

# The Church of the Holy Apostles

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An Open and Affirming Community

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Vision: The Tree of Light grows here, shining God's love on you.

Mission: Our call is to love through worship, service, learning, prayer, and celebration

1407 Kapi`olani Street Hilo, HI 96720

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<https://www.episcopalchurchhilo.org>

April 14, 2019

9:00AM

### PLATE OFFERING

This morning's plate offering will go to the Outreach Fund.

### COFFEE HOUR COORDINATORS

1st Sunday: Deb Hughes and Anita Lambie

2nd Sunday: Martha Reber, Paul and Jane Field, Chow 'Ohana

3rd Sunday: Evette & Cathy McPherson-Tampos, Dennis & Christine Takahashi and Low 'Ohana

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday: Deb Lewis, Doug Adams

### PALM SUNDAY - 9:00 Service Only

Celebrant:	The Rev. Katlin McCallister
Lector:	Kathy Penny
Intercessor:	7:30am
LEMS:	Debra Lewis / 7:30am / 7:30 am
Altar Guild:	Sandi Nakagawa / Elizabeth Bell / Martha Reber
Acolyte Team:	Catherine Chow / Sophia and Demos Manoukis
Counters:	Diane Cockett and LaVerne Daimaru

### Easter Sunday April 21, 2019

	Sunrise -6:00AM	9:00AM
Celebrant:	The Rev. Katlin McCallister	The Rev. Katlin McCallister
Preacher:	The Rev. David Glaser	The Rev. David Glaser
Lector:	Lindy Marzo	Claudia Wilcox-Boucher
Intercessor:	Charlie Hite	Vern Sheldon-Witter
Chalice 1 / 2	Evette Tampos / Cathy McPherson-Tampos	Claudia Wilcox-Boucher / Evette Tampos
Thurifer / Crucifer	Cathy McPherson-Tampos / Doug Adams	Cathy McPherson-Tampos / Olivia Boucher
Acolyte Team:	Evette Tampos	Elizabeth Jenkins
Counters:	LaVerne Daimaru and Judith Torricer	LaVerne Daimaru and Judith Torricer

**Mahalo Nui** to all the folks who came to help during Parish Clean-Up Day. The buildings and grounds were tended to with sweat and love. Trash was picked up, floors swept, windows cleaned, lanai ceiling and floor powerwashed, weeds pulled, flowers and plants pruned, ceilings dusted, silver polished and palm crosses made. Thank you for your ministry.

**Easter Sunday:** Please bring fresh cut flowers so keiki may flower the cross. If able, please bring some to share.

# Liturgy of Palm Sunday

## The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 14, 2019

*The people gather in the porte-cochere for the opening prayers, scripture, and procession of the palms.*

*Celebrant*      Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.  
*People*      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. *Amen.*

*The Priest then reads the story of the triumphal entry into Jerusalem.*

Luke 19:29-40

When Jesus had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’” So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” They said, “The Lord needs it.” Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!” Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

*The Celebrant then says the following blessing*

*People*      The Lord be with you.  
*Celebrant*      And also with you.  
*People*      Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People*      It is right to give him 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.

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. *Amen.*

*Celebrant*                   Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
*People*                   Hosanna in the highest.

*Celebrant*                   Let us go forth in peace.  
*People*                   In the name of Christ. *Amen.*

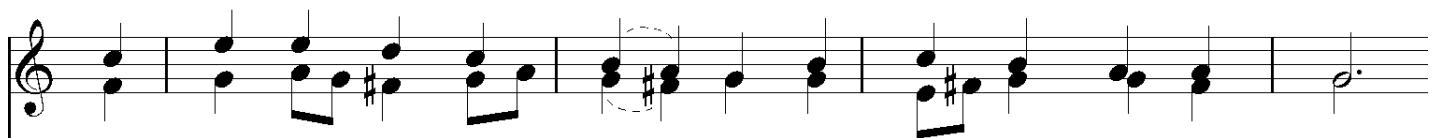
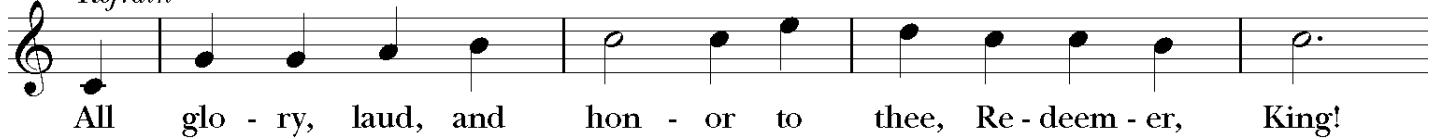
## Prayers in Procession

*The Celebrant and people together sing*

*All Glory Laud and Honor*    v. 1-3

H154

*Refrain*



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;

4 To thee be - fore thy pas - sion they sang their hymns of praise;

5 Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,



*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.  
 4 to thee, now high ex - al - ted, our mel - o - dy we raise.  
 5 who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King.

