



Palm Sunday

PALM SUNDAY

April 5, 2020

A Service of Spiritual Communion as we begin a Holy Week from Home

*Our weekly Sunday worship service will be available for you to share in,
beginning at 8:00 a.m. each Sunday, at www.stpetersepiscopal.org
or via our Facebook page, facebook.com/specstl.*

Words of Welcome

*While our buildings are closed, our hearts remain open.
We thank you for inviting us into your homes
and more importantly,
we thank you for inviting the Spirit of God
into your hearts, minds, and lives.*

*Because we have closed our physical church this service has been created
by worship leaders in their homes just as you are in your homes today.
You will recognize many of the words and prayers.
Some have been adapted to reflect our experience of worshipping from home.*

*While technically this is not a Eucharist it is eucharistic,
and while it is not Holy Communion it is offered as a way for us
to commune with each other and Almighty God.*

*As we begin our worship,
we invite you to remember those who typically sit beside you
and those who sit in front of and behind you
and those who come into your mind as you remember.*

*Remember also that as we worship we join with the whole communion of saints,
with those who have gone before us,
those present with us in gatherings around the world
and those saints yet to come.*

*Let us join together with all the saints and the whole company of heaven
and worship God.*

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

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

People: **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.**

Priest: 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.**

Priest: When Jesus and his disciples had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, "Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey." The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

Matthew 21: 1-11

Remembering the Palms

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **The Lord is present.**

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Priest: 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. As we sing his praises this day help us 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.**

Priest: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: **Hosanna in the highest.**

Hymn 154: "All glory, laud, and honor"

Valet will ich dir geben

*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 prayers 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*

Words: Theodulph of Orleans (d. 821); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt.

THE WORD OF GOD

The Collect of the Day

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **The Lord is present.**

Priest: 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 Lessons

Lector: A Reading from The Letter of Paul to the 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.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 31: 9-16

- 9 **Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble;
my eye is consumed with sorrow,
and also my throat and my belly.**
- 10 **For my life is wasted with grief,
and my years with sighing;
my strength fails me because of affliction,
and my bones are consumed.**
- 11 **I have become a reproach to all my enemies and
even to my neighbors,
a dismay to those of my acquaintance;
when they see me in the street they avoid me.**
- 12 **I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind;
I am as useless as a broken pot.**
- 13 **For I have heard the whispering of the crowd;
fear is all around;
they put their heads together against me;
they plot to take my life.**
- 14 **But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord.
I have said, "You are my God.**
- 15 **My times are in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.**
- 16 **Make your face to shine upon your servant,
and in your loving-kindness save me."**

All: **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Narrator: The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said,

Judas: What will you give me if I betray him to you?

Narrator: They paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him. On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying,

Disciples: Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?

Jesus: Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, ‘The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.’

Narrator: So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal. When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said,

Jesus: Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.

Narrator: And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another,

Disciples: Surely not I, Lord?

Jesus: The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.

Narrator: Judas, who betrayed him, said,

Judas: Surely not I, Rabbi?

Jesus: You have said so.

Narrator: While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said,

Jesus: Take, eat; this is my body.

Narrator: Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying,

Jesus: Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.

Narrator: When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them,

Jesus: You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.”

Narrator: Peter said to him,

Peter: Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.

Jesus: Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.”

Peter: Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.

Narrator: And so said all the disciples. Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples,

Jesus: Sit here while I go over there and pray.

Narrator: He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them,

Jesus: I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.

Narrator: And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed,

Jesus: My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want.

Narrator: Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter,

Jesus: So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

Narrator: Again he went away for the second time and prayed,

Jesus: My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.

Narrator: Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them,

Jesus: Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.

Narrator: While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying,

Judas: The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.

Narrator: At once he came up to Jesus and said,

Judas: Greetings, Rabbi!

Narrator: And he kissed him. Jesus said to him,

Jesus: Friend, do what you are here to do.

Narrator: Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to him,

Jesus: Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?

Narrator: At that hour Jesus said to the crowds,

Jesus: Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled.

Narrator: Then all the disciples deserted him and fled. Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said,

Witnesses: This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.'"

