



Lent VI



Palm Sunday

March 29th, 2026

Holy Cross Episcopal Church





The Way of Sorrows

Join the Chancel Choir for a concert
exploring and reflecting
on the themes
found in the Stations of the Cross.
Follow Christ's journey
to the cross and grave
through music, scripture, and prayer.

6pm Friday, April 3rd



Join us for Easter!
6:00am | 8:00am | 10:30am



HOLY CROSS
Episcopal Church

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The Passion Narrative at 8:00 & 10:30am
March 29, 2026

The Liturgy 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.

The Gospel Reading: *Matthew 21:1-11*

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

People *Glory to you Lord Christ.*

When Jesus & 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?" ¹¹The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

Crowd *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord!

Crowd *It is right to give him thanks and praise!*

We 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 Then Jesus entered into Jerusalem, with the people going before and behind him singing his praises, "Hosannah! Hosannah in the Highest" and Jesus went into the temple. *Blessed is the name of the Lord!*

Crowd *Hosannah! Hosannah in the Highest!*

Procession: "Ride On King Jesus"

Ride on, King Je - sus,
no man, can hin-der Thee
Ride on King Je-sus ride on,
no man can hind-er Thee

The Collect of the Day - prayed by everyone

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.*

Short Reflection: *The Rev. Rob Dixon*

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ

According to St. Matthew

EVANGELIST: Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples:

JESUS: Sit here while I go over there and pray.

EVANGELIST: He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them:

JESUS: I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.

EVANGELIST: And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed:

JESUS: My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me: yet not what I want but what you want.

EVANGELIST: Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter:

JESUS: So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

EVANGELIST: Again he went away for the second time and prayed:

JESUS: My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.

EVANGELIST: Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them:

JESUS: Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.

EVANGELIST: While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying:

JUDAS: The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.

EVANGELIST: At once he came up to Jesus and said:

JUDAS: Greetings, Rabbi!

EVANGELIST: And kissed him.

JESUS: Friend, do what you are here to do.

EVANGELIST: Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to him:

JESUS: Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?

EVANGELIST: At that hour Jesus said to the crowds:

JESUS: Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled.

EVANGELIST: Then all the disciples deserted him and fled. Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said:

CONGREGATION: This fellow said, "I am able to destroy the temple of God and build it in three days."

EVANGELIST: The high priest stood up and said:

HIGH PRIEST: Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?

EVANGELIST: But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him:

HIGH PRIEST: I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.

JESUS: You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.

EVANGELIST: Then the high priest tore his clothes and said:

HIGH PRIEST: He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?

CONGREGATION: He deserves death.

EVANGELIST: Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, saying:

CONGREGATION: Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?

EVANGELIST: Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant girl came to him and said:

SERVANT GIRL 1: You also were with Jesus the Galilean.

EVANGELIST: But he denied it before all of them, saying:

PETER: I do not know what you are talking about.

EVANGELIST: When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders:

SERVANT GIRL 2: This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.

EVANGELIST: Again he denied it with an oath:

PETER: I do not know the man.

EVANGELIST: After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter:

CONGREGATION: Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you.

EVANGELIST: Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath:

PETER: I do not know the man!

EVANGELIST: At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: "Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

EVANGELIST: When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor. When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he repented and brought back

the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. He said:

JUDAS: I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.

CONGREGATION: What is that to us? See to it yourself.

EVANGELIST: Throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said:

HIGH PRIEST: It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money.

EVANGELIST: After conferring together, they used them to buy the potter's field as a place to bury foreigners. For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one on whom a price had been set, on whom some of the people of Israel had set a price, and they gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me." Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him:

PILATE: Are you the King of the Jews?

JESUS: You say so.

EVANGELIST: 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?

EVANGELIST: 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?

EVANGELIST: 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 priest and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them:

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

CONGREGATION: Barabbas.

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

CONGREGATION: Crucify Him!

PILATE: Why, what evil has he done?

EVANGELIST: But they shouted all the more:

CONGREGATION: Crucify Him!

EVANGELIST: 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.

EVANGELIST: Then the people as a whole answered:

CONGREGATION: His blood be on us and on our children!

EVANGELIST: 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:

CONGREGATION: Hail, King of the Jews!

EVANGELIST: 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.

(Here, all stand, if they are not doing so already.)

EVANGELIST: 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:

CONGREGATION: 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.

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

CONGREGATION: 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

EVANGELIST: 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?

EVANGELIST: That is, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said:

CONGREGATION: This man is calling for Elijah.

EVANGELIST: 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:

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

EVANGELIST: Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last.

(Silence is kept for a few moments, during which some may wish to kneel.)

