

March 24, 2024

Liturgy of the Palms & Holy Communion with a Dramatization of the Passion Gospel **9:30 a.m.** March **24, 2024**

Liturgical Ministers

The Rev. Judith Lee, Celebrant
Anne Bouvier-Monroe, Minister of Music
Susan Page Howland, Harpist
Josh Spooner, Eucharistic Minister
Madisynn Segarra & Sam Pieczynski, Readers
Emilynn Bousquet, Aliana Bousquet, Jones Reith-Lowery, Acolytes
The Family Worship Players

VIGIL LIGHT

The Vigil Light burns to the Glory of God in memory of Garleah Nicole Flahn given by Lorraine Brumskine

Holy Trinity Church 446 Hamilton St. Southbridge, Massachusetts 01550 www.holytrinitysouthbridge.org

A parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

[Isaiah 43:19]

The Liturgy of the Palms

In the Parish Hall

Opening Salutation

Blessed is the King who comes in the Name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

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.**

Jesus' entrance to Jerusalem Mark 11:1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, Jesus 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!"

The Blessing of the Palms

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give him thanks and praise.

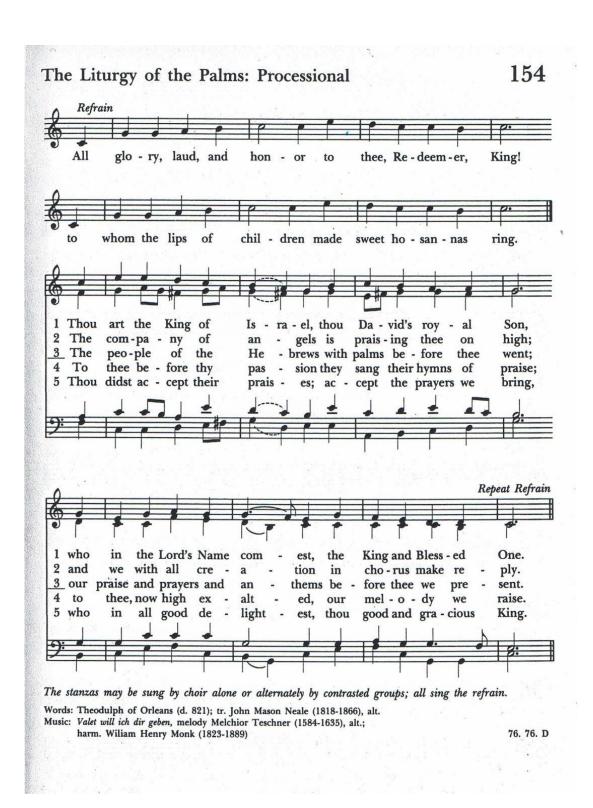
It is right to praise you, Almighty God, for the act of Love by which you have redeemed us through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day He entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph and was proclaimed as King of Kings by those who spread their garments and branches of palm along His way. Bless, + we ask you Oh Lord, these branches of palm, that they may 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 live and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Distribution of the Palms

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. **Hosanna in the highest.** Let us go forth in peace. **In the name of Christ. Amen**

The Procession– We will process into the sanctuary singing this hymn:

Hymn #154 "All Glory, Laud and Honor"



When we have gathered in the sanctuary let us say together:

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.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Lesson A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah [50:4-9a]

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, so that I may know how to support the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakes me up so that I may listen to the teachers he has appointed. The Lord God opened my ear, and I did not rebel, I did not go back to sleep. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who made fun of me; 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?

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.** *Silence.*

Psalm 31: 9 –16 *in unison*

9 Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble; *

my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

10 For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; *

my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.

11 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.

12 I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; * I am as useless as a broken pot.

13 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.

14 But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord. * I have said, "You are my God.

15 My times are in your hand; * rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, * and in your loving-kindness save me."

Second Lesson: A Reading from the Letter to the 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.

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

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Mark

The Family Worship Players will perform a dramatic reading of the Gospel.

At designated moments, we will sing a verse of "Were you there when they crucified my Lord?" (Hymnal # 172) Copies of the script are available in the back of the church if you would prefer to read along.

After the Reading, there will be silence, followed by Gospel Hymn What Wondrous Love is This?

Hymnal #439

The Prayers of the People

Fill Christ's body, the Church, with your Spirit. Give to Christian people everywhere a deep longing to take up the cross and to understand its mysterious glory. Guide our Bishop Douglas, our Priest Judith, our new Priest-in-Charge Dan, and all our church leaders, that they may lead us in the way of your cross.

