



# ST. MATTHEW'S

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH

### Holy Eucharist

10a

**Palm Sunday**

**March 29, 2026**

*Remember to turn off or silence all phones. Thank you.*

### Liturgy of the Palms

*Presider* Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.  
*People* **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.**  
*Presider* 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.**

### First Reading

**Matthew 21:1-11**

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."

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

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

*Please raise your palm branches*

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 Jesus 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 Christ's victory, and grant that we who bear them in Jesus' name may ever hail him as our King, and follow Christ 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.**

*Presider* Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

*People* **Hosanna in the highest.**

## The Procession

*Deacon* Let us go forth in peace.

*People* **In the name of Christ. Amen**

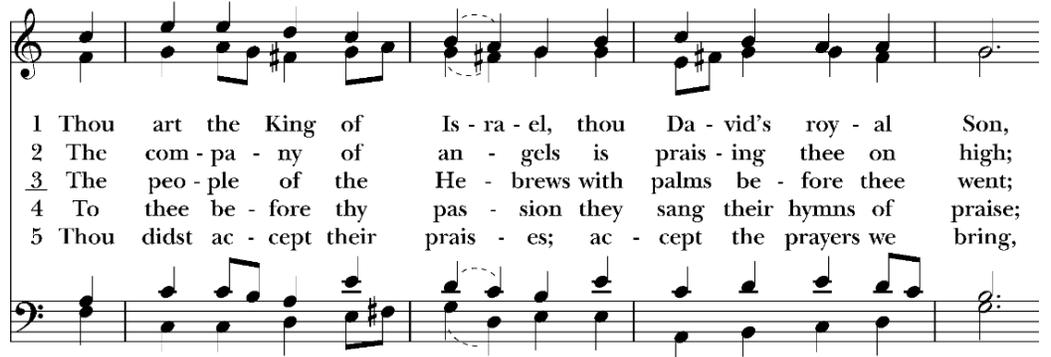
*The People follow the crucifer into the Nave.*

## Hymn: All glory Laud and Honor

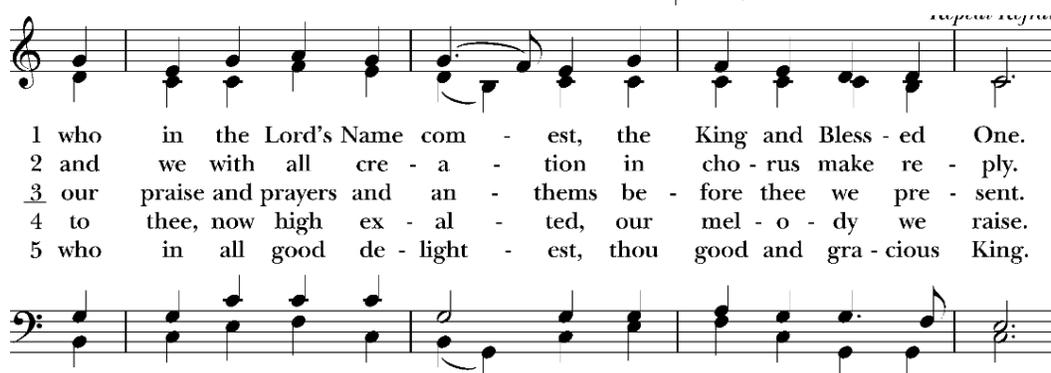
*Refrain*



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,



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.

*Children in kindergarten through fifth grade may choose to follow the cross to Godly Play.*

## The Word of God

### Collect

*Standing*

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Presider* Let us pray.

*The Presider continues with the Collect of the Day*

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.

## Second Reading

**Philippians 2:5-11**

*The people are seated*

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.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Gospel Hymn:** *Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates*

**Hymnal 436**  
*Truro*

## Holy Gospel

**Matthew 27:11-54**

*Priest*                The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
*People*                **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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!"

*Priest*                    The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*                    **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Sermon**    *The people are seated*

**The Rev. Suzanne Barrow**

## Prayers of the People

*Standing*

*After each petition, the People respond*    **Hear our prayer.**

## Peace

*Presider*                The peace of Christ be always with you.  
*People*                    **And also with you.**

## A Word of Welcome

*The People are seated*

## Birthday Collect

**O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

## Holy Communion

*During the offertory, please consider the gifts God has given you, and give generously. Your gift will help us continue vital ministries. Our online giving works well, as does our text to give option. Please use this link for online giving.*  
<https://secure.subsplash.com/ui/access/5QFR9K/>

