

Church of the Holy Cross



Palm Sunday

March 29, 2026
10 a.m.

40700 W. Ten Mile Road • Novi, MI 48375
248-427-1175

www.holycrossnovi.org
Holycrossnovi@gmail.com

Collect of the Day

Celebrant God 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 Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great compassion: 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.**

Hymn of Praise H 154 (v.1-3)

All glory, laud, and honor

Refrain

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re - deem - er, King!
to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.

1 Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,
2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels is prais - ing thee on high;
3 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;

Repeat Refrain

1 who in the Lord's Name com - est, the King and Bless - ed One.
2 and we with all cre - a - tion in cho - rus make re - ply.
3 our praise and prayers and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent.

The stanzas may be sung by choir alone or alternately by contrasted groups; all sing the refrain.

Words: Theodulph of Orleans (d. 821); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: *Valet will ich dir geben*, melody Melchior Teschner (1584-1635), alt.; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889).

A Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Reader A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

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?

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 31:9-16

Recited responsively by whole verse. The reader leads off, and congregation responds with the bold verses.

- 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."**

A Reading from the Letters

Philippians 2:5-11

Reader A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Philippi.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Rev. Jonathan Sams

Prayers of the People Form IV

Celebrant Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Prayer Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. *Silence*

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. *Silence*

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. *Silence*

We pray for our search committee. Grant them wisdom, discernment and patience as they move through this process. *Silence*

We also pray for the pastor who will be joining us. Lead the right priest to our Church and guide us as we move forward together. *Silence*

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. *Silence*

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. *Silence*

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. *Silence*

Please offer your own prayers silently, aloud, or typed into the Zoom chat to be read.

Celebrant Be with us, Lord, in all our prayers, and direct our way toward the attainment of healing and peace that among the changes and chances of this mortal life, we may always be defended by your gracious help; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

At this time, the worshippers may wish peace to each other aloud or by Chat!

The Liturgy of the Table

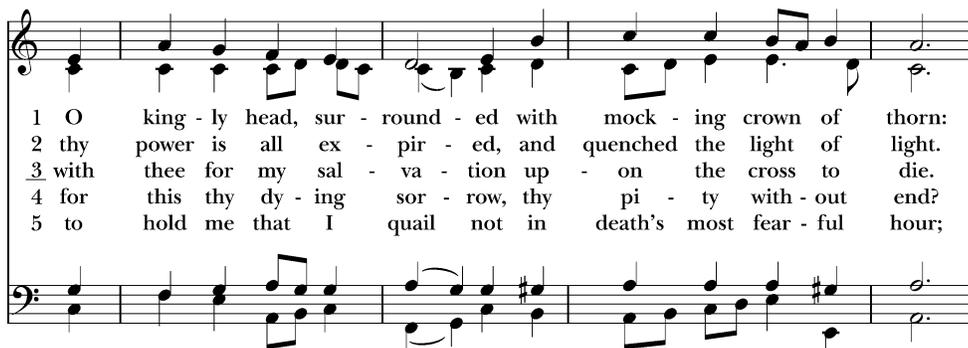
Offertory Sentence

Offertory Hymn H 168 *O sacred head, sore wounded*

The Offertory is performed while the Celebrant sets the table.



1 O sa - cred head, sore wound - ed, de - filed and put to scorn;
2 Thy beau - ty, long - de - sir - ed, hath va - nished from our sight;
3 In thy most bit - ter pas - sion my heart to share doth cry,
*4 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
*5 My days are few, O fail not, with thine im - mor - tal power,



1 O king - ly head, sur - round - ed with mock - ing crown of thorn:
2 thy power is all ex - pir - ed, and quenched the light of light.
3 with thee for my sal - va - tion up - on the cross to die.
4 for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pi - ty with - out end?
5 to hold me that I quail not in death's most fear - ful hour;



1 what sor - row mars thy gran - deur? Can death thy bloom de - flower?
2 Ah me! for whom thou di - est, hide not so far thy grace:
3 Ah, keep my heart thus mov - ed to stand thy cross be - neath,
4 Oh, make me thine for - ev - er! and should I faint - ing be,
5 that I may fight be - friend - ed, and see in my last strife

1 O coun - te - nance whose splen - dor the hosts of heaven a - dore!
 2 show me, O Love most high - est, the bright - ness of thy face.
 3 to mourn thee, well - be - lov - ed, yet thank thee for thy death.
 4 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er, out - live my love for thee.
 5 to me thine arms ex - tend - ed up - on the cross of life.

Words: Paul Gerhardt (1607-1676); sts. 1-3, 5, tr. Robert Seymour Bridges (1844-1930); st. 4, tr. James Waddell Alexander (1894-1859), alt. Music: *Herzlich tut mich verlangen* [Passion Chorale], Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612); adapt. And harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

The Great Thanksgiving BCP, Prayer B

Celebrant God 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.**

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:

Sanctus WLP 785 *Santo, santo, santo*

San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zon te a - do - ra! Mi
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My
 cor - a - zon te sa - be de - cir: san - to e - res Se - ñor.
 heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, Lord.

Words: Variation on a traditional liturgical text. Music: Composer of melody unknown; arr. based on a two-part version as taught by Pablo D. Sosa (b. 1933).

