



ST. TIMOTHY'S EPISCOPAL
EST. HERNDON, VA • 1868

432 Van Buren Street
Herndon, VA 20170
p: 703-437-3790
www.saint-timothys.org

Sunday, April 13, 2025

Palm Sunday

8:00 am



fineartamerica.com

Weekly Services:

Sunday, 8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Rite I, with Choir
Sunday, 10:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Rite I, with Choir (Godly Play for ages 3–8, Sunday School for ages 9-12)
Sábado, 7:00 p.m.	Santa Eucaristía Rito II, en español

Staff

Church office hours are 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Monday through Friday.

The Rev. Charles R. Cowherd , Rector (x12)	priest@saint-timothys.org
The Rev. Brad Rundlett , Rector Emeritus	
The Rev. Philene Ware Dunn , Interim Latino Supply Priest	pwaredunn@cox.net
Ms. Ellie Singer , Seminarian	esinger@vts.edu
Deb Angerman , Bookkeeper (x13)	bookkeeper@saint-timothys.org
Julio Cuellar , Latino Service Musician	juliocuellar@music@yahoo.com
Todd Grivetti , Organist/Choirmaster (x16)	music@saint-timothys.org
Allyson Showalter , Preschool Director (x14)	sttimothyspreschool432@gmail.com
Debbie Stolar , Parish Administrator (x10)	office@saint-timothys.org

Information For Our First-Time Guests

We invite you to fill out a Welcome Card in the pew rack in front of you or on the podium in the Narthex. Please place the completed card in the offertory plate or give it to an usher.

Children are welcome to stay with parents in the Sanctuary or they may head downstairs for Godly Play after the reading of the Collect. For your convenience, there are also rocking chairs located at the back of the sanctuary to soothe little ones and worship bags with quiet activities in the Narthex.

We invite you to share in Holy Communion. To receive, come forward and kneel/stand at an open space on the altar rail. Both bread and wine will be offered (or a rice wafer/separate chalice for those allergic to wheat/ gluten intolerant). If you do not wish to receive communion, we invite you to come forward for a blessing. Please indicate that by placing your arms across your chest.

THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION – PALM SUNDAY

(Please gather in Henry Hall with palms)

Liturgy of the Palms (BCP 270)

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.**

Gospel Reading: Luke 19:29-40

When Jesus had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the

deeds of power that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

The Blessing Over the Branches (BCP 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.

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.

The Blessing Over the Asperges

Celebrant: Dear friends, this water will be used to remind us of our baptism. Let us ask God to bless it and to keep us faithful to the Spirit he has given us. We come to this water on Palm Sunday to renew and strengthen us for the journey that we take during Holy Week.

After a moment of silence, the priest says the following prayer (as the acolyte pours water in)

God our Father, your gift of water brings life and freshness to the earth; it washes away our sins and brings us eternal life. We ask you now to bless this water, and to give us your protection on this day which you have made your own. Renew the living spring of your life within us and protect us in spirit and body, that we may be free from sin and come into your presence to receive your gift of salvation. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant: Lord God Almighty, hear the prayers of your people: we celebrate our creation and redemption. Hear our prayers and bless this water which gives fruitfulness to the fields, and refreshment and cleansing to man. You chose water to show your goodness when you led your people to freedom through the Red Sea and satisfied their thirst in the desert with water from the rock. Water was the symbol used by the prophets to foretell your new covenant with man. You made the water of baptism holy by Christ's baptism in the Jordan: by it you give us a new birth and renew us in holiness. May this water remind us of our baptism, and let us share the joy of all who will be

baptized at Easter. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Priest douses congregation with water during the prayer.

Celebrant: **REMEMBER YOUR BAPTISM!**

Returning to his place the priest says:

May Almighty God cleanse us of our sins, and through the eucharist we celebrate make us worthy to sit at table in his heavenly kingdom. **Amen.**

The Procession

Celebrant: Let us go forth in peace.

People: In the name of Christ. Amen.

Please process into the Sanctuary waving palms in triumphant entrance.

The Collect for the Day (BCP 168)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Almighty and everlasting God, who, of thy tender love towards mankind, hast sent thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh, and to suffer death upon the cross, that all mankind should follow the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may both follow the example of his patience, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The Lessons

A Reading 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?

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29 (Read Responsively)

- 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.

A Reading 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated.

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 22:14-23:56

The congregation reads the part of the crowd.

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

Chief priest: "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."

Narrator: Then Pilate asked him,

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

Narrator: He answered,

Jesus: "You say so."

Narrator: Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds,

Pilate: "I find no basis for an accusation against this man."

Narrator: But they were insistent and said,

Chief priest: "He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place."

Narrator: 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.

Narrator: Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them,

Pilate: "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."

Narrator: Then they all shouted out together,

***Congregation:* "Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!"**

Narrator: (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.)

Narrator: Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting,

***Congregation:* "Crucify, crucify him!"**

Narrator: A third time he said to them,

Pilate: "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."

Narrator: 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.

