

THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION: PALM SUNDAY

St. John's Episcopal Church, Ithaca NY

2 April, 2023 Year A

10:30 AM

Blessing of the Palms and Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Please take a palm from the table by the greeter in the back of the church.

* Indicates please stand

The Liturgy of the Palms

BCP 270

Gather in the Parish Hall and take a palm

The branches of palm or of other trees or shrubs to be carried in the procession may be distributed to the people before the service, or after the prayer of blessing.

The following or some other suitable anthem is sung or said, the people standing

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

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.*

***Processional Hymn** *All glory, laud, and honor (Valet will ich dir geben)* **Hymnal #154**

During the Hymn, we will process into the church, following the cross

Kyrie **Hymnal S-96**

***The Collect of the Day**

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.*

Old Testament 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;

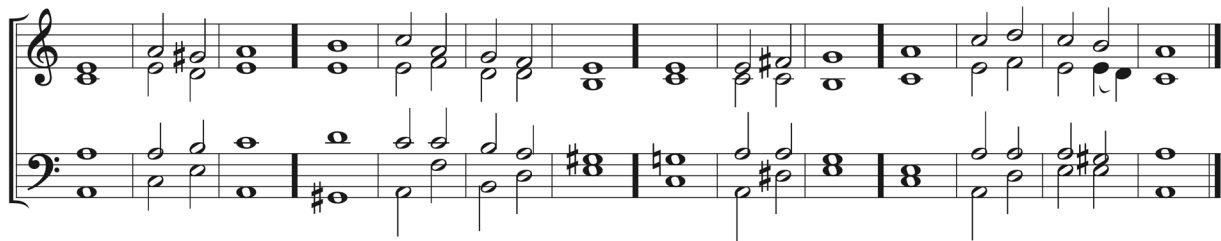
therefore I have set my face like flint,
 and I know that I shall not be put to
 shame;
 he who vindicates me is near.
 Who will contend with me?
 Let us stand up together.
 Who are my adversaries?
 Let them confront me.
 It is the Lord GOD who helps me;
 who will declare me guilty?

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 31:9–16

In te, Domine, speravi

Richard Thiele
 (1847–1903)



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 con-
 | sumed.
 11 I have become a reproach to all my
 enemies and even to my neighbors,
 a dismay to those of | my ac- |
 quaintance; *
 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 a- | round; *
 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 | perse- |
 cute me.
 16 Make your face to shine u- | pon
 your | servant, *
 and in your | loving- | kindness |
 save me."

The Epistle Reading

Philippians 2:5–11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,

being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn My song is love unknown (*Love Unknown*)

Hymnal #458 vv 1-5

*The Passion

Matthew 27:11-54

Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said, “You say so.” But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?” But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?” For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, “Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.” Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barabbas.” Pilate said to them, “Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?” All of them said, “Let him be crucified!” Then he asked, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Let him be crucified!”

So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.” Then the people as a whole answered, “His blood be on us and on our children!” So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor’s headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and

kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, “This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.”

Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, “You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.” In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, “He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, ‘I am God’s Son.’” The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o’clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, “This man is calling for Elijah.” At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.” Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, “Truly this man was God’s Son!”

Sequence Hymn My song is love unknown (*Love Unknown*)

Hymnal 4#58 vv 6-7

The Sermon

The Rev. Megan Castellan

***The Prayers of the People**

Jesus stretched out his arms of love and embraced human suffering, drawing the peoples of the world into his wounded heart, that they might share in his resurrection. With great devotion and gratitude we lift our voices in prayer, responding, “Christ, have mercy.”

+ For Christians throughout the world who are being imprisoned and persecuted for their belief in Christ, that faith may be their shield, courage a mantle upon their shoulders, and love a lantern to their footsteps; Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

+ That we may pass over from weapons of war to the armaments of peace: food, education, meaningful work, security, water, and health care; Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

+ For Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; DeDe, Bishop of our diocese; and Megan, our priest, that through their words and presence we may be guided faithfully through our Holy Week pilgrimage; Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

+ That we may confess the sovereignty of Christ, sharing his unique expression of love, and inviting the un-churched to join in the Paschal Feast; Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

+ That we may prepare ourselves to welcome into the community of faith those who will be baptized

this Easter season, and to support and affirm those who will be confirmed, received, or who will reaffirm their faith; Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

+ For those who have departed this life in the fellowship of Jesus and his apostles, that they may reside in his eternal presence; Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy upon us who humbly put our trust in you, as we continue our prayers and supplications.

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

| | | | | |
|---------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|
| Joan | Strater | Elizabeth | Ruth | Judy |
| Richard | Penny | Katie | Frank | Jeff |
| Shirley | Peter | Theodore | Jack | Daniel |
| Wes | Dave | Carol | Julianne | Penny |
| Charles | Cece | Lorraine | Faicia | Lynne |
| Dick | Deb | Edith | Eleanor | Jim |
| Rebecca | Allison | Kathryn | Bob | |

For those celebrating the anniversary of their birth this week:
Matthew Henry, Robin Steuteville, Gwen Freeman, Beverly Way

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

***The Peace**

Please remain in your pew. Wave!

