

Welcome to
The Church of St. Paul
Palm/Passion Sunday (Year C)
April 13, 2025

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.

Here a Deacon or other person appointed reads the following:

A Reading from the Gospel of Luke (19:28-40):

After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

The Celebrant then says the following blessing
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 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.

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

Deacon Let us go forth in peace;

In the name of Christ. Amen.

During the procession, all hold branches in their hands,

Psalm 118:19-29.

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; * his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let Israel now proclaim, * "His mercy endures for ever."
- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; * I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the LORD.
- 20 "This is the gate of the LORD; * he who is righteous may enter."
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me * and have become my salvation.
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected * has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the LORD'S doing, * and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- 24 On this day the LORD has acted; * we will rejoice and be glad in it.
- 25 Hosannah, LORD, hosannah! * LORD, send us now success.
- 26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; * we bless you from the house of the LORD.
- 27 God is the LORD; he has shined upon us; * form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.

28 "You are my God, and I will thank you; * you are my God, and I will exalt you."

29 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; * his mercy endures for ever.

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.**

Opening Hymn # 154

Let us pray.

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 Lessons

The first reading is from the Book of Isaiah (50:4-9a)

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. The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. 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. 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? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up. The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 31:9-16

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."

The second reading is 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Passion According to Luke

(See the insert. The Gospel acclamation and responses are omitted. The passion will be read in parts.)

Passion reflections

Music

The Prayers of the People

Christ Jesus was obedient unto death on a cross, yet he was exalted by God and continues to plead for all

humankind. Let us join him in prayer for all our brothers and sisters, saying: Father, we place our lives in your hands: Lord, hear our prayer.

(As the Spirit moves you, please take turns reading one or more of the petitions. Please observe a short silence at the indicated times.)

Establish peace and friendship among all earth's peoples; let violence and enmity give way to concord. Father, we place our lives in your hands: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Renew your church's longing for your reign of justice; may Christians work together to establish what is right in your eyes. Father, we place our lives in your hands: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Grant a share in Christ's exaltation to all who share his degradation, especially to those whose poverty and helplessness are exploited by the powerful. Father, we place our lives in your hands: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Heal the wounds which crime has inflicted on our cities, and help our judges and lawmakers to fashion a society based on trust and respect. Father, we place our lives in your hands: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Open our eyes to the sins we have committed; may our repentance lead us to seek forgiveness, and restore us to the Paradise of your presence. Father, we place our lives in your hands: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Protect all those who serve our nation in the military, especially those far from home and in mortal danger. May the Calvary of the battlefield lead to peace and justice. Father, we place our lives in your hands: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

(Here other intercessions may be offered.)

Father, the prayer of Christ brought forgiveness to those who crucified him, and the prayer of the thief brought him a place with Christ at your side. Hear the prayers we now make to you, and sustain your people in their need. We make our prayer through Christ, our crucified Lord. **Amen.**

The Holy Communion

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Offertory # 158

Prayer over the gifts

Gracious God, the suffering and death of Jesus, your only Son, makes us pleasing in your sight. Alone we can do nothing, but through his sacrifice, may we receive your love and mercy.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. For our sins he was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; and, by his suffering and death, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you, and saying:

Celebrant and People sing

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.

The people stand or kneel.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love . . .

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, . .

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

Let us pray in the name and in the words of Jesus, who learned obedience through what he suffered:

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 Breaking of the Bread

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

Behold the Servant of God, obedient unto death,
exalted as Lord of glory. Blessed are those who are
called to the banquet of the Lamb.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

God our help and strength, you have satisfied our
hunger with this eucharistic food. Strengthen our
faith, that through the death and resurrection of your
Son, we may be led to salvation. Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for
feeding us with the spiritual food of the most
precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior
Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy
mysteries that we are living members of the Body
of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out to do the work you
have given us to do, to love and serve you as
faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to
you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Knowing that all of our community cannot share the
Eucharist in person, we affirm that the true mystical
communion of Christ and His Church is a bond of
spirit and heart, grounded in faith. Therefore, we

commit ourselves to the reality that Christ is with us
wherever we are. **Amen.**

The Blessing

May Christ who calls you to take up your cross, give
you strength to bear your own and one another's
burdens, and the blessing of God almighty, Father,
Son and Holy Spirit be with you and remain with
you for ever. **Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you._
And also with you.

Announcements

Anniversary/Thanksgiving Prayer

We give you thanks, O God, for your many blessings:
for our days of celebration, for the love that surrounds
us, for your healing presence in our lives. Keep us in
your care, we pray, and help us to live as truly thankful
people. **Amen.**

Closing hymn #WLP 729

Striving to share God's love with others, and eager to
do God's will, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.