

Bethesda Episcopal Church

26 Washington Street
Saratoga Springs, New York 12866



The Sunday of the Passion
Palm Sunday
28 March 2021

Prelude

All Glory Laud and Honor Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

The Entrance Rite: The Liturgy of the Palms

All stand as the Ministers enter the church. At the chancel step:

Celebrant Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
People Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant Let us pray. Assist us mercifully with thy help, O God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby thou hast given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Palm Sunday Gospel

Mark 11:1-11a

People The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark.
Glory be to thee, O Lord.

When Jesus and his disciples were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.' They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple.

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

All remain standing. The Celebrant now blesses the branches of palm, the people holding them high.

People The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.
Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
People It is meet and right so to do.

It is right to praise thee, Almighty God, for the acts of love whereby thou hast redeemed us through thy 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. Bless these branches that they 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 leadeth unto eternal life; who liveth and reigneth in glory with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The branches of blessed palm are now sprinkled with Holy Water.

At eight o'clock the liturgy continues on the next page.

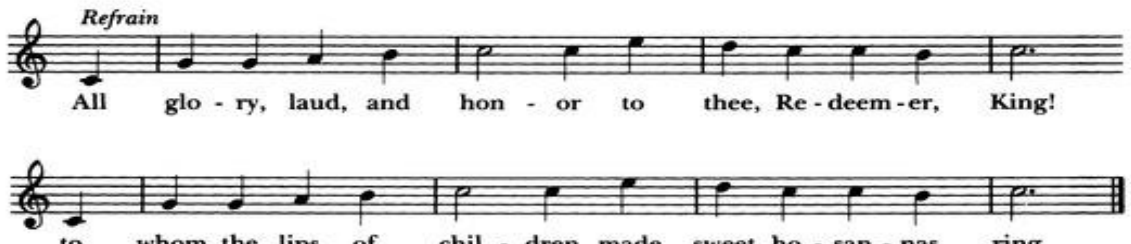
At the ten o'clock, a hymn is sung, beginning with

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

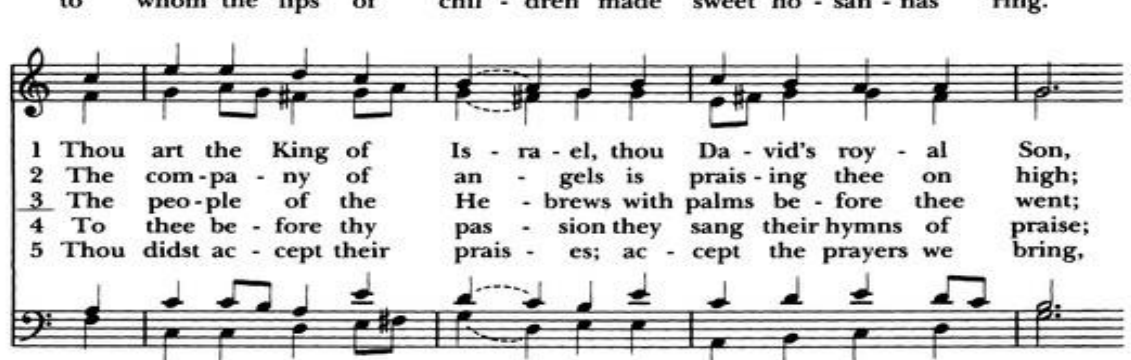
All sing the hymn. The procession moves to the chancel.

Hymn 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;
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 - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
5 who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King.

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

Almighty and ever-living 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.*

All sit

The First Lesson

Isaiah 50:4-9a

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?

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

Gradual

Psalms 31:9-16

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 Second Lesson

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.

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

The Gospel of the Passion

Mark 15:1-39

Narrator The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

The traditional responses before and after the Gospel are omitted at this liturgy.

The congregation assumes the role of the Crowd.

Narrator As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him,

Lector “Are you the King of the Jews?”

Narrator He answered him,

Jesus “You say so.”

Narrator Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again,

Lector “Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.”

Narrator But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed. Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them,

Lector “Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?”

Narrator For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again,

Lector “Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?”

<i>Narrator</i>	They shouted back,
<i>All</i>	“Crucify him!”
<i>Narrator</i>	Pilate asked them
<i>Lector</i>	“Why, what evil has he done?”
<i>Narrator</i>	But they shouted all the more,
<i>All</i>	“Crucify him!”
<i>Narrator</i>	So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor’s headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him,
<i>All</i>	“Hail, King of the Jews!”
<i>Narrator</i>	They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him. They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take. It was nine o’clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, “The King of the Jews.” And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying.
<i>All</i>	“Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!”
<i>Narrator</i>	In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying,
<i>All</i>	“He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.”
<i>Narrator</i>	Those who were crucified with him also taunted him. When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o’clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice,
<i>Jesus</i>	“Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?”
<i>Narrator</i>	Which means,

Jesus "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

Narrator When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

All "Listen, he is calling for Elijah."

Narrator And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying,

Lector "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down."

