

The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 24, 2024 at 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

The Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church & Richmond, Virginia

The congregation will gather outside the main church at the Three Chopt entrance.

The Liturgy of the Palms

Opening Voluntary Fantasia super *Valet will ich dir geben*, BWV 735

J.S. Bach

The Liturgy of the Palms

The Book of Common Prayer, page 270

Celebrant Blessed is

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.

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.**

A Reading from the Gospel Mark 11:1-11

Deacon

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!"

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Celebrant People

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Celebrant People Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is right to praise you, Almighty God, for

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.

Celebrant

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

People Hosanna in the highest.

The Procession

Deacon Let us go forth in peace.

People In the name of Christ. Amen.

While singing the hymn printed below, the congregation will process into the church.

At 9:00, those worshiping in **Palmer Hall** will process behind the cross and donkey through the church, back outside, and to Palmer Hall for the rest of their service.

Refrain

All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King! to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

- 1 Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son, who in the Lord's Name comest, the King and Blessed One. Refrain
- 2 The company of angels is praising thee on high; and we with all creation in chorus make reply. Refrain
- 3 The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went; our praise and prayers and anthems before thee we present. Refrain
- 4 To thee before thy passion they sang their hymns of praise; to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise. Refrain
- 5 Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring, who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King. Refrain

The Collect of the Day

Prayer Book, page 219

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray. Silence is kept.

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 Lesson Philippians 2:5-11 Please sit.

Reader A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians.

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. A period of silence is kept.

The Sermon The Rev. William L. Sachs

OB

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to St. Mark

The customary responses before and after the Gospel are omitted.

The congregation is seated for the first part of the Passion. The congregation should follow along in the Passion Narrative folders. Please make the responses of the congregation and **stand** at the arrival at Golgotha.

OB

A period of silence is held for reflection.

The Prayers of the People, Form II

Prayer Book, page 385

Celebrant Let us pray for the church and the world.

You may stand or kneel.

In the course of the pause after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

Leader I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for this gathering; and for all ministers and

people. Pray for the Church.

Leader I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all

people. Pray for justice and peace.

Leader I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison, remembering

especially those who suffer in the Holy Land, Eastern Europe, and all places of conflict. Pray for those in

any need or trouble.

Leader I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they

may find and be found by him.

Leader I ask your prayers for the departed, [especially _____]. Pray for those

who have died.

Leader [I ask your thanksgiving for _____.]

Leader Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace

to glorify Christ in our own day.

Celebrant Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your

people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Peace Please stand. Prayer Book, page 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord. After exchanging the Peace, please be seated.

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

All comes from God, so from what God has given, we offer gifts to sustain God's work in the world. If you wish to make your offering electronically, please scan the QR code.



At the Offertory

The Lamentation [9:00] Sung by the choir. Edward Bairstow; text from the Lamentations of Jeremiah How doth the city sit solitary, that was full of people: how is she become as a widow! She that was great among the nations, and princess among the provinces: how is she become tributary! She weepeth sore in the night, and her tears are on her cheeks: among all her lovers, she hath none to comfort her. The ways of Zion do mourn, because none come to the solemn assembly: all her gates are desolate, and she herself is in bitterness. The Lord hath afflicted her for the multitude of her transgressions: her children are gone into captivity before the enemy. All they that go by clap their hands at her: they hiss, and wag their head at the daughter of Jerusalem saying, "Is this the city that men called the perfection of beauty; the joy of the whole earth?" Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return unto the Lord thy God.

For these things I weep: mine eye runneth down with water. From on high hath the Lord sent fire into my bones, and it prevaileth against them: he hath made me desolate and faint all the day. My flesh and my skin hath he made old: he hath broken my bones. He hath builded against me; and compassed me with gall and travail. He hath made me to dwell in dark places: as those that have been long dead. I am become a derision to all my people: and their song all the day. Let him give his cheek to him that smiteth him: let him be filled full with reproach. Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by: behold and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow. Remember mine affliction and my misery: the wormwood and the gall. Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return unto the Lord thy God.