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

*The people will process from the porte-cochere, all holding palm branches in their hands.*

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. *Amen.*

*People* Hosanna in the highest.

## *The Celebrant and people together sing*

*All Glory Laud and Honor* v. 4-5

*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. **Amen.**

## First Reading

### Isaiah 50:4-9a

*All sit.*

## A Reading from the book of 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?

## Psalm 31, chanted

Be gracious to me, O Lord,  
for I am | in distress; \*  
the eye is wasted from grief; my  
soul and my body | also.

For my life is spent with sorrow, and  
my years with | sighing; \*  
    my strength fails because of my  
    iniquity, and my bones | waste  
away.

Because of all my adversaries I have become a reproach, especially to my neighbors, and an object of dread to my acquaintances; \* those who see me in the street flee from me.

I have been forgotten like one | who  
is dead; \*

v. 9-16

I have become like a broken vessel.

For I hear the whispering of many—  
terror on | every side!— \*  
as they scheme together against  
me, as they plot to | take my  
life.

But I trust in you, |O Lord; \*  
I say, “You | are my God.”

My times are | in your hand; \*  
rescue me from the hand  
of my enemies and from my  
perse- | cutors!

Make your face shine on  
your | servant; \*  
save me in your | steadfast love!

## Second Reading

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

## 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 Passion Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke”**

*The people remain seated until invited to stand in the story.*

## Sermon The Rev. Katlin McCallister

## **Choir Anthem** *I See His Blood upon the Rose*, William Witherup, flute solo by Cheryl Shine.

# Nicene Creed

*All stand.*

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the

and was made man.

for our sake he was crucified under Pilate.

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures:

he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## Prayers of the People

*All remain standing as able.*

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;  
*That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
*That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest;  
*Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
*May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Silence*

For all on our parish prayer list: Maile, Marcia, Doug, Lydia, Jamie, David, Karen, Jayson, Larida, Julie, Braden-Maverick, Robert, Don, Terre, Roy, Evie, Sierra, Jennifer, Syd, Billy, Jacqueline and Thomas.

*The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.*

## The Queen's Prayer

### Ke Aloha A Ke Akua

*The Queen's Prayer*

Queen Lili'uokalani (1838 - 1917)

4

C Dm/F C/G G<sup>7</sup> C D<sup>7</sup> D G<sup>7</sup> C

1.'O kou a - lo - ha no A - i - a i ka La - ni, A  
2.Ko'u no - ho mi - hi 'ana A pa - 'a - ha - o 'i - a, 'O  
3.Mai na - na 'i - no - 'ino Na he - wa o ka - na - ka. A -  
4.No - lai - la e ka Haku Ma la - lo kou 'e - he - u. Ko

5 Am/C C C/E Fmaj<sup>7</sup> F C/G G<sup>7</sup> C Fmaj<sup>7</sup> Fm<sup>6</sup> C

'o kou 'o - ia - 'i - 'o, He he - mo-le - le ho'i.  
'o - e ku - 'u la - ma Kou na - ni, ko - 'u ko'o.  
ka, e hu - i - ka - la, A ma - 'e-ma - 'e no.  
ma-kou ma - lu - hi - a. A mau loa a - ku no.

Oh Lord, thy loving mercy is high as the heavens. It tells us of thy truth and 'tis filled with holiness.

While humbly meditating within these walls imprisoned, thou art my light, my haven, thy glory my support.

Oh! Look not on their failings nor on the sins of men. Forgive with loving kindness that we might be made pure.  
For thy grace, I beg thee. Bring us beneath thy protection and peace will be our portion now and forever more. Amen.

## Confession of Sin

*All kneel as able. The Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence. Minister and People together say*

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 Celebrant stands and says*

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. *Amen.*

## **Peace**

*All stand.*

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

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## **Holy Communion**

*Celebrant says an offertory sentence. Special Thank Offerings will resume on April 28th.*

# Offertory Hymn

*Alone thou goest forth, O Lord*

Hymnal 164

1. A lone thou goest forth, O Lord, in  
2. Our sins, not thine, thou bear - est, Lord; make  
3. This is earth's dark - est hour, but thou dost  
4. Grant us with thee to suf - fer pain that,  
  
sac - ri - fice to die; is this thy sor - row through our pit - y  
light and life re - store; then let all praise be  
as we share this hour, thy cross may bring us  
  
nought to us who pass un - heed - ing by?  
and our shame love an - swers love's ap - peal.  
giv - en thee who liv - est ev - er more.  
to thy joy and re - sur - rec - tion power.

