

THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION

Service of Antecommunion

St. John's Episcopal Church

Ithaca, NY 14850

March 28, 2021

stjohnsithaca.org

Hymns can be found at the end of the bulletin.

Palm Sunday marks for us the beginning of the holiest time of the year—the time when we mark with reverence and solemnity Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem, his arrest, trial, and execution at the hands of worldly power. And yet, for our siblings who are Jewish and Muslim, this week also marks a time when historically, danger has been even more present—as the liturgies of Holy Week were often used to stir up violence against Jews and Muslims. As we enter into the contemplation of the history that records our salvation, let us make sure we do so in a way that brings life abundant to all the children of God. Let us remember that Jesus, his disciples, and the first apostles were all devout Jews. Let us recall that the texts we read ask us to place ourselves in the crowd, calling for Jesus' crucifixion, because while Jesus died at the hands of the Roman Empire, we profess through faith that it was humanity's disobedience to God's way of love that allowed such a situation.

Most of all, let us recall God's self-giving love for everyone, and let us commit ourselves to more fully embody that love in our troubled and divided world.

Prelude *Canzona* in D Minor - J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Introit *Lift up your heads, O ye gates* - William Mathias (1934-1992)

Lift up your heads O ye gates,
and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors.
And the King of glory shall come in.
Who is the King of glory?
The Lord strong and mighty,
the Lord, mighty in battle!
[Psalm 24: 7-10]

The Liturgy of The Palms

Gospel

Mark 11:1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, Jesus 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

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

Hymn All glory, laud, and honor (*Valet will ich dir geben*)

Hymnal # 154

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.*

First Lesson

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.

Psalm 31:9-16

In te, Domine, speravi

- 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."

Epistle

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.

Hymn Go to dark Gethsemane (*Petra*)

Hymnal # 171

Gospel

The Passion According to Mark

Mark 15:1-39-47

The Passion Gospel is read in parts, led by Mtr. Megan; the congregation joining as Assembly

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.

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.

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. 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. 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 Joses saw where the body was laid.

Sermon

The Rev. Megan Castellan

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,

of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
 he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
 he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
 and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
 he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
 in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
 and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
 and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People: Form III

BCP 387

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

For the special needs and concerns of our congregation, and especially for:

Theodore	Lorraine	Lucy	Kathleen	Joan	Martha
Dhara	Edith	Carol	Wes	Jean	James
Lorraine	Pinky	Kathryn	Susan	Laura	Jay

For those celebrating the anniversary of their birth this week: Roman Aelish, Heather Dietz, Ryan Welsh, Lexie Hain, Matthew Henry.

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn O sacred head (*Herzlich tut mich verlangen*)

Hymnal # 168

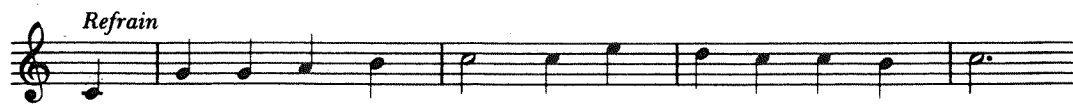
Peace

Dismissal


Postlude *O Haupt voll Blut und Wunden* (O sacred head sore wounded) - Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

The Liturgy of the Palms: Processional

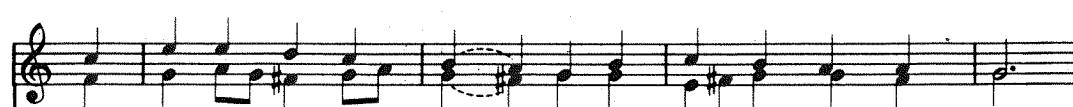
Refrain




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 - alt - ed, 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)

76. 76. D

1 Go to dark Geth - se - ma - ne, ye that feel the tempt-er's power;
 2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall; view the Lord of life ar-raigned;
 3 Cal-vary's mourn-ful moun-tain climb; there, a - dor-ing at his feet,

your Re-deem - er's con-flict see, watch with him one bit - ter hour;
 O the worm-wood and the gall! O the pangs his soul sus-tained!
 mark the mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com-plete;

turn not from his griefs a - way, learn of Je - sus Christ to pray.
 Shun not suf - fering, shame, or loss; learn of him to bear the cross.
 "It is fi - nished!" hear him cry; learn of Je - sus Christ to die.

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854)
 Music: *Petra*, Richard Redhead (1820-1901)

77. 77. 77

1 O sa - cred head, sore wound - ed, de - filed and put to scorn;
 2 Thy beau - ty, long - de - sir - ed, hath va - nished from our sight;
 3 In thy most bit - ter pas - sion my heart to share doth cry,
 *4 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
 *5 My days are few, O fail not, with thine im - mor - tal power,

1 O king - ly head, sur - round - ed with mock - ing crown of thorn:
 2 thy power is all ex - pir - ed, and quenched the light of light.
 3 with thee for my sal - va - tion up - on the cross to die.
 4 for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pi - ty with - out end?
 5 to hold me that I quail not in death's most fear - ful hour;

1 what sor - row mars thy gran - deur? Can death thy bloom de - flower?
 2 Ah me! for whom thou di - est, hide not so far thy grace:
 3 Ah, keep my heart thus mov - ed to stand thy cross be - neath,
 4 Oh, make me thine for ev - er! and should I faint - ing be,
 5 that I may fight be - friend - ed, and see in my last strife

1 O coun - te - nance whose splen - dor the hosts of heaven a - dore!
 2 show me, O Love most high - est, the bright - ness of thy face.
 3 to mourn thee, well - be - lov - ed, yet thank thee for thy death.
 4 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er, out - live my love for thee.
 5 to me thine arms ex - tend - ed up - on the cross of life.

Words: Paul Gerhardt (1607-1676); sts. 1-3 and 5, tr. Robert Seymour Bridges (1844-1930);
 st. 4, tr. James Waddell Alexander (1804-1859), alt.
 Music: *Herzlich tut mich verlangen [Passion Chorale]*, Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612);
 adapt. and harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)



St. John's Church

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The Rev. Megan Castellan, Rector

Matthew Sanaker, Sr. Warden

AnnMarie Hautaniemi, Parish Administrator

Karen A. Hindenlang, Director of Music/Organist

Cora Yao, Jr. Warden

Chuck Merrill, Weekday Sexton

Crawford R. Thoburn, Assisting Conductor

Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday 10-3

If you need pastoral assistance, or just want to reach out to Mtr. Megan, please call her at 315-757-0251, or e-mail mtrmegan@stjohnsithaca.org.

If you would like to contribute to our ministries, you may [make a secure donation here](#). Thank you!

Sign up for our weekly newsletter [The Fledgling](#) by contacting the church office.

After Easter cyber choir welcomes singers as we prepare for Pentecost. Contact our Director of Music through the church office for details!

Easter Memorial Flower Donations If you would like to contribute to our Easter flowers in memory of a loved one, please contact the office, mail a check with your names or contribute on Tithe.ly with the names in the comments.

Please Join Us

Holy Week & Easter Services

Maundy Thursday @ 7pm online and in- person (limited, with sign up)

Good Friday Liturgy @ 12 noon online and in- person (limited, with sign up)

Easter Sunday Morning Vigil @ 6:15 am Cass Park (limited, with sign up)

Easter Sunday @ 10:30 am online only

The link to sign up for Holy Week & Easter in person worship is [Here](#).

Coffee Hour, today at 11:30 on zoom <https://zoom.us/j/91221585167>

Join us for Morning Prayer weekdays at 9:30 on [FaceBook](#) & [YouTube](#).

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