Narrator: 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,

Jesus: "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?"

Narrator: Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. 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.

All stand

Narrator: Then Jesus said,

Jesus: "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."

Narrator: And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying,

***Congregation:* "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!"**

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

Soldier: "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"

Narrator: There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

Narrator: One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying,

1st Criminal: "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"

Narrator: But the other rebuked him, saying,

2nd Criminal: "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."

Narrator: Then he said,

2nd Criminal: "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

Narrator: Jesus replied,

Jesus: "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Narrator: 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.

Narrator: Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said,

Jesus: "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."

Narrator: Having said this, he breathed his last. [Pause].

Narrator: When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said,

Centurian: "Certainly this man was innocent."

Narrator: 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 and remain in silence for a moment of reflection.

Please kneel or stand as able.

The Prayers of the People (BCP 328)

Leader: Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love. **Amen.**

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially to Sean, Mark, Charles, Philene, and Ellie, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments. **Amen.**

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life. **Amen.**

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially Donald our president, Glenn our governor, and Keven our mayor, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world. **Amen.**

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty. **Amen.**

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity. **Amen.**

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of Timothy and all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. **Amen.**

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin (BCP 331)

Celebrant: Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God:

People: **Almighty God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
maker of all things, judge of all men:
We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins
and wickedness,
which we from time to time most grievously have committed,
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.
We do earnestly repent,
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,
the burden of them is intolerable.
Have mercy upon us,
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may ever hereafter
serve and please thee in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of thy Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Absolution (BCP 332)

Celebrant: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant: If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world.
(1 John 2:1-2)

Please stand as you are able.

The Peace (BCP 332)

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Please be seated.

Welcome & Announcements

Offertory Sentence

The Offering

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving (Prayer II, BCP 340)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them unto the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People: **It is meet and right so to do.**

Celebrant: It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who for our sins was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; who by his suffering and death became the author of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him. Therefore, with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

The Sanctus (BCP 334)

All: **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:**
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Please kneel or stand as able.

Celebrant: All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

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

All: 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 Fraction (BCP 337)

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

The Invitation (BCP 338)

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

Please kneel or stand as able.

Postcommunion Prayer (BCP 339)

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Blessing

Celebrant: 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.**

Please stand as you are able.

Dismissal (BCP 340)

Celebrant: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People: Thanks be to God.

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PRAYER LIST:

(Please email careteam@saint-timothys.org with any prayer concerns.)

Repose of the Soul: Mike Maser

Health: Ralph Tildon, Sidney Fisher, Ed Lippincott (brother of Anne V.), Emmanuel Recinos Alfaro, Bill Perry, Sue Van Doren, Vance Hough, Jane (sister-in-law of Elaine H.)

Long Term: Sid, Maryanne, Chris W., Donna W., Chris, Chuck and Peggy, Sarah (recovering from brain surgery), Brad Rundlett, Catherine Hutcheon (Long Covid), David & Mabel Tettyfio (stroke, arthritis, hip pain), Brian Law, Jane Perry, Jerry Vandenberg, Chris Connelly (Barb Kimmel's brother, severe depression), Barb Benson (friend of Bob Kimmel, Parkinson's), Elizabeth Martinson, Ted Grivetti, Will LaWalt, Cecelia Kimble (Shon Beury's mother), David Caines (cancer), Naomi & Chuck Voorhees (Parkinson's), Philly Hoffman (kidney cancer), Walter Lopez

THIS WEEK at ST. TIMOTHY'S

Sunday, April 13

8:00 AM Rite I Holy Eucharist – Sanctuary

9:00 AM Choir Warm-up – Sanctuary

10:00 AM Rite I Holy Eucharist – Sanctuary/Livestream

Monday, April 14

12:15 PM Step Into Recovery AA

5:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal – Music Room

7:00 PM Hope For Today Al Anon

7:30 PM Service Ministry Meeting – Conference Room

8:30 PM Monday Night Milkshake Group AA

Tuesday, April 15

4:00 PM DanceWorx – Narthex

6:30 PM Scouts Troop 159 – Loft

Wednesday, April 16

12:15 PM Lent Healing Eucharist – Sanctuary

4:00 PM DanceWorx – Narthex

7:30 PM Finance Committee Meeting - Zoom

7:30 PM SA Meeting

Thursday, April 17

4:00 PM Generation's Meeting – Kitchen/Henry Hall

6:00 PM Maundy Thursday Dinner – Henry Hall

7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service – Sanctuary/Livestream

7:00 PM Debtors Anonymous

Friday, April 18

7:00 PM Good Friday Service – Henry Hall/Livestream

Saturday, April 19

9:00 AM Altar Guild Set-Up – Sanctuary

7:00 PM La Santa Misa – Sanctuary

MAUNDY THURSDAY SUPPER

Please join us for a quiet and contemplative supper hosted by The Generations Ministry this **Thursday at 6 pm prior to service**. We will share a simple meal of meatless soup, fresh bread, cheeses, olives and wine. We require a head count to make sure we have enough food to serve. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex on the wooden cabinet. Donations to offset costs will be appreciated.