## Doxology

Ho'ōnani i ka Makua mau; Ke Keiki me ka 'Uhane nō;  
Ke Akua mau ho'omaika'i pū; Ko kēia ao, ko kēlā ao. Amene.

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host. Praise Father, Son, Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**All Say:** *All things come of Thee O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee.*

## Great Thanksgiving

*The people remain standing.*

*Celebrant*                    The Lord 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 him thanks and praise.

*The Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

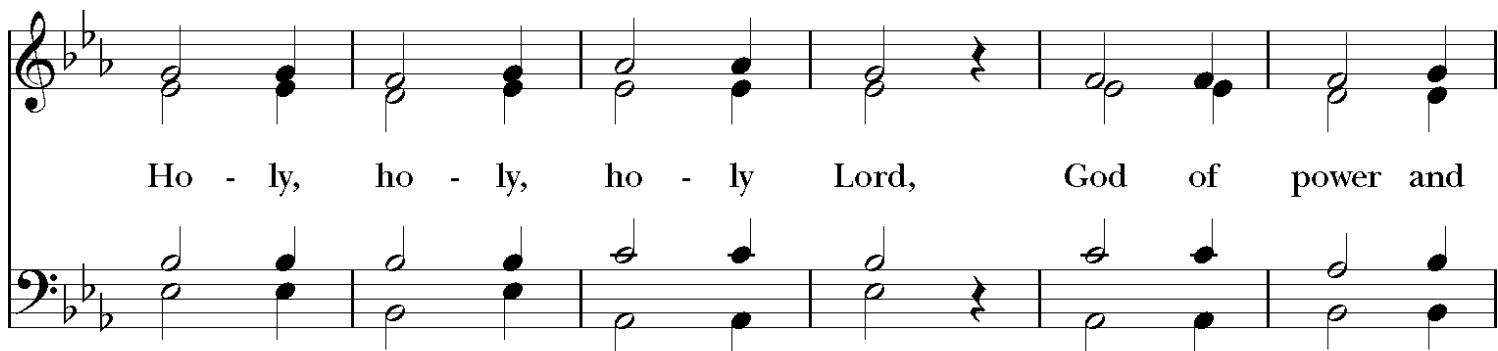
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. For our sins he was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; and, by his suffering and death, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him.

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

*The Celebrant and People sing*

**S130**



Ho - ly,      ho - ly,      ho - ly      Lord,      God      of      power      and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
 God of power and might, heav - en and earth are  
 full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes \_\_\_\_\_

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The Celebrant continues*

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:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

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.**

*The Celebrant then continues*

And now, as our Savior  
Christ has taught us,  
we are bold to say,

*People and Celebrant*

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

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

*A period of silence is kept. The Celebrant says*

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.

*All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you are not baptized or do not wish to receive communion, please come forward and cross your arms over your chest and receive a blessing from the priest.*

## Communion Music

Organ Music by Rick Mazurowski

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

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.

# Blessing

*The priest blesses the people.*

## Recessional Hymn

*Were you there when they crucified my Lord*

Hymnal 172

The musical score consists of two staves of music in G major, 2/4 time. The top staff is for the soprano voice and the bottom staff is for the bassoon. The music is divided into four sections, each with a different number (1, 2, \*3, 4) above the first line of lyrics. The lyrics are as follows:

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you  
2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you  
\*3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side? Were you  
4 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you

Below the music, there are four lines of lyrics for the congregation to sing, followed by four lines for the priest to respond with "Oh!"

there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Oh!  
there when they nailed him to the tree? Oh!  
there when they pierced him in the side? Oh!  
there when they laid him in the tomb? Oh!

Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,  
 Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,  
 Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,  
 Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,  
 trem-ble.  
 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

## Dismissal

*Celebrant  
People*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
 Thanks be to God.