Narrator: The high priest stood up and said,

High Priest: Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?

Narrator: But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him,

High Priest: I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.

Narrator: Jesus said to him,

Jesus: You have said so. But I tell you, From now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.

Narrator: Then the high priest tore his clothes and said,

High Priest: He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?

Narrator: They answered,

Council: He deserves death.

Narrator: Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, saying,

Council: Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?

Narrator: Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said,

Servant Girl: You also were with Jesus the Galilean.

Narrator: But he denied it before all of them, saying,

Peter: I do not know what you are talking about.

Narrator: When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders,

Servant 2: This man was with Jesus of Nazareth." Again he denied it with an oath,

Peter: I do not know the man.

Narrator: After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter,

Bystanders: Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you.

Narrator: Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath,

Peter: I do not know the man!

Narrator: At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said:

Jesus: Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.

Narrator: And Peter went out and wept bitterly. When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor. When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. He said,

Judas: I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.

Chief Priests: What is that to us? See to it yourself.

Narrator: Throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, Judas departed; and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said,

Chief Priests: It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money.

Narrator: After conferring together, they used them to buy the potter's field as a place to bury foreigners. For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one on whom a price had been set, on whom some of the people of Israel had set a price, and they gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me." Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him,

Pilate: Are you the King of the Jews?

Jesus: You say so.

Narrator: But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him,

Pilate: Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?

Narrator: 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,

Pilate: Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?

Narrator: 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,

Wife: Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.

Narrator: 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,

Pilate: Which of the two do you want me to release for you?

Crowd: **Barabbas.**

Pilate: Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?

Crowd: **Let him be crucified!**

Pilate: Why, what evil has he done?

Narrator: But they shouted all the more,

Crowd: **Let him be crucified!**

Narrator: 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,

Pilate: I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.

Crowd: **His blood be on us and on our children!**

Narrator: So Pilate 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,

Soldiers: Hail, King of the Jews!

Narrator: 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,

Passersby: 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.

Narrator: In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying,

Chief Priests: 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.'"

Narrator: 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,

Jesus: Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani? My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Narrator: When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

Bystanders: This man is calling for Elijah.

Narrator: 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,

Bystanders: Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.

Narrator: 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,

Centurion: Truly this man was God's Son!

Narrator: Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had provided for him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee. When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb. The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said,

Chief Priests: Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, ‘After three days I will rise again.’ Therefore command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, ‘He has been raised from the dead,’ and the last deception would be worse than the first.

Narrator: Pilate said to them,

Pilate: You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can.

Narrator: So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

The Sermon: The Reverend Joseph Wallace-Williams

To allow for your personal reflection, a time of silence will be kept following the sermon.

Prayers of the People

The intercessor will pause at the ... so you may offer your prayers.

Intercessor: On this day we your church hear again the passion of our Lord, into whose death we are baptized. As we walk the uncertain road of our lives we recall Jesus’ walk to the cross and his love poured out for all. Let us pray for ourselves in our walk with Jesus, and for the needs of all people.

Intercessor: We pray for the whole church throughout the world... For Justin Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael our presiding Bishop; Wayne and Deon, our Bishop and Bishop-elect; for Rob, Kelly, and Joseph, our clergy; for our staff and the people of St. Peter’s...
Walk with us all Lord Jesus...

Intercessor: We pray for our President and the Leaders of the world in the midst of pandemics of disease, poverty, war, and injustice. Grant them the wisdom and courage to do what is right and ensure that those who can’t care for themselves are cared for with compassion and justice...
Walk with us all Lord Jesus...

Intercessor: We pray with gratitude and for the safety for all medical professionals, doctors, nurses, and technicians who are putting their lives on the line to care for the sick among us... for emergency workers and supermarket workers who keep us safe and fed... and all those who have shared a moment of grace with us in these challenging times...
Walk with us all Lord Jesus...

Intercessor: We pray for those who are ill, especially Devon Corbett, Brooke Erwin, Bryan Miller, Steven Minton, Carl Schuldt, Audrey Stockwell, Tim Jones, Meg Walters, Scott Weaver, Joey Wilson and for their family members who worry...
and we pray for the weary and forgotten among us...
Walk with us all Lord Jesus...