Remember, O Lord, what is come upon us: behold and see our reproach. The joy of our heart is ceased: our dance is turned into mourning. The crown is fallen from our head: woe unto us, for we have sinned. For this our heart is faint: for these things our eyes are dim. Let us search and try our ways: and turn again unto the Lord. Turn thou us unto thee, O Lord, and we shall be turned: renew our days as of old. It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed: because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness. The Lord is my portion, saith my soul: therefore will I hope in him. O Lord, thou hast pleaded the causes of my soul: thou hast redeemed my life. Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return unto the Lord thy God.

It is a thing most wonderful [11:15]

Sung by the choir.

Philip Moore

It is a thing most wonderful, almost too wonderful to be that God's own Son should come from heav'n, and die to save a child like me. And yet I know that it is true: He chose a poor and humble lot, and wept and mourned and toiled and died, for love of those who loved him not. I sometimes think about the cross, and shut my eyes and try to see the cruel nails and crown of thorns and Jesus crucified for me. But even could I see him die, I could but see a little part of that great love which like a fire, is always burning in his heart. And yet I want to love thee Lord; O light the flame within my heart, that I may love thee more and more, until I see thee as thou art.

At the Presentation

Sung by all, standing.

Gardiner

The fruits of our labor are presented to God, along with gifts for our food ministry.



The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer 1

Enriching Our Worship

The people remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

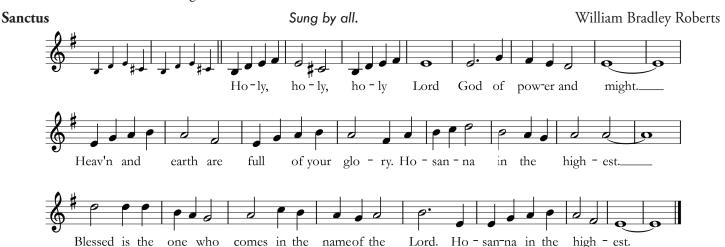
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You bid us to cleanse our hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, we may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:



You may stand or kneel.

Celebrant

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he 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, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Celebrant

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. 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,

Celebrant and People

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.

Prayer Book, page 364

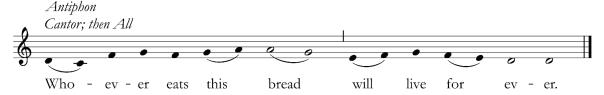
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

The cantor sings the antiphon, then all repeat. All sing the antiphon again after each verse.

Mason Martens



Cantor:

- 1. This is the true bread which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.
- 2. Whoever believes in me shall not hunger or thirst, for the bread which I give for the life of the world is my flesh.

Celebrant

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

At the Communion of the People

All are welcome at the altar in this place. Communion is distributed at the chancel steps (9:00), the high altar (11:15), or in one of the side chapels (kneeling or standing). The altar also extends to your pew if you need us to bring the sacrament to you; just let an usher know. To receive Communion, place your hands together, palms up. You may consume the bread and then drink from the wine in the larger chalice. If you prefer to "intinct" or touch the edge of your bread to the wine, please use one of the smaller cups, available at all stations. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms against your chest.

Music at Communion

Anthem Drop, drop slow tears

Sung by the choir.

Orlando Gibbons, arr. David Blackwell

Drop, drop, slow tears, and bathe those beauteous feet,

which brought from heaven the news and Prince of Peace.

Cease not, wet eyes, his mercies to entreat;

to cry for vengeance sin doth never cease.

In your deep floods drown all my faults and fears; nor let his eye see sin, but through my tears.

Hymn 458 My song is love unknown

Sung by all, seated.

Love Unknown

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray. You may stand or kneel.

All Lord Jesus Christ,

you have put your life into our hands; now we put our lives into yours.

Take us, renew us and remake us.

What we have been is past;

what we shall be, through you, still awaits us.

Lead us on. Take us with you. Amen.

The Solemn Prayer

St. Francis de Sales (1567-1622)

Celebrant

Do not look forward in fear to the changes in life; rather look to them with full hope, that as they arise, God, whose very own you are, will lead you safely through all things; and when you cannot stand it, God will carry you in His arms.

Do not fear what may happen tomorrow; the same everlasting Father who cared for you today will take care of you then and every day.

God will either shield you from suffering, or will give you unfailing strength to bear it.

Be at peace and put aside

all anxious thoughts and imaginations.

Please stand for the silent procession as we enter into the rest of Holy Week. There is no Dismissal.