Narrator Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

All kneel. Silence is kept for a space. Then all stand with the Celebrant.

Narrator And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said,

Lector "Truly this man was God's Son!"

A period of silence follows

Organ O Sacred Head Charles Callahan (b. 1951)

The Sermon Fr Wallace

The Nicene Creed and Confession of Sin are omitted on Palm Sunday. All kneel.

The service continues with

The Prayers of the People

Celebrant In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Simon from Cyrene was forced to carry the cross for your Son. Give us grace to lift heavy loads from those we meet and to stand with those condemned to die.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Your Son watched the soldiers gamble to share his clothes. Transform the hearts of those who make a profit from their victims and those whose hearts are hardened by their work.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

The thief, who was crucified with Jesus, was promised a place in your kingdom. Give pardon and hope, healing and peace, to all who look death in the face.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

From the cross Jesus entrusted Mary his mother and John his disciple to each other's care. Help us also to care for one another and fill our homes with the spirit of your love.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

In Mary and John your Son created a new family at the cross. Fill our relationships, and those of new families today, with mutual care and responsibility, and give us a secure hope for the future.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

The centurion was astonished to see your glory in the crucified Messiah. Open the eyes of those who do not know you to see in your Son the meaning of life and death.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Joseph of Arimathaea came to take your Son's body away. Give hope and faith to the dying and bereaved, and gentleness to those who minister to them.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Simon and Joseph, Mary and John, became part of your Church in Jerusalem. Bring into your Church today a varied company of people to walk with Christ in the way of his passion and to find their salvation in the victory of the cross.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

The Celebrant concludes with a prayer.

All stand. The Celebrant says

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And with thy Spirit.

There are no Greetings today. The service continues with the hymn.

O sacred head, sore wounded,
defiled and put to scorn;
O kingly head, surrounded
with mocking crown of thorn:
What sorrow mars thy grandeur?
Can death thy bloom deflower?
O countenance whose splendor
the hosts of heaven adore!

Thy beauty, long-desired,
hath vanished from our sight;
thy power is all expired,
and quenched the light of light.
Ah me! for whom thou diest,

hide not so far thy grace:
show me, O Love most highest,
the brightness of thy face.

In thy most bitter passion
my heart to share doth cry,
with thee for my salvation
upon the cross to die.
Ah, keep my heart thus moved
to stand thy cross beneath,
to mourn thee, well-beloved,
yet thank thee for thy death.

All remain standing.

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

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.

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

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

Sanctus and Benedictus Qui Vent *Sung by all*

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

Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -

- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth

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

The people kneel. 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 offences, 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 commanded and 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.*

A period of silence is kept. The Celebrant and people say together

Agnus Dei *said by all*

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.

The Ministers receive the Sacrament and then deliver it to the people.

All kneel. The Celebrant continues

Let us pray. Almighty God, we beseech thee graciously to behold this thy family, for which our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given up into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who liveth and reigneth for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The people depart in silence today.

Notices this Week

In our Intercessions for the Church and Parish this week, we pray for

Anglican Communion	Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui
Albany Diocese	For deep devotion to our Lord's Passion and Resurrection
Our Parish	For our observance of Holy Week and Easter at Bethesda

We remember with thanksgiving those who are celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week. We also pray for those who have died recently and those whose year's mind falls at this time.

Palms for the High Altar are given in memory of Sally Harlow, Mary and Donald Marsden.

Our thanks to Bruce Solenski and Sharon Boyd for beautifying our church for Holy Week Services.

Donations welcome. We are purchasing a new green **Altar Frontal** in memory of former Rector Fr Parke, and a new Paschal candle stand in memory of longtime parishioner and Vestryman John Huppuch. If you wish to donate towards the cost of one or both of these items, please place your gift on the offering plate or send it to the office.

The traditional **Watch** before the Blessed Sacrament follows the Evening service on Maundy Thursday. A sign up sheet is in the Narthex.

Remember to **reserve seats** for the Good Friday Vespers and services on Easter Day.

Stations of the Cross is said in the church Wednesday evening at 7pm. All welcome.

Holy Week and Easter Services 2021

Monday, 29 March	12 :05pm Mid-day Prayers
Tuesday, 30 March	12 :05pm Mid-day Prayers
Wednesday, 31 March	12:05pm Eucharist 7pm Stations of the Cross
Thursday, 1 April	12:05pm Mid-day Prayers 7pm Maundy Thursday Liturgy <i>The church is open for private prayer following the liturgy.</i>
Friday, 2 April	12pm Sung Liturgy for Good Friday 7pm Sung Vespers for Good Friday <i>Sung by Gentlemen of the Cathedral Choir, Albany</i>
Saturday, 3 April	12:05pm Holy Saturday Mid-day Prayers <i>No 5pm Eucharist today</i>
Sunday, 4 April	Easter Day 8am Holy Eucharist and 10am Sung Eucharist
Sunday, 11 April	The Sunday after Easter 8am Eucharist 10am A Service of Lessons and Music for Easter <i>Elizabeth Huntley, Harp</i>