?"

NARRATOR: He said to them,

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,

JESUS: "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,

PETER: "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,

PETER: "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 said to them,

JESUS: "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,

JESUS: "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,

JESUS: "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,

JUDAS: "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,

ACCUSERS: "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,

HIGH 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,

HIGH PRIEST: "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?"

NARRATOR: Jesus said,

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,

HIGH PRIEST: "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,

ACCUSERS: "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,

BYSTANDERS: "Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean."

NARRATOR: But he began to curse, and he swore an oath,

PETER: "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,

JESUS: "Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times."

NARRATOR: 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?"

NARRATOR: He answered him,

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?"

NARRATOR: 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,

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

NARRATOR: They shouted back,

CROWD: "Crucify him!"

NARRATOR: Pilate asked them,

PILATE: "Why, what evil has he done?"

NARRATOR: But they shouted all the more,

CROWD: "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,

SOLDIERS: "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.

(At the mention of Golgotha, all stand as able.)

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. 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,

BYSTANDERS: "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,

CHIEF PRIESTS: "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,

JESUS: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

NARRATOR: When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

BYSTANDERS: "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,

BYSTANDERS: "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down."

NARRATOR: Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. 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 Rev. Gene Stormer+

Prayers of the People

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. *God of love and mercy, hear our prayers.*

O God, Jesus endured triumphs and terrors in his return to Jerusalem. Give endurance to your people this holy week, and help us to enter into the account of Jesus' last days.

Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

We pray for those who are sick or sorrowing, remembering especially Ron, Pete, Sarah and the Dobson family, Rebecca, Jeanna, Verla, Judy, Tori, John, Jeanie, K-Lou, Fr. Kip, Claudette, Marie, Charles, Robin, Bianca, Albert, Audrey, Linda, Mother Jane, Terry, Kay, Barb, John, Don, Tony, Dan, Nolan, Helen, Greg, Don, Irene, Katie, Judy and those known only to us. Bless them with your presence, comfort, and healing power.

Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

We pray for this community, the nation, and the world.

Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

We pray for all who have died, remembering especially all those who are dear to us. Grant them eternal rest.

Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence*

Leader and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown,

things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The 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 Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Welcome and Announcements

Offertory (bell choir) *Hurrian Hymn* (Syrian 1400 BC)

arr. G. Anderson

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP p. 367

Lift up your hearts: Sursum corda

*S120 The Hymnal 1982**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

The Celebrant chants a Proper Preface at this time

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:

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy Lord:

*S130 The Hymnal 1982**

The people stand or kneel if they are comfortable doing so.

The Celebrant continues

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:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

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.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

The Lord's Prayer (*sung*)

S119 *The Hymnal* 1982*

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: *Therefore let us keep the feast.*

Jesus, Lamb of God: Agnus Dei

S164 *The Hymnal* 1982*

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Welcome to the Table!

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion, and everyone is welcome to come forward to receive a blessing! If you are unable to come forward, raise your hand, and we will come to you.

If you do not wish to receive either the bread or the wine, please cross your arms across your chest as a silent request for a blessing from the priest.

Communion Voluntary

‘Herzliebster Jesu’

arr. G. Young

Prayer after Communion

BCP p. 365

After Communion, the Celebrant says Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

Hymn #164 *Alone thou goest forth, O Lord*

*The Hymnal 1982**

Dismissal

BCP p. 366

SERVING TODAY

Celebrant: The Rev. Gene Stormer+
 Organist: Gay Anderson
 Crucifer: Tom Harris
 Acolyte: Elias Silkwood
 Altar Acolyte: Marti LoRusso
 Chalice/BB: Donna Fisher
 Lector: Connie Terry
 Intercessor: Connie Terry
 Altar Guild: N. Weiss-Hayes, A. Bromaghim

NEXT SUNDAY

The Rev. John Henry+
 Gay Anderson
 Tom Wrausmann
 Meg Dorris
 Elias Silkwood
 Susan Lukasik
 Chuck Drennan
 Chuck Drennan
 E. Bumbacher, C. Terry

The palms this morning are presented to the Glory of God in loving memory of Bud, Andy and Robert Simpson, Clifton and Anna Beach, John and Irene Kodros, Lew and Mary Malone, Diamond and Pete Stavros, Bill, Margy, Archie and Gus Kodros, by Nancy Simpson and Pat and Irene McLaughlin.

Please keep the following schedule and share with others!

Date	Service	Time
3/28/24	<i>Maundy Thursday</i> – Mass of the Lord's Supper	7 p.m. at St. Paul's
3/29/24	<i>Good Friday</i> – Liturgy of the Lord's Passion	Noon at Trinity 7 p.m. St. Paul's
3/30/24	<i>Holy Saturday</i> - Easter Vigil	6:30 p.m. at St. Paul's
3/31/24	<i>Easter Sunday</i> – The Day of Resurrection	8:15 a.m. at Trinity 10 a.m. St. Paul's Flowering of the Cross 10:30 a.m. St. Paul's

In your bulletins, you will find forms for Easter Flower donations. If you would like this to be in the bulletin at Easter, you must fill this form out and turn it in **today**.

There will be no Morning Prayer or Bible Study on Tuesday, March 26th. Both will resume on Tuesday, April 2nd.

The Book Club will meet this Wednesday, March 27th at 9:30 a.m. at Trinity Chapel on State St. Join us for a lively discussion of *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins. Everyone is welcome whether or not you have read the book!

Decorating the St. Paul's sanctuary for Easter services will begin at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 30th. Please join the Altar Guild if you are interested in helping.

St. Paul's special tradition of Flowering the Palm Cross will be honored this year on Easter Sunday at 10:00 a.m. Please bring a few fresh-cut flowers from your garden, florist or floral dept. to add to the cross.

Save the dates – it's time to spruce up for Spring! Cleaning and repairs, both interior and exterior, are scheduled for Saturday, April 6th at Trinity Chapel and Saturday, April 13th at St. Paul's. Every gift of time and effort are greatly appreciated by the Property and Maintenance commission. A future date will be determined if additional time is needed.



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