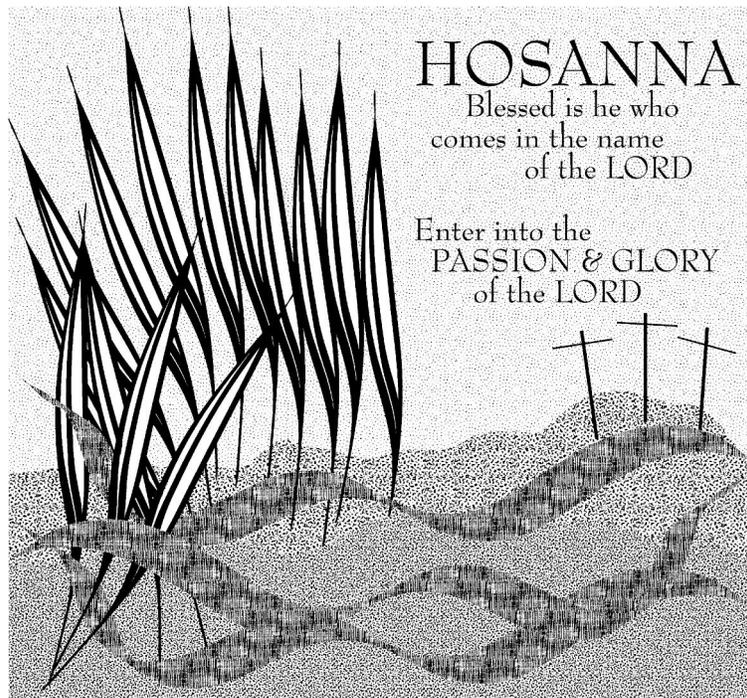


# The Episcopal Church *of the* Transfiguration

The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday  
Sunday, March 29, 2026  
10:00 AM



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The Mission of Church of the Transfiguration  
is to be a Christian community;  
accepting and inviting all persons to share in worship,  
witness and service; as disciples of Jesus Christ in the world.

## **What's So Special about The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday?**

Holy Week, like Lent, begins with the blessing of something from creation to help us enter through a liminal space between liturgical seasons. Lent began with the blessing of ashes so that they “may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, and that we may remember that it is only through [God’s] gracious gift that we are given eternal life” (Collect for Ash Wednesday, BCP p 265). The palms are blessed “to be for us signs of [Jesus’] victory” with the prayer 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.” (BCP p 271).

Our commemoration of Jesus’ triumphal entry using the ancient service of the Liturgy of the Palms was restored with the 1928 BCP after it being removed from Anglican worship in 1547. Our 1979 BCP more fully restored the ancient practice of the liturgy used in Salisbury so that we now begin Holy Week with the Liturgy of the Palms followed immediately by the readings of Passion Sunday (which had been celebrated the next to the last Sunday in Lent). In this extended Sunday morning service, we begin with waving palm branches in celebration of Jesus entering Jerusalem as King to leaving the service in silence as we contemplate that our King is reigning from the cross.

This is an emotionally difficult service; it is part of the journey from Christmas to Easter as we journey with Jesus from his birth to his resurrection. Our journeying with Jesus, together, is more than simply remembering; we ritually enter into the past so that we might be transformed in the present. The two Collects prayed on Passion: Palm Sunday name for us what we desire to happen to us. We pray that this two-in-one service will help us “enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby [God] has given us life and immortality” (Collect for The Liturgy of the Palms, BCP p 270) and that we might be “mercifully grant[ed] to walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection (Collect for the Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday, BCP p 219).

This is a Sunday with a huge emotional swing and it’s tiring. But we don’t make the journey through this service alone—we travel together in Jesus’ footsteps.

~ Sr. Donna Ruth Hawk-Reinhard, AF

*The Liturgy of the Palms begins in the Narthex. Palms and service leaflets are distributed to the people before the Liturgy begins.*

*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.

*People* **Amen.**

*The Celebrant reads the Gospel announcing Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.*

**Matthew 21:1-11**

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."

**THE BLESSING OF THE PALM 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 God thanks and praise.***

*The Celebrant continues*

It is right to praise you, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was proclaimed as King of kings by those who spread their garments and branches of palm along his way. Let these branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

*People*        ***Amen.***

*Celebrant*        Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

*People*        ***Hosanna in the highest.***

### **THE PROCESSION**

*Celebrant*        Let us go forth in peace.

*People*        ***In the name of Christ. Amen.***

*The people follow the Crucifer into the Nave to their seats, while singing All Glory, Laud, and Honor.*

*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.*

Words: Theodulph of Orleans (d. 821); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: *Valet will ich dir geben*, melody Melchior Teschner (1584-1635), alt.; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889).