Please refrain from conversation until you have left the church, in respect for those who may wish to remain in prayer.

Please leave the Passion Narrative in the baskets at the exits.

Participants

9 A.M. // CELEBRANT: The Rev. John W.A. Jenkins; DEACON: The Rev. William S. Stanley; SUBDEACON: Kathy Brock; READER/INTERCESSOR: Mary Ball; PREACHER: The Rev. William L. Sachs; PASSION READERS: Bill Davis, Hayes Carithers, Marilyn Kirkpatrick, Sharon Machrone, Gayle Royals, Archer Williams; ASSISTING PRIEST: The Rev. John D. Rohrs; CHALICE BEARERS: Scott Finn, Bill Gray, Mac McElroy, Meg Tucker; ACOLYTES: Ellie Burke, Kate Mitchell, Holt Williams, Julia Hunter Williams MUSICIANS: Members of St. Stephen's Choir, Chris Edwards, *director*; Brent te Velde, *organ*; VERGER: Andy Luke

11:15 A.M. // CELEBRANT: The Rev. John D. Rohrs; DEACON: The Rev. William S. Stanley; SUBDEACON: Allison Koschak; READER/INTERCESSOR: Scott Finn; PREACHER: The Rev. William L. Sachs; PASSION READERS: Bill Davis, Hayes Carithers, Marilyn Kirkpatrick, Sharon Machrone, Gayle Royals, Archer Williams; ASSISTING PRIEST: The Rev. John W.A. Jenkins; CHALICE BEARERS: Tony Anthony, Braxton Hill, Barbara Massey, Mim Oman; ACOLYTES: Thomas Bowen-Rees, Coleman Bowles, Caroline Everett, Adelaide Goolsby, Ada Mathews, Neely Oakey; MUSICIANS: St. Stephen's Choir, Chris Edwards, *director*; Brent te Velde, *organ*; VERGER: Dave Davis

The Parish Prayer List

Becky Anthony, Rubylane Armstrong, Robert Baker, Elizabeth Bannerman, Lash Barksdale, Sandra Barnthouse, Nancy Beale, Nancy Beeler, Kay Best, Christine Boeteger, Denise Bondy, Genie Borum, Viola Cleo Bradshaw, Liz Brengel, Elaine Brown, Pat Brown, Turner Bruneau, Sturges Bryan, Patti Bullen, Anne Moncure Call, Ethan Call, Ann Campbell, Scott Carnohan, Percy Cochran, Stephanie Coleman, Susan Collier, Caswell Cooke, Mary Cooke, Prior Cooper, Michelle Crim, the Most Rev. Michael Curry, Chris Davis, Nancy Davis, Ken Dibble, Mary Fish, Guy Frank, Frank Ginty, Grace, Mary Hancock, Rodger Hardy, Marion Hargrove, Marianne Harmuth, Reese Harrington, Judy Hart and Bob Bramson, Katie Hellebush, Mazie Elizabeth Henry, Bob Hines, King Charles III, Tom Hodges, Anna Hurdle, Esther Hutchison, Julie and Tom Imeson, Charles Johnson, the Rt. Rev. Shannon Johnston, Gouthum Karadi, the Katz family, Jane Kelly, Donna Kessler, Dana King, Margee Krebs, Hanns Kuttner, Caleb Lambert, Patricia Long, Brenda Lorenz, Genie Lucyk, Joy Luke, Margaret Lyle, Peggy Maguire, Nick Martina, Karen and Steve Matteo, Barbara Mathison, Michael McCabe, Stratton and Robin McCrady, Jenks McCory, Melissa, Jack Miller, Mary Miller, Hoyt Minyard, Susan Minyard, Lee Mumford, Caroline Hughes Neal, Tolar Nolley, Anne P., Tricia Payne, Jim and Sarah Cooke Picton, Wilde Poole and family, Bob Pope, Bryson Raquet, Wick Raquet, Richard Rennolds, Marilynne Roberson, Linda Robinson, Paul Roper, Brenda Quinn, James Saunders and Harriet Covey, Frances Scales, T. Logan Scott, Charlie Seilheimer, Margie Sesler, Jane Settle, Aiden Thomas Smith, Josh Spain, Daniel & Charlene Spears, Reilly Starr, Joy Stevenson, Hew Stith, Regena Stith, Dorothy Suskind, Ron Swain, Jim Teachey, Will Thompson, Tim, Nelson Toebbe, Langdon Tollett, Kenneth Valke, Cordelia Vogel, Timothy W., Ozzie Wade, Suzanne Wallace, Baird Weisleder, Tom White, Betty Williams, Nelson Williams, Mary Wiltshire, Trevor Wingate, Karen Young, Margaret P. Young. For those who have died, especially Malcolm Wellington Bates. For our missionaries, Heidi Schmidt and Monica Vega, and the people they serve in Argentina. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Church of the Province of West Africa. For the women, men, and staff of the City Jail. For racial reconciliation and healing. For **ReWork Richmond. For an end to gun violence. For peace and reconciliation** in Haiti, Iraq, Israel/Palestine, North Korea, South Sudan, Syria, and Ukraine, and at our borders. For those serving overseas in the military or diplomatic service: Senior Airman Cooper Murphy, US Army Special Forces.

