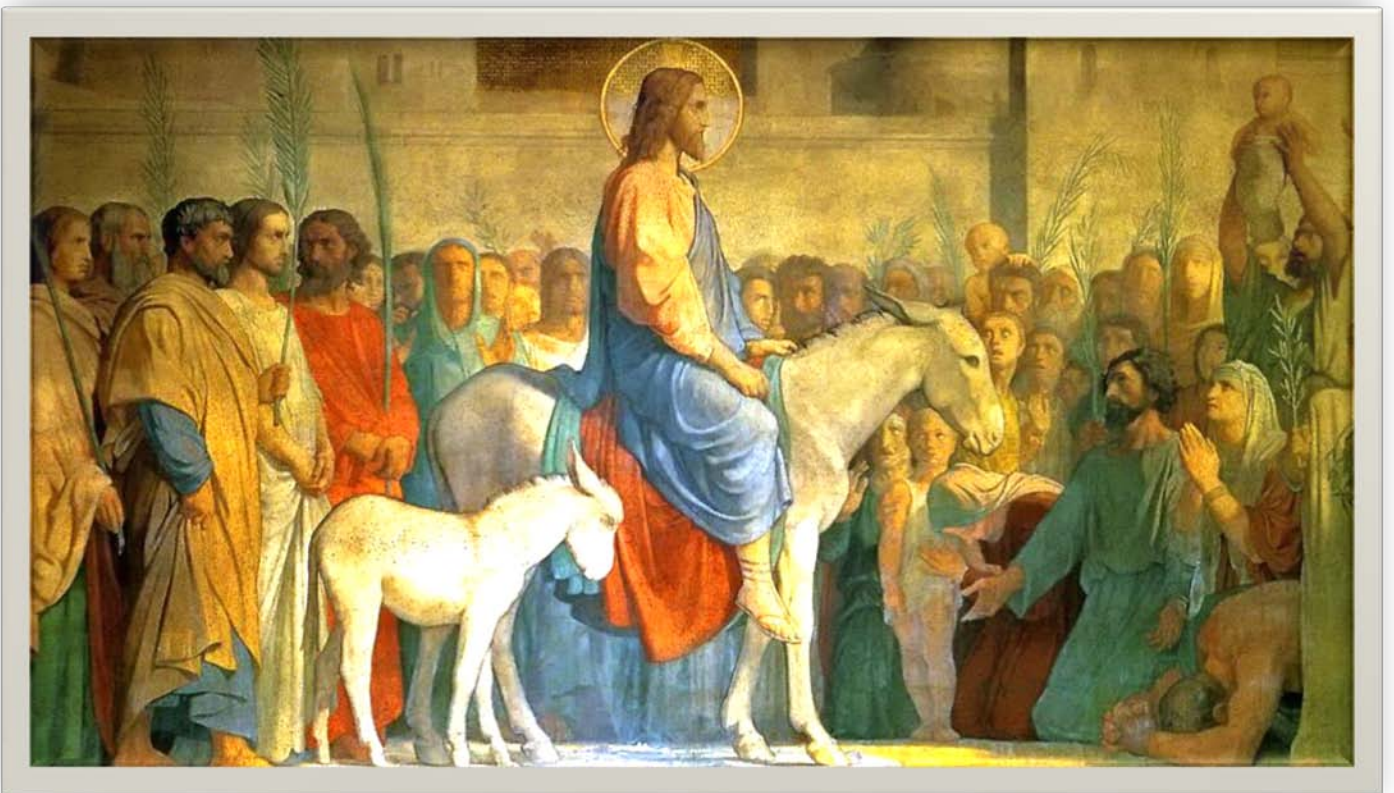


Episcopal Churches of
Saints Thomas & Nicholas

April 5th, 2020

Palm Sunday



LIVE on YouTube

www.youtube.com/channel/UChTwZqDaryh8kNAc-XsmiNg

Our Prayer

"Let us offer prayers and blessings for all people and all nations of the Earth. Let us bless that, though intense, this will also become a time of conscious awakening and healing for everyone. We know, from the lessons of history, that great difficulties, disasters and challenging times also can strengthen and unify us by dissolving the differences that appear to divide us. Calamities often strengthen us internally, making us more deeply aware of the highest values of life. Troubling times encourages us to work together, to genuinely care for each other. Such events make us more aware of our collective strength when we work together as one united human family. May we grow in unity, love and understanding.

The Lord's Blessings be upon all people and nations affected at this time. May governments and all helpers move in an inspired, co-operative and harmonious way, so that collectively we are able to put right whatever needs to be put right within our capacity. Our prayer is that this disease comes to an end soon. We believe, trust, know this will happen.

This is a prayer for our entire world and its leaders. We pray that the greater, higher Truth which dwells inside us all raise us up in conscious awareness of our true nature and Being so that we become more kind, more open, more loving, wise, peaceful and powerful in the Truth we are. May we live fully in the joy of our real nature in accordance with the will of the Supreme God Almighty."

~ Mojibaba

Online Worship Services for Holy Week

Online services for Holy Week will be updated as the information becomes available. Please check the DE Episcopal Diocese website for a list of online worship opportunities.

www.Delaware.church/covid-19-response

***The Episcopal Churches of
Sts Thomas and Nicholas will join together
to provide online worship opportunities
EVERY DAY of Holy Week!***

LIVE on YouTube

<http://stthomasparish.org/holy-week-2020-and-easter-services-update/>

Washington National Cathedral

Palm Sunday (11:15am), Maundy Thursday (7pm), Good Friday (noon), and Easter Sunday (11:15am)
YouTube and Facebook Live.

Let Us Pray

Please visit our website
for news