Intercessor: We pray for those who have died, especially Elaine Boudreaux, Timmie Cullen, Janey Rouse and those on our hearts today... and for those grieving with broken hearts and shattered dreams... Walk with us all Lord Jesus...

Intercessor: We pray for all who will be born this week and those who will die... and for us all wherever we are on our journey in Christ... Walk with us all Lord Jesus...

Priest: O Lord in the rockiness and isolation of our path today help us know that people are taking great risks for our health and safety, and the sacrifices we are making are acts of caring for them and for those in our community who are vulnerable. While we are physically isolated from one another, continue to open our hearts to you and each other so that in your love we will see Jesus walking and weeping with us as we are walking and weeping with him to the foot of his cross. **Amen.**

The Confession

Priest: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: **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.**

The Absolution

Priest: 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.

All: **Amen.**

Exchanging the Peace

Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And with you also.**

We invite you to take a moment and extend the peace of God to members of your household and then to people in the world that you love and struggle to love.

Announcements

Please Stay Connected

Please continue to check our website www.stpeterseiscopal.org and emails to get the latest updates on our virtual programming and our work as a church in the world when our doors are closed but our hearts remain open.

Each Sunday we will also be hosting a live Children's Chapel on Zoom at 10:15 a.m. followed by a live adult forum on Zoom at 10:30 a.m.

Please check your email updates for the Zoom access information.

We have started a series of telephone circles across the parish and you should all receive a telephone call from another parishioner to check in, stay connected and address needs that may arise.

The staff is now all working from home, often harder than they may have worked in the past as they get up to speed with technology and the challenges of working remotely.

Please Give Online

Since we are gathering virtually, we are not passing the offertory plates and so we do ask that you go online to www.stpeterseiscopal.org and select the "Give" or the "Realm" link to make a donation or to pay your pledge.

If you have any questions about our online giving please contact Darlene at finance@stpeterseiscopal.org.

THE SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Priest: I appeal to you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

The Offertory Anthem

English, harm. Edward Miller

When I survey the wondrous cross
where the young Prince of Glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the cross of Christ, my God:
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet
sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were an offering far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674–1748)

*As we gather with all the saints, past, present and future at this altar
we remember those who are ill and pray for their recovery.*

*We remember especially those in the medical profession,
doctors, nurses, technicians and others
who are putting their lives on the line to care for those who are sick.*

*We offer our worship to the glory of God with gratitude for their courage and service
and with our prayers for their safety.*

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A

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Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Priest: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. For our sins he was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; and, by his suffering and death, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him. 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord.

God of pow'r and might, heav'n 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, ho-

san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Priest:

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become 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 Father of all. He 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 Lord 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 he 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.

Priest:

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. **AMEN.**

Priest: 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.**

Breaking of the Bread, Agnus Dei (*Hymnal S 158*)

Healey Willan (1880–1968)

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Spiritual Communion

Priest: Remember O people of God, who Jesus was, and is, and will be forevermore.
In this bread and wine, we behold the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord,
broken and shed for us all.
Let us feed on him in our hearts spiritually by faith with thanksgiving.

*While we are unable to physically partake of the sacrament,
we invite you to make your communion by praying the following prayer,
adapted from the prayer of St. Alphonsus de Liguori:*

All: **Beloved Jesus,
I believe that you are truly present in the sacrament of the altar.
I long for you in my soul,
to know that I am in you and that you are in me.
Though physically isolated from your altar
and the sacrament of your Body and Blood,
I receive you spiritually into my heart and the depths of my being.
United with you, help me know
that my life is hid with you O Christ in the heart of God. Amen.**

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: **Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
We give you thanks and praise O God for accepting us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us
with the spiritual food of his Body and Blood.
Help us walk with Jesus on the way of the cross this week
so that we can experience the freedom of his resurrection in our lives.
Amen.**

The Blessing and Dismissal

Priest: The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of God's son Jesus Christ our Lord and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be within you and all those whom you love and struggle to love, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

Priest: I send you forth, forgiven, healed, and renewed;
In the goodness of God our Creator!
In the courage of Christ our Savior,
In the radiance of the Holy Spirit our Life,
And in the company of the angels, archangels, and all the saints,
To walk the way of the cross.

