

St. Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal Church

Sunday, March 24, 2024

The Sunday of The Passion: Palm Sunday

10:15 a.m. – Rite Two



Welcome!

**The mission of St. Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal
Church is to feed all God's people.
We invite you to join us.**

The Service begins in the St. Francis Courtyard weather permitting.

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

OPENING ANTHEM

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.

A Reading from the Gospel of Mark:

Mark 11:1-11

¹When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, [Jesus] sent two of his disciples ²and 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. ³If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.' " ⁴They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. ⁷Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

¹¹Then 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.

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.

BLESSING OF THE PALMS:

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.**

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.***

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

The palm fronds and crosses are distributed to the congregation.

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

The people process into the church.

PROCESSION HYMN *All glory, laud, and honor (Valet will ich dir geben) (H 154)*

Refrain



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re - deem - er, King!

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



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

Repeat Refrain



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

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

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

⁴The 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.

⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backward.

⁶I 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.

⁷The 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;
⁸he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries?

Let them confront me.

^{9a}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: Psalm 31:9-16

⁹Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; *

my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

¹⁰For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; *

my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.

¹¹I 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.

¹²I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; *

I am as useless as a broken pot.

¹³For 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.

¹⁴But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. *

I have said, “You are my God.

¹⁵My times are in your hand; *

rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

¹⁶Make your face to shine upon your servant, *

and in your loving-kindness save me.”

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:5-11

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Philippi.

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, though he was in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God

as something to be exploited,

⁷but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave,

being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

⁸he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of death—

even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him

and gave him the name

that is above every name,

¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus

every knee should bend,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹and 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 PASSION GOSPEL:

Mark 14:1--15:47

(Read by members of the congregation)

THE SERMON

The Reverend Carole Horton-Howe

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Our Lord comes to us humbly, riding a donkey and proclaiming a message of peace. Let us pray, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.

That Christians hear and share the word of God as true disciples, we pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That all the ends of the earth receive the words of the king of peace, we pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That all leaders, of church and of state, prefer humble service to empty power, we pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That those who see the cross starkly revealed in their lives draw strength from the name above every other name, we pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That we who hope to greet Jesus when he comes again be ready and joyful, we pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

[You are invited to offer your own intercessions either silently or aloud.]

Celebrant: O God our creator, you show us the way to freedom through the gentle obedience of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant our petitions as we seek to follow Jesus. We pray in his name, Christ our Savior. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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.**

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

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – CALLS TO SERVICE AND COMMUNITY

OFFERTORY HYMN *O sacred head, sore wounded (Herzlich tut mich verlangen [Passion Chorale])* (H 168)

1 O sa - cred head, sore wound - ed, de - filed and put to scorn;
2 Thy beau - ty, long - de - sir - ed, hath va - nished from our sight;
3 In thy most bit - ter pas - sion my heart to share doth cry,
*4 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
*5 My days are few, O fail not, with thine im - mor - tal power,

1 O king - ly head, sur - round - ed with mock - ing crown of thorn:
2 thy power is all ex - pir - ed, and quenched the light of light.
3 with thee for my sal - va - tion up - on the cross to die.
4 for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pi - ty with - out end?
5 to hold me that I quail not in death's most fear - ful hour;

1 what sor - row mars thy gran - deur? Can death thy bloom de - flower?
2 Ah me! for whom thou di - est, hide not so far thy grace:
3 Ah, keep my heart thus mov - ed to stand thy cross be - neath,
4 Oh, make me thine for - ev - er! and should I faint - ing be,
5 that I may fight be - friend - ed, and see in my last strife

1 O coun - te - nance whose splen - dor the hosts of heaven a - dore!
 2 show me, O Love most high - est, the bright - ness of thy face.
 3 to mourn thee, well - be - lov - ed, yet thank thee for thy death.
 4 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er, out - live my love for thee.
 5 to me thine arms ex - tend - ed up - on the cross of life.