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Announcements & Welcome

Offertory Sentence

Anthem Solus ad victimam

Kenneth Leighton (1929-88)

Alone to sacrifice thou goest, Lord,
Giving thyself to Death whom thou hast slain.
For us thy wretched folk is any word?
Who know that for our sins this is thy pain?

This is the night of tears, the three days' space,
Sorrow abiding of the eventide,
Until the day break with the risen Christ,
And hearts that sorrowed shall be satisfied.

For they are ours, O lord, our deeds,
Why must thou suffer torture for our sin?
Let our hearts suffer in thy Passion, Lord,
That very suffering may thy mercy win.

So may our hearts share in thine anguish, Lord,
That they may sharers of thy glory be;
Heavy with weeping may the three days pass,
To win the laughter of thine Easter Day.

***Presentation Hymn** *Cross of Jesus, cross of sorrow (Cross of Jesus)*

Hymnal #160

***The Great Thanksgiving**

Expanded Language 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 our thanks and praise.

Celebrant: *continuing:* Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Holy, holy, holy (*Sanctus*)

Hymnal #S-130

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had fallen into sin and became subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, Sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, He gave it to them, and said "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died

Christ is risen

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's 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 Christ.

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 Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Fraction Anthem **Lamb of God** (*Agnus Dei*)

Hymnal #S-164

The Communion of the People

All people are invited to the Lord's Table.

Eucharist will be distributed in the form of the bread with wine available for intincture. Please come forward in a single line in the center aisle to receive. Wait to remove your mask until you return to your seat, and then replace it after consuming the Sacrament.

Gluten free wafers are available upon request.

Communion Music Beneath the cross of Jesus (*St. Christopher*)

Hymnal #498

Post Communion Prayer

*Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Blessing

***Recessional** Lift high the cross (*Crucifer*)

Hymnal #473

Dismissal

Postlude Prelude in C minor BMV 546

J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

Acolytes: Ceril Sandstrom

Liturgical Ministers: Lillian Baptist, Daniella Ripperton, Sara VanLooy

Virtual Vergers: Ben Dean, Virginia McGhee

LARGE PRINT EDITIONS OF THE SERVICE ARE AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX

Easter Offering Envelopes are on the table at the back of the nave. They will also be included in your Easter Sunday bulletin.

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from **One License** with license # **A – 724223**

Palm Sunday Hymns

Hymn # 154

Refrain:

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

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

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

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

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

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

My Song is love unknown Hymnal #458

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.



www.stjohnsithaca.org

Office email: office@stjohnsithaca.org

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Office Hours Monday thru Thursday 10–3

The Rev. Megan Castellan, Rector

Gwen Freeman, Senior Warden
Parish Administrator, Cathy Wagner
Director of Music/Organist, Dr. Anna Stepler

Beverly Way, Junior Warden
Chuck Merrill, Weekday Sexton

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 at <https://stjohnsithaca.org/donate/>. Thank you!

Sign up for our weekly newsletter The Fledgling by contacting the church office.

Please Join Us:

Coffee Hour has resumed in the Parish Hall following the service. Please continue to wear your mask when you are not actively eating or drinking.

Morning Prayer weekdays at 9:30 on Facebook and YouTube.

Forward Day by Day for **February, March, and April** is available on the table in the rear of the church.

Easter Flowers: If you wish to make a contribution to the purchase of Easter flowers for the altar, please use this form so that we can include your loved one's name(s) on the list of those being memorialized. You may place this slip in the offering plate or mail it to the Parish Office by **Monday, April 3** for inclusion in the Easter Day bulletin.

\$ _____ Given for Easter Flowers in memory of: _____

PLEASE GIVE FIRST (CHRISTIAN) AND LAST NAMES of those to be memorialized.



Holy Week Services

This Holy Week all are encouraged to walk the “way of the cross” and prepare for the Paschal Feast by participating in these Holy Week services and activities:

Holy Wednesday, Tenebrae, 7:00 p.m.

Tenebrae is Latin for “darkness” or “shadows” (in partnership with ECC). A service of contemporary story, Scripture and music meditating on darkness and light. At the very end, a loud noise is made, symbolizing the earthquake at the time of the resurrection.

Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm.

We will celebrate the “Last Supper” with hymns and organ. The stripping of the altar follows. The church will be darkened, the sanctuary will be emptied of all appointments, and the altar will be washed with wine and water, thus preparing the church building for the Good Friday Liturgy.

Good Friday Noon and 7:00 p.m.

This service combines the Proper Liturgy for Good Friday with a shortened form of the Stations of the Cross. The Good Friday offering will be used to express our support for the ministries of the three dioceses of the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East. Checks should be made out to St. John's, with Good Friday Offering in the memo line.

Easter Sunday Services:

Easter Vigil 6:15 am

Spoken service at Stewart Park, Large Pavilion

Holy Eucharist (Rite 1) 8:00 a.m.

Spoken service, with hymns and organ music.

Holy Eucharist (Rite II) 10:30 a.m.

Festal Choral Eucharist as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the grave.