


GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
The Sunday of the Passion, Palm Sunday
April 2, 2023
Holy Eucharist, Rite II
10:30 a.m.



Weather permitting, the congregation will gather on the sidewalk next to the church steps. Following the blessing of the palms, the choir will lead the procession into the nave.

270

The Blessing of the Palms

Celebrant 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.**

Here a Deacon or other person appointed reads the following

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."

The Celebrant then says the following blessing

271 *Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

The people hold their palm branches aloft for this blessing.

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.**

The following or some other suitable anthem may then be sung or said

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

People **Hosanna in the highest.**

The Procession

Celebrant Let us go forth in peace.

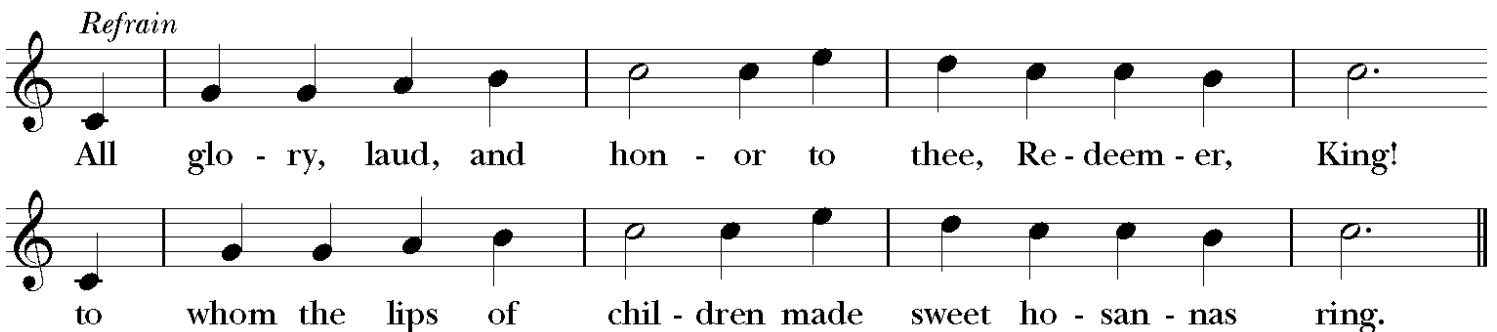
People **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

During the procession, all hold their palms aloft as the hymn is sung.

HYMN #154

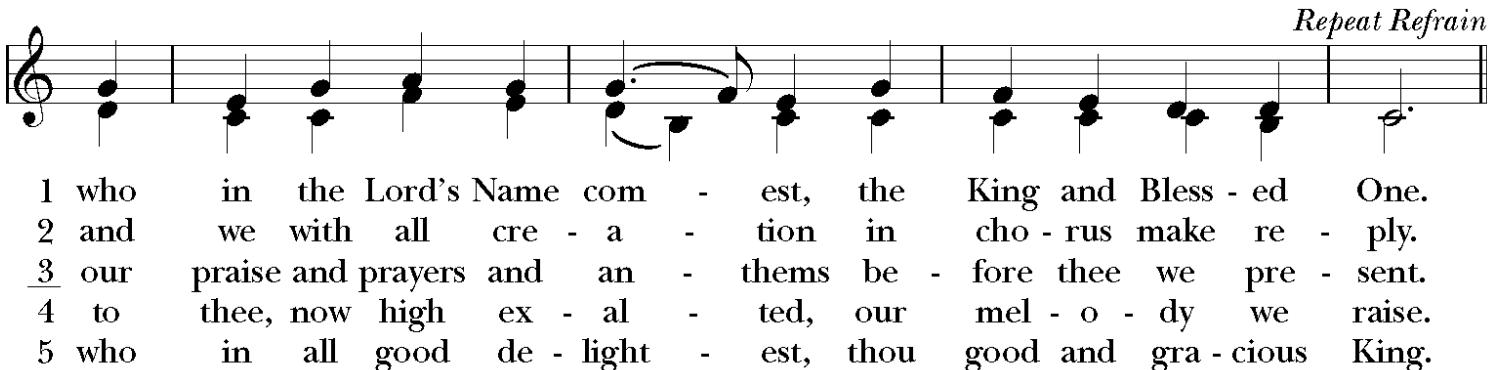
All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King!

Refrain



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re - deem - er, King!
to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.

- 1 Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,
- 2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels is prais - ing thee on high;
- 3 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;
- 4 To thee be - fore thy pas - sion they sang their hymns of praise;
- 5 Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,



Repeat Refrain

- 1 who in the Lord's Name com - est, the King and Bless - ed One.
- 2 and we with all cre - a - tion in cho - rus make re - ply.
- 3 our praise and prayers and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent.
- 4 to thee, now high ex - al - ted, our mel - o - dy we raise.
- 5 who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King.

OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you

People **And also with you**

Celebrant 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 FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Lector A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

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?

-The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

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."

Lector A reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians

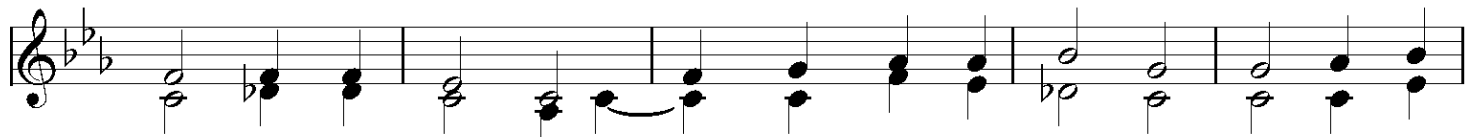
Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient 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.

-The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN #158 (vv. 1-2)

Ah, holy Jesus



1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed, that man to
 2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my
 4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thy in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal
 5 There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -



1 judge thee hath in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,
 2 trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,
 4 sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish
 5 dore thee, and will ev - er pray thee, think on thy pi - ty



1 by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.
 2 I it was de - nied thee: I cru - ci - fied thee.
 4 and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.
 5 and thy love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.

PASSION GOSPEL

Luke 23:1-49

All may be seated for the reading of the Passion Gospel. The people read the bolded parts. All stand where indicated.

Celebrant The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

The assembly of the elders of the people rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying,

"WE FOUND THIS MAN PERVERTING OUR NATION, FORBIDDING US TO PAY TAXES TO THE EMPEROR, AND SAYING THAT HE HIMSELF IS THE MESSIAH, A KING."

Then Pilate asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" He answered, "You say so." Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no basis for an accusation against this man." But they were insistent and said,

"HE STIRS UP THE PEOPLE BY TEACHING THROUGHOUT ALL JUDEA, FROM GALILEE WHERE HE BEGAN EVEN TO THIS PLACE."

When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. 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 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 your 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." Then they all shouted out together,

"AWAY WITH THIS FELLOW! RELEASE BARABBAS FOR US!"

(This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting,

"CRUCIFY, CRUCIFY HIM!"

A third time he said to them, "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him." But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. 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. As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?" Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him.

All stand.

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying,

**"HE SAVED OTHERS; LET HIM SAVE HIMSELF IF HE IS THE MESSIAH OF GOD,
HIS CHOSEN ONE!"**

The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying,

"IF YOU ARE THE KING OF THE JEWS, SAVE YOURSELF!"

There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" 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."

Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

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. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last.

All bow the head. Silence is kept for a time.

When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent." And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

The people sit.

SEQUENCE HYMN #158 (vv. 4-5)

Ah, holy Jesus

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Edward T. Kelaher

358 **THE NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

387 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (FORM III) (*All standing*)

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

We pray for all who are traveling, especially **Jack** Clodfelter, **Cameron** Klass, **Julia** Klass, and **Josey** Parker,

and those with special needs:

Fred Adkins, **Mark** Adkins, **Amanda** Amon, **Ella** Asebes, **David** Bankston, **Rhonda** Bralkowski, **Alice** Brandon & family, **Baylee** Brown, **Gayle** Burke, **Art** Burkhardt, **Emily** Duquette Byers, **Lynne** Cleckley, **Linda** Clodfelter, **Morgan** Curia, **Tracy** Davis, **Barbara** Dixon, **Susan** Dixon, **Anita** Ewbank, **Renee** Ewbank, **Cathy** Farley, **Charlotte** Froehlich, **Marc** Frye, **Jenny** Gallen and family, **Shana** Garland, **Jane** Grimes, **George** Hanna, **Rob** Hare, **Kristen** Harris, **Nancy** Hinkle, **Chris** Hodges, **Jon** Huff, **Jahiya** Huntley, **Greg** Hutchins, **Kathy** Johnson, **Lindsay** Layfield, **Cara** Lee, **Warren** MacKinstry, **Carol** May, **Kate** McKenzie, **Brian** McKerlie, **Nicholas** Melomo, **Roan** Mitchell, **Dan & Fran** Moore, **O'Lema** Morgan, **Chocolate** Myers, **Howard** Palmer, **Bill** Phillipps, **Gabby** Plott, **Anne** Rives, **Libby** Robert, **Carl** Robertson, **Jacklyn** Rojas, **Lucas** Sanabria, **Tommy** Shaw, **Suzy** Sheets, **Talmadge** Silversides, **Amy** Burkhardt Smith, **Dan Griff** Smith, **Martha Ellen** Smith, **Louise** Snyder, **Peggy** Snyder, **Reid** Taylor, **Jackie** Touchton, **Laura** Turlington, **Darla** Tysinger, **Perry** Grimes Van Dyke, **Kathy** Watson, **Flynn** Williams, **Mary and Jay** Williams, **Vickie** Wolfe, **Charlotte** Young, and **John** (withheld).

