

# Palm Sunday

The Sunday of the Passion

## *Family Sunday*

April 2, 2023 - 9am



Jen Norton

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## The Liturgy of the Palms and Procession

*The Celebrant says*

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

*All* **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.

*All* **Amen.**

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

*All* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

*All* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*All* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*All* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant offers the following prayer over the palms*

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. Let these branches be for us signs of his 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.

*All Amen.*

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in peace.

*All In the name of Christ. Amen.*

*As the hymn, “All Glory Laud, and Honor” (Hymn #154) begins, members of the congregation make their way to the main door of the church. The procession will move up the center aisle; members of the congregation will split off to the right and to the left, moving down the side aisles toward the back of the church and then up the center aisle, turning into their places in the pews.*

*The congregation is encouraged to sing the words to this traditional Palm Sunday hymn as we process:*

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

Verse 1: Thou art the King of Israel, thou David’s royal Son,  
Who in the Lord’s name cometh, the King and blessed one. *Refrain*

Verse 2: The company of angels is praising Thee on high;  
and we with all creation in chorus make reply. *Refrain*

Verse 3: The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;  
our praise and prayers and anthems before thee we present. *Refrain*

Verse 4: To thee before thy passion they sang their hymns of praise;  
To thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise. *Refrain*

Verse 5: Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,  
Who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King. *Refrain*

*The Officiant reads the following Collect*

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All Amen.*

## The Word of God

### The Collect

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Celebrant* 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.

*All*      **Amen.**

### **A 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.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*All*      **Thanks be to God.**

### **Introduction to the Gospel**

The Reverend Jennifer Latham

### **The Passion Gospel: Passion Reading based on Matthew 26:14- 27:66**

**Characters:** Husband, Wife, Daughter, Son 1, Son 2, Narrator

**Narrator:** This is an adapted story about Jesus' last days, according to the Gospel of Matthew. A wife, daughter, and two sons are at their house and are preparing for their Passover meal. The husband comes into the house with excitement.

**Husband:** My dear, listen, we must prepare the extra room. That rabbi from Galilee, Jesus, is coming to eat the Passover supper with his disciples. Two of them came to ask me if they could use our extra room, and I've told them they may. We must help them prepare for their Passover meal.

**Wife:** Even though this will be more work for us, I am excited, too! I have heard about this man, Jesus, and how many incredible things he's done. I heard from Aunty May that he healed her neighbor who was blind. The poor man had been blind from birth and after Jesus blessed him, he could see. How exciting that he and his followers want to use our room for their meal!

**Son 1:** I heard that he helped a man who was unable to walk get up and walk away. Just like that! I was out earlier when he and his disciples came into Jerusalem. There were so many people waiting for him because they had heard of all the miracles he had done. They were waving palm branches and singing his praises. It was so crowded you could barely see him. Everyone is so excited about what this might mean for us. He seems to be able to bring people together and inspire them.

**Daughter:** I was talking with my friend whose father is one of the high priests. She said that one of his disciples isn't sure about Jesus and what Jesus is teaching. Do you think he really did everything they say he's done? Is it all true? The priests are worried that he'll stir up a lot of trouble with some of the things he's been saying.

**Wife:** Well, Aunty May told me about what she saw and I believe her. She says Jesus isn't dangerous, but he is powerful. Let's see for ourselves tonight when they come and have their meal.

**Narrator:** Later that evening, Jesus comes to the family's extra room and takes his place with the twelve. The wife and daughter help to serve their meal. The father and son are eating their own meal when the wife and daughter come out of the extra room where Jesus and his disciples are eating.

**Wife:** You will never believe what happened! Jesus took bread and wine and told his followers that he is prepared to offer his life for them, just as calmly as he was offering them the bread and wine. He told them that after he is killed they can remember him by sharing bread and wine with each other the same way. It was strange, Jesus says that he is going to be killed, but he's in that room just sitting with his disciples. He doesn't seem to be frightened or worried about it. I wonder why he isn't taking better care to protect himself.