People: **Blessed is he who walks in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest!**

Hymn 168: "O sacred head, sore wounded" (*st. 1-3*)

Herzlich tut mich verlangen

1	O sacred head, sore wounded, defiled and put to scorn; O kingly head, surrounded with mocking crown of thorn: what sorrow mars thy grandeur? Can death thy bloom deflower? O countenance whose splendor the hosts of heaven adore!	2	Thy beauty, long-desired, hath vanished from our sight; thy power is all expired, and quenched the light of light. Ah me! for whom thou diest, hide not so far thy grace: show me, O Love most highest, the brightness of thy face.
3	In thy most bitter passion my heart to share doth cry, with thee for my salvation upon the cross to die. Ah, keep my heart thus movèd to stand thy cross beneath, to mourn thee, well-belovèd, yet thank thee for thy death.		

MUSIC NOTES: The opening hymn was recorded on Palm Sunday last year. • The anthem, "When I survey the wondrous cross," is newly recorded by members of the Choir in isolation in their homes this week. The recordings were mixed together to form a "virtual" choir. • The Sanctus and Agnus Dei were recorded on the First Sunday in Lent of this year. • The final hymn was recorded on Palm Sunday, 2018. • OneLicense reprint and podcasting license A-722743. For all other copyright holders, permission requested.

PRAYER LIST

For Parishioners: Brooke Erwin, Bryan Miller, Carl Schuldt, Audrey Stockwell, Tim Jones and Meg Walters.

For Family and Friends: Devon Corbett, Steven Minton, Scott Weaver and Joey Wilson.

For the Men and Women of the Armed Forces: Zach Greata and Matt Robinson.

For the Faithful Departed: Elaine Boudreaux, Jane "Timmie" Scott Cullen and Janey Rouse.

For those Committed to Our Ongoing Prayers: Michelle Arthur, Donna Brookman, Arlene Burnham, Chris Canepa, Elizabeth Clarke, Kathryn Dewein, Lucy Dolan, Greg Evans, Carol Fisher, Samantha Forsko, Karen Goddard, Patty Hecker, Clayton Hicks, Laney Johnson, Bob Kenny, Susan Kerkerling, Madelyn Lane, Ann McDonald, Bill McMahon, Elizabeth Mendoza, Cheryl Meyer, Signe Myles, Louisa Rix, Jeffrey Rixleben, Sarah Roberts, Rory Sabbah, Kathy Sheehan, Gerald Spencer, Wayne Spohr, Jane St. John, Julie Stephenson, Rebecca Tyler, Rolla Wetzels and Dick Williams.

TODAY...

NOTE FROM THE RECTOR – In consultation with the Diocese and public health officials, we have closed our church campus completely, and we have suspended in-person church services at least until the end of May. While our buildings are closed our hearts remain open and we will continue to provide a variety of ways for you to worship and stay connected in community with God and one another. Please visit our website www.stpetersepiscopal.org for the latest updates and services we will be providing. —*Rob Voyle, Interim Rector*

ZOOM LINKS – To ensure that our virtual time together remains a sacred and welcoming space, Zoom links will no longer be available on our website. **Find details on how to join Zoom sessions in *News from the Rock* online newsletter which is emailed each week.** Don't miss an opportunity to join us! If you are not signed up for the newsletter, visit our website homepage. Scroll down to "Get Weekly News" and sign up!

CONFIRMATION CLASS – Confirmands! Our virtual Confirmation Class will begin at 9:15 this morning! Use the link provided in Fr. Joseph's email to you or the link provided in Friday's *News from the Rock*. Can't wait to see all your shining faces again!

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL – Join us online at 10:15 on Sunday mornings for our beloved Sunday morning Children's Chapel! You can find instructions for joining us via Zoom in Friday's *News from the Rock*. We can't wait to see you!