"Are there others?" Lord in Your mercy **Hear our prayer**

Celebrant

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of yours Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

360 CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTION OF SINS

Celebrant Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God. *Silence may be kept.*

Minister and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Priest, stands and says

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.**

360 THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.*

*Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the cross of Christ my God.
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.*

*See from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingling down;
did ere such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?*

*Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were an offering far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.*

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS *The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.*

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS #313 (v. 4)

4 Wilt thou own the gift I bring? All my pen - i -
tence I give thee; thou art my ex - alt - ed King,
of thy match-less love for - give me. *Refrain* Thou didst give thy -
self for me, now I give my - self to thee.

367 THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Eucharistic Prayer B*)

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.

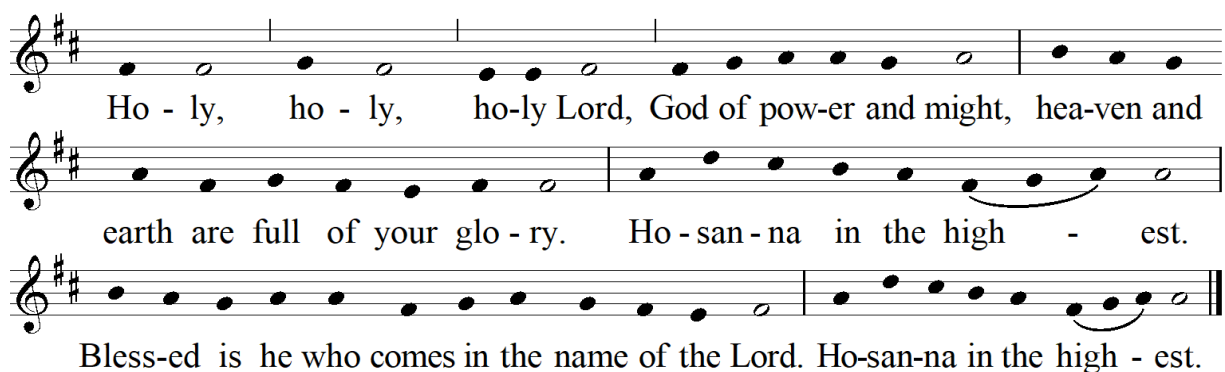
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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 we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS #S124 (*sung by all*)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, hea-ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

The People may stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into 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 disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.**

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

364 **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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

364 **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast.

FRACTION ANTHEM

Celebrant Lamb of God, that take away the sins of the world, **have mercy on us.**
People Lamb of God, that take away the sins of the world, **have mercy on us.**
Celebrant Lamb of God, that take away the sins of the world, **grant us peace.**

338 **INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION**

Facing the people, the Celebrant may say the following Invitation

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.

All baptized Christians are invited to come forward for Holy Communion at the Lord's Table.

You may receive both the bread and wine, or only the bread or only the wine.

Receiving Communion in one or both forms is sufficient sacramentally.

If you prefer neither bread nor wine, you also are invited to come forward and to simply cross your arms over your chest as a sign for the minister to provide you with a holy blessing of the Lord.

365 **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People
**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

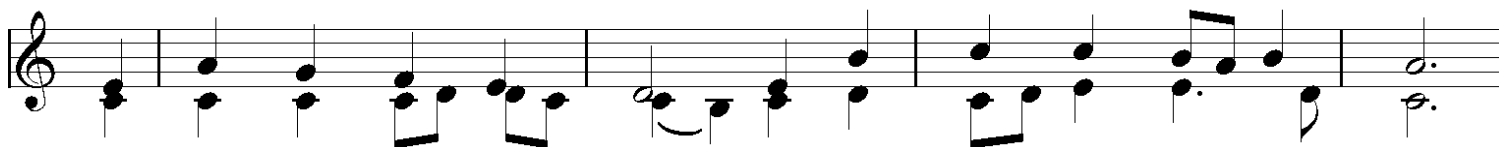
THE BLESSING

The Celebrant blesses the people

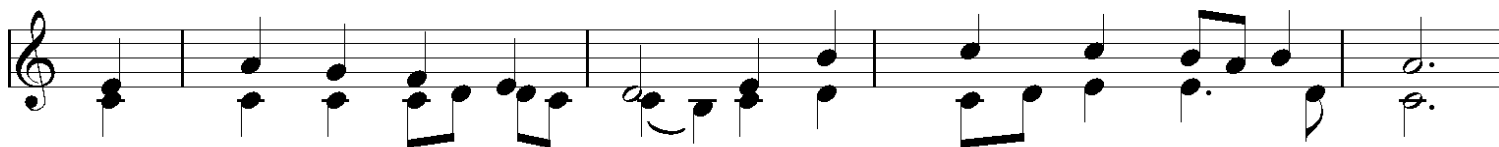
Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL HYMN #168

O sacred head, sore wounded



1 O sa - cred head, sore wound - ed, de - filed and put to scorn;
2 Thy beau - ty, long - de - sir - ed, hath va - nished from our sight;
3 In thy most bit - ter pas - sion my heart to share doth cry,



1 O king - ly head, sur - round - ed with mock - ing crown of thorn:
2 thy power is all ex - pir - ed, and quenched the light of light.
3 with thee for my sal - va - tion up - on the cross to die.