**Husband:** If he is who he says, he knows things we don't know. He must be trusting that God will help him no matter what.

**Narrator:** The next morning, the younger son comes in to where his mother and father are sitting eating their morning meal.

**Son 2:** I was out very late and you'll never believe what happened. They arrested the rabbi Jesus in the garden. They brought him to Caiphas' house and all of his disciples ran away. I thought I saw one of them hanging around but when I asked him, he said he didn't know Jesus. It looks like Jesus is in big trouble.

**Wife:** I hope he will be safe. It sounds like the priests are worried about him because he's getting the people excited about change. They don't want him to get the people too excited or the Romans will have a hard time controlling them.

**Husband:** Yes, it's dangerous when a lot of people get ideas in their heads.

**Narrator:** Later that day, the daughter comes back from the market.

**Daughter:** Mother! Father! It's terrible! I was in the market and Pilate brought Jesus out along with that prisoner Barabbas. He asked the crowd to choose who to set free this festival-time, Jesus or Barabbas. The crowd chose Barabbas! My friend told me that last night the elders questioned Jesus and all he told them was that they would see "the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven." He seems to know that he's going to die but he's not putting up a fight. Caiaphas accused Jesus of blasphemy! They want him to be put to death!

**Wife:** Oh my! That's terrible news. How can this be happening?

**Daughter:** Yes! You wouldn't believe it. The crowd was shouting for Jesus to be crucified.

**Husband:** I need to go out there to see what is going on!

**Son 1:** I want to come, too!

**Son 2:** Don't leave me behind, I'm coming!

**Wife:** Please be careful, all of you.

**Narrator:** Later in the evening, the husband and sons come home and tell their family what happened.

**Husband:** When we got out to the center of the city, we saw Jesus. They put a crown of thorns on his head and then called him King of the Jews. It was terrible, they were spitting on him and hitting him. Then they took him out to Golgotha, “the Place of a Skull” and crucified him alongside two bandits.

**(ALL STAND IN THE CONGREGATION)**

**Son 1:** They hung a sign over his head that said “King of the Jews.” It’s so hard to believe they could just take Jesus, the one who has been doing all these miracles, and crucify him out there at Golgotha, just like all the other criminals the Romans punish. I can’t believe that God didn’t save him.

**Son 2:** You know, the land became so dark, it was like a huge cloud covered the sun and there was no light. Then I heard Jesus call out for God to save him. I wonder why God didn’t save him.

**PAUSE**

**Son 1:** (to Son 2) Did you feel the earth shake when Jesus died? And the Roman soldiers who were standing nearby started to shake from fear. I heard one say, “Truly this was God’s Son.”

**Husband:** Just as it was getting dark, a couple of men came to take away his body. I saw his poor mother following after them. She was so sad.

**Wife:** I can’t even imagine how terrible this must be for her. She must have been so proud of him, and now this! I wonder how she will go on.

**Daughter:** I know, Mama, it’s terrible and so sad.

**Husband:** What a sad day it is for the world. I think we are going to be talking about this day for a long time. I wonder what will become of all his disciples.

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**Prayers of the People** (adapted from the Church of England’s “Times and Seasons”)

*After each bidding, the People respond with the words, “in your mercy hear us” and offer their own prayers silently.*

With confidence and trust let us pray to God.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth, let us pray to God.

Lord of compassion,  
**in your mercy hear us.**

For peace in the world, that a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow among nations and peoples, let us pray to God.

Lord of compassion,  
**in your mercy hear us.**

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer, for refugees, prisoners, and all in danger; that they may be relieved and protected. We pray for those on our parish prayer list.

We pray for all those suffering illnesses or hardship.

Lord of compassion,  
**in your mercy hear us.**

For those whom we have injured or offended, let us pray to God.

