

Holy Week and Easter 2020
for the Community of St. Alban's Episcopal Church
Davidson, NC

Palm Sunday, April 5, 10:30 a.m. - on Facebook

This service will include the Liturgy of the Palms, a homily, and the reading of the Passion narrative from the Gospel of Matthew. While we cannot distribute palms this year, you are invited to cut some green leaves from your garden or draw/cut out a picture of a palm leaf to wave during the service.

Maundy Thursday, April 9, 7:00 p.m. Compline - on Facebook

The ancient tradition of Compline derives its name from a Latin word meaning completion. It is a service of quietness and reflection at the end of the day. The Rev. Carmen Germino will lead this service of night prayers, reflecting on Jesus's last evening with his loved ones before the crucifixion.

Good Friday, April 10, 12:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross - on Facebook

The Way of the Cross is an ancient form of Christian devotion. The Stations were originally observed by pilgrims visiting Jerusalem, who would offer prayers at a series of places in that city traditionally associated with our Lord's passion and death. The Rev. Kevin Lloyd and Julia Lloyd are recording a virtual Stations of the Cross based on the book "Walking the Way of Sorrows" by Katerina Whitley. It will be made available at Noon on Good Friday and then will be available for viewing any time at your convenience.

Holy Saturday, April 11 - Invitation to a Screen-Free Day and The Exsultet

Between the Cross and the Empty Tomb, the world waited. Right now, our phones, computers, tablets, and TVs are, in many ways, our lifeline to others. They help us feel connected in this time of social distance, and we are grateful that they allow us to worship together. But screens can also distract us, overwhelm us, and can sometimes make it harder to connect with God. And with much of our business and communication moving exclusively online, many of us are experiencing even more screen-time than usual. What if, this Holy Saturday, as we wait with hopeful hearts for the resurrection of our Lord, we turn off and turn away from our screens for one whole day? Practice the art of being fully present to yourself and God.

At 8:00 p.m., just after sundown, we will break our fast from screens by offering a short video of the Exsultet on our Facebook page to welcome the arrival of the Paschal Feast. The Exsultet is a sung proclamation of Easter and the resurrection of Jesus. It is traditionally accompanied by the lighting of candles to represent the Light of Christ coming back into the world. From your home, you are invited to light a candle as the Exsultet is chanted.

Easter Sunday, April 12, 10:30 a.m. Morning Prayer - on Facebook Live

Usually for Easter, we offer four different service times to accommodate our large crowds. While we yearn for the day we can once again gather in person for this joyous celebration, one unexpected gift of our current situation is that we can all worship together at the same time this Easter. There's no limit on how many people can fit in an online service! So invite your friends, neighbors, and loved ones locally and around the world to join us on our Facebook page for our Easter celebration. Even in this time of uncertainty and pain in

our world, God's love still surrounds us and God's promise of eternal life still gives us hope. It is a promise we need now as much as ever before.

Diocesan Worship Services

In addition to St. Alban's Holy Week and Easter services listed above, the Bishops of the Diocese of North Carolina will also be offering broadcasts of worship for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, the Great Vigil of Easter, and Easter Morning. We plan to link to these videos from our Facebook page as they become available.