

**Sunday, April 5, 2020**

Sunday of the Passion / Palm Sunday

**PALMS LITANY: ON THE WAY TO CALVARY**

**SEE INSERT**

**Matthew 21:1-11**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” <sup>4</sup>This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

<sup>5</sup>“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.”

<sup>6</sup>The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; <sup>7</sup>they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. <sup>8</sup>A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup>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!”

<sup>10</sup>When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?”

<sup>11</sup>The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

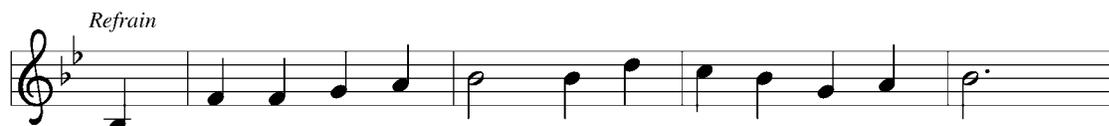
The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**



## OPENING HYMN

### All Glory, Laud, and Honor



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re - deem - er, king,



to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



- 1 You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,
- 2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais - ing you on high;
- 3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;
- 4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.
- 5 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,



now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One.  
cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.  
our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.  
To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.  
great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
Music: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN, Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

As we now enter into the contemplation of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and meditate on the salvation of the world through his sufferings, death, burial, and resurrection, let us pray.

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.**

## FIRST READING:

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>4</sup>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.

<sup>5</sup>The Lord GOD has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious,  
I did not turn backward.

<sup>6</sup>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.

<sup>7</sup>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;  
<sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?  
Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries?  
Let them confront me.

<sup>9a</sup>It is the Lord GOD who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM:

<sup>9</sup>Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I | am in trouble;  
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat | and my belly.

<sup>10</sup>**For my life is wasted with grief, and my | years with sighing;  
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones | are consumed.**

<sup>11</sup>I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to | my  
acquaintances;  
when they see me in the street | they avoid me.

<sup>12</sup>**Like the dead I am forgotten, | out of mind;  
I am as useless as a | broken pot.**

<sup>13</sup>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.

<sup>14</sup>**But as for me, I have trusted in | you, O LORD.**

**I have said, "You | are my God.**

<sup>15</sup>My times are | in your hand;

rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who | persecute me.

<sup>16</sup>**Let your face shine up- | on your servant;**

**save me in your | steadfast love."**

### **GOSPEL: MATTHEW 26:17-27:26**

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>17</sup> On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?"

<sup>18</sup> He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'"

<sup>19</sup> So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

<sup>20</sup> When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve;<sup>1</sup>

<sup>21</sup> and while they were eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me."

<sup>22</sup> And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, "Surely not I, Lord?"

<sup>23</sup> He answered, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me.

<sup>24</sup> The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born."

<sup>25</sup> Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" He replied, "You have said so."

<sup>26</sup> While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body."

<sup>27</sup> Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you;

<sup>28</sup> for this is my blood of the<sup>1</sup> covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

<sup>29</sup> I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

<sup>30</sup> When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

<sup>31</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'

<sup>32</sup> But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee."

<sup>33</sup> Peter said to him, "Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you."

<sup>34</sup> Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times."

<sup>35</sup> Peter said to him, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And so said all the disciples.

<sup>36</sup> Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray."

<sup>37</sup> He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated.

<sup>38</sup> Then he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me."

<sup>39</sup> And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want."

<sup>40</sup> Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "So, could you not stay awake with me one hour?"

<sup>41</sup> Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial;<sup>1</sup> the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

<sup>42</sup> Again he went away for the second time and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done."

<sup>43</sup> Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy.

<sup>44</sup> So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words.

<sup>45</sup> Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "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.

<sup>46</sup> Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

<sup>47</sup> 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.

<sup>48</sup> Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him."

<sup>49</sup> At once he came up to Jesus and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him.

<sup>50</sup> Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you are here to do." Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him.

<sup>51</sup> 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.

<sup>52</sup> Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword.

<sup>53</sup> Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels?

<sup>54</sup> But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?"

<sup>55</sup> At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, "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.

<sup>56</sup> But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled." Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

<sup>57</sup> Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered.

<sup>58</sup> 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.

