

April 5, 2020

**Christ Episcopal Church of Guilford**  
**Sunday of the Passion of our Lord: Palm Sunday**  
**Holy Eucharist Rite II**

10 a.m.

Prelude: *Valet will ich dir geben* BWV 735

J. S. Bach

*Liturgy of the Palms*

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

*People:* **Peace in heaven and glory in 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 according to Matthew

21:1-11

When the disciples and Jesus 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 fulfil 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 Lector concludes:* The Word of the Lord. *People respond:* **Thanks be to God.**

Prayer for 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.*

**Hymn #154 All glory, laud, and honor** *Valet will ich dir geben*

**All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King!  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.  
Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son,  
Who in the Lord's Name comest, the King and Blessed One.**

**All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King!  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.  
The company of angels is praising thee on high;  
And we with all creation in chorus make reply.**

**All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King!  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.  
The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;  
Our praise and prayers and anthems before thee we present.**

**All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King!  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.**

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you. *People:* **And also with you.** *Celebrant:* Let us pray.

**Collect for Palm Sunday**

*Prayed together*

**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, forever and ever. *Amen.***

## *The Word of God*

First Reading

Isaiah 50:4-9a

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher,  
that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he awakens— awakens 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 backwards.

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?

*The Lector concludes:* The Word of the Lord. *People respond:* **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 31:9-16**

Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; \*  
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.  
For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; \*  
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.  
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.  
I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; \* I am as useless as a broken pot.  
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.  
But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. \* I have said, "You are my God.  
My times are in your hand; \* rescue me from the hand of my enemies,  
and from those who persecute me.  
Make your face to shine upon your servant, \*  
and in your loving-kindness save me."

The 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.

*The Lector concludes:* The Word of the Lord. *People respond:* **Thanks be to God.**

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, 'Barabbas.' Pilate said to them, 'Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?' All of them said, 'Let him be crucified!' Then he asked, 'Why, what evil has he done?' But they shouted all the more, '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 Sermon

*Harrison Westt*

Prayers of the People:

Form I

*BCP, p.383*

**Response: Lord, have mercy.**

The Peace

Announcements and Greetings

### *The Holy Communion*

The Offertory

Offertory voluntary: *O Lamm Gottes* ('Lamb of God') op. 67.33

J.S. Bach

**The Doxology: Hymn 380** (vs. 3)

Presentation of Gifts

*Celebrant:* All things come of thee, O Lord. *People:* And of thine own have we given thee. *Amen.*

**The Great Thanksgiving** Eucharistic Prayer A

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

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

**The Lord's Prayer**

The Breaking of the Bread – *Agnus Dei*:

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: Have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: Have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: Grant us peace.**

**Invitation to Spiritual Communion**

Lord Jesus, I cannot now worship you at the altar of the church in the Sacrament of your Body And Blood, yet in spirit I would join myself with all those who in your Holy Church offer you the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Visit me, I pray, with your mercy, pardon, and blessing, and fill me with faith and love and repentance, and so strengthen and sustain me by your grace that I may with pure heart and mind follow you, the only God, now and forever. Amen

Communion voluntary: My song is love unknown

S. Crossman/J. Ireland

**Postcommunion Prayer:**

**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.**

Solemn Prayer over the People

**Recessional Hymn #164 Alone thou goest forth, O Lord**

*Bangor*

**Alone thou goest forth, O Lord, in sacrifice to die;  
is this thy sorrow nought to us who pass unheeding by?**

**Our sins, not thine, thou bearest, Lord; make us thy sorrow feel,  
till through our pity and your shame love answers love's appeal.**

**This is earth's darkest hour, but thou dost light and life restore;  
then let all praise be given thee who livest ever more.**

Dismissal: Let us bless the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: Fantasy in g minor BWV 542.1

J. S. Bach