

An Order of Service
Sunday, April 5, 2020
The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

Welcome

Voluntary: Ride On, King Jesus

The Liturgy of the Palms

The Gospel

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."

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

Hymn 154 – All Glory Laud and Honor

All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer King!

To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring. *Refrain*

1. Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's Name comest, the King and Blessed One.

2. The company of angels is praising thee on high;
And we with all creation in chorus make reply.

3. The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;
Our praise and prayers and anthems before thee we present.

4. To thee before thy passion they sang their hymns of praise;
To thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

5. Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King.

The Collect of the Day – Palm Sunday

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 Cry of the Whole Congregation Matthew 26:14 – 27:66

Narrator: Pastor Nancy

Peter and Criminal 1: Joshua

Judas, Joseph of Arimathea, Criminal 2: Jason

Pilate and Centurion: Griff

Maiden and All Women: Grace

People: All and Congregation

Scene 1: The Preparation and the Eating of the Last Supper

Let us Break Bread Together begins...

Narrator: When the hour (for the Passover meal) came, Jesus took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. He said to them, “I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.” Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, “Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.

Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, “This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table. For the Son of Man is going as it has been determined, but woe to that one by whom he is betrayed!”

PEOPLE: AND THEY BEGAN TO QUESTION, “WHO, LORD? WHO IS TO BETRAY YOU? IS IT I? WHO COULD IT BE THAT WOULD DO THIS?”

Narrator: A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. But he said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

“You are those who have stood by me in my trials; and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

“Simon, Simon, listen! Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.

Peter: “Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death!

PEOPLE: AND SO SAID ALL OF THE DISCIPLES, OVER AND OVER AGAIN.

Narrator: Jesus said, “I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day, until you have denied three times that you know me.”

Narrator: He said to them, “When I sent you out without a purse, bag, or sandals, did you lack anything?”

Peter: No, not a thing.

Narrator: But now, the one who has a purse must take it, and likewise a bag. And the one who has no sword must sell his cloak and buy one. For I tell you, this scripture must be fulfilled in me, ‘And he was counted among the lawless’; and indeed what is written about me is being fulfilled.”

Peter: Lord, look, here are two swords,

Narrator: Jesus replied, “It is enough.”

Scene 3: The Agony in the Garden

SINGING: Hymn 171, simply.

All: SINGING: Stanza 1

**Go to dark Gethsemane, ye that feel the tempter’s power;
Your redeemer’s conflicts see, watch with him one bitter hour;
Turn not from his griefs away; learn of Jesus Christ to pray.**

Narrator: And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. And when he reached the place he said to them, “Pray that you may not come into the time of trial”.

PEOPLE: LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION, BUT DELIVER US, DELIVER US.

Narrator: Then he withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, knelt down, and prayed, Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done. Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground.

PEOPLE: OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE THY NAME, THY KINGDOM COME; THY WILL BE DONE, THY WILL BE DONE. THY WILL BE DONE

Narrator: And when he rose from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, and he said to them, “Why are you sleeping? Rise and pray that you may not come into the time of trial.”

PEOPLE: LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION, BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL, EVEN THE EVIL WITHIN OURSELVES.

Narrator: While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said to him, "Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?"

But Jesus said to him, "Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?"

Judas: "Hail, Master."

PEOPLE: WHEN THE DISCIPLES SAW WHAT WOULD FOLLOW, THEY SAID, "LORD, SHALL WE STRIKE WITH THE SWORD?"

Peter: And one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear.

Narrator: But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him.

PEOPLE: FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO TRESPASS AGAINST US.

(music introduction begins. During this passage, the music to indicate the next hymn verse, so that the congregation begins to sing immediately after the narrator's next words.)

Narrator: Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him, "have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!"

Scene 4: The Judgment

PEOPLE: hymn 171, stanza 2

**Follow to the judgment hall, view the Lord of life arraigned;
Oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun not suffering, shame or loss;
Learn from him to bear the cross.**

Narrator: Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him to the High Priest's house.

Peter: Peter followed at a distance; and when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them.

Maiden: Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the light, said, "this man also was with him."

Peter: "Woman, I do not know him."

Maiden: And a little later someone else saw him and said, "you also are one of them."

Peter: But Peter said, "Man, I am not."

Maiden: An hour later another insisted, saying, "Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean."

Peter: But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about!"

Narrator: And immediately, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter.

Peter: And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." And he went out and he wept bitterly.

(Silence for Peter as he walks to the back of the church, precisely as Judas did before him!)

Narrator: Now the men who were holding Jesus mocked him and beat him; they blindfolded him and kept asking him,

PEOPLE: “PROPHECY! WHO IS IT THAT STRUCK YOU?”

Narrator: And they kept heaping many other insults on him.