Reprinted through RiteSong, CPIRS29286

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP, pg. 219

*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 *The people may be seated.*

### A READING FROM THE BOOK OF 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* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 31:9-16**

*In te, Domine, speravi*

BCP, pg. 623

- 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."

**A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE 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* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*The People remain seated for a few moments of silence while they reflect upon the following message:*

The Sermon for today consists of the reading of the Passion Gospel following the Eucharist. There are times when words are inadequate to express the fullness of Holy Scripture, and Palm Sunday is one of those times. Please listen to the Passion Gospel in the spirit of the Collect for the Liturgy of the Palms, which asks for God's help "that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality."

*When the Liturgy of the Palms has preceded, the Nicene Creed and the Confession of Sin may be omitted at this service.*

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FOR PALM SUNDAY**

*Leader:* Lord Jesus, you emptied yourself, trading in the form of God for the form of a slave; we pray for the Church, and all her people and ministers, especially Sarah, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Sean our Presiding Bishop, Deon, our Bishop, and Lu-Anne our priest.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for the people and ministry of Episcopal Church of the Advent in Crestwood and Emily, their Rector.

In our companion Diocese of Puerto Rico, we pray for The Parish of St. Andrew the Apostle in Mayagüez.

In our parish cycle of prayer, we pray for the youth who are in detention and the chaplains who minister to them. May the chaplains of the Episcopal City Mission and the monthly birthday parties be means for these youth to experience your love and compassion.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, you were born in human likeness, and found in human form; we pray for the whole human family, for the nations of the earth, and for all who live in the midst of disaster, famine, or terror. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, even after humbling yourself in your incarnation, you humbled yourself even to the point of death; we pray for our nation, our leaders, and all the people who live within these borders. Bless us with your humility. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus your humility and your love for us was so broad and deep, it cost you your life. We pray for those who we love who have died, and as you were highly exalted, may they rest with you in glory. Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

In your exaltation, O Lord, you were given the name that is above every name; we pray in your name for those who are poor, those who are hungry, and those who are hurting in any way. Give them your grace. Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

We also pray, in your name O Lord, for those on our parish prayer list, especially **Karen, Joey, John, Maureen, Kathy, Kensie, Karen, Peggy, Laura, Barb, Bill, Papa, Lisa, Virginia, Kathleen, Lisa, Brad, Patrick Elizabeth, William, Steve, Jerry, Toni, Megan & John, Dillon, Regina, Penny, Ruth, Janet, Christina, Kathy, John, Sandra, Margene, Stephen, Mary, David, Sherry, Sue, Mary, Tracy, Ray, Desirée, Malcolm, Judy, Pam, Rachel, Dot, Carolyn, Todd, and Sheridan.**

Are there others?

Give them the gift of healing, strength, and life. Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for birthdays: Aiden Spivey-Garcia and Jan Trendley.

*Concluding prayer led by the Celebrant:*

You humbled yourself in the manger, and you humbled yourself on the cross; and to you O Lord we bend our knee with those above and those below, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

*(Adapted from Prayers of the People for Palm Sunday by the Rev. Rick Morley, 2011.)*

## **THE PEACE**

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

*People* **And also with you.**

## **BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE RECTOR**

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

### **THE OFFERTORY**

*The Celebrant says an offertory sentence.*

*An offering plate will not be passed at this service. You are invited to leave your gift in the offering plate in the Narthex on the Welcome Table as you depart today's service. We are grateful for your generous and ongoing support of the ministries of Transfiguration Church.*

### **OFFERTORY HYMN**

*What wondrous love is this*

Renew, # 277

*Please rise in body or in spirit. The Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* All things come of thee, O Lord

*People* **And of thine own have we given thee.**

### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A**

BCP, pg. 361-6

*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 our thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant proceeds*

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

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. For our sins he was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; and, by his suffering and death, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name.

*Celebrant and People*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The Celebrant continues*

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.**

*The Celebrant continues*

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 pray,

*Celebrant and People*

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

**THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

*Then the following is said*

*Celebrant* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

*Celebrant* Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.

*People* **Have mercy upon us.**

*Celebrant* Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.

*People* **Have mercy upon us.**

*Celebrant* Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.

*People* **Grant us your peace.**

*Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation*

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 the bread and wine of the Eucharist, or a blessing if preferred. Please note that you may drink directly from the chalice – we do not allow self-intinction. If you do not wish to drink from the chalice you may simply return to your seat after receiving the bread. Please wait for the Usher to release the section where you are seated.*

**PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION** *(while those present are coming forward to receive the bread, a leader addresses those who are watching the livestream feed)*

*Leader:* The Resurrected Christ has gathered us to feast at the Table of Remembrance, yet circumstances make it difficult for some to gather physically around Christ's altar and receive Christ's eucharistic body. Wherever you are, you are offered God's grace by spiritually receiving Christ in your heart.