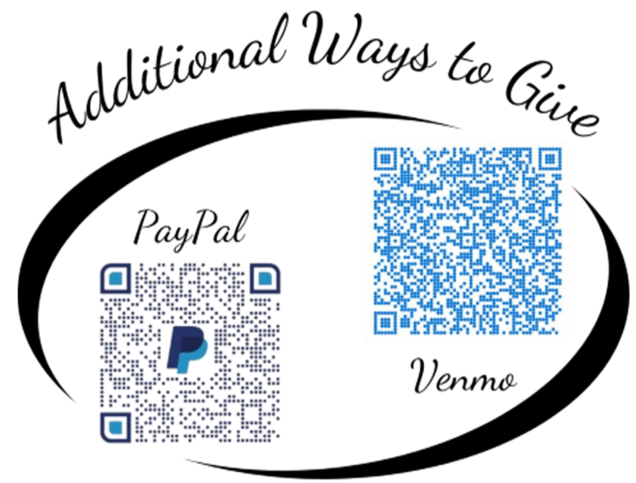
EVANGELIST: At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said:

CENTURION: Truly this man was God's Son!

The Confession (BCP pg. 360)

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 Peace: Welcome & Announcements



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The Holy Communion

This portion of the service begins on p. 361 in the BCP however, you are encouraged to give your attention to the altar.

The Communion. *All seeking God through Jesus are invited and welcome to receive Communion. Anyone who does not wish to receive communion is invited to come forward, cross their arms over their chest, and receive a blessing. If you would like the clergy to bring communion to someone in the pews, please notify the ushers at the door of the church. For bread only, no wine, put one arm across your chest. Gluten Free available.*

Offertory: "How Deep the Father's Love for Us"

*How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure,
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss –
The Father turns His face away,
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory.*

*Behold the man upon a cross,
My sin upon His shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life –
I know that it is finished.*

*I will not boast in anything,
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer;
But this I know with all my heart –
His wounds have paid my ransom.*

The Great Thanksgiving

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.*

Sanctus S-129

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven 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.

Celebrant Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:
People *Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.*

The Lord's Prayer

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

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People *Therefore let us keep the feast.*

Communion Hymn: “Lead me to the Cross/
At The Cross”

*Savior I come quiet my soul, remember, redemption's hill
Where Your blood was spilled for my ransom
Ev'rything I once held dear I count it all as loss.
Lead me to the cross where Your love poured out.
Bring me to my knees, Lord, I lay me down.
Rid me of myself, I belong to You.
Oh, lead me, lead me to the cross*

*(Refrain) At the cross, at the cross. I surrender my life
I'm in awe of You, I'm in awe of You.
Where Your love ran red and my sin washed white
I owe all to You, I owe all to You.*

*Here my hope is found, here on solid ground.
Here I bow down, here I bow down.
Here, arms open wide. Here You saved my life.
Here I bow down, here I bow (Refrain)*

Communion Hymn: “Hosanna ”

*I see the King of glory coming on the clouds with fire
The whole earth shakes, the whole earth shakes.
I see His love and mercy washing over all our sin
The people sing, the people sing*

*(Chorus) Hosanna, hosanna
Hosanna in the highest (x2)*

*I see a generation rising up to take their place
With selfless faith, with selfless faith
I see a near revival, stirring as we pray and seek
We're on our knees, we're on our knees (Chorus)*

*Heal my heart and make it clean
Open up my eyes to the things unseen
Show me how to love like You have loved me*

*Break my heart for what breaks Yours
Everything I am for Your Kingdom's cause
As I walk from earth into eternity (Chorus)*

Post Communion Prayer

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.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn 494: “Crown Him With Many Crowns”

The Dismissal

**NO ONE LEAVES HUNGRY
FROM JESUS' TABLE**



As an important extension of our worship, the Food Pantry is made available and we have a Community Hour following our 10:30 worship. Ask an usher or priest for more information.

Prayer List

Requested Prayer

Marquerite Byrd, Susan Bell, Joy Van Caster, Barbara Danielsen, Cindy Skeen, Travis Lee, Barbara Edwards, Lisa Johnson, Rev Teris, Willie Mae Norris, Lafe Parsley, Robert Westbrook, CJ Moffett, Sierra Gracee, Teresa Munn, Karen, and Lloyd Peacock.

Military

Adam Thomas, Adam Zigler, Alexander Logan, Anthony Robbins, Asa Ramsey, Ben Boyer, Bruce Gough, Cale Eggart, Chase Coleman, Christian Clark, Corbin Czeck, Daniel Payden, David Boyer, Donald Gibbons, Donovan Chau,

Doug Wiessman, Dylan Hoewt, Grant Hungerford, Hunter Bailey, Jackie Neville, James Madden, Jessica Parker, Jose Hernandez, Kevin Kahl, Kyle McChesney, Landen Haskins, Laz Bailiff, Marc Ruiz, Matthew Ramirez-Hayes, Mike Darrah, Nicholas Crimardo, Nicholas Pinkston, Patrick Resler, Shaun Southall, Stephen del Risco, Steven Bonello, and Taylor Knueven.

Repose of the Soul

Mary Francis Lyons, Rachael Aratin, Peter Coats, Kaleb Peters, Jeff Nutt, and Ashley Gordon.