When the day came, the assembly of the elders of the people gathered together and brought him to their council.

PEOPLE: “IF YOU ARE THE MESSIAH, TELL US.”

Narrator: But he said to them, “If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I question you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of man shall be seated at the right hand of the power of God.”

PEOPLE: “ARE YOU, THEN, THE SON OF GOD?”

Narrator: And he said to them, “You say that I am.”

PEOPLE: AND THEY SAID, “BLASPHEMY! WHAT FURTHER TESTIMONY DO WE NEED? WE HAVE HEARD IT OURSELVE FROM HIS OWN LIPS. BLASPHEMY! OH, BLASPHEMY!”

Scene 5: Dawn Friday: Jesus Before Pilate

Narrator: Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate.

PEOPLE: AND THEY BEGAN TO ACCUSE HIM, SAYING, “WE FOUND THIS MAN PERVERTING OUR NATION, AND FORBIDDING US TO PAY TAXES TO THE EMPEROR, AND SAYING THAT HE HIMSELF IS THE MESSIAH, A KING!”

Pilate: “Are you the King of the Jews?”

Narrator: And he answered him, “You have said so.”

Pilate: Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, “I find no basis for an accusation against this man.”

PEOPLE: BUT THEY WERE URGENT SAYING, “HE STIRS UP THE PEOPLE, BY TEACHING THROUGHOUT ALL JUDEA, FROM GALILEE WHERE HE BEGAN EVEN TO THIS PLACE.”

Pilate: And when Pilate heard that he was a Galilean, of Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time.

Narrator: When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other, before this they had been enemies.

Pilate: Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them, “You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of the charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him.

PEOPLE: THEN THEY ALL SHOUTED OUT TOGETHER, “AWAY WITH THIS FELLOW! AWAY! AWAY! RELEASE BARABBAS FOR US– “

Narrator: Barabbas! – a man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder –

Pilate: Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus –

PEOPLE: BUT THEY SHOUTED OUT, “CRUCIFY HIM! CRUCIFY HIM!”

Pilate: A third time he said to them, “Why? What evil has he done? I’ve found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him”

PEOPLE: BUT THEY WERE URGENT, DEMANDING WITH LOUD SHOUTS THAT HE SHOULD BE CRUCIFIED.

Narrator: And their voice prevailed.

Pilate: So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

Scene 6: Friday Morning: Crucifixion

Organist plays the melody through once with a single note

PEOPLE: Hymn 171, Stanza 3

*Calvary’s mournful mountain climb. There adoring at his feet
Mark that miracle of time, God’s own sacrifice complete.
It is finished, hear him cry, learn from Jesus Christ to die.*

ALL MEN: AND AS THEY LED HIM AWAY, THEY SEIZED ONE SIMON OF CYRENE, WHO WAS COMING IN FROM THE COUNTRY, AND LAID ON HIM THE CROSS, TO CARRY IT BEHIND JESUS.

ALL WOMEN: A GREAT NUMBER OF THE PEOPLE FOLLOWED HIM, AND AMONG THEM WERE WOMEN WHO WERE BEATING THEIR BREASTS AND WAILING FOR HIM.

Narrator: But Jesus turning to them said, “Daughter of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren, and the womb that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed!’ For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry!”

(A pause; the piano lightly plays an introduction; the soloist sings with infinite gentleness, and sings this

Solo: *Were you there when they crucified my Lord?*

Organist continues to play quietly

Narrator: Two other also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place which is called the Skull, there they crucified Jesus, and the criminal, one on the right and one on the left.

Solo: *Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Stanza 2*
(organ continue softly until next verse)

Narrator: And Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.”

ALL WOMEN: FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES.

ALL MEN: AND THEY CAST LOTS TO DIVIDE HIS CLOTHING.

ALL WOMEN: FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES.

ALL: AND THE PEOPLE STOOD BY WATING; BUT THE LEADERS SCOFFED AT HIM. HE SAVED OTHERS; LET HIM SAVE HIMSELF IF HE IS THE MESSIAH OF GOD, HIS CHOSEN ONE!

ALL WOMEN: FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES.

ALL MEN: THE SOLDIERS ALSO MOCKED HIM, OFFERING SOUR WINE AND SAYING "IF YOU ARE THE KING OF THE JEWS, SAVE YOURSELF!

ALL WOMEN: FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES.

Narrator: There was an inscription over him: "This is the king of the Jews."

ALL MEN: FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES, FORGIVE US, O LORD, OUR TRESPASSES!

Criminal: (2) One of the criminals who were hanged with him railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!"

Criminal: (2) But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

**PEOPLE: FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES. DELIVER US FROM EVIL.
THINE IS THE KINGDOM –**

Narrator: And Jesus said to him –

PEOPLE: AND THE POWER

Narrator: "Truly, I tell you –"

PEOPLE: AND THE GLORY –

Narrator: "Today you will be with me in Paradise."

