



The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

April 13, 2025 8:00 a.m.



*Blessed is the King
who cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!*

Welcome to Church of the Ascension

Church of the Ascension provides opportunities to
Connect with God and one another,
Grow in faith and understanding, and
Serve the Lord, one another, and the world around us.

We are an active community of faith committed to welcoming all
and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Christ-centered + Spirit-filled + Mission-minded

The usher hands out palms as the people enter the church.

The Liturgy of the Palms

✠ *Please stand when the bell rings*

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.**

The Gospel: Luke 19:28-40

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

After telling a parable to the crowd at Jericho, Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out." The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

The Blessing of the Palms

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

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

Please, raise your palm for the blessing.

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 leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns in glory with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

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

People: **Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant: 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 Liturgy of the Word of God

Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins. **God's mercy endures forever.**

The Collect

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, who, in thy tender love towards mankind, hast sent thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh, and to suffer death upon the cross, that all mankind should follow the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may both follow the example of his patience, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson: Isaiah 50:4-9a

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

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? The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 31:9-16

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

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

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

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

11 I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors,
a dismay to those of my acquaintance; *

when they see me in the street they avoid me.

12 I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; *

I am as useless as a broken pot.

13 For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around; *

they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

14 But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. *

I have said, "You are my God.

15 My times are in your hand; *

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

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

The Epistle: Philippians 2:5-11

A Reading from The Letter of saint Paul to the Philippians

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 Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

✠The Gospel: Luke 23:1-49

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

You may stand or remain seated as you are able for the first part of the Passion.

*The congregation says the responses that are **bold**.*

The assembly of the elders of the people rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying, "**We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king.**" Then Pilate asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" He answered, "You say so." Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no basis for an accusation against this man." But they were insistent and said, "**He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.**"

When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies.

Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him."

Then they all shouted out together, "**Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!**" (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting, "**Crucify, crucify him!**" A third time he said to them, "Why, what evil has he

done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him." But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

✦ *Please stand as you are able.*

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "**He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!**" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "**If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!**" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "**Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.**" He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last. *We pause and keep a time of silence.* When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "**Certainly this man was innocent.**" And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Short meditation *followed by a time of silence*

Rev. Pierre-Henry Buisson

The Prayers of the People from *Intercessions for the Christian People*

On this day the church hears again the passion of our Lord, into whom we are baptized. Recreated by the mind of Christ, let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

For the Church throughout the world, all the baptized, the clergy, and the bishops, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For peace among nations that a spirit of respect and forbearance grows among all people, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For peace in the Holy Land, and all countries devastated by war, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the weary and the sick, for those who are consumed with sorrow, for Sherry, Jenny, Jarrod, Jacques, Debbie, Jackie, Matt, Sue, Rich, Mary, Megan, Tony, Kip, Kathy, Kevin, Calvin H., and those in our prayer list, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For Beverly, Michele, and others, who celebrate their birthdays this week, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who are oppressed or persecuted, for all the victims of violence, and all who suffer or are in danger. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who do not yet believe, and those who have lost their faith, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this assembly as we walk the road toward the cross, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

The Celebrant: Into your hands, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace: The Peace of the Lord be always with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Birthday and Anniversary Prayer

O God, our times are in thy hands: look with favor, we pray, on thy servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace. Send thy blessings upon them, that their homes may be a haven of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements

I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. *Romans 12:1*

Thank you for your financial support! To make an online offering, please scan the QR code:



The Celebration of the Holy Communion

✠ At the Presentation

All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer II

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God. **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 he was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole

world to himself; and, 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 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.

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for 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 to thee, he broke 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 this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, 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, we thy people do celebrate and make, 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; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

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

The Lord's Prayer

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

Breaking of the Bread

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

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.**

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.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving. **Amen.**

Communion: *All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion. When directed by an Usher, please come forward to receive Holy Communion kneeling or standing at the Communion Rail. If you would prefer a blessing, please indicate by crossing your arms over your chest.*

Post Communion Prayer

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 Savior 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 thine 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.**

The Prayer over the People

Bow down before the Lord.

Almighty God, we beseech thee to behold this thy family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who liveth and reigneth for ever and ever. **Amen.**

✠The Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

Palm Sunday
April 13, 2025 8:00 am

Worship Assistants	April 13 Palm Sunday	April 20 Easter Sunday
Usher	Bill Sears	Don & Janice Hobart
Acolyte	Beverly Baker	Jennie Grabill
Lector(s)	Roberta Wilhelm	David Kreider

April Altar Guild: Team 3

Ellen Anderson Dorothy Carpenter Jennie Grabill Lisa Jamison Melissa Leahy

The Bread and Wine are given to the glory of God by Tom and Sharon Schwartz, in celebration of Michele Schwartz's birthday.

Attendance - April 6:

8:00 am - 28 10:15 am In-person - 70 YouTube - 4 Facebook - 2 **Total: 104**

Readings for Next Sunday: Easter - C

Acts 10:34-43 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 1 Corinthians 15:19-2 Luke 24:1-12

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