St. Timothy's Episcopal Church

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The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

April 13, 2014 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

The service begins in Henry Hall. Ushers will distribute the palms before the service begins.



Liturgy 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.

The 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.*

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Matthew 21:1-11

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Blessing over the Branches

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.

Celebrant 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

Deacon Let us go forth in peace.

People In the name of Christ. Amen.

The congregation follows the cross. All hold palms in their hand and recite Psalm 118 during the procession. 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 Hosanna, Lord, hosanna! *

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

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?

Reader 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."

The Second Lesson 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord. **People** Thanks be to God.

(The congregation may be seated. The readers will remain standing for the reading of the narrative Gospel. The congregation reads the part of the crowd.)

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (27:11-54)

Narrator: The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Narrator. Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him,

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

Narrator: Jesus said,

Jesus: 'You say so.'

Narrator: But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him,

Pilate: 'Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?'

Narrator: But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

Narrator. Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them,

Pilate: 'Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?'

Narrator: For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over.

Narrator: While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him,

Pilate's Wife: 'Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.'

Narrator: Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them,

Pilate: 'Which of the two do you want me to release for you?'

Narrator: And they said,

Crowd: 'Barabbas.'

Narrator: Pilate said to them,

Pilate: 'Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?'

Narrator: All of them said,

Crowd: 'Let him be crucified!'

Narrator: Then he asked,

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

Narrator: But they shouted all the more,

Crowd: 'Let him be crucified!'

Narrator: So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying,

Pilate: 'I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.'

Narrator: Then the people as a whole answered,

Crowd: 'His blood be on us and on our children!'

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

Narrator. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying,

Soldier: 'Hail, King of the Jews!'

Narrator: They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

Narrator: As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull),

(the congregation stands)

they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.'

Narrator: Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying,

Crowd: You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.'

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

High Priest: 'He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, "I am God's Son."

Narrator: The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

Narrator: From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice,

Jesus: 'Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?'

Narrator: That is, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?'

Narrator: When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

1st Bystander: 'This man is calling for Elijah.'

Narrator: At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said,

2nd Bystander: 'Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.'

Narrator: Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last.

Narrator: At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many.

Narrator: Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said,

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

Sermon

The Reverend Leslie Chadwick, Associate Rector

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 disaster. Have mercy on all who suffer. Give us the wisdom, knowledge, and compassion, to care for and restore our neighbors in distress. *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. Sovereign and Servant, Friend of the forsaken, hear our prayers. (Pause)

Leader: Divine Deliverer, Gracious Redeemer, we pray for your Church. We claim to understand your Word and know 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, Gracious Redeemer, hear our prayers.*(Pause)

Leader: Child of Mary, Child of God, we are desecrating your world. Without thought or care we hoard and squander what you have entrusted to us. Set us free from our consuming self-indulgence. Help us behave as honorable guests in your creation, use only what we need for each day, share generously with one another, and preserve this sacred trust for succeeding generations. *Child of Mary, Child of God, hear our prayers.*

(Pause)

Leader: Lamb of God, Suffering Savior, for us you took the betrayal, the whip, the humiliation, the nails, the crown of thorns. 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. Lamb of God, Suffering Savior, hear our prayers.

(Pause)

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, by your Resurrection and Ascension, restore our faith in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting. **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. Accept, we humbly request, our offering of devotion and service; our hearts, our minds, and our lives. **Bread of Life, Cup of Salvation, hear our prayers.**

Leader: Savior and Sovereign, may we honor and glorify you, forever and ever. Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Welcome & Announcements

The Offering

Celebrant: But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing.

CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLift up your hearts.

People We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where 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

Celebrant and People

Holy, 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.

Celebrant

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.

Celebrant 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.

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.

The Administration of Communion

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 forever. Amen

The Blessing

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. *Thanks be to God.* Celebrant

People