

SUNDAY OF THE PASSION: PALM SUNDAY

MARCH 28, 2021

10:30 A.M.

Welcome to Holy Nativity!

In order to create a safe environment during the Covid-19 pandemic, the following policies have been put into effect. Thank you for your cooperation and your consideration for your fellow worshippers.

- Social distancing (6'+) is required (Family groups can sit together)
- Masks should be worn at all times when inside church buildings.
- During the Covid-19 pandemic we are trying to shorten service length to reduce exposure. We are not reading all four Bible lessons, and may we suggest that you read them yourselves during your waiting quiet devotional time before the service starts.

# The Liturgy of the Palms

The congregation gathers outside in the courtyard, apart from the church, so that all may go into the church in procession. Branches of palm to be carried in the procession will be distributed to the people before the service, or after the prayer of blessing.

The following anthem is said, the people standing

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

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

# The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to 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. *The Gospel of the Lord*.

The Celebrant then says the following blessing

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 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. Celebrant: Let us go forth in peace.

People: In the name of Christ. Amen.

# Opening Hymn: "All glory, laud and honor"



The stanzas may be sung by choir alone or alternately by contrasted groups; all sing the refrain.

Words: Theodulph of Orleans (d. 821); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt.

Music: Valet will ich dir geben, melody Melchoir Teschner (1584-1635), alt.; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

#### Children's Time

All children are invited to come up for children's time and then process out afterwards to participate in children's church. They will return during announcement time.

# The Liturgy of the Word

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People His mercy endures for ever.

*The Celebrant says to the people* 

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

People And also with Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant may say

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

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 people sit.

#### The Lessons

# A Reading (Lesson) from Isaiah [50:4-9a]

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with

me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty? *The Word of the Lord* 

# People Thanks be to God.

## Psalm 31:9-16

9 Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble; \* my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly. 10 For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; \* my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed. 11 I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors, a dismay to those of my acquaintance; \* when they see me in the street they avoid me. 12 I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; \* I am as useless as a broken pot. 13 For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around: \* they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life. 14 But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord. \* I have said, "You are my God. 15 My times are in your hand; \* rescue me from the hand of my enemies. and from those who persecute me. 16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, \* and in your loving-kindness save me."

Silence may follow.

# A Reading (Lesson) from Philippians [2:5-11]

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should

confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. The Word of the Lord.

## People Thanks be to God.



Words: John Bakewell (1721-1819) and Martin Madan (1726-1790), alt. Music: In Babilone, melody from Oude en Niewe Hollantse Boerenlities en Contradanseu, 1710; harm. Roy F. Kehl (b. 1935) Copyright ©1984, Roy F. Kehl. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

# The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark (15:1-39, [40-47])

The customary responses before and after the Gospel are omitted. The congregation may be seated for the first part of the Passion. At the verse "And when they came to a place called The Skull)", all stand.

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" He answered him, "You say so." Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again, "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you." But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" They shouted back, "Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!" So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). (ALL STAND) And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two

bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!" In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

[There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where the body was laid.]

**The Sermon** The Rev. Steve Bates

# The Prayers of the People: Form III

People may remain standing, kneel, or sit reverently. 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.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. Silence

# Remember in Prayer

(Prayer Requests are listed for 3 months. If you want to add someone to the list, please fill out a prayer request card in the pew and place it in the offering plate, or email the church at madge@holy-nativity.org)

**From our congregation:** Bruce McLawhorn, Harry Cooper, Audrey Powell, Betty Grammer, Alice Kinney, Carl Harris, Tass and family, Mary Troxell, Sarah Mason, Lou Churchill, Malinda Kelly, Hannah Davis, Olivia Clemons, Tim Phillips, Pat Spangler, Inge Churchill, Mary Elizabeth Moore, David Burris, Bert Churchill, Liz Robin, Robert Dozier, Kelly Roberson, George McInnis, Terry Jangula, Jeannette Tremaine.

**For our friends:** Arthur Reedie, Jonathan, Ruth Geers, John Daniel, The Franklin Family, Austin, Bob and Debbie Snuggs, Margaret Lord Wilde, Oscar Wilde, Cosby Martin, Liz Forman, Jeremy, Day Ann Logue, Cheryl Lynch, The Cross Family, Rosa Kulik, Louise Boyle, The Ward family, JoAnn Houston Roaden, Bo Berry, James Melzer, Corky Ajax, Cleo Cook, Vance Andre, Michael and Cindy Satink, Gracelyn, Barbara Healey.

**In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer** we pray for the Chapel of St. Dismas, Atmore, Commission on Prison Ministry.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Church of Hong Kong.

We pray for all active duty in the Armed Forces serving in Bay County and throughout the world: Chris Morgan, Michael Darrah, Stacey Johnson, Christopher Landess, Greg Jenkins, Joseph Railey, Patrick Keenen, Jeremy Hough, Wes Eberhard, Stacey Holliday, Caleb Loveland, Robert Ice, Andrew Frye, Michael Keller, Rex Brown, Jacob McAndrews, Nick Bailey, Nicholas Longden.

