



The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

Church of the Holy Comforter – Vienna, Virginia
The Holy Eucharist Rite II

April 13, 2025 at 10:00 A.M.

The liturgy follows the Book of Common Prayer, beginning at page 270.

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

The people gather outside the main entrance to the church.

OPENING ANTHEM

Cantor or Celebrant

Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord;

People

Peace in heaven and glory in the high - est.

Presider 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.

People **Amen.**

THE GOSPEL OF THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY

Luke 19:28-40

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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 to you, Lord Christ.

THE BLESSING OVER THE BRANCHES

The people raise their palm branches to be blessed.

Celebrant

The Lord be with you. *People* And al - so with you.

Celebrant

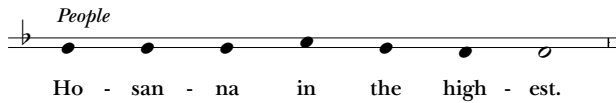
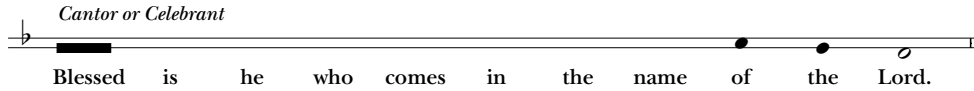
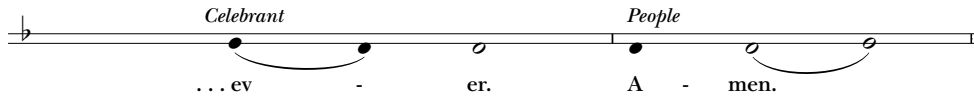
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

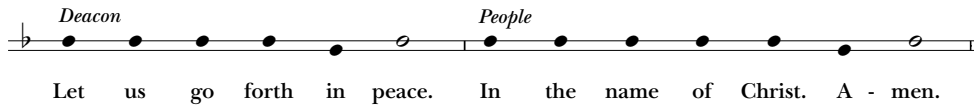
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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...



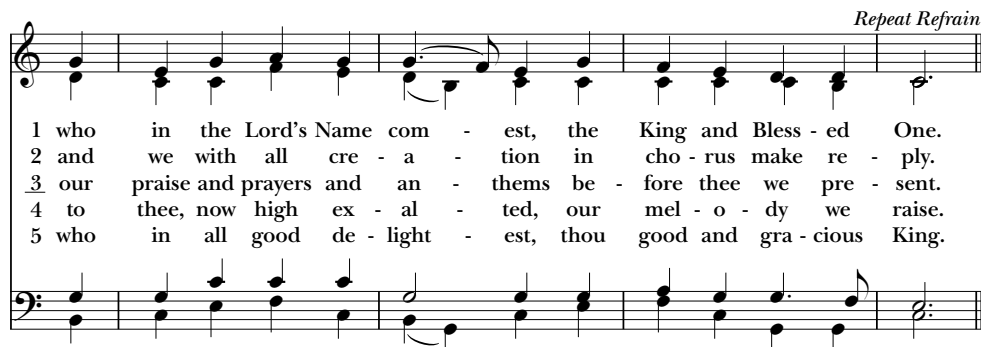
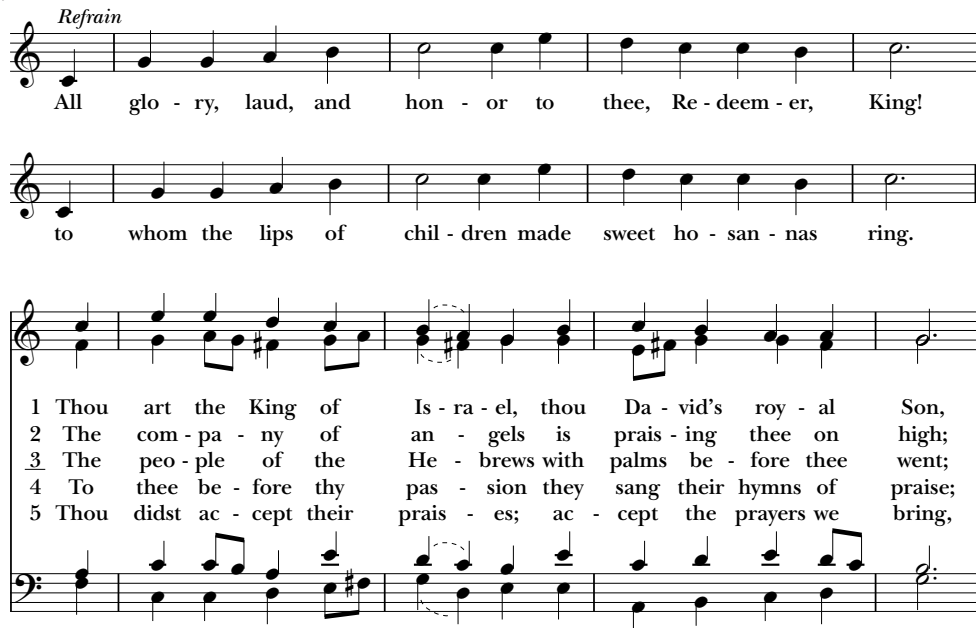
AT THE PROCESSION



The people process, moving around St. Mary's Chapel and into the narthex, where children make "sweet hosannas ring." If desired, individuals may move directly into the nave instead of following the procession. When the procession reaches the nave, all sing the following hymn:

HYMN 154 "All glory, laud, and honor"

Valet will ich dir geben



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

THE WORD OF GOD

THE LESSON *[The people are seated.]*

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?