Lord of compassion,  
**in your mercy hear us.**

In communion with all those who have walked in the way of holiness in this life, let us pray to God. Lord of compassion,  
**in your mercy hear us.**

Gracious God, in your love and goodness you have taught us to come close to you in penitence with prayer, fasting and generosity; accept our Lenten discipline, and when we fall by our weakness, raise us up by your unfailing mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.** *The congregation keeps a moment of silence.*

### The Peace

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* And also with you.



### Offertory Music

Dr. Cat and the HNS Singers

For those worshiping in person, please place your offerings in the koa bowl at the rear of the church. For those worshiping at home, please continue your support by sending checks to Church of the Holy Nativity, 5286 Kalaniana'ole Hwy, Honolulu, HI 96821. Thank you to all.

### The Hawaiian Doxology

*Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Ho-'o - na - ni i ka Ma - ku - a mau, Ke kei - ki me ka 'U - ha - ne no, Ke A -

ku-a mau Ho-'o - mai ka - 'i pu, Ko ke - ia ao ko ke - la ao. 'Ā - me-ne.

## The Holy Communion Eucharistic Prayer A

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 361

### The Lord's Prayer

*Celebrant:* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say.

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.

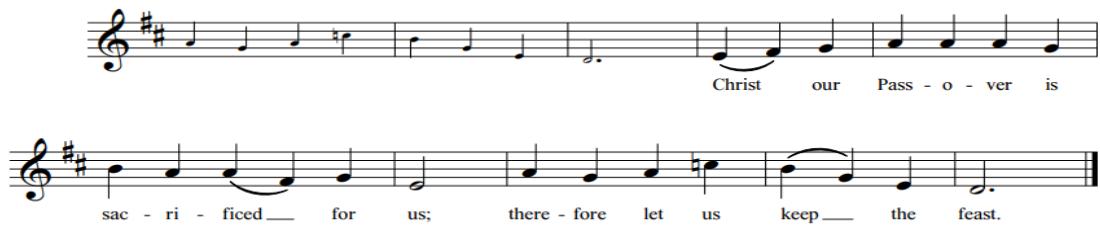
### The Breaking of the Bread

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* Therefore let us keep the feast.

### Fraction Anthem S-156



Christ our Pass - o - ver is  
sac - ri - ficed \_\_\_ for us; there - fore let us keep \_\_\_ the feast.

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*You may receive the sacrament in one (bread) or both (bread and wine) kinds. Please come forward to receive the bread first. Then turn toward the Eucharistic Minister if you wish to receive wine from the chalice. (Please take a sip, but do not "intinct" or "dip."). Receiving the bread only is considered a full communion in our church. If you wish to come forward to receive a blessing, cross your hands over your chest as you approach.*

**The Post-Communion Prayer**

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

**Announcements and the Blessing**

**Closing Hymn**

Dr Cat and the HNS Singers

**The Dismissal**

*Deacon* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

*Thank you for being with us today.  
Please join us for our other Holy Week services this week:*

**Maundy Thursday** - April 6, 2023 at 6:00 pm

(In the Holy Nativity Community Center [the gym])

**Good Friday** - April 7, 2023 at 7:00 pm

(At Calvary by the Sea Lutheran Church, 5339 Kalaniana'ole Hwy)

**Easter Sunday\*** - April 9, 2023 at 9:00 am

*\*On Easter Sunday, after service, there will be treats for the children and an Egg Hunt.  
Children should bring their own basket/bag for the hunt.*

We encourage everyone in the congregation to bring cut flowers to add to the decorated cross!

**Ministry Team for Today's Service: thank you!**

**Reverends** Libby Berman, Jennifer Latham, and Robert Steele

**Eucharistic Minister:** Sandra Braham **Intercessor:** Kathy Otani

**Usher** Jack Tonaki **Altar Guild** All Teams

**Technical team:** Alex Picken and Thomas Campello

**Music Director:** Chris Suzuki **Organist:** Lorraine Yamamoto

## 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!”