We pray for those celebrating birthdays: Mar. 28: George McInnis, Mar. 31: Grace Smith, Apr. 2: Jim Sandlin, Duncan Scott, Chris Stamps, Apr. 3: Avery Wattenbarger.

We pray for those celebrating anniversaries: No anniversaries this week.

The People may add their own petitions. The Celebrant may add a concluding Collect.

#### **Confession of Sin**

The Deacon or Celebrant says Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. 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 Bishop when present, or 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.** 

#### The Peace

The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

# The Holy Communion

The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture Offertory Anthem: "Berceuse" (Louis Vierne) John Durgan, organist

# The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer A

The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says

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.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

A Proper Preface is said by the Celebrant.

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:

Celebrant and People

Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand, kneel, or sit reverently. Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, then we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

#### The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

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

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

People and Celebrant
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.

#### The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then may be sung or said Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; People **Therefore let us keep the feast.** 

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation
The Gifts of God for the People of God. and may add
Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

# **Postcommunion Prayer**

After Communion, the Celebrant says 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.

# **Benediction and Blessing**

The Deacon, or a Priest, dismisses the people.

The People respond Thanks be to God. (Alleluia is omitted).

#### **Silent Procession**

# **Today's Ministers**

Preacher/Celebrant The Rev. Steve Bates Assisting The Rev. Tom Weller

Organist John Durgan Video Production Dir. A. J. Jeffery Chancel Minister Edyth Brown

Acolytes Stevens and Shelby Roberson

Lector Michael Lovchuk

Ushers Russell and Beth Brock

Altar Guild Joanne MacPhee and Kaew Sumpton

#### Holy Week and Easter Schedule 2021

Due to the pandemic, our services and events might have changed. We will follow the Diocesan guidelines of social distancing and wearing masks when inside the church buildings. Our Facebook page is Holy Nativity Episcopal Church.

Mar 28 **Palm Sunday** (service begins in the courtyard)

8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite One 9:15 am Adult Sunday School

10:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite Two with Children's Chapel

(Live on Facebook)

11:30 am Palm Sunday Workday! Cleaning up the grounds.

Mar 29-31 **Morning Prayer** at 7:30 am

Join us in the church Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday morning for Morning Prayer. A great way to start your day during Holy Week.

Mar 31 **Stations of the Cross** at 6:00 pm (Online only service)

A devotion consisting of prayers and meditations observing the final hours and events of the Passion of Jesus. This service will not be in person and you can view it online.

Apr 1 Maundy Thursday Service at 6:00 pm (Live on Facebook)

This service of Holy Eucharist will commemorate the last support that Jesus shared with His disciples. The service ends with the stripping of the altar.

Apr 2 Good Friday Service at 12 noon (Live on Facebook)

This is a solemn service to recall Christ's crucifixion. Communion will be offered from reserved sacrament.

Apr 4 Easter Sunday

8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite One 9:15 am Holy Eucharist Rite Two

10:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite Two (Live on Facebook)

An additional service is being added for Easter Sunday at 9:15 a.m. Kids can expect special Easter treats in lieu of our annual Easter egg hunt.

For any questions about any of these services, please contact the church office at 747-4000 or madge@holy-nativity.org.

# SAINTS ALIVE

Please check our website at www.holy-nativity.org for the latest information about programs and events. Go to www.diocgc.org to check out everything about the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast.

#### Palm Sunday Workday Today!

Join us today after the 10:30 am service! Let's spruce up our church before Easter! Wear your work clothes and bring your gloves, tools, anything you think we will need. Lunch will be served.

# Wonderful Wednesdays will resume on April 14th.

(Wonderful Wednesdays are on a tentative schedule due to the cold weather. Please check your emails with updates).

5:30 pm: Casual Eucharist

6:00 pm: Supper

6:30 pm: Programs for all ages

#### **Shell Island Sunday Returns!**

Mark your calendars for the return of Shell Island Sunday, May 16. This year marks our tenth anniversary of worship and fellowship at Shell Island. Look for T-shirts and ferry sign-up sheets coming soon!

#### Instructed Eucharist on April 18th at 9:15 am:

Everyone one is invited, especially our upcoming confirmands to this event where Fr. Steve will explain why we do the things we do during communion. It will be livestreamed on Facebook.

# **Online Offerings:**

Sunday 9:15 am Adult Sunday School Sunday 10:30 am service Wednesday 5:30 pm service You can go directly to our Facebook page or go to www.holynativity.org/echurch and click on the "view live services" tab. Look for reminders in your email and on Facebook.

# HOLY NATIVITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Email: info@holy-nativity.org Website: www.holy-nativity.org



The Rt. Rev. Russell Kendrick, Bishop The Rev. Steve Bates, Rector The Rev. Tom Weller, Associate

#### **SERVICES**

#### Sundays

8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite One (Nursery provided)

9:15 am (Sept. – May)

Adult/Youth Christian
Education & Children's
Chapel

10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite Two (Children's Christian Education & nursery is provided)

#### Wednesdays

5:30 pm *five-thirty* service followed by dinner and programs (Sept. – May)

6:00 pm SummerTime: Evening
Prayer followed by dinner
(June –August)