<sup>59</sup> Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death,

<sup>60</sup> but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward

<sup>61</sup> and said, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.'"

<sup>62</sup> The high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?"

<sup>63</sup> But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, "I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah,<sup>1</sup> the Son of God."

<sup>64</sup> Jesus said to him, "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."

<sup>65</sup> Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy.

<sup>66</sup> What is your verdict?" They answered, "He deserves death."

<sup>67</sup> Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him,

<sup>68</sup> saying, "Prophecy to us, you Messiah!<sup>1</sup> Who is it that struck you?"

<sup>69</sup> Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean."

<sup>70</sup> But he denied it before all of them, saying, "I do not know what you are talking about."

<sup>71</sup> When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth."<sup>1</sup>

<sup>72</sup> Again he denied it with an oath, "I do not know the man."

<sup>73</sup> After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you."

<sup>74</sup> Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, "I do not know the man!" At that moment the cock crowed.

<sup>75</sup> Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: "Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

<sup>27:1</sup> When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death.

<sup>2</sup> They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor.

<sup>3</sup> When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus<sup>1</sup> was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders.

<sup>4</sup> He said, "I have sinned by betraying innocent<sup>1</sup> blood." But they said, "What is that to us? See to it yourself."

<sup>5</sup> Throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself.

<sup>6</sup> But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money."

<sup>7</sup> After conferring together, they used them to buy the potter's field as a place to bury foreigners.

<sup>8</sup> For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day.

<sup>9</sup> Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah,<sup>1</sup> "And they took<sup>2</sup> the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one on whom a price had been set,<sup>3</sup> on whom some of the people of Israel had set a price,

<sup>10</sup> and they gave<sup>1</sup> them for the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me."

<sup>11</sup> Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You say so."

<sup>12</sup> But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer.

<sup>13</sup> Then Pilate said to him, "Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?"

<sup>14</sup> But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

<sup>15</sup> Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted.

<sup>16</sup> At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus<sup>1</sup> Barabbas.

<sup>17</sup> So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus<sup>1</sup> Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?"<sup>2</sup>

<sup>18</sup> For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over.

<sup>19</sup> 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."

<sup>20</sup> Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed.

<sup>21</sup> The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas."

<sup>22</sup> Pilate said to them, "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?"<sup>1</sup> All of them said, "Let him be crucified!"

<sup>23</sup> Then he asked, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified!"

<sup>24</sup> 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;<sup>1</sup> see to it yourselves."

<sup>25</sup> Then the people as a whole answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!"

<sup>26</sup> So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

The Gospel of Our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**HOMILY**

Pastor JMe Lowden

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**In the Cross of Christ I Glory**



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing  
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -  
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and  
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of  
ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the  
love up - on my way, from the cross the  
cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.  
cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.  
ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.  
knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872  
Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815–1867

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

God of mercy, awaken your church to new proclamations of your faithfulness. By your Spirit, give us bold and joyful words to speak, that we sustain the weary with the message of your redemption. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of mercy, quiet the earth where it trembles and shakes. Protect vulnerable ecosystems, threatened habitats, and endangered species. Prosper the work of scientists, engineers, and researchers who find ways to restore creation to health and wholeness. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of mercy, drive away fear and anger that cause us to turn against one another. Give courage to leaders who seek liberation for the oppressed. Bring peace and hope to those who are in prison and those who face execution. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of mercy, send your saving help to all who suffer abuse, insult, discrimination, or contempt. Heal the wounded. Comfort the dying. Bring peace to those suffering chronic or terminal illness. Tend to all who cry out for relief. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of mercy, we pray for all who will prepare and lead worship in this Holy Week. In all things, show us the ways that you call us to die to self, to live for you, and to give of ourselves for the sake of others. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of all grace ✝ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SENDING SONG

#### Go to Dark Gethsemane



1 Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, all who feel the tempt - er's pow'r;  
2 Fol - low to the judg-ment hall, view the Lord of life ar - rained;  
3 Cal - v'ry's mourn-ful moun-tain climb; there, a - dor - ing at his feet,  
4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath - less clay;



your Re-deem - er's con - flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;  
oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus-tained!  
mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com-plete.  
all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?



turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.  
Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.  
"It is fin - ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.  
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854  
Music: GETHSEMANE, Richard Redhead, 1820–1901

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

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