

Palm Sunday Passion Sunday



**Episcopal Parish of Alton
Alton, Illinois**

**The Rev. Garron C. Daniels
Rector XXI**

March 29, 2026

THE EPISCOPAL PARISH OF ALTON Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday



Welcome to the first service of Holy Week 2026. 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.

The Liturgy of the Palms

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

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

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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

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

People: *Glory be to thee, O Lord.*

When Jesus and his disciples 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Celebrant then says the following blessing over the palms

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

People: It is meet and right so to do.

It is right to praise thee, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which thou hast redeemed us through thy 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 leadeth to eternal life; who liveth and reigneth in glory with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The palms are distributed to the congregation.

Celebrant: Blessed is he who cometh 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. 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).

Collect at the Cross

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 the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Liturgy of the Passion

The Collect

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And with thy Spirit.*

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

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.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Hymn #435

At the name of Jesus

The Hymnal 1982

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew

The congregation remaining seated, the Passion Gospel is read in parts led by a narrator who begins by saying: The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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,

DISCIPLES: "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,

DISCIPLES: "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,

ACCUSERS: "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,

CHIEF PRIESTS: "He deserves death."

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

CHIEF PRIESTS: "Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?"

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

SERVANT 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,

BYSTANDER: 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:

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

NARRATOR: 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,

CHIEF PRIESTS: "What is that to us? See to it yourself."

NARRATOR: Throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself.

But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said,

CHIEF PRIESTS: "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money."

NARRATOR: After conferring together, they used them to buy the potter's field as a place to bury foreigners.

For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been

spoken through the prophet Jeremiah, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one on whom a price had been set, on whom some of the people of Israel had set a price, and they gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me."

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,

CONGREGATION SAYS TOGETHER: "Barabbas."

NARRATOR: Pilate said to them,

PILATE: "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?"

NARRATOR: All of them said,

CONGREGATION SAYS TOGETHER: "Let him be crucified!"

NARRATOR: Then he asked,

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

NARRATOR: But they shouted all the more,

CONGREGATION SAYS TOGETHER: "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,

CONGREGATION SAYS TOGETHER: "His blood be on us and on our children!"

NARRATOR: So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying,

SOLDIERS: "Hail, King of the Jews!"

NARRATOR: They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

(At the mention of Golgotha, the congregation should stand and remain standing for the remainder of the reading.)

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,

BYSTANDERS: "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,

CHIEF PRIESTS: "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, lema sabachthani?"

NARRATOR: that is,

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

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

BYSTANDERS: "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,

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

NARRATOR: Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said,

CENTURION: "Truly this man was God's Son!"

NARRATOR: Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had provided for him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee. When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

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

CHIEF PRIESTS: "Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' Therefore command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go

and steal him away, and tell the people, 'He has been raised from the dead,' and the last deception would be worse than the first."

NARRATOR: Pilate said to them,

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

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Garron C. Daniels+

Prayers of the People

In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

I bid your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Presiding Bishop Sean, our Bishop Brian, and our Rector Garron; for this gathering; and for all the ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

Silence

I bid your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I bid your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I bid your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.

Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I bid your prayers for the departed.

Pray for those who have died.

Silence

I bid your prayers for Shelby, Donna, Jordan and children, Linda, Janice, Randy, Brian, Joan, Steve, Audrey, Bill, Marie, Ryan, Kathryn, Bria, Barbara, Brenda, Dane, Greg, Jim, Irene, Charles, and Tracy

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored, especially the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Paul.

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

The priest stands and says

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of thy people; in the multitude of thy mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to thee for help; for thou art gracious, O lover of souls, and to thee we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Peace

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

People: *And with thy spirit.*

Welcome and Announcements

Offertory Sentence

Offertory (solo: Roy)

‘Lonesome Valley’

Spiritual

Presentation Hymn #380

Praise God, from whom (vs 3 only)

The Hymnal 1982

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer I

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And with thy spirit.*

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: *We lift them up unto the Lord.*

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People: *It is meet and right so to do.*

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who for our sins was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; who by his suffering and death became the author of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Holy, holy, holy Lord: Sanctus

#S114 *The Hymnal 1982*

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people kneel or stand.

Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion. And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer

S#119 *Hymnal 1982*

People and Celebrant
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

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.
A period of silence is kept.*

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

Jesus, Lamb of God: Agnus Dei

#S158 *The Hymnal 1982*

*O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.*

*The following prayer may be said. The People may join in saying
this prayer*

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Celebrant

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

All baptized Christians are welcome to come forward to receive Communion, and everyone is welcome to come to the rail for a blessing.

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 Anthem

Herzliebster Jesu'

arr. G. Young

Post-Communion Prayer

After communion the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Blessing

Dismissal

BCP p. 339

Hymn #158

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended

The Hymnal 1982

SERVING TODAY

Trinity:

Celebrant: The Rev. Garron C. Daniels+
 Violinist: Nick Zankl
 Lector: Chuck Drennan
 Intercessor: Chuck Drennan
 CB/Acolyte: Donna Fisher
 Altar Guild: Sue Goers

Celebrant: The Rev. Garron C. Daniels+
 Organist: Gay Anderson
 Verger:
 Thurifer:
 Crucifer: Dereck Cook
 Acolyte: Destiny Drennan
 Altar Acolyte: Marti LoRusso
 Chalice/BB: Donna Fisher
 Lector/Reader #1: April Drennan
 Intercessor: April Drennan
 Reader #2: Mimi Almonroeder
 Reader #3: Tom Harris
 Reader #4: Ann Bromaghim
 Reader #5: Robbie Cupp
 Reader #6: Marti LoRusso
 Cantor: Robbie Cupp
 Altar Guild: D. Cook, J. Cook

NEXT SUNDAY

The Rev. Garron C. Daniels+

 Mary Molloy
 Mary Molloy
 Robbie Cupp
 Nancy Weiss-Hayes

The Rev. Garron C. Daniels+
 Gay Anderson
 Robbie Cupp
 Donna Fisher
 Dereck Cook
 Linda Britt
 Marti LoRusso
 Susan Lukasik
 Mimi Almonroeder
 John Pearson

Robbie Cupp
 S. Lukasik, A. Drennan, D. Drennan

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
4/2/26	<i>Maundy Thursday</i> – Mass of the Lord’s Supper	7 p.m. at St. Paul’s
4/3/26	<i>Good Friday</i> – Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion	Noon at Trinity 7 p.m. St. Paul’s
4/4/26	<i>Easter Vigil</i>	6:30 p.m. at St. Paul’s
4/5/26	<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**.

Confirmation class continues today at 12:15 p.m. in the St. Paul’s conference room.

There will be no Morning Prayer or Bible Study on Tuesday, March 31st, April 7th, and April 14th. Both will resume on Tuesday, April 21st.

Decorating the St. Paul’s sanctuary for Easter services will begin at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 4th. The Altar Guild invites you to join them if you are interested in helping. We will begin with a short prayer service.

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.

Note for your Calendar:

The Annual Parish picnic will be on Sunday, April 26th, at 10:30 a.m. at Shelter #1 at Glazebrook Park in Godfrey. There will only be one service held that morning. Plan to come for this morning service filled with fellowship and fun!

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EASTER FLOWERS



The glorious message of Easter morning is reflected in the festive decoration of our worship areas. You may share in this special Easter ministry by offering gifts in memory of loved ones or in thanksgiving for special Easter blessings.

Your gift will be acknowledged in the Easter bulletin. Please fill out the form below (exactly as you want it to appear in the bulletin) and return it to the church office with your check made payable to “The Episcopal Parish of Alton.”

DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT MARCH 29TH, 2026

GIVEN BY: _____

THE AMOUNT OF YOUR GIFT \$ _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

OR

IN THANKSGIVING FOR:

ST. PAUL'S _____

TRINITY CHAPEL _____



An Easter Offering for Liturgy and Arts Fund

GIVEN BY: _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

IN THANKSGIVING FOR:

Please note “Liturgy and Arts” in memo line of check.

Acknowledgements will be printed in bulletin on Sunday, April 5th and Sunday, April 12th