Names in italics were added to the prayer list this week.

In order to keep our prayer list current and facilitate the intentionality and mindfulness with which we pray, we print names on the list for three months or less. If you would like for someone to remain on the list for more (or less) time, please call the office or email Mary Feldman at mfeldman@ststephensRVA.org.

Holy Week at St. Stephen's Church

Thursday, March 28 | Maundy Thursday: The Institution of the Lord's Supper

Agape Meal: 5:30 p.m. in the large fellowship hall

The Agape Meal recalls Jesus gathered with his friends on the night before he was arrested and crucified. We will gather to break bread, to pray, and to be washed clean. Agape (ah-GAHP-ay) is the Greek word for the highest form of love; this service is sometimes known as a love-feast. This custom originated in the early church and will be a time of holy fellowship for us as it was for the first Christians. All are welcome, including families with children. The Middle Eastern-influenced menu will include some child-friendly options: tabbouleh, hummus, pita bread, chicken skewers, pasta with butter and parmesan, grapes, clementines, green salad, and cardamom sugar cookies.

Holy Eucharist and the Stripping of the Altar: 7:30 p.m. in the church+

Following Holy Eucharist, we will witness the stripping, washing and anointing of the altar, as a body would be prepared for burial in the Jewish tradition, after which the sacrament will be processed to the Altar of Repose in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit.

All-night Vigil in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit: 9 p.m. to 8 a.m.+

Plants and fragrant flowers in the chapel will recall the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus prayed before his arrest, trial, and crucifixion, and where he cried out to his friends, "Could you not stay awake with me one hour?" You are invited to come to the chapel for one hour during the night to sit and pray with Christ. A sign-up sheet is be available online, ststephensRVA.org/maundythursday. When you come to church for the vigil, please enter through the first breezeway door since all other entrances will be locked. Security will be present throughout the night.

Friday, March 29 | Good Friday: The Crucifixion of Our Lord

Morning Prayer and Communion from the Reserved Sacrament, 8:10 a.m. in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit

The Liturgy for Good Friday: Noon in the church+

The proper liturgy for Good Friday, found in the Book of Common Prayer.

Stations of the Cross: 1:15 to 7 p.m. in the church

- **2 p.m.** Guided tour of the stations
- 4 p.m. Music by Sanctuary, our Compline choir, and our organists+
- **6 p.m.** Guided tour of the stations, led by youth of St. Stephen's Church

Also known as the Way of the Cross, this is a local adaptation of a custom observed by pilgrims to Jerusalem: the offering of prayer at a series of places traditionally associated with our Lord's passion and death. Following the conclusion of the noon service, we will set up the stations in the church using 14 prints by Laura James, a renowned, self-taught artist whose sacred work draws on the rich tradition of Ethiopian iconography.

You may take a self-guided tour when the guided tours are not taking place (each takes about 45 minutes).

During the musical offering at 4 p.m., you may sit or kneel in a pew or walk the stations; whichever you choose, please observe silence.

The nursery will be available on Good Friday from 11:45 a.m. until 3 p.m.

+++

+Items with a plus sign will be livestreamed at **ststephensRVA.org/holy-week.**

The parish office will close at noon on Good Friday and re-open Tuesday, April 2.

Read about services for Easter Eve and Easter Day at ststephensRVA.org/easter.

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