OFFERTORY: *Praise God from whom all blessings flow* (Old 100th)

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise
 him, all crea-tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heaven - ly
 host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

The Great Thanksgiving – Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

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

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD: *Sanctus (Canterbury Mass)***Stephen Sturk**

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav-en and
7 earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho -
12 san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the
18 Lord. Ho-san - na, ho-san - na, ho-san-na in the high-est._____

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:

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.

THE GREAT AMEN (*Canterbury Mass*)**Stephen Sturk**

A - men. A - men. A - - - men.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO RECEIVE COMMUNION

Gluten-free wafers are available on request.

COMMUNION HYMN *And now, O Father, mindful of the love (Unde et memores) (H 337)*

1 And now, O Fa - ther, mind - ful of the love that
2 Look Fa - ther, look on his a - noint - ed face, and
*3 And then for those, our dear - est and our best, by
*4 And so we come; O draw us to thy feet, most

bought us, once for all, on Cal - vary's tree, and hav - ing with us
on - ly look on us as found in him; look not on our mis -
this pre - vail - ing pres - ence we ap - peal; O fold them clos - er
pa - tient Sa - vior, who canst love us still! And by this food, so



him that pleads a - bove, we here pre - sent, we here spread
us - ings of thy grace, our prayer so lan - guid, and our
to thy mer - cy's breast! O do thine ut - most for their
awe - some and so sweet, de - liv - er us from ev - ery

forth to thee, that on - ly of - fering per - fect in thine
faith so dim: for lo! be - tween our sins and their re -
soul's true weal! From taint - ing mis - chief keep them pure and
touch of ill: in thine own ser - vice make us glad and

eyes, the one true, pure, im - mor - tal sac - ri - fice.
ward, we set the pas - sion of thy Son our Lord.
clear, and crown thy gifts with strength to per - se - vere.
free, and grant us nev - er - more to part from thee.

CHOIR: *Let the rocks cry out! (by Lloyd Larson)*

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

**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.

EPILOGUE

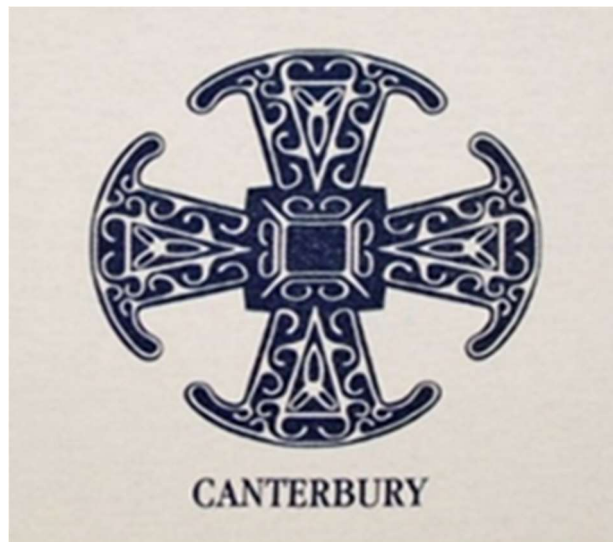
The Crucifixion (by Samuel Barber)

At the cry of the first bird they began to crucify Thee, O Swan!
Never shall lament cease because of that. It was like the parting of day from night.

Ah, sore was the suff'ring borne by the body of Mary's Son,
but sorer still to Him was the grief which for His sake came upon His Mother.

The congregation departs in silence.

The observation of Holy Week begins.



Upcoming Events at St. Thomas of Canterbury

General Announcements:

- ***Invite Someone: Easter Invitations!!***
 - Many studies show that people who don't go to church would be most likely to go on Easter if someone invited them. So here's your opportunity! We've prepared special invitations for you to share the joy of Easter with a friend, family member, neighbor, or someone you meet.
 - This is one way to fulfill our baptismal covenant to "proclaim the Good News by word and example." We are asking everyone here to invite one person to worship with us. We thank Takako for her beautiful work!
- **Personal Prayer with our Stephen Ministers** Stephen Ministers will be in the chapel area of the church following each service to pray with you.
- **Lent Madness continues!** Check the chart in the narthex to see who has advanced frp, the Saintly 16 to the Faithful 4 and who is top of the Leader Board this week. The winner receives a coveted Golden Halo mug!
- **Project TOUCH** – Project Touch has 110 children who will receive an Easter basket from us. To do this, WE NEED HELP!! During coffee hours today we will be assembling the Easter baskets (bags). Your support will be appreciated then as well. If you would like to help financially, please donate to "Easter Outreach" via check or dropping your currency gift into the wooden box at the Outreach table.
- **Easter Lily Dedication** - If you would like to dedicate a lily to beautify the church for our Resurrection Sunday celebration on March 31st, either in honor of or in memory of a loved one, please fill out one of the forms in the narthex and drop it in the collection plate or bring it to church during the week. The deadline is tomorrow, March 25th at 1:00 PM. A donation in any amount is appreciated but not required.