**Offertory Hymn: Hosanna in the Highest**

Anonymous, 16th c

**Hosanna in the highest and to David's son. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Presentation Verse**

**H 143, stanza 5**

*Erhalt uns, Herr*

**O Father, Son and Spirit blest, to thee be every prayer addressed, who are in threefold Name adored, from age to age, the only Lord.**

*The People stand while the offerings are presented.*

## Great Thanksgiving

**Eucharistic Prayer 1**

**Enriching Our Worship**

*The People remain standing.*

*Presider*                The Lord be with you.  
*People*                    **And also with you.**  
*Presider*                Lift up your hearts.  
*People*                    **We lift them to the Lord.**  
*Presider*                Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People*                    **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Presider* It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks,  
all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

*The Presider continues the Eucharistic prayer*

You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

**Sanctus**

**S 130**  
Schubert

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Holy holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full, full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

*The Presider continues*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Presider is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Presider and People*

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

*The Presider continues*

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of you daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*The Presider then says*

And now, as our Savior Christ has 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 Presider breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.*

## Fraction Anthem

**S 169**  
Urwin

**My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord. My Lord. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood dwell in me, and I in them. My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed, says the Lord.**

*Presider                    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 who seek God and are drawn to God through Christ are welcome to receive communion. If for any reason you do not desire to receive communion, you may come to the altar rail and cross your arms over your chest to receive a blessing. If you need gluten-free bread, please ask the priest giving out bread. You are welcome to receive both bread and wine, or just bread. Christ is fully present in both or either the bread and wine.*

## Music during Communion: *When Jesus Wept*

Douglas E. Wagner

*When Jesus wept, the falling tear in mercy flowed beyond all bound; when Jesus groaned, a trembling fear seized all the guilty world around. O come and mourn with me awhile and linger here beside; O come together, let us mourn. O Jesus our Lord is crucified.*

*After Communion, the Presider says*

Let us pray.

*People and Presider*

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

*After the Postcommunion Prayer, the ministers leave the altar and take their seats. The Passion chanters will present the Passion Gospel. Following the Passion, all depart in silence. There is not procession out of the church. The observance of Holy Week has begun.*

## The Passion According to Matthew

NARRATOR:     Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him,

PILATE:         "Are you the King of the Judeans?"

NARRATOR:     Jesus said,

JESUS:         "You say so."

NARRATOR:     But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him,

PILATE:         "Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?"

NARRATOR:     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,

PILATE:         "Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?"

NARRATOR:     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,

PILATE'S WIFE: "Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him."

NARRATOR: 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,

PILATE: "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?"

NARRATOR: And they said,

**CONGREGATION:**   
[S] Bar-ab-bas.

NARRATOR: Pilate said to them

PILATE: "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?"

NARRATOR: All of them said,

**CONGREGATION:**   
[S] Let him be cru-ci-fied!

NARRATOR: Then he asked,

PILATE: "Why, what evil has he done?"

NARRATOR: But they shouted all the more,

**CONGREGATION:**   
[S] Let him be cru-ci-fied!

NARRATOR: 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,

PILATE: "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves."

NARRATOR: Then the people as a whole answered,

**CONGREGATION:**   
[S] His blood be on us and on our child-ren!

NARRATOR: 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,

SOLDIERS: "Hail, King of the Judeans!"

NARRATOR: 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.

*(At the mention of Golgotha, the congregation should stand and remain standing for the remainder of the reading.)*

NARRATOR: 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 Judeans."

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,

BYSTANDERS: "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."

NARRATOR: In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying,

CHIEF PRIESTS: "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.'"

NARRATOR: 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,

JESUS: "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?"

NARRATOR: that is,

JESUS: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

NARRATOR: When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

BYSTANDERS: "This man is calling for Elijah."

NARRATOR: 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,

BYSTANDERS: "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him."

NARRATOR: 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,

CENTURION: "Truly this man was God's Son!"

### Holy Week and Easter Schedule

Monday, March 30, 2026 – 10a Eucharist

Tuesday, March 31, 2026 – 10a Eucharist

Wednesday, April 1, 2026 – 10a Eucharist

Maundy Thursday, April 2, 2026 – 6p Agape Dinner

Maundy Thursday, April 2, 2026 – 7p Maundy Thursday Eucharist

Good Friday, April 3, 2026 – 12p Liturgy of the Day

Good Friday, April 3, 2026 – 7p Stations of the Cross

Saturday, April 4, 2026 – 7p The Great Vigil of Easter

Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026 – 8a Eucharist

Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026 – 10a Eucharist

Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026 – 5pm Eucharist