

SUNDAY OF THE PASSION: PALM SUNDAY

MARCH 28, 2021

8:00 A.M.

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS & HOLY EUCHARIST

Please gather at the main steps of the church.

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.

THE GOSPEL: MARK 11:1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he 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 BLESSING OF 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.***

Celebrant: 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.**

Individuals are invited to come forward and take a palm branch to take on the procession to the Memorial Garden.

Celebrant: Blessed is he 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 #157: HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST *Chanted as we process to the Memorial Garden.*

THE LITURGY OF THE PASSION

THE COLLECT FOR PALM SUNDAY

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.**

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 50:4-9

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? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

PSALM 31:9-16 (read in unison)

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."*

SECOND READING: 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.

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD ACCORDING TO MARK (Mark 15:1-47)

The customary responses before and after the Gospel are omitted.

The congregation remains seated until the verse which mentions the arrival at Golgotha, when all stand.

I

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, "Are you the King of the Jews?" He answered him, "You say so." Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again, "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you." But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

II

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, "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?" They shouted back, "Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!" So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

III

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, "Hail, King of the Jews!" 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.

IV

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, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!" In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "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." 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, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom.

Here is observed 30 seconds of Silence

V

Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!" 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 Jesus saw where the body was laid.

SERMON

Robert Fruehwirth +

The service continues with the Prayers of the People and the Liturgy of the Altar.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We pray for Justin the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our Presiding Bishop, Sam and Anne our Bishops with all bishops, priests, and deacons. We pray for parishes in our Diocese, especially Abundant Life; All Saints'; and Church of the Holy Spirit, of Greensboro. We also pray for Pastor Holman and Dickerson Chapel AME and for the Hillsborough Clergy Coalition, especially for Rev. Tony Boss of Piney Grove Missionary Baptist Church.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. We pray for our President, our Congress, and our State Government.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. We pray for the work of the Eno River Association.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We pray for the poor, marginalized, and vulnerable in Orange County. We pray for inmates, first responders, and healthcare workers. We pray for educators, students, and parents of school-aged children. We pray for the work of Justice United and Durham CAN in our local communities.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Comfort those who mourn, especially Sue & Bob Kaynor at the death of their son, Richard. We pray for those in our parish family, especially: Mildred, Lois, Tom, Molly, Jim, Rowen & Jan, Ann, Anne, Daisy, Tom, Champe, Keyon, Andy & Barrie, Laura, Sandra, Robert, Tricia & Don, Nell, Ludie, Robert, Marion, Nancy, Jim, Jean, and Joseph. We pray for those at Brookshire, both residents and staff.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially Richard, that your will for them may be fulfilled, and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

THE PEACE (The people respond: ***And also with you.***)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (EUCHARISTIC PRAYER 2)

"HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD" (SANCTUS)

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

“O LAMB OF GOD” (AGNUS DEI)

*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.*

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

*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 & DISMISSAL