PEOPLE: FOREVER AND EVER. AMEN!

Solo: (immediately, the intro having been played over previous words):

Were you there when he cried out at the end? Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble. Were you there when he cried out in the end?

(organ stops at this point)

Narrator: It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed...

And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from the top to the bottom...

Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said,

"Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit!"

And having said this, he breathed his last.

Narrator: When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said,

Centurion: Certainly, this man was innocent.

PEOPLE: WHEN THEY SAW WHAT HAD TAKEN PLACE, RETURNED HOME BEATING THEIR BREASTS.

ALL WOMEN: BUT ALL HIS ACQUAINTANCES INCLUDING THE WOMEN WHO HAD FOLLOWED HIM FROM GALLILEE, STOOD AT A DISTANCE, WATCHING THESE THINGS.

Scene 7: Late Friday Afternoon: Burial

Solo: (No piano – the naked voice alone: a cappella, lonely)

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Joseph of Arimathea: (1) Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid.

Narrator: It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning.

ALL WOMEN: THE WOMEN WHO HAD COME WITH HIM FROM GALILEE FOLLOWED AND SAW THE TOMB AND HOW HIS BODY WAS LAID. THEN THEY RETURNED, AND PREPARED SPICES AND OINTMENTS –

Narrator: On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

(Silence. Sit. And done)

Hymn 158 – Ah, Holy Jesus

1. Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended, that man to judge thee hath in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected, O most afflicted.

2. Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee? Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee.
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee: I crucified thee.

5. There-fore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee, I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee,
Think on thy pity and thy love unswerving, not my deserving.

The Prayers of the People

(adapted from National Cathedral, Washington DC)

O God, our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. In this challenging and uncertain time, we come before you offering our prayers on behalf of those in need, the Church and the world.

For the Church, that it may not grow weary of proclaiming the gospel of Christ and serve as beacon of hope to a suffering world. We pray for all who minister in your name.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For the leaders of the nations that they may work together for the common good as the outbreak spreads. May barriers that divide be brought down that bonds of trust may be strengthened to benefit the entire human family.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Heal all those who are sick. May they have access to medical care and regain their strength and health; grant them your healing grace. Give strength to all who are caring for loved ones.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For healthcare workers, who with hearts of service, stand on the front lines of providing care. Grant them courage and protection as they put the needs of public safety before their own.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Bless scientists and researchers around the world, that their work may yield knowledge to develop a vaccine, treatments, and improved measures to reduce its spread.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Remove the presence of fear and anxiety from our hearts, that confident in your providence we may be generous in sharing our resources.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Grant that our churches and communities of faith may reflect your love, as they minister to the most vulnerable among us; fill them with your Holy Spirit as they work to be your healing hands and feet to all in need.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

The Concluding Collect

(Prayer from Gloucester Cathedral)

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy. Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

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,
 forever and ever. Amen.

Show us your mercy, O Lord;
And grant us your salvation.

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
Let your people sing with joy.

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
For only in you can we live in safety.

Lord, keep this nation under your care;
And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Let your way be known upon earth;
Your saving health among all nation.

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Create in us clean hearts, O God;
And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn 168: O Sacred Head, Sore Wounded

1. O sacred head, sore wounded, defiled and put to scorn; O kingly head, surrounded with mocking crown of thorn:
What sorrow mars thy grandeur? Can death thy bloom deflower? O countenance whose splendor the hosts of heaven
adore?

2. Thy beauty, long desired, hath vanished from our sight; thy power is all expired, and quenched the light of light.
Ah me! For whom thou diest, hide not so far thy grace: show me, O Love most highest, the brightness of thy face.

3. In thy most bitter passion my heart to share doth cry, with thee for my salvation upon the cross to die.
Ah, keep my heart thus moved to stand thy cross beneath, to mourn thee, well beloved, yet thank thee for thy death.

The Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Were You There?

Prayer for People Facing Great Uncertainty

God of the present moment, God who in Jesus stills the storm and soothes the frantic heart; bring hope and courage to all who wait or work in uncertainty. Bring hope that you will make them the equal of whatever lies ahead. Bring them courage to endure what cannot be avoided, for your will is health and wholeness; you are God, and we need you.

Taken from A New Zealand Prayer Book—He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa' (adapted)

In the service: Michael Chertock, Director of Music, Joshua Goines, Griff Bludworth, and Grace Devoid

Officiants: The Rev. Jason Oden, The Rev. Dr. Nancy Turner Jones

Communication Director: Nicole A. Hershey

A very special thanks to our talented musicians and our communications director for making this possible