COFFEE WITH THE RECTOR – Join Rob via a live Zoom chat on Sunday mornings at 10:30. For those unable to connect by the internet you can call in by telephone. Instructions and a code to connect may be found on the website. Grab a cup of coffee and join the conversation!

THIS WEEK...

HOLY WEEK AT HOME – Please join us for online services this week:

- **Morning Prayer** – Join Fr. Joseph on Zoom for a Service of Morning Prayer at 8:00 each morning this week, Monday through Saturday.
- **Maundy Thursday** – An Agape Meal will be available on our website on Maundy Thursday evening at 7:00. You are invited to participate with a basin and bowl of water, a bread roll, and glass of wine. Kelly Carlson will preach the homily.
- **Good Friday** – The Liturgy of the Day will be available on our website and Facebook page on Good Friday beginning at 10:00. Join Rob Voyle via Zoom from Noon until 3:00 p.m. for Waiting at the Foot of the Cross, a meditation on Jesus' last seven words. Join Ann Babington via Zoom at 4:30 p.m. for a Children's Service of Stations of the Cross. Our Good Friday liturgy will be available all day on Good Friday, so if you aren't available during the day, perhaps you would like to set aside an hour on Good Friday evening?

Find out how to join Zoom sessions in *News from the Rock* online newsletter which is emailed each week.

Remember that though our buildings are closed, our hearts are open!

EASTER SUNDAY – A Service will be available on our website on Easter morning at 8:00. Children's Chapel will begin at 10:15 that morning via Zoom. Plan to don your Easter bonnet and join Rob via a live Zoom chat at 10:30! Let us rejoice together! Also, once we are all back together worshipping in our beloved church space, we plan to celebrate with a festive Eucharist which will include "Easter flowers" which many of you have lovingly given in honor of and in memory of your family members.

GIVING – Thank you to those who continue to give by check or online! We appreciate your support as we continue to minister to our parishioners and community during these uncertain times. Online giving at: www.stpetersepiscopal.org/give.

ST. PETER'S CARES – Need a ride, a meal or a prayer? St. Peter's has a ministry that can help – that's St. Peter's Cares! Leave a voicemail or email (314-993-2306, ext. 125 or shepherd@stpetersepiscopal.org) and a Shepherd will contact you within 24 hours.

FRIDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY – While St. Peter's campus is closed, Friday Bible Study will be happening via Zoom. If you would like to join the 7:00 a.m. conversation, please email kcarlson@stpetersepiscopal.org by Thursday evening, and Kelly will send you the link.

UPCOMING EVENTS...

SHOE DRIVE – The Trinity Food Pantry is postponing their Maundy Thursday Foot Clinic, so please hold onto the shoes you had planned to donate, and then bring them to church once our buildings are again open. We will be collecting new and gently used sturdy walking shoes in men's sizes 8-16 (the unhoused population Trinity serves is predominantly male). Our goal is to collect 80 pairs of shoes! Thanks for helping to make someone's journey a little bit easier.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – Your children will learn valuable lessons about Jesus and how he taught people through parables, so sign them up for St. Peter's Vacation Bible School, June 1-5, 9am to Noon, ages 4 to 10. Register today at stpetersepiscopal.org/vbs2020 for \$50 per child or \$90 per family.

ST. PETER'S CARING CIRCLES – Stay connected in community with God and one another!

As we intentionally practice physical isolation to protect everyone from the pandemic,
we will stay connected as a parish via St. Peter's Caring Circles.

- For as long as our church campus is closed, you will be receiving a weekly call from a fellow parishioner.
- There is no purpose to the call other than the most important one – the chance to connect.
- A weekly call to ask if you are OK, if you need someone to pick up a few groceries, or pass a request along to St. Peter's Cares for a meal, a ride or prayers.
- A weekly call to compare notes on how to pass the time, keep the kids entertained, or cook something creative with canned tuna.
- A weekly call to erase any doubt that we are in this together.

*In darkness and in light, in trouble and in joy, help us O God,
to trust your love and serve your purpose, as we care for one another. Amen.*