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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 according to his command, O Father,
**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory.**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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 forever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

And now, in the words our Savior 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.**

Breaking of the Bread *The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.*

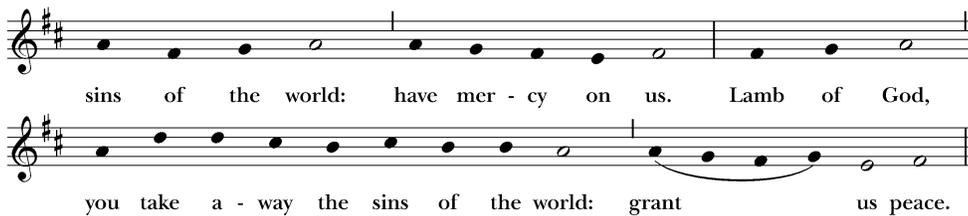
Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

***People* Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Holy gifts for holy people.

Fraction Anthem S 161 *O Lamb of God*

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the anthem: "Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:". The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the". The lyrics are written below the notes.



sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
 you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Communion of the People

No one who comes to the table seeking Christ is turned away. You may take the bread and/or the wine. If you do not wish to take either, cross your arms over your chest to signal you prefer a blessing. Our bread is gluten-free. If you are unable to get to the altar, let the usher know and the priest will come to those who need at the end.

The words of distribution are:

The Body of Christ, the Bread of Heaven. Amen.
 The Blood of Christ, the Cup of Salvation. Amen.

Communion Music *Instrumental*

Announcements & Blessings of Life Events

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

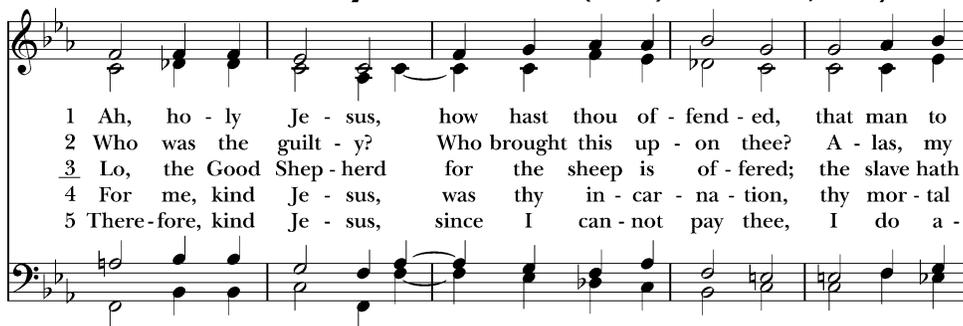
**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
 you have graciously accepted us as living members
 of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
 and you have fed us with spiritual food
 in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
 Send us now into the world in peace,
 and grant us strength and courage
 to love and serve you with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

Solemn Prayer over the People

Bow down before the Lord.

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Post Communion Hymn H 158 (v1-3) *Ah, Holy Jesus*



1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed, that man to
 2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my
 3 Lo, the Good Shep - herd for the sheep is of - fered; the slave hath
 4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thy in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal
 5 There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -

1 judge thee hath in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,
 2 trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,
 3 sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for our a - tone - ment,
 4 sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish
 5 dore thee, and will ev - er pray thee, think on thy pi - ty

1 by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.
 2 I it was de - nied thee: I cru - ci - fied thee.
 3 while we noth - ing heed - ed, God in - ter - ced - ed.
 4 and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.
 5 and thy love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.

Words: Johann Heermann (1585-1647); tr. Robert Seymour Bridges (1844-1930), alt. Music: *Herzliebster Jesu*, Johann Crüger (1598-1662), alt.

The Passion Gospel: Luke 22:14-23:56

Character

Narrator:

Jesus:

Pilate:

Criminal 1:

Criminal 2:

Centurion:

Crowd:

Reader

Edward Happ

Rev Jonathan Sams

Larry Jansen

Chris Gale

Jason Price

Cleda

All

The Narrator reads from the lectern. All others read from where they are sitting in the sanctuary.

Narrator: The assembly of the elders of the people rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him.

Crowd: "We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king."

Pilate: "Are you the king of the Jews?"

Jesus: "You say so."

Pilate: "I find no basis for an accusation against this man."

Crowd: "He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place."

Narrator: When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. Even Herod with

his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate.

That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies. Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people.

Pilate: "You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him."

Crowd: "Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!"

Narrator: This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder. Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting,

Crowd: "Crucify, crucify him!"

Pilate: "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him."

Narrator: But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

Narrator: As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him.

Jesus: "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

Narrator: Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him.

CONGREGATION stands as able.

Narrator: When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left.

Jesus: "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."

Narrator: And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him.

Crowd: "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!"

Narrator: The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying,

Crowd: "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"

Narrator: There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying,

Criminal 1: "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"

Narrator: But the other rebuked him, saying,

Criminal 2: "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

Jesus: "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Narrator: It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said,

Jesus: "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."

Narrator: Having said this, he breathed his last.

The DRUMMING goes silent.

Narrator: When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God.

Centurion: "Certainly this man was innocent."

Narrator: And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Starting with the processional party, all quietly process out of the sanctuary.

*This brings the worship to a close.
All are invited for Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall following the service.*

Ministers of Today's Service

Reading 1: Iva
Psalm Faith
Reading 2: Killian
Prayer Leaders: Lexi & Flynn
Greeter/Usher: The Children
Zoom Host: Bruce Hinkle
Counters: Pam Hinkle &

Altar Guild

Joanne Quinlan, Carole Abshier, Gael Grossman,
Anne Hamilton, Katherine Housman, Kathie Kirby,
Cathi Peterson

Sunday School Teachers

Teri Landreth, Renee Brennan, Pimam Manzi,
Ashlie Price

Clergy

Bishop of Michigan: The Rt. Rev. Bonnie Perry
Deacon: The Rev. Dcn. Cleda Smartt

Staff

Administrator: Teri Landreth
Music Director: Kate Autry
Sexton: Katie Forbing

Music printed Copyright ©2026 Church
Publishing Incorporated All rights reserved.