

The Sunday of the Passion:
Palm Sunday
Year A

April 2, 2023



Christ Church
Episcopal

The Mother Church of Georgia
Established 1733





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The Liturgy of the Palms

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|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Prelude <i>Marche religieuse</i> , Op. 15 No. 1 | Alexander Guilmant |
| Opening Acclamation and Response | BCP 270 |
| Holy Gospel | Matthew 21:1-11 |
| Processional | Hymnal 154 |
| <i>All glory, laud and honor</i> | <i>Valet will ich dir geben</i> |

(Children's Chapel, please follow the procession. Suggested ages PreK to Fifth grade, younger children welcome if accompanied by adults.)

Collect of the Day

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 Liturgy of the Passion

First Lesson

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?

Psalm 31:9-16 *In te, Domine, speravi*

BCP 623

Sung by the choir

chant: plainsong, Tone VII

- 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."

Epistle

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.

Sequence Hymn
At the Name of Jesus

Hymnal 435
King's Weston

Holy Gospel

Matthew 26:36 - 27:66

(Congregation reads the bold print aloud.)



Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, 'Sit here while I go over there and pray.' He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, 'I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.' And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, 'My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want.' Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, 'So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may

not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.' Again he went away for the second time and prayed, 'My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.' Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, 'Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.'

While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, 'The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.' At once he came up to Jesus and said, 'Greetings, Rabbi!' and kissed him. Jesus said to him, 'Friend, do what you are here to do.' Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, 'Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?' At

that hour Jesus said to the crowds, 'Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled.' Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, "This fellow said, "I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days." ' The high priest stood up and said, 'Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?' But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, 'I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.' Jesus said to him, 'You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.' Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, 'He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?' They answered, 'He deserves death.' Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, saying, 'Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?'

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said, 'You also were with Jesus the Galilean.' But he denied it before all of them, saying, 'I do not know what you are talking about.' When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, 'This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.' Again he denied it with an oath, 'I do not know the man.' After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, 'Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you.' Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, 'I do not know the man!' At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: 'Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.' And he went out and wept bitterly.

Matthew 27

When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor.

When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. He said, 'I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.' But they said, 'What is that to us? See to it yourself.' Throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, 'It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money.' After conferring together, they used them to buy the potter's field as a place to bury foreigners. For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah, 'And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one on whom a price had been set, on whom some of the people of Israel had set a price, and they gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me.'

Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus said, 'You say so.' But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him, 'Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?' But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

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, 'Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?' For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgement seat, his wife sent word to him, 'Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.' 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, 'Which of the two do you want me to release for you?' And they said, (*Congregation: 'Barabbas.'*) Pilate said to them, 'Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?' All of them said, (*Congregation: 'Let him be crucified!'*) Then he asked, 'Why, what evil has he done?' But they shouted all the more, (*Congregation: 'Let him be crucified!'*)

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, 'I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.' Then the people as a whole answered, 'His blood be on us and on our children!' So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

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, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' 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.

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), 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.'

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, '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.' In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, '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." ' The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

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, 'Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?' that is, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, 'This man is calling for Elijah.' 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, 'Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.' Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. 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. 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, 'Truly this man was God's Son!'

Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had provided for him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, ‘Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, “After three days I will rise again.” Therefore command that the tomb be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, “He has been raised from the dead”, and the last deception would be worse than the first.’ Pilate said to them, ‘You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can.’ So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

The Passion, Morgan Kuhn. 2013. Private Collection (page 4)

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| Nicene Creed | BCP 358 |
| Prayers of the People, Form I | BCP 383 |
| The Peace | |

The Holy Communion

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|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Offertory | <i>When I survey the wondrous cross</i> | arr. Gilbert M. Martin |
| Doxology | | Hymnal 380, v. 3 |
| The Great Thanksgiving, <i>Eucharistic Prayer A</i> | | BCP 361 |
| Sanctus and Benedictus | | Hymnal S-114 |
| Lord's Prayer | | BCP 364 |
| The Breaking of the Bread | | |
| Fraction Anthem, <i>Agnus Dei</i> | | Hymnal S-158 |
| (All Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion.) | | |
| Holy Communion | | Hymnal 158, 172 |
| | <i>Ah, holy Jesus</i> | <i>Herzliebster Jesu</i> |
| | <i>Were you there when they crucified my Lord?</i> | <i>Were You There</i> |
| Postcommunion Prayer | | BCP 365 |
| Processional | | Hymnal 168 |
| | <i>O sacred head, sore wounded</i> | <i>Herzlich tut mich verlangen [Passion Chorale]</i> |

Prayers of the People *

For the people of Ukraine and places of conflict around the world: for strength, hope, perseverance, and protection; for liberation from violence and oppression; for the end of war and the laying down of weapons.

