

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 9:30 AM
The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday
St. John's Episcopal Church
April 13, 2025



Our liturgy begins outdoors.
Please gather in the churchyard as close to the main
church doors as possible.

Palms will distributed for the Procession of the Palms.

Hosanna to the Son of David, Sing hosanna, to the Son of David.

For blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

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 Triumphal Entry to Jerusalem

Luke 19:28-40

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."

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.**

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.

Celebrant Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

People Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant Let us go forth in peace.

People In the name of Christ. Amen.

All enter the church, waving palms and singing...

Refrain:

**All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King!
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.**

Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's Name comest, the King and Blessed One. **[Refrain]**

The company of angels is praising thee on high;
and we with all creation in chorus make reply. **[Refrain]**

The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;
our praise and prayer and anthems before thee we present. **[Refrain]**

To thee before thy passion they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise. **[Refrain]**

Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King. **[Refrain]**

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

All remain standing in body or spirit.

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People God's mercy endures forever.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All are seated for the readings.

The First Lesson: A reading from the Book of 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?

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

- 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 Second Lesson: A reading from Paul's letter 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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel lesson (the Passion story) will follow Communion today.

The Sermon Lois Sauer, Licensed Lay Preacher

All remain seated for a moment of silence following the sermon.



All stand in body or spirit.

Prayers of the People

Composed by Lois Sauer, Licensed Lay Preacher

Leader: Be present, O merciful God, as we offer our prayers to you, knowing that you are always doing more for us than we can desire or ask.

Silence.

God of Love and Vulnerability, Jesus lived your Love fully as he walked the hard lonely road of pain and humiliation to the cross and death. Open our hearts to walk with him in self-giving Love in all that we do. Help us to embody the Truth that your Love is ultimately stronger than any hurt or evil that can befall us. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God our Mother Hen, gather your Church throughout the world under the wings of your care. Banish fear and empower your gospel to be proclaimed. Bless all your people to be like Abram and trust in you. We especially pray for St. John's in this time of transition. Fill our leadership, staff, vestry, and search committee with the grace of your love and wisdom. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of Repentance and Truth, we pray for our nation and all in authority, especially for our President, Congress, Judiciary, and all local officials. May your truth and wisdom guide their decisions, that we may turn away from divisiveness, self-centered blindness, and systemic injustice. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God the Great I AM, your providence sustains our lives and the world in which we live. Fill all people everywhere with the fire of your Love to care for your creation and all who are oppressed, homeless, and without hope. Like the fig tree, mercifully tend to us that we may be strengthened to speak and act on behalf of those who are vulnerable, hungry, ignored, or despised. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of Wholeness and Peace, as Mary anointed your Son Jesus before his passion, may your healing power anoint all who are afflicted or suffering in any way in body, mind, or spirit. We pray especially for **Carol, Tammy, Dorrie, Carolyn, Cynthia, Fran, Fayuk, Brian, Joshua, Paul, Jane, Al, Susan, Eric**, and those we name to you now (*all may name those in need, either silently or aloud*). May your love and tenderness particularly enfold all who suffer from chronic conditions. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of Gladness and Delight, we ask your blessing on those who are joyous today, and especially on all those celebrating birthdays this week; Tori Bennett, Tony Graber, Susan Raasch, Mike Allen, and Walter Kwiatek. Lord of all blessings, **hear our prayer.**

God of Welcome and Hope, as our bodies eventually return to the dust, we place our sure and certain hope in the Resurrection of your Son. Welcome into your Eternal Life and Peace, we pray, all who have died, (*and those we name to you now, either silently or aloud*). Let perpetual light shine upon them forever. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Merciful God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love that we may be strengthened to do your will in all that we say, think, and do, to the glory of your name. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Remember to sanitize hands, before and after touching common items like offering plates or after shaking hands at the Peace.

Please be seated for

Welcome & Parish Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

If you are viewing our livestream, you may wish to prepare your financial offering for mailing at this time. Anyone may give online at www.stjohnswf.org/give OR Text "STJOHNSWF" to 73256 to give using your mobile device.

Offertory Hymn #435, The Hymnal 1982

At the name of Jesus

Words: Caroline Maria Noel
Music: King's Weston

1 At the Name of Jesus
every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess him
King of glory now;
'tis the Father's pleasure
we should call him Lord
who from the beginning
was the mighty Word.

