

Palm Weekend
March 28-29, 2026
Holy Communion

The Prelude is a signal to *end our conversation* and prepare our hearts for worship.

PRELUDE

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND (u) PASSING OF PEACE

Psalm 24:7-10

P Lift up your heads, you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

C Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.

P Lift up your heads, you gates; lift them up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

C Who is he, this King of glory? The Lord Almighty— he is the King of glory.

BLESSING OF THE PALMS/INVOCATION

P Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the Highest Heaven! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C Hosanna to the Son of David.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses. Gracious God,

C have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God,

C have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God,
C have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,
C have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,
C have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God,
C have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,
C have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

“All Glory, Laud And Honor”

**Ref. All glory, laud, and honor to you, redeemer, king,
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.**

- 1 You are the king of Israel and David's royal Son,
Now in the Lord's name coming, our King and Blessed One.
*(Refrain)***
- 2 The company of angels are praising you on high;
Creation and all mortals in chorus make reply. *(Refrain)***
- 3 The multitude of pilgrims with palms before you went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems before you we
present. *(Refrain)***

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray together.

C Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(d)

ANTHEM

LESSON OF THE DAY

Isaiah 50:4-9a

The lesson begins:

The Sovereign Lord has given me a well-instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed. The Sovereign Lord has opened my ears; I have not been rebellious, I have not turned away. I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard; I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting. Because the Sovereign Lord helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore have I set my face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame. He who vindicates me is near. Who then will bring charges against me? Let us face each other! Who is my accuser? Let him confront me! It is the Sovereign Lord who helps me. Who will condemn me?

P The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(u)

ACCLAMATION

Return to the Lord, your_ God, for he is gracious and merciful, Slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

GOSPEL

Matthew 21:1-11

P **The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.**

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away." This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: "Say to Daughter Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'" The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest heaven!" When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?" The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

P **The Gospel of the Lord.**

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(d)

SERMON

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NICENE CREED

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

(d)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

A brief silence.

P O God, you announce words of grace and truth. Give wisdom to all preachers in your church both globally and locally. Open our hearts to encounter the infinite life you offer in Jesus. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer

P Your power is sure. Destroy inequity and division in every place, and build your beloved community among all people. Guide judges, attorneys, and juries so that they act with justice and fairness. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer

P Your heart breaks open at our pain. Send healing and vindication to all who, like Jesus, know the sting of betrayal, denial, abuse, or false accusations. Be with those experiencing pain or loss this day (especially). Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer

P Your ways show compassion. Let this same mind be in us as we enter Holy Week. Bless those here who will lead worship and tell the story of Jesus' death and resurrection. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer

P Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

C Amen.

OFFERING

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OFFERTORY "LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL"

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
And_ fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
That we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams_ of all;
Unite them with the prayers we offer.
Grace our table with your presence,
And give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING / WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. In love you made us for yourself; and when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, your love remained steadfast. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the Easter feast, that, renewed by your Word and Sacraments and fervent in prayer and works of justice and mercy, we may come to the fullness of grace that you have prepared for those who love you. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS (SUNG)

**Holy, ho - ly, holy Lord_, God of power and might,
Heav'n and earth_ are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in_ the highest.

Blessed_ is he who comes_ in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in_ the highest_, hosanna in_ the highest.

P Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, whom you sent in the fullness of time to redeem the world. He emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in our likeness. He humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. He took upon himself our sin and death and offered himself, a perfect sacrifice for the sin of the whole world. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P As a community, let us pray in the way our Lord Jesus has taught us: *(SUNG)*

C Our Father, which 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. A - men.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

(d)

THE COMMUNION is given and received.

(u)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN "Ride On To Survey The Wondrous Cross"

- 1 Ride on, ride on in_ majes - ty!
The hosts of angels_ in the_ sky
look down with sad and_ wond'ring_ eyes
to see the approaching sacri - fice.**

- 2 Ride on, ride on in_ majes - ty!
In lowly pomp ride_ on to_ die,
bow your meek head to_ mortal_ pain,
then take, O Christ, your pow'r and_ reign!**

- 3 When I survey the_ wondrous_ cross
on which the prince of_ glory_ died,
my richest gain I_ count but_ loss
and pour contempt on all my_ pride.**

DISMISSAL

- P Go in peace. Believe the good news.**
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing;
2 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,
3 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints on earth
4 Still lift your stan - dard high, still march in firm ar - ray,

your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king.
send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, the psalms of an - cient days.
pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
as pil - grims through the dark - ness wend till dawns the gol - den day.

Refrain

Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!

Re - joice! Re - joice!

5 At last the march shall end;
the wearied ones shall rest;
the pilgrims find their home at last,
Jerusalem the blest. *Refrain*

6 Praise God who reigns on high,
the Lord whom we adore:
the Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
one God forevermore. *Refrain*