Also for Kim Thompson, Risa, Jay Jones, Larry Hayes, Luke Callaway, Sophia, Cheryl Prisco

For the Birthdays of Bob Clark, Liv Dugas, Bill Haile, Vivi Truex, Mike Campbell, Alice Clark, Catherine Vouk, Thomas Cone, Whit Davis, Hudson Harrison, Elizabeth Bush, Wills Davis, Pamela Crenshaw, MJ Harris, Roman Maynard, Kit McDonald, Julian Bringman, Paul Reddick, Peter Wright, Max Maxwell, Matthew King, Sam Mikell, Colson Sapp, Rebecca Forsyth, Catherine Holden, Margaret Miller, Carrie Reeves, Ruth Goldsmith, Ruth Hallman, Mimi Jones, Sarah Smith, Emma Huennekens, Mary Helen Skeadas, Geoff Taylor, Elizabeth North, Catherine Renner, Tyler Sumner, Stan Houle, Linda McWhorter, Kwasi Agyei-Gyamfi, Ruddell Lawrence

For the Wedding Anniversaries of Paige and Michael Carson, Gigi and Bill Haile, Kate and Marc Bailey, Cindy and Rusty Hightower, Linda and Tom McWhorter, Erin and Stephen Ham, Betty and Jim Pember

For Those Who Have Died and for the Comfort of Their Families: Stan Fee, Bill Udry, James Edward Duke, Diego McReynolds

*The full prayer list may be found on our website and in our weekly email.

Announcements

Altar Greens

The greens on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jack Jones, Jr. by his family with love.

Christ Church Historic Silver

From the first Sunday of Lent through Easter Sunday, we will use our historic silver chalices and paten at the 10:30 service. The engraving on these vessels states: "Presented to Christ Church by the Ladies of the Congregation 1816." The chalices are very plain but very deep. If you drink from the chalice, please assist the server, who will not be able to see if you have actually received the wine. Some people may find it easier to stand to drink from the chalice. Parents may want to help children who receive wine. For over 200 years, worshipers at Christ Church have received bread and wine from these vessels. We follow in a long line of those who came before us. We give thanks for the love of God that continues from generation to generation.

Seeking Donations for "Lift High the Egg" Easter Egg Hunt

We are asking for donations of plastic eggs filled with candy or stickers for the egg hunt on Easter morning. Please bring filled eggs and/or candy to church over the next few weeks. The supplies may be left in the narthex or in the undercroft.



Christ Church Book Group

Join us on Thursday, April 14, as we discuss “Horse” by Geraldine Brooks. A discarded painting in a junk pile, a skeleton in an attic, and the greatest racehorse in American history: from these strands, a Pulitzer Prize winner braids a sweeping story of spirit, obsession, and injustice across American history.

Coming Events

Sunday, April 2—Music and Meditation for Passiontide, 4:00 p.m.

Monday, April 3—In the Spirit, 5:30 p.m. - The 5-Spot in Sandfly (7360 Skidaway Rd.)

Wednesday, April 5—Noon Eucharist with Prayers for Healing
and Meditative Music

Thursday, April 13—Christ Church Book Group in the Undercroft, 10:30 a.m.
Horse, by Geraldine Brooks

Sunday, April 16—Adult Forum resumes, “*He Is Risen: Resurrection Narratives from the Gospel Writers*,” 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel

Sunday, April 23—High School “Care” Group, Beach Clean-up



CHRIST CHURCH

Holy Week Services

PALM SUNDAY THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION

Sunday, April 2, 2023

10:30 AM

Music and Meditation for Passiontide

4:00 PM Concert

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Thursday, April 6, 2023

6:00 PM

GOOD FRIDAY

Friday, April 7, 2023

12:00 PM | 6 PM

SATURDAY THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

Saturday, April 8, 2023

8:00 PM

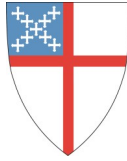
EASTER DAY THE FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION

Sunday, April 9, 2023

10:30 AM

9:30 AM Egg Hunt: Parish House





Christ Church Episcopal

The Right Reverend Frank S. Logue, *Bishop of Georgia*

The Reverend Michael S. White, *Rector*

The Reverend Samantha K. McKean, *Senior Associate Rector*

The Reverend Helen S. White, *Associate Rector*

The Reverend Patricia Rhoads Davis, *Deacon*

George Fergus, *Director of Music*

Catherine M. Gussler, *Director of Administration*

Suzanne Phillips Smith, *Assistant Director of Administration*

Charles Epps, *Sexton*

The Reverend Canon Todd D. Smelser, *Priest Associate*

The Reverend Liam G. Collins, *Priest Associate*

The Reverend Richard "Max" Maxwell, *Priest Associate*

The Reverend David C. Seyle, *United Methodist Pastor-in-Residence*

Vestry

Sarah Jones; *Senior Warden*; Stephen Rilee, *Junior Warden*;

Sarah Smith, *Clerk of the Vestry*; Patton Dugas, *Treasurer*;

Chuck Chewing; Wash Dender; Katie Griffith; Stephanie Lindley;

Rosemary Mackey; Roger Moss; Rena Patton; Betty Pember;

Molly Taylor; Paul Threlkeld; Susan Wetmore

Sundays

9:15 a.m. Nursery, located on the 2nd floor of the Parish House at 18 Abercorn

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Wednesdays

12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing

The Church building is located at 28 Bull Street, Savannah, Georgia 31401

The telephone number is 912-236-2500

www.christchurchsavannah.org

Christ Church, the "Mother Church of Georgia," was founded on February 12, 1733 and is a member of the Diocese of Georgia which, in turn, is one of 110 Dioceses which composes The Episcopal Church in the United States of America and abroad. The Episcopal Church is a constituent member of the Anglican Communion, a fellowship within the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church of those duly constituted dioceses, provinces, and regional Churches in communion with the See of Canterbury. The fellowship upholds and propagates the historic Faith and Order as set forth in the Book of Common Prayer. The current church building was constructed in 1838 and is the third one on the original site.