HOLY WEEK Schedule

All services at 6:30 PM and on ZOOM unless otherwise listed.

Monday and Tuesday, March 25th and 26th: **Evening Prayer and Reflection**

Wednesday, March 27th: **Tenebrae** Tenebrae is a service of light and shadows recalling the story of the suffering and death of Jesus from John's gospel. It is both chanted and read. After each segment of the story, a candle is extinguished until the congregation is in near darkness. It is made to convey the sense of total loss of God's presence and the effect of the death of Jesus on the world leaving us to ponder the impact of Christ's death and await the celebration of the coming Resurrection.

Thursday, March 28th: **Maundy Thursday** marks the establishment of the Eucharist by Jesus sometimes called The Last Supper. On this night, Jesus commanded that people should love one another and then washed the feet of his disciples as an act of service and humility. We will wash each other's feet, celebrate the Eucharist, and in preparation for Good Friday, strip the altar and create an Altar of Repose for an All Night Vigil in the church.

Friday, March 29th: **Stations of the Cross** at 12:00 Noon followed by the **Good Friday Liturgy and Adoration of the Cross** at 1:00 PM (Zoom will not be available.)

Saturday, March 30th: **The Great Vigil of Easter** This service begins with the lighting of a new fire illuminating the darkness. It brings worshippers, literally and symbolically, from darkness into light. After weeks of penitence, preparation, and reflection, more joyful elements of bells and "alleluias" return to the liturgy.

Sunday, March 31st: **Easter Sunday, Celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord** Services at 8:00 and 10:15

Mark Your Calendars:

- Wednesday, April 3rd: **Stephen Ministers** meet at 9:00 AM in the conference room.
- Wednesday, April 3rd: **The Advancement Team** meet at 6:30 AM by Zoom.
- Saturday, April 13th: **MoST (Men of St. Thomas)** meet for a potluck breakfast and reflection on the scripture for the next day. All men of the congregation are welcome to attend. For more information contact Peter Mandrey.
- Saturday, April 20th: **E-Waste Collection event** 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Electronics and computer equipment will be accepted for recycling. Please see a flyer for more information or contact Virginia Patton.
- Wednesday, April 24th: Monthly meeting of the **Bishop's Committee** meets at 6:00 PM in-person and on Zoom.
- Saturday, April 27th: **The Diocesan Daughters of the King invite all women of the diocese to a screening of The Philadelphia Eleven**, a film about women shattering the stained glass ceiling of the Episcopal Church by seeking ordination as priests. Lunch will be served and there will be Eucharist. The event will be at St. Andrews in La Mesa from 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM. RSVP to slanzdok@gmail.com.

A New Way to Fulfill Our Pledges and Contribute to St. Thomas!

Thanks to the brainstorming of our Stewardship Team – Lauralyn Vasques, Tom Reid and Deb Mitchell – and the technical skills of our Business Manager, Takako Gibbs, we now have a new and easy way to contribute to St. Thomas.

Click on the QR code and you will be taken to Tithley where you can designate the amount you are giving, how it is to be used and the increment in which you wish to give.

The traditional ways still work. You can still contribute by cash, check, or online using PayPal.

How to use the QR code: 3 Easy Steps

1. Open the Camera app on your phone.
2. Then, point your phone to the QR code to scan it.
3. Finally, tap the pop-up banner or QR icon in the bottom-right corner of the app. This will immediately take you to the website.

