

Palm & Passion Sunday

9AM Zoom Worship, March 24, 2024

Words of Welcome

Gathering Hymn: "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

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

**2. The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went,
our praise and prayers and anthems before thee we present.** *Refrain*

**3. To thee before thy passion they sang their hymns of praise,
to thee, now high-exalted, our melody we raise.** *Refrain*

Gathering Prayer

Officiant Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.

People **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.**

Officiant 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.**

Prayer Over the Palms

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. God our Savior, whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah to suffer and to die; let these palms, flowers or boughs 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 is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Officiant Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

People **Hosanna in the highest!**

The Palm Gospel

Reader A reading from the Gospel according to John. *(John 12:12-16)*

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—the King of Israel!" Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: "Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him. Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

People **Thanks be to God. Hosanna in the highest!**

**The same stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
This is the LORD'S doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes.
On this day the LORD has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it.
Hosanna, LORD, hosanna! LORD, send us now success.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord;
we bless you from the house of the LORD.**

Homily

*The Rev. Miranda Hassett**Celebrant*

Let us pray. 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.**

The Passion Gospel According to Mark

Mark 14:53 - 15:47

NARRATOR The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Mark.
They led Jesus away to the high priest, and all the chief priests, elders, and legal experts gathered. Peter followed him from a distance, right into the high priest's courtyard. He was sitting with the guards, warming himself by the fire. The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for testimony against Jesus in order to put him to death, but they couldn't find any. Many brought false testimony against him, but they contradicted each other. Some stood to offer false witness against him, saying,

BYSTANDERS We heard him saying, 'I will destroy this temple, constructed by humans, and within three days I will build another, one not made by humans.'

NARRATOR But their testimonies didn't agree even on this point. Then the high priest stood up in the middle of the gathering and examined Jesus.

HIGH PRIEST Aren't you going to respond to the testimony these people have brought against you?

NARRATOR But Jesus was silent and didn't answer. Again, the high priest asked,

HIGH PRIEST Are you the Christ, the Son of the blessed one?

JESUS I am. And you will see the Human One sitting on the right side of the Almighty and coming on the heavenly clouds.

NARRATOR Then the high priest tore his clothes and said,

HIGH PRIEST Why do we need any more witnesses? You've heard his insult against God. What do you think?"

PRIESTS AND BYSTANDERS He deserves to die!

NARRATOR Some began to spit on him. Some covered his face and hit him, saying,

BYSTANDERS Prophecy!

NARRATOR Then the guards took him and beat him. Meanwhile, Peter was below in the courtyard. A woman, one of the high priest's servants, approached and saw Peter warming himself by the fire. She stared at him and said,

SERVANT You were also with the Nazarene, Jesus.

NARRATOR But he denied it, saying,

PETER I don't know what you're talking about. I don't understand what you're saying.

NARRATOR And he went outside into the outer courtyard. A rooster crowed. Then the female servant saw him and began a second time to say to those standing around,

SERVANT This man is one of them.

NARRATOR But he denied it again. A short time later, those standing around again said to Peter,

BYSTANDERS You must be one of them, because you are also a Galilean.

NARRATOR But he cursed and swore,

PETER I don't know this man you're talking about.

NARRATOR At that very moment, a rooster crowed a second time. Peter remembered what Jesus told him, "Before a rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times." And he broke down, sobbing.

At daybreak, the chief priests, with the elders, legal experts, and the whole Sanhedrin, formed a plan. They bound Jesus, led him away, and turned him over to Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor. Pilate questioned him.

PILATE Are you the king of the Jews?

JESUS That's what you say.

NARRATOR The chief priests were accusing him of many things. Pilate asked him again,

PILATE Aren't you going to answer? What about all these accusations?

NARRATOR But Jesus gave no more answers, so that Pilate marveled. During the festival, Pilate released one prisoner to them, whomever they requested. A man named Barabbas was locked up with the rebels who had committed murder during an uprising. The crowd pushed forward and asked Pilate to release someone, as he regularly did. Pilate answered them,

PILATE Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?

NARRATOR He knew that the chief priests had handed him over because of jealousy. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas to them instead.

BYSTANDERS Give us Barabbas!

NARRATOR Pilate replied,

PILATE Then what do you want me to do with the one you call king of the Jews?

BYSTANDERS Crucify him!

PILATE Why? What wrong has he done?

NARRATOR They shouted even louder,

BYSTANDERS Crucify him!