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

AT THE GRADUAL, HYMN 160 “Cross of Jesus, cross of sorrow”

Cross of Jesus

Sung by all, standing.

THE SECOND LESSON

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 Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HOMILY The Rev. Jackie Thomson

A brief period of silence is observed for reflection. The people stand for the Prayers of the People.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Form V, Book of Common Prayer, p. 389

The leader of the Prayers will begin with prayers for the church and the world. Throughout you are invited to add your own petitions either silently or aloud.

Intercessor ...we pray to you, O Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

The Intercessor concludes

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

People **To you, O Lord our God.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you. *[The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace and are then seated.]*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

The people remain seated while an offering is received to support Holy Comforter's work of sharing God's love with the world. As the offering is brought forward to the altar, all stand.

AT THE OFFERTORY, ANTHEM: “Behold the Lamb of God”

George Frideric Handel

Behold the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sins of the world.

Celebrant *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Presider 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 Presider continues.]*

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:

SANCTUS, HYMNAL, S 129

Robert Powell

Sung by all.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
 might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Presider continues and gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ and prays over the bread and wine.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Presider Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:
People **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

The Presider 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.

Celebrant *People*

A-men.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

People **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, HYMNAL, S 164

Franz Schubert

Sung by all.

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

INVITATION [The People are seated.]

As Jesus welcomed all to his table, so do we at Holy Communion. The bread and the wine are the central symbols of God's presence and we invite you to share in the Eucharist in whatever way feels comfortable to you, regardless of age or tradition. We also offer gluten-free bread—just let the priest know. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms in front of your chest. The Holy Eucharist is an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace, a mutual indwelling of Christ in us and us in him. Come to the table and be joined into Christ's ministry of love and reconciliation.

COMMUNION MUSIC [Sung by all.]

HYMN 474 "When I survey the wondrous cross"

Rockingham

HYMN 458 (stanzas 1-2, 7) "My song is love unknown"

Love Unknown

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER [Said by all.]

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.

The people are seated until directed otherwise. The congregation reads the portions printed in boldface type.

Narrator The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.

Jesus came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them,

Jesus “Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.”

Narrator Then he withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, knelt down, and prayed,

Jesus “Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.”

Narrator Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground. When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief.

Jesus “Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial.”

Narrator Suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him.

Jesus “Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?”

Narrator When those who were around him saw what was coming, one asked,

Disciple “Lord, should we strike with the sword?”

Narrator Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said,

Jesus “No more of this!”

Narrator And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him,

Jesus “Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!”

Narrator Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest’s house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him.

Servant Girl “This man also was with him.”

Narrator But he denied it, saying,

Peter “Woman, I do not know him.”

Narrator A little later someone else, on seeing him, said,

Bystander “You also are one of them.”

Peter “Man, I am not!”

Narrator Then about an hour later still another kept insisting,

Bystander “Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean.”

Peter “Man, I do not know what you are talking about!”

Narrator At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, “Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times.” And he went out and wept bitterly.

Now the men who were holding Jesus began to mock him and beat him; they also blindfolded him and kept asking him,

Chief Priests “Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?”

Narrator They kept heaping many other insults on him.

When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought him to their council.

Chief Priest 1 “If you are the Messiah, tell us.”

Jesus “If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I question you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God.”

Chief Priest 2 “Are you, then, the Son of God?”

Jesus “You say that I am.”

Chief Priest 1 “What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!”

Narrator Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him,

Chief Priest 2 “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.”

Pilate “Are you the king of the Jews?”

Jesus “You say so.”

Narrator Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds,

Pilate “I find no basis for an accusation against this man.”

Chief Priest 2 “He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.”

Narrator 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,

Pilate “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.”

People **“Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!”**

Narrator (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,

People **“Crucify, crucify him!”**

Pilate “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.”

Narrator 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,

Jesus “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?”

Narrator Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him.

The people stand.

Narrator 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,

Jesus “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.”

Narrator And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him,

Chief Priest 1 “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!”

Narrator The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying,

Soldier “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!”

Narrator 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,

Criminal 1 “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!”

Narrator But the other rebuked him,

Criminal 2 “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.”

“Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

Jesus “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

Narrator 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,

Jesus “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.”

Narrator Having said this, he breathed his last.

Silence is kept.

Narrator When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said,

Centurion “Certainly this man was innocent.”

Narrator 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.

THE SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

In Lent, in place of a seasonal blessing, a solemn Prayer over the People is used. The Presider says

Bow down before the Lord. *[All kneel.]*

The Presider continues with the prayer; the people respond

Amen.

AT THE CLOSING, HYMN 435 (stanzas 1-4) “At the Name of Jesus”

King’s Weston

Sung by all, standing.

DISMISSAL *[The people respond,]*

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY: Prelude on *Herzlich tut mich verlangen* (Hymn 168)

Johannes Brahms