



PALM SUNDAY

SUNDAY 2 APRIL 2023

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

8:00 A.M.

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 270

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.**

Matthew 21:1–11

The Holy Bible; *NRSV*, p. 900

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.”

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant 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.**

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THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Collect of the Day

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Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who, of thy tender love towards mankind, hast sent thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh, and to suffer death upon the cross, that all mankind should follow the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may both follow the example of his patience, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading: Isaiah 50:4–9a

The Holy Bible; *NRSV*, p.667

Commentary: This is the third Servant Song in Isaiah, songs that spoke to the circumstances of the prophet's original audience while also looking ahead to the work of the ultimate Servant, Jesus Christ. The Servant's words had come to Him through daily, direct interaction with the sovereign Lord. God had given His Servant the desire and the ability to hear, and to respond obediently to what He heard. The Servant willingly suffered abuse and disdain for His obedience to God, but He did not turn back. The Servant trusted in God's vindication for His faithfulness to His calling. He suffered not because of His guilt, but in spite of His innocence. Through it all, the Servant continued to model steadfast reliance on God.

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?

People The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalms 31:2, 9–16

read by all in unison

In te, Domine, speravi

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble; *
my eye is consumed with sorrow,
and also my throat and my belly.
For my life is wasted with grief,
and my years with sighing; *
my strength fails me because of affliction,
and my bones are consumed.

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.
I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; *
I am as useless as a broken pot.

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.
But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord. *
I have said, "You are my God.

My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.
Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me.

The Epistle: Philippians 2:5–11

NRSV, p. 1071

Commentary: Paul turned to the perfect example, Jesus Christ, to encourage humility and unity within the Philippian church. Jesus, the Son of God, voluntarily and willingly adopted a manner of existence different from His Father, that of God-man. He chose not to use His powers to lift Himself above ordinary human limitations. Jesus did not lay aside the form of God, He added on the form of a man, of a servant. Jesus appeared just as any other man and He was willing to endure death by crucifixion, an unspeakably brutal means of execution.

The Son was submissive to the depths of humiliation and God the Father raised Him to the height of exaltation. Some day, every knee will bow in recognition that Jesus Christ is Lord.

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 Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 27:11–54

NRSV, p. 909

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

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!"

People The Gospel of the Lord.
 Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Cheryl Brainard

Prayers of the People

The response to each petition:

...Crucified King. **Have mercy on us.**

The Peace

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

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving — Eucharistic Prayer I

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Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**
 Lift up your hearts.
 We lift them up unto the Lord.
 Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
 It is meet and right so to do.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Here, a proper preface is said, then the Celebrant continues...

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.**

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me"

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

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

The Lord's Prayer

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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

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<i>Celebrant</i>	Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
<i>People</i>	Therefore let us keep the feast.

Celebrant and People

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.**

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Communion of the People

Gluten-free wafers are available at the main altar upon request.

The Postcommunion Prayer

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Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Blessing

Celebrant Bow down before the Lord.

The people kneel

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.**

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**



Celebrant: The Reverend C. Phillip Craig, Jr.

Preacher: The Reverend Cheryl Brainard

TODAY AT ST. JAMES

THIS EVENING

- **BREAD BREAKERS: TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME** *April 2 | 1:00 p.m. | UNCW*
 - **SJP YOUTH: GUARDIAN ANGEL CELEBRATION** *April 2 | 5:00-7:00 p.m. | The Great Hall*
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HOLY WEEK AT ST. JAMES

MON.- FRI., APRIL 3-7

- MORNING PRAYER
8:00-8:30 AM | Zoom

MONDAY, APRIL 3

- HOLY EUCHARIST
12:10 PM | St. James Parish
- LIVING WELL IN GRIEF
5:00 PM | Graham Parlor or via Zoom
- FELLOWSHIP AA
7:00 PM | The Great Hall

TUESDAY, APRIL 4

- HOLY EUCHARIST
12:10 PM | St. James Parish
- MEN'S AL ANON
5:15PM | Lippitt Room

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5

- SJP YOUTH STARBUCKS BIBLE STUDY
7:00 AM | 16th St. Starbucks
- HOLY EUCHARIST
12:10 PM | St. James Parish

THURSDAY, APRIL 6

MAUNDY THURSDAY

- MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE
7:00 PM | St. James Parish

FRIDAY, APRIL 7

GOOD FRIDAY

SJDS CLOSED FOR EASTER BREAK PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

- STATIONS OF THE CROSS & GOOD
FRIDAY SERVICE
12:00 PM | Mt. Lebanon Chapel

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

HOLY SATURDAY

- SUNRISE SERENITY AL ANON
7:45 - 10:00 AM | Bishop Wright Room
- SECOND SATURDAY CLEAN UP WITH
CAPE FEAR RIVER WATCH
9:00 AM | Location TBA
- THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER
8:00 PM | St. James Parish

SUNDAY, APRIL 9

EASTER DAY

- TOWER SERVICE
6:30 AM | St. James Tower
- HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I
8:00 AM | St. James Parish
- HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II
9:00 AM | St. James Parish & Online
- PARISH CELEBRATION & EASTER
EGG HUNT
10:15 AM | Parish Grounds
- HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II
11:15 AM | St. James Parish & Online

*To all who are weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Saviour;
to all who are idle and look for service; to all who are strangers
and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
and to whosoever will come—this church opens wide her doors.*

ST. JAMES PARISH

THE REVEREND C. PHILLIP CRAIG, JR., RECTOR

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