By the Savior's cross and passion, Lord, save us and help us.

Bring healing by the wounds of Christ to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Inspire us to resist violence, injustice, and tyranny everywhere. Help the lonely and the betrayed, the suffering and the sick, especially those we now name, silently or aloud [Pause]

Watch over soldiers and peacemakers throughout the world, especially in Ukraine, Eastern Europe, and the Middle East. Let them find strength and vision in the companionship of Jesus and in his passion.

By the Savior's cross and passion, Lord, save us and help us.

Bless our parish, the congregation of Bethlehem Lutheran, and our diocese that, renewed in your love, we may become a community where forgiveness and compassion may be found.

By the Savior's cross and passion, Lord, save us and help us.

Watch over children everywhere, especially the children at Mapong Babies Home, refugees, orphans, and runaways. Watch over everyone who will be traveling for the holidays, and those who have nowhere to go.

By the Savior's cross and passion, Lord, save us and help us.

Welcome into Paradise all who have left this world in our friendship, especially those we now name, silently or aloud . Pause

By the Savior's cross and passion, Lord, save us and help us.

Let us say together:

Lord of Love and Mercy, in your pierced hands we lay our hearts; at your pierced feet we choose our place; in your wounded side let us abide. Amen

Prayer for the Parish

Merciful God, we are born knowing you; you created us for good works. Because we are human, we often stray from the path you have set before us. With Christ as our light to guide us through the tough and not so tough times, and with your grace and mercy to keep us humble, may we continue to be faithful followers, and share your love and light with those around us. All this we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Peace Sharing of "God Moments" Announcements

Offertory Anthem: Lamb of God Paris, arr. by Courtney

Presentation Hymn



The Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; and so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we sing with joy:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. [S125]

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and to give himself for us. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at the table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to them, saying: *Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. As you do this, remember me*. As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, he gave thanks, 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, remember me.

We are made one body in Jesus Christ, Who came in love, lived in love, and died in love, who was and is and is to come. We share in offering our gifts of bread and wine, and we offer to you our lives—all that we have been, all that we are, and all that we will become. Pour out your Spirit upon this offering, that it may be for us the body and blood of Christ, drawing us together as one Spirit in you. 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.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name; your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread

Fraction Anthem Let us break bread together

Hymnal #325 vs 1

Let us break bread together on our knees, Let us break bread together on our knees, When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

The Invitation

Communion Musical Meditation:

Susan Page Howland, Harpist

Post communion Meditation

Nothing can trouble [sung 3 times]



The Post -Communion Prayer

Faithful God, in this communion you increase our faith and hope and love. Lead us in the path of Christ who is your Word of Life. Amen.

Prayer over the People

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn: At the name of Jesus vvs. 1-4 **Hymnal #435**

Dismissal

Postlude: Pange Lingua [Sing, my tongue] Setting by M. Burkhart

Announcements

Many thanks to Cat Reith-Lowery and The Family Worship Players for bringing to life the Passion Gospel today.

After the service, we will join in the Parish Hall to make palm crosses. All materials are provided.

Holy Week & Easter at Holy Trinity

March 28: Maundy Thursday

7 pm Holy Eucharist with Foot washing & Stripping of the Altar

9pm – 9 am on Friday Overnight Vigil [a sign-up sheet is in the back of the church]

March 29: Good Friday: Family Worship Retreat

10 am – Outdoor family-centered Stations of the Cross St. Anne's & St. Patrick's

Noon Family Lunch at Holy Trinity

12:45 pm Scavenger Hunt for Children and teens

1 – 2pm Teens: Reflection and Discussion in the sanctuary

Children: Painting Rocks in the Parish Hall

2-3 pm Children & Teens making Resurrection Gardens in the Parish Hall

7 pm Service of Tenebrae with music

March 30: Holy Saturday

7 pm The Great Vigil of Easter at Bethlehem Lutheran

March 31: Easter Day

6am Ecumenical Sunrise Service – Old Meetinghouse of Old Sturbridge Village

9:30 am Festival Holy Eucharist with Flowering of the Cross

Sunday April 7 9:30 am Holy Communion: Family Worship

Daughters of the King admission of new members

Special Coffee Hour following the service to celebrate and to welcome our guests

Sunday April 14 11:00 am Pastor Dan Purtell begins his call as Priest- in Charge

Festive Coffee Hour to welcome Pastor Dan following the service

Prayer Shawls are available in the back of the church, if you would like to give one to a friend in need of comfort.

Mission Plate – The Mission Plate for the month of April will be given to Meals on Wheels America.