3 bore it up triumphant,
with its human light,
through all ranks of creatures,
to the central height,
to the throne of Godhead,
to the Father's breast;
filled it with the glory
of that perfect rest.

5 In your hearts enthrone him;
there let him subdue
all that is not holy,
all that is not true;
crown him as your Captain
in temptation's hour;
let his will enfold you
in its light and power.

2 Humbled for a season,
to receive a Name
from the lips of sinners,
unto whom he came,
faithfully he bore it
spotless to the last,
brought it back victorious,
when from death he passed;

4 Name him, Christians,
name him, with love strong as death,
name with awe and wonder
and with bated breath;
he is God the Savior,
he is Christ the Lord,
ever to be worshiped,
trusted, and adored.

6 Christians, this Lord Jesus
shall return again,
with his Father's glory
o'er the earth to reign;
for all wreaths of empire
meet upon his brow,
and our hearts confess him
King of glory now.

All stand in body or spirit.

The Doxology

(7:45 am—spoken)

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

(9:30 am—sung—Hymn 380 vs. 3)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

p 361 Book of Common Prayer Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing....who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus— Holy, holy, holy (7:45 AM spoken; 9:30 AM sung)
S-130 (front of hymnal)

Setting from Deutsche Mass, Franz P. Schubert;
arr. Richard Proulx

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

All stand or kneel in body or spirit. The Celebrant continues.

Celebrant Holy and gracious father: In your infinite love...Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died.**
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption....

...By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

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

All **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.

All stand in body or spirit.

Fraction Hymn

Setting from Deutsche Mass, Franz P. Schubert; arr. Richard Proulx

S-164, Agnus Dei (front of hymnal)

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world: give us your peace, give us your peace.

The Communion of the People

 (please sanitize your hands before coming forward)

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion or to receive a blessing (instead of the bread and wine) at the altar rail. If you prefer to receive a blessing, simply cross your arms over your chest to signal the clergy. If you need a gluten free wafer, please extend your hands with palms down. If you need to be served in your seat, please inform an usher. At this time, we will refrain from offering the common cup (drinking from a common chalice) and will offer the wine by intinction only (dipping the communion wafer in the cup of wine.) If you wish to receive the wine, please hold the wafer in your fingers as the chalice bearer comes to you and take care to dip only the wafer into the wine (and not your fingers.) If you are not comfortable receiving the wine this way, please know that receiving only the consecrated bread at Holy Communion (or the wine only) is still considered full Communion.

Communion Hymn

#458, The Hymnal 1982

My song is love unknown

Words: Samuel Crossman

Music: Love Unknown

1 My song is love unknown,
my Savior's love to me,
love to the loveless shown
that they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I, that for my sake
my Lord should take
frail flesh, and die?

4 Why, what hath my Lord done?
What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run,
he gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these
themselves displease
and 'gainst him rise.

7 Here might I stay and sing,
no story so divine:
never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine.
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days
could gladly spend.

2 He came from his blest throne
salvation to bestow,
but men made strange, and none
the longed-for Christ would know!
But O, my friend, my friend indeed,
who at my need
his life did spend!

5 They rise, and needs will have
my dear Lord made away;
a murderer they save,
the Prince of Life they slay.
Yet steadfast he to suffering goes,
that he his foes
from thence might free.

3 Sometimes they strew his way,
and his strong praises sing,
resounding all the day
hosannas to their King.
Then "Crucify!" is all their breath,
and for his death
they thirst and cry.

6 In life, no house, no home
my Lord on earth might have;
in death no friendly tomb
but what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heaven was his home;
but mine the tomb
wherein he lay.

All stand in body or spirit.

The Postcommunion Prayer (for those who have shared in Communion in person)

Celebrant Let us pray.

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 Celebrant prays a Solemn Prayer for the People for the fifth Sunday in Lent.

(adapted from the Book of Occasional Services)

Eternal God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Savior Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and to suffer death upon the cross; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All are seated.