NARRATOR Pilate wanted to satisfy the crowd, so he released Barabbas to them. He had Jesus whipped, then handed him over to be crucified. The soldiers led Jesus away into the courtyard of the palace known as the governor's headquarters, and they called together the whole company of soldiers. They dressed him up in a purple robe and twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on him. They saluted him.

SOLDIER Hail! King of the Jews!

NARRATOR Again and again, they struck his head with a stick. They spit on him and knelt before him to honor him. When they finished mocking him, they stripped him of the purple robe and put his own clothes back on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

Simon, a man from Cyrene, Alexander and Rufus' father, was coming in from the countryside. They forced him to carry his cross.

They brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha, which means Skull Place. If you would like, you may stand, or bow your head, for the rest of the Passion Gospel.

They tried to give him wine mixed with myrrh, but he didn't take it. They crucified him. They divided up his clothes, drawing lots for them to determine who would take what. It was nine in the morning when they crucified him. The notice of the formal charge against him was written, "The king of the Jews." They crucified two outlaws with him, one on his right and one on his left.

People walking by insulted him, shaking their heads and saying,

BYSTANDERS Ha! So you were going to destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, were you? Save yourself and come down from that cross!

NARRATOR In the same way, the chief priests were making fun of him among themselves, together with the legal experts.

PRIESTS He saved others, but he can't save himself. Let the Christ, the king of Israel, come down from the cross. Then we'll see and believe.

NARRATOR Even those who had been crucified with Jesus insulted him. From noon until three in the afternoon the whole earth was dark. At three o'clock, Jesus cried out with a loud shout,

JESUS *Eloi, eloi, lama sabachthani?*

NARRATOR Those words mean,

JESUS My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

NARRATOR After hearing him, some standing there said,

BYSTANDERS Look! He's calling Elijah!

NARRATOR Someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, and put it on a pole. He offered it to Jesus to drink, saying,

VOICE Let's see if Elijah will come to take him down.

NARRATOR But Jesus let out a loud cry and died. *Pause.*

The curtain of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom. When the centurion, who stood facing Jesus, saw how he died, he said,

SOLDIER This man was certainly God's Son.

NARRATOR Some women were watching from a distance, including Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James (the younger one) and Joses, and Salome. When Jesus was in Galilee, these women had followed and supported him, along with many other women who had come to Jerusalem with him. Since it was late in the afternoon on Preparation Day, just before the Sabbath, Joseph from Arimathea dared to approach Pilate and ask for Jesus' body. (Joseph was a prominent council member who also eagerly anticipated the coming of God's kingdom.) Pilate wondered if Jesus was already dead. He called the centurion and asked him whether Jesus had already died. When he learned from the centurion that Jesus was dead, Pilate gave the dead body to Joseph. He bought a linen cloth, took Jesus down from the cross, wrapped him in the cloth, and laid him in a tomb that had been carved out of rock. He rolled a stone against the entrance to the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where he was buried.

A brief silence follows.

The Confession & Absolution

Celebrant

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbors.

A substantial silence for reflection follows.

People

**God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves,
and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have
done, and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us,
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

The Celebrant pronounces absolution, saying

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Send prayer requests to to prayers@stdunstans.com.

Officiant

Let us bring to the Merciful One our prayers of intercession through Christ who gave himself for the life of the world.

For forgiveness for the times we have denied Jesus,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who make laws, interpret them, and administer them;
for all those in jail, in prison, or on probation, and those on death row;
for those who work in criminal justice and the prison system,
that our common life may be ordered in justice and mercy,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who work for equity, liberation, and peace,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who struggle with isolation, loneliness, or feeling abandoned,
that they may find support and encouragement,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those weighed down with hardship, failure, or sorrow,
who feel that God is far from them,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all low-wage workers, healthcare workers, and for all those made vulnerable by their work
or lack of work,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all those in any need or trouble, especially those on our parish prayer list:

And those whom you now name:

let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all those who have died, especially; for those who mourn; and for ourselves,

That we may find mercy in the day of Christ,

let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Officiant O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in your great mercy,
look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are
gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you!

All **And also with you!**

We greet one another in the name of Christ.

Announcements

The Closing Prayer & Dismissal

Officiant 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.

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sending Hymn: "Precious Lord, take my hand"

**Precious Lord, take my hand,
Lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
Through the storm, through the night,
Lead me on to the light,
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

**When my way grows drear,
Precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call,
Hold my hand lest I fall,
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

**When the darkness appears
And the night draws near
And the day is past and gone,
At the river I stand -
Guide my feet, hold my hand.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**