**“What’s so Holy about Holy Week?”**  
**Stay to find out!**

**BE AWARE!**

***Here we practice the inclusive Gospel of Jesus Christ.***

This means that you may be gathering with  
Tax Collectors, thieves, adulterers, hypocrites,  
Women, men and children as well as female and male priests,  
Gays, lesbians, transgendered, the disabled, the dying;  
Native Americans, Mexicans, Asians,  
Blacks and other ethnic minorities;  
Bishops, bigots, heretics, agnostics, atheists,  
Jews, Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, and  
Strangers from foreign lands –  
Anyone like those with whom Jesus met  
*So be Aware, this is not an exclusive club.*

***We welcome you all!***

*(adapted from Kennet Leech, St. Botolph's, Aldgate, London)*

**Church of the Holy Apostles' Leadership**

Head of the Church: Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Presiding Bishop: The Most Reverend Michael Curry

Bishop of Diocese of Hawaii: The Rt. Rev. Robert L. Fitzpatrick

Priest-in-Charge: The Rev. Katlin E. McCallister

Priest-Associate: The Rev. David Glaser

Senior Warden: Doug Adams

Junior Warden: Catherine McPherson-Tampos

Treasurer: BJ Long

Vestry Secretary: Cindy Haskins

Minister of Music: Rick Mazurowski

Family Ministry: Lindbergh Marzo

Parish Administrator: Amy Kaawaloa

**Vestry**

Class of 2020: Susan Gagorik, Ann Little, Ed Reiners

Class of 2021: Dorri Goodrich, Fair Jenkins, Vernon Sheldon-Witter

Class of 2020: Penny Chu, Judy Hayducsko, Evette Tampos

## **Maundy Thursday**

This is the day that Jesus and his disciples celebrate the Jewish Passover meal, also known as the Last Supper. While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread and a cup of wine and told the disciples these were his body and blood. He invited them to eat and drink these things to remember him. In John's Gospel, Jesus washes the disciples' feet, telling them to be servants of others, just as he was their servant. This profoundly beautiful act will be part of the Maundy Thursday service as clergy wash the feet of all who choose to take part.

At the end of the service, all decoration is removed from the altar, dramatizing the moment when Jesus is arrested and taken into custody where he will be tried, condemned, stripped, mocked and executed. Grief, vulnerability, and austerity are embodied when the church is stripped of its vessels and vestments as we go with Jesus to dark Gethsemane.

## **Good Friday**

Good Friday marks the day of Jesus' crucifixion and death. In scripture, he had been arrested the previous night, handed over to the authorities, and condemned to die, along with two thieves.

This day, which is filled with images of Jesus' very real pain and agony, may seem to be anything but good, but the term comes from an earlier English sense of "good," meaning "holy". On this day, we see God incarnate in the person of Jesus Christ suffer and die for the sins of the world. Many churches will reenact the Stations of the Cross, a meditative walk through the last hours of Jesus' life.

## **Holy Saturday**

The Liturgy for Holy Saturday is a uniquely Anglican observance. This, the shortest liturgy in the Prayer Book, invites us to experience the day after the Crucifixion - in which Jesus was dead, lying in the tomb. The brevity and silence of this day invites reflection about what the world would be like if God was dead and all hope were lost. This is the only day when the Eucharist is never celebrated.

## **The Great Vigil**

The Great Vigil of Easter is intended to be the first (and arguably, the primary) celebration of Easter since the earliest days of the Church. Celebrated either at dawn on Easter Day or, following Jewish custom in which the next day begins at sundown, the service begins in darkness. This beautiful Liturgy consists of four parts: The Service of Light (kindling of new fire to symbolize the light of Christ returning to the world, lighting the Paschal candle); The Service of Lessons (where we read sacred stories of how God has moved in all of history); Holy Baptism and/or the Renewal of Baptismal Vows; and the Eucharist.

The Vigil is old, mysterious, and exciting! Through this liturgy, the Episcopal Church recovers an ancient practice of keeping the Easter feast. Believers would gather in the hours of darkness ending at dawn on Easter to hear scripture and offer prayer. This is the night-long service of prayerful watching of the anticipated baptisms that would come at first light and the Easter Eucharist. Easter was the primary baptismal occasion for the early church.

## **Easter Sunday**

Alleluia! Christ is risen! The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia! Easter morning is the principal liturgical celebration of the year—it is the day we celebrate the Resurrection of the Son of God from the dead. Today we hear of Mary Magdalene (and others, in Mark’s telling) coming to anoint Jesus’ body, only to find the great stone rolled away, and the tomb empty. As it dawns on these faithful women and the apostles, it dawns on us, too: The One who only days earlier was humiliated, broken, beaten and killed, lives. We celebrate in the sure and certain hope that God has destroyed the power of death and the grave, and “opened for us the way of eternal life” (Catechism, Book of Common Prayer, p. 850). St. Paul’s will be adorned with flowers as a symbol of rebirth and joy in God’s creation. And all the faithful will gather to celebrate the triumph of love over death.

**<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/holy-week-2019>**