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO LUKE

*The congregation remaining seated, the Passion Gospel is read in parts, led by a narrator. **It is expected that the congregation will take the role of the "Assembly."** The "Assembly" is a conflation of the priests and scribes, the leaders and the people, who often speak with one voice.*

NARRATOR: When the hour for the Passover meal came, Jesus took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. He said to them,

JESUS: "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God."

NARRATOR: Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said,

JESUS: "Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."

NARRATOR: Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying,

JESUS: "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

NARRATOR: And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying,

JESUS: "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table. For the Son of Man is going as it has been determined, but woe to that one by whom he is betrayed!"

NARRATOR: Then they began to ask one another, which one of them it could be who would do this.

A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. But he said to them,

JESUS: "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

"You are those who have stood by me in my trials; and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

"Simon, Simon, listen! Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned back, strengthen your brothers."

NARRATOR: And he said to him,

PETER: "Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death!"

NARRATOR: Jesus said,

JESUS: "I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day, until you have denied three times that you know me."

NARRATOR: He said to them,

JESUS: "When I sent you out without a purse, bag, or sandals, did you lack anything?"

NARRATOR: They said,

DISCIPLES: "No, not a thing."

NARRATOR: He said to them,

JESUS: "But now, the one who has a purse must take it, and likewise a bag. And the one who has no sword must sell his cloak and buy one. For I tell you, this scripture must be fulfilled in me, 'And he was counted among the lawless'; and indeed what is written about me is being fulfilled."

NARRATOR: They said,

DISCIPLES: "Lord, look, here are two swords."

NARRATOR: He replied,

JESUS: "It is enough."

NARRATOR: He 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, and he said to them,

JESUS: "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial."

NARRATOR: While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said to 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, they asked,

DISCIPLES: "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 and said,

SERVANT 1: "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,

ACCUSER 1: "You also are one of them."

NARRATOR: But Peter said,

PETER: "Man, I am not!"

NARRATOR: Then about an hour later still another kept insisting,

ACCUSER 2: "Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean."

NARRATOR: But Peter said,

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,

SOLDIERS: "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. They said,

ASSEMBLY: "If you are the Messiah, tell us."

NARRATOR: He replied,

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."

NARRATOR: All of them asked,

ASSEMBLY: "Are you, then, the Son of God?"

NARRATOR: He said to them,

JESUS: "You say that I am."

NARRATOR: Then they said,

ASSEMBLY: "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, saying,

ASSEMBLY: "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."

NARRATOR: Then Pilate asked him,

PILATE: "Are you the king of the Jews?"

NARRATOR: He answered,

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."

NARRATOR: But they were insistent and said,

ASSEMBLY: "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."

NARRATOR: Then they all shouted out together,

ASSEMBLY: "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,

ASSEMBLY: "Crucify, crucify him!"

NARRATOR: A third time he said to them,

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 and said,

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?"

(At the mention of the place called the Skull, please stand in body or spirit)

NARRATOR: 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,

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, saying,

ASSEMBLY: "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,

SOLDIERS: "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, saying,

CRIMINAL 1: "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."

NARRATOR 2: Then he said,

CRIMINAL 2: "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

NARRATOR : He replied,

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. 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.

Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was beginning. The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments.

On the sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

***The ministers depart in silence.
Then, the Congregation departs in silence.***

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ST. JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Holy Week & Easter



The Liturgy of the Palms/Passion Sunday, April 13, 2025

- 7:45 AM - Spoken Service with Holy Eucharist
- 9:30 AM - Worship Service with Music and Holy Eucharist (Livestreamed)
- 11:15 AM - Tapestry Intergenerational Worship Service and Holy Eucharist

Centering Prayer with Kathryn Kelley, April 14 & 15, 2025

- Noon in the Church Sanctuary

Mundy Thursday April 17, 2025

- 7 PM Service with Holy Eucharist (Livestreamed)

Good Friday April 18, 2025

- Noon - Stations of the Cross
- 7 PM - Proper Liturgy (Livestreamed)

Easter Sunday April 20, 2025

- 7:45, 9:30, & 11:15 AM - Easter Services in the Church Sanctuary (Livestreamed @ 9:30 AM)
- 10:45 AM Easter Egg Hunt on the Upper Churchyard Lawn prior to the 11:15 AM service...Don't forget your Easter Basket!

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