

A Service for Palm Sunday for All Ages March 24, 2024 standrewspb.org

It all begins here, again. Today is Palm Sunday. It is as if during the season of Lent we have been wandering around, outside the gates of Jerusalem and today, we cross the threshold into Holy Week. Something significant changes, if we are paying attention. Today, we begin outside with a festive atmosphere. Palms waving, we parade down the street crying Hosanna! Suddenly, the mood changes as we discover "king" in the kingdom of God means something different than we are used to.

The Liturgy of the Palms *We gather by the sidewalk.*

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.** 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 holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark. Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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 Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Poet Thinks About the Donkey

This year, we are exploring the themes of Lent through the lens of the poetry of Mary Oliver, an American poet who found inspiration in nature and solitude.

On the outskirts of Jerusalem the donkey waited. Not especially brave, or filled with understanding, he stood and waited.

How horses, turned out into the meadow, leap with delight! How doves, released from their cages, clatter away, splashed with sunlight!

But the donkey, tied to a tree as usual, waited. Then he let himself be led away. Then he let the stranger mount.

Never had he seen such crowds! And I wonder if he at all imagined what was to happen. Still, he was what he had always been: small, dark, obedient.

I hope, finally, he felt brave. I hope, finally, he loved the man who rode so lightly upon him, as he lifted one dusty hoof and stepped, as he had to, forward. The Blessing of the Palms

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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. *[hold up your palm branches]* Let these branches be for us signs of Christ's 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.**

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

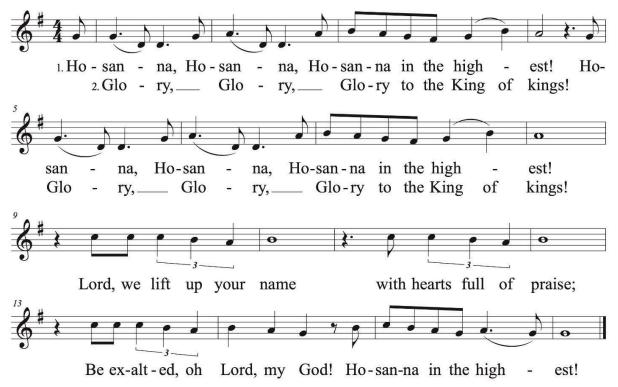
Hosanna in the highest.

Let us go forth in peace.

In the name of Christ, Amen.

The Procession

Join us for the procession around the block, or meet us back in the sanctuary.



© Words and Music by Carl Tuttle

We process into the sanctuary and take our places, standing as able.

The Collect

God 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.**

The Lessons

A reading from the letter to the Philippians.

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

The Anointing of Christ at Bethany and The Passion

The congregation remains seated as the gospel reading begins.

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany where he had raised Lazarus the dead man to life. Now Martha waited on them. Lazarus sat at the table with Jesus. Then Mary took a pound of costly perfume with genuine nard and anointed the feet of Jesus, wiping them with her hair. And the whole house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

Then Judas, son of Simon Iscariot, the disciple who would betray Jesus, remarked, "This perfume could have been sold for over three hundred silver coins and the money given to the poor."

But Jesus rebuked him saying, "Leave her alone. Was she not keeping it for the day of my burial? Truly I say to you, wherever the gospel is proclaimed all over the world, what she has done will be told in praise of her."

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). (As you are able, please stand). 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.

The Sermon: The Rev. Mary Lynn Coulson

Invitation to Anointing

All are invited to come forward for the laying on of hands and anointing.



Mary Anoints Jesus The Rev'd Sarah West | visiolectio.com



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The Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Community Announcements

The Offertory

Let us walk in love as Christ loved us, and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.



If you would like to make a gift to St. Andrew's, please place your offering in the basket provided. Or you can give online at standrewspb.org/give-to-st-andrews. Thank you!

The Eucharist

When the offering is brought to the front, we stand and sing together:



MUSIC: TON-Y BOTEL, Thomas John Williams A.T.S.C. (1869-1944) TEXT: G.W. Dub Shepherd © Katie Cavallo Rholl 2023

God is here.

God's Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

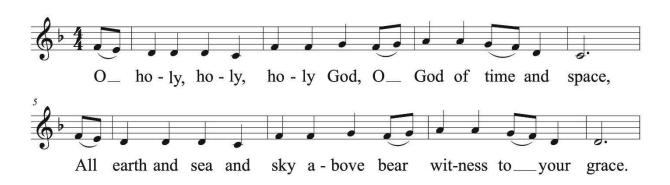
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

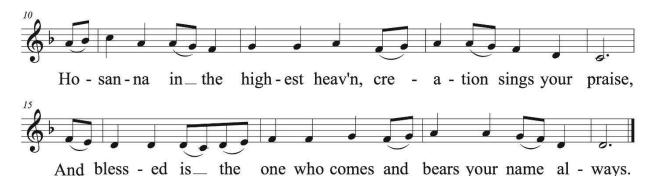
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

[Question Why is it right to give thanks and praise? Answer Listen, and we will hear.]

Lord of all life, you created the universe, where all living things reflect your glory. You give us this great and beautiful earth, to discover and to cherish. You gave us Jesus, who was lifted high on the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; and, by his life, suffering, and death, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him.

You made us all, each wonderfully different, to join with the angels and sing your praise:





MUSIC: KINGSFOLD, CMD. Trad. English melody; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

We thank you, loving God, because, when we turned away, you sent Jesus, your Son. He gave his life for us on the cross and shows us the way to live.

Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

[Question Why do we share this bread and wine? Answer Listen, and we will hear.]

On the night before he died, when darkness had fallen, Jesus took bread.

He gave thanks, broke it, and shared it with his disciples, saying: 'This is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying: 'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins.'

So God, with this bread and this cup we celebrate Christ's love, death, and risen life. As you feed us with these gifts, send your Holy Spirit, and change us more and more to be like Jesus our Savior.

[Question How do we follow Jesus Christ? Answer Listen, and we will hear.]

Help us, God, to love one another, as we look forward to that day when suffering is ended, and all creation is gathered in your loving arms.

And now with all your saints we give you glory, through Jesus Christ, in the strength of the Spirit, today and for ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Savior Christ has taught us we now pray,

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,

as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen. The bread is broken.
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast.

Wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith you are welcome to receive the bread and wine made holy. Both stations will offer bread and wine - the minister will dip the bread into the wine and then place it in your hands. If you need gluten-free wafers, please say "gluten free" to the person distributing bread. If you prefer to receive the bread only (and not wine), please come forward and say "bread only." Let an usher know if you would like a minister to bring communion to you in your seat. If you prefer not to receive communion, we invite you to come forward with your hands crossed at your shoulders, and the minister will offer a blessing for your presence with us today.

Communion Music

Love is Moving

Audrey Assad

The hem of Your robe is where our healing lies The wounds in Your hands are where our life resides Love is moving, moving among us

The beat of Your heart our steady rhythm A soul of a King and a Kingdom Love is moving, moving among us Love is moving, moving among us

So we reach, we reach our hands to him To touch, to touch the Healer's hand We fall, we fall in worship Our God is with us

You illuminate with a holy fire And it burns with the flame of God's desire Love is moving, moving among us Love is moving, moving among us So we reach, we reach our hands to him To touch, to touch the Healer's hand We fall, we fall in worship Our God is with us

The power of God is in our presence And the mercy of Heaven in our movement Love is moving, moving among us Love is moving, moving among us

So we reach, we reach our hands to him To touch, to touch the Healer's hand We fall, we fall in worship Our God is with us

Love is moving, moving among us Love is moving, moving among us God is moving, is moving among us God is moving, moving among us



Blessings and Celebrations

If you're celebrating a birthday, an anniversary of a wedding or sobriety, or another event, you are invited to come forward for prayer. We hold space to pray for joyous occasions as well as difficult milestones.

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase. Bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand. Comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful. Raise them up if they fall. And in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Post Communion Prayer Let us pray.

Blessed be God who calls us together.

Praise to God who makes us one people.

Blessed be God whose Word is proclaimed.

Praise to God who is revealed as love.

Accept, O God, our sacrifice of praise.

Accept our thanks for all you have done.

Our hands were empty, and you filled them. Amen.

The Blessing

Whatever wilderness the Spirit has brought you to: walk in boldness, as a beloved child of God. Walk in peace, under the shelter of the Most High. Walk in faith, knowing Christ walks with you. And the blessing of the One, Holy, and Living God be with you today and always. **Amen.**

The Sending Song O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus See next page.

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus



Music; Ton-y Botel, Welsh hymn tune by Thomas John Williams A.T.S.C. (1869-1944)

Text: Harry Emerson Fosdick (1878-1969), alt.

1992 Lrenz Publishing Company, a division of The Lorenz Corporation (Admin. by Music Services).

Holy Week & Easter at St. Andrew's

Holy Week is a time to participate in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, accompanying him in his timeless journey through death, to the source of life itself, back into the world confident that "nothing can separate us from the love of God." These are the holiest days of the Church calendar. Through ancient prayers and rituals, we will walk the path of Jesus together. Experience the depth of an Easter celebration that goes to the very heart of what it means to be human.

Maundy Thursday, March 28, 6:00pm

Jesus shared his last meal with his friends. We will eat dinner together in the courtyard, blessing bread and wine as Jesus did on that night, the first Eucharist. Then we will go into the church to reenact Jesus's act of service as we wash each other's feet, then strip the altar of all decoration as we prepare for the betrayal and sadness of Good Friday.

Good Friday, March 29, 6pm service; Church open 10am-2pm and 4-7pm Engage in the story of Jesus's passion in a new way. The 6pm service will feature a reading of the story of Jesus's crucifixion and death. Or, come to the church during the hours listed above to walk the Stations of the Cross in the sanctuary, guided by an audio made by St. Andrew's parishioners.

Great Vigil, March 30, 6:00pm

This is the night, the culmination of the story of Easter. This interactive all-ages service tells the history of salvation with exciting storytelling and fun props. There's fire, darkness, and sparklers - you don't want to miss it!

Easter Sunday Service, March 31

Celebrate Easter at our 10:30am service on Easter Sunday. The church will be decked out with flowers, and we'll sing with full voices as the organ fills the space. Invite your friends and neighbors to join us for this all-ages service of Holy Eucharist.

Community Egg Hunt, 12pm

We are hosting an Easter egg hunt for our neighborhood on Easter Sunday at 12pm. It will take place in the library lawn across the street, and all are welcome.

Easter Flower Donations

As we prepare to celebrate Easter back in our beautiful sanctuary, all are invited to make a special donation for the spectacular flowers that will decorate the church. You can make a donation on behalf of a loved one, or for another special intention. Use the envelopes provided today and place them in the offertory basket, or give online: onrealm.org/standrewspb/-/form/give/now. Under "Fund" select "Flowers." *Donations must be made by Monday, March 25 to be included in the bulletin.*