1 what sor - row mars thy gran - deur? Can death thy bloom de - flower?
2 Ah me! for whom thou di - est, hide not so far thy grace:
3 Ah, keep my heart thus mov - ed to stand thy cross be - neath,



1 O coun - te - nance whose splen - dor the hosts of heaven a - dore!
2 show me, O Love most high - est, the bright - ness of thy face.
3 to mourn thee, well - be - lov - ed, yet thank thee for thy death.

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded - J. S. Bach

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY:

Blessing of the Palms Reading: Neil Shepherd
Lector: Karl Bolstad
Intercessor: Melissa Thayer
Lay Eucharistic Minister: Karl Bolstad
Ushers: Tommy Black, Richard Wolfe
Greeter: Penny Taylor
Acolytes: Lyndon Briggs
Fisher Petruzzi
David Thayer

WELCOME GUESTS AND NEWCOMERS!

We are delighted to have you worship with us today, and we would welcome the opportunity to get acquainted. Please sign the Guest Book in the narthex.

During Holy Communion, if you are unable to receive communion at the altar rail, please notify an usher so that communion can be brought to you.

Lexington Community Palm Sunday Celebration

The Olde Courthouse on the Square

April 2, 2023

12:15 pm

Gathering Music

The Alive Praise Band

Palm Sunday Procession from Lexington Area Churches

Christian Greetings

Ray Howell, First Baptist Church, West Third Ave.

Invocation

Cheryl Skinner, First United Methodist Church

Call to Worship

Emmy Hylton, Hospice of Davidson County

Minister: Tell the City of Lexington, Christ is coming!

People: **Tell the City of Lexington, Christ is here!**

Minister: This is the day the Lord has made!

People: **We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

Minister: Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: **Hosanna in the highest!**

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 53:3-12

Elizabeth Horton
First Reformed United Church of Christ

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 21:1-11

Jon Martin
First Presbyterian Church

Palm Sunday Prayer

Ed Kelaher, Grace Episcopal Church

Homily

Arnetta Beverly, St. Stephen United Methodist Church

Hymn

“Amazing Grace”

NEW BRITAIN

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind, but now I see.

‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
‘Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

When we’ve been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise
Than when we’d first begun.

Benediction

Mason Todd, New Hope Presbyterian Church

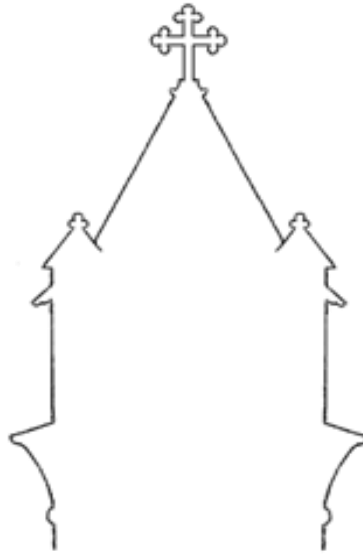
Minister: Now let us go forth in peace to do God’s work.

People: **Let us go in joy, praising Jesus our Lord.**

Minister: Let us go forth in love, sharing the good news of God’s
love here in Lexington and beyond.

People: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Today’s Palm Sunday Celebration was planned by the Greater Lexington Area Ministerial Association. We are grateful to the City of Lexington, Davidson County Government, and the Lexington Police Department for their assistance. Thank you to the Alive Praise Band for sharing their gifts with us. Thank you to all the churches who enrich this community with love and grace and who made this celebration possible.



GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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The Most Reverend Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop
The Right Reverend Samuel Rodman, Diocesan Bishop
The Right Reverend Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, Assistant Bishop

The Reverend Edward T. Kelaher, Rector
Joan Clodfelter, Minister of Music
Kathy Johnson, Christian Education Director
Maureen Tincher, Parish Administrator
John Taylor, Facilities Manager

THE VESTRY

2024

Lynn Meeks Treasurer
Sandy Reynolds Asst. Clerk
Logan Sheets
Susan Terrell

2025

Wes Allred Sr. Warden
Thompson Miller Asst. Treasurer
Marjorie Parker Jr. Warden
Marilyn Taylor

2026

Karl Bolstad
Bright Carter
Sally Dodd Clerk
Henry Duquette Asst. Jr. Warden