St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

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The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

April 1, 2012, 8:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist: Rite II

The Liturgy of the Palms

The Service begins in Henry Hall.

CelebrantBlessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.PeoplePeace in heaven and glory in the highest.CelebrantLet us pray.

Collect

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.*

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Mark 11:1-11

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.

The Blessing over the Branches

CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLet us give thanks to the Lord our God.PeopleIt is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues

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.

At the Procession

Celebrant Let us go forth in peace. People In the name of Christ. Amen.

The people will process from the parish hall into the church while saying the Psalm, all holding palm branches in their hands. The congregation follows the cross, the ministers follow the congregation.

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; * his mercy endures for ever. 2 Let Israel now proclaim, * "His mercy endures for ever." 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; * I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the Lord. 20 "This is the gate of the Lord; * he who is righteous may enter." 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me * and have become my salvation. 22 The same stone which the builders rejected * has become the chief cornerstone. 23 This is the Lord's doing, * and it is marvelous in our eyes. 24 On this day the Lord has acted; * we will rejoice and be glad in it. 25 Hosannah, Lord, hosannah! * Lord, send us now success. 26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; * we bless you from the house of the Lord. 27 God is the Lord; he has shined upon us; * form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar. 28 "You are my God, and I will thank you; * you are my God, and I will exalt you." 29 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; * his mercy endures for ever.

The Collect of the Day

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.*

First Reading

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Please be seated.

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?

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

Psalm 31:9-16

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."

Second Reading

Philippians 2:5-11

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.

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

Gospel

Mark 15:1-39

Please remain seated. The Congregation reads the part of "The Crowd".

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Narrator: 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,

Pilate: "Are you the King of the Jews?"

Narrator: He answered him,

Jesus: "You say so."

Narrator: Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again,

Pilate: "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you."

Narrator: But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Narrator: At the festival Pilate 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,

Pilate: "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?"

Narrator: 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,

Pilate: "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?"

Narrator: They shouted back,

The Crowd: "Crucify him!"

Narrator: Pilate asked them,

Pilate: "Why, what evil has he done?"

Narrator: But they shouted all the more,

The Crowd: "Crucify him!"

Narrator: So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Narrator: 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,

Soldier: "Hail, King of the Jews!"

Narrator: 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.

Narrator: 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). 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.

Narrator: 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,

The Crowd: "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!"

Narrator: In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying,

Chief Priest: "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."

Narrator: Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

Narrator: 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,

Jesus: "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?"

Narrator: which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

Bystander: "Listen, he is calling for Elijah."

Narrator: And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying,

Bystander: "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down."

Narrator: Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom.

Narrator: Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said,

Centurion: "Truly this man was God's Son!"

The Sermon

The Rev. Leslie H. Chadwick, Associate Rector

The Prayers of the People

Leader Beloved of God, for whom Christ died, let us pray. (Pause)

Leader Heaven's Healer, Hope of the world, we pray for people in physical, mental, and spiritual anguish; the victims of illness, injury, and natural disasters. Have mercy on all who suffer. Give us the wisdom, knowledge, and compassion, to care for and restore our neighbors in distress.

People Heaven's Healer, Hope of the world, hear our prayers. (Pause)

Leader Sovereign and Servant, Friend of the forsaken, your people are divided. We judge and label one another in cruel and dismissive ways. Have mercy on us and forgive us. Help us break through the

politics of greed and hatred, set us free, and make us agents of reconciliation in this sinful and broken world.

People Sovereign and Servant, Friend of the forsaken, hear our prayers.

(Pause)

Leader Divine Deliverer, Gracious Redeemer, we pray for your Church. We claim to know your Word and understand your will, but our divisions betray us. In our squabbles over who is right and who is wrong we have lost credibility. Instruct, direct, and renew us, we humbly pray, that your Church may shine again with the light of your truth, and draw all people into your loving embrace. **Divine Deliverer**,

People Gracious Redeemer, hear our prayers. (Pause)

Leader Son of Mary, Son of God, we are desecrating your world. Without thought or care we hoard and squander what you have made. Deliver us from our consuming self-indulgence. Help us behave as honorable guests in your creation, use only what we need for each day, share fairly with one another, and preserve this sacred trust for succeeding generations.

People Son of Mary, Son of God, hear our prayers. (Pause)

Leader Lamb of God, Suffering Savior, we acknowledge our sinfulness, our failure to be the people we were created to be. Have mercy on us. As you have done in ages past, breathe your Spirit into our spirits, that we may be people of faith, hope, and love; peace, generosity, and joy.

Leader Destroyer of death, Pledge of New Life, we remember loved ones who have died, and people who are dying now. By your Cross and precious death, restore our faith in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting.

People **Destroyer of death, Pledge of New Life, hear our prayers.** (*Pause*)

- *Leader* Bread of Life, Cup of Salvation, who lived and died for us, who rose again and reigns in Heaven, accept our humble thanks and imperfect praise for gifts beyond measure, for your life and love. And accept our offering of devotion and service.
- *People* Bread of Life, Cup of Salvation, hear our prayers.
- Leader Savior and Sovereign, may we honor and glorify you, for ever and ever. Amen.

Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Celebrant and People*

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

People Lamb of God, Suffering Savior, hear our prayers. (Pause)

Celebrant

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

CelebrantThe peace of the Lord be always with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Offering

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

| Celebrant | The Lord be with you. |
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| 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. |

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:

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 or kneel

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when 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.

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*.

The Celebrant continues

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

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

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

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.

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray. Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Blessing

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ! *People* Thanks be to God!