HELP DECORATE THE SANCTUARY FOR EASTER – April 19th

The Altar Guild will be decorating the Sanctuary for Easter services on **April 19th at 9 am until completed**. The Altar Guild welcomes anyone who wishes to help. Don't have time but still want to help? at **703-391-2950**.

EASTER EGG HUNT, APRIL 20TH at 11 am

St. Timothy's will have an Easter Egg Hunt immediately after the 10 am service on Easter Sunday. All children 12 and under are invited to participate. Please bring a basket (or other container) and meet at the Narthex. Volunteers will be around to assist. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, **please email Sarah Hobson at sarahlhobson@hotmail.com**.

CONFIRMATION/ RECEPTION and REAFFIRMATION CLASSES

Classes are being formed in anticipation of our episcopal visit on **Saturday June 7, 2025 at 7 PM**. We already have more than 30 members of St. Timothy's interested in these sacramental rites! If you have not expressed interest or need more information, please contact Charles soon (**priest@saint-timothys.org**)! Classes for adults (and older youth) **will begin on the Sunday (9 AM in the Sanctuary) after Easter**

(April 27th) and will be held throughout May. These will also be livestreamed so don't worry if you miss one!

HOLY WEEK at ST. TIMOTHY's 2025

From early times Christians have observed the week before Easter as a time of special devotion. Jerusalem contained many sacred places that were sites for devotion and liturgy and numerous pilgrims to the holy city followed the path of Jesus in his last days. They formed processions, worshipped where Christ suffered and died, and venerated relics. From this beginning evolved the rites we observe today on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. These services provide a liturgical experience of the last days of Jesus' earthly life, as well as the time and events leading up to his as the resurrection. **All are invited to join in these experiences as a way of re-memorizing and re-embodiment of the Easter story.**

Tenebrae – Wednesday 4/16, 12:15 pm

This form of the monastic office is commonly adapted for congregational use during Holy Week. The office is structured around psalms, readings, and responsories. A distinguishing characteristic of this service is the series of readings from Lamentations which appear early in the office. The distinctive ceremonial of Tenebrae includes use of fifteen lighted candles, often set on a special, triangular stand. One candle is extinguished as each of the fourteen appointed psalms is completed. The fifteenth candle, symbolic of Christ, is left lighted at the end of the final psalm.

Maundy Thursday – Thursday 4/17, 7 pm (also livestreamed)

The Thursday in Holy Week is part of the Triduum, or three holy days before Easter. It comes from the Latin *mandatum novum*, “new commandment,” from John 13:34. Maundy Thursday celebrations also commemorate the institution of the eucharist by Jesus “on the night he was betrayed.” The Prayer Book liturgy provides for celebration of the eucharist and, following this, the altar is stripped and all decorative furnishings are removed from the church.

Good Friday- Friday 4/18, 7 pm (also livestreamed)

The Friday before Easter Day is the day on which the church commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus. It is a day of fasting and special acts of discipline and self-denial. In the early church candidates for baptism, joined by others, fasted for a day or two before the Paschal feast. In the west the first of those days eventually acquired the character of historical reenactment of the passion and death of Christ. The liturgy of the day includes John's account of the Passion gospel, a solemn form of intercession known as the solemn collects (dating from ancient Rome), and optional devotions before the cross (commonly known as the veneration of the cross).

Easter Vigil- Saturday 4/19, 7 pm (Spanish-Speaking)

The liturgy, also known as the Great Vigil, is intended as the first (and arguably, the primary) celebration of Easter. The service begins in darkness, sometime between sunset on Holy Saturday and sunrise on Easter, and consists of four parts: The Service of Light (kindling of new fire, lighting the Paschal candle, the Exsultet); The Service of Lessons (readings from the Hebrew Scriptures interspersed with psalms, canticles, and prayers); Baptism or the Renewal of Baptismal Vows; and the Eucharist. This liturgy recovers the ancient practice of keeping the Easter feast whereby believers would gather in the hours of darkness ending at dawn on Easter to hear scripture and offer prayer. This night-long service of prayerful watching anticipated the baptisms that would come at first light and the Easter Eucharist. This practice linked the meanings of Christ's dying and rising to the understanding of baptism.

Easter Sunday- Sunday 4/20, 8 am and 10 am (also livestreamed)

Easter is the principal festival of the church year, in both day and season, and is celebrated on Easter Sunday as the annual feast of the resurrection, the *pascha* or Christian Passover, and the eighth day of cosmic creation. Easter sets the experience of springtime next to the ancient stories of deliverance and the proclamation of the risen Christ. In the west, Easter occurs on the first Sunday after the full moon on or after the vernal equinox. Easter always falls between Mar. 22 and Apr. 25 inclusive. Following Jewish custom, the feast begins at sunset on Easter Eve with the Great Vigil of Easter (see above). Faith in Jesus' resurrection on the third day following his crucifixion is at the heart of Christian belief.