Please pray with me *(prayed by those who are watching the livestream feed)*

In union, O Lord,  
with the faithful of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated,  
I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving.

I present to you my soul and body  
with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you.

And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,  
I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart.

I unite myself with you and embrace you with all the love of my soul.  
Let nothing ever separate you from me.

May I live in you, and may you live in me,  
both in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

**LENTEN POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

BCP, pg. 366

*Please rise in body or in spirit.*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

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

## THE LENTEN PRAYERS OVER THE PEOPLE

*The Prayers over the people replace the usual blessing. The Celebrant prays over the people.*

*Celebrant* Let us bow our hearts before the LORD our God.

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.**

**HYMN**

Go to dark Gethsemane

Hymnal, # 171

## THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

27:11-54

*Readers are assigned to the different roles, with the congregation taking the part of the CROWD.*

*The people may be seated for the first part of the Passion. At the verse which mentions the place called the Skull, the congregation shall rise in body or in spirit.*

*The readers stand in front of the altar. The Narrator stands at the lectern.*

**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.

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. 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,

**SOLDIERS:** "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.

*(At the mention of Golgotha, the congregation rises in body or in spirit.)*

**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), 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,

**BYSTANDERS:** "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,

**CHIEF PRIESTS:** "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,

**JESUS:** "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

**NARRATOR:** When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

**BYSTANDERS:** "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,

**BYSTANDERS:** "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him."

**NARRATOR:** 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.

**NARRATOR:** 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,

**CENTURION:** "Truly this man was God's Son!"

**NARRATOR:** 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,

**CHIEF PRIESTS:** "Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' Therefore command the tomb to 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."

**NARRATOR:** Pilate said to them,

**PILATE:** "You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can."

**NARRATOR:** So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

*The congregation may be seated as the readers return to their seats.*

*Silence is kept for a few moments.*

*There is no dismissal.*

*The ministers depart in silence.*

*After the candles have been extinguished, please leave the Nave quietly.*

*A priest will be available for anointing and healing prayer at the altar.*

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The Invitation to and Prayer of Spiritual Communion takes its central meaning from the Order of Service for the Renewal of Baptism and Ordination Vows, and the Blessing of the Oils Service from March 30, 2021 by the dioceses of Kansas, Western Kansas, Missouri, West Missouri, the Central States Synod of the ELCA and Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral, and is adapted by Rev. Dr. Marshall Crossnoe.

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Hymn selections are from The Hymnal 1982 and other approved sources. Hymns/songs are printed in the bulletin under RiteSong.

**The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday**

**March 29, 2026**

**Today's Ministers of Worship**

|                                |                                 |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Celebrant</b>               | The Rev. Lu-Anne Conner         |
| <b>Lay Minister of the Day</b> | Carole Connors                  |
| <b>Usher</b>                   | Karen van Es                    |
| <b>Lector</b>                  | Carole Connors                  |
| <b>Acolyte</b>                 | Rich Moody                      |
| <b>Chalice Bearer</b>          | Rich Moody                      |
| <b>Musician</b>                | Jackie Goen                     |
| <b>Videographer</b>            | Mari Moody                      |
| <b>Altar Guild</b>             | Louise Howden<br>Susan McMillan |
| <b>Coffee Hour</b>             | Greg Barnett<br>Sandy Rafferty  |
| <b>Counters</b>                | Lisa Bowman<br>Kerri Quinlisk   |

**Passion Gospel Readers**

|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| <b>Narrator:</b>                             | Mary Ellen Antonio |
| <b>Pilate:</b>                               | Kate McCormick     |
| <b>Jesus:</b>                                | Jay Garcia         |
| <b>Pilate's Wife, Soldiers:</b>              | Carole Connors     |
| <b>Bystanders, Chief Priests, Centurion:</b> | Doug Reinhard      |

**Holy Week at**  
**The Episcopal Church *of the* Transfiguration**

**Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>**

**Stations of the Cross**

Service at 7:00 pm (Zoom only)

**Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Maundy Thursday**

Service at 7:00 pm (in person and Zoom)

**Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Good Friday**

Services at

12:00 (in person only)

and

7:00 pm (in person and Zoom)

**Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Holy Saturday**

Service at 12:00 (Zoom only)

**Easter Vigil**

Service at 7:00 pm (Zoom only)

**Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Easter Sunday**

*10:00 am (in person and Zoom)*

*followed by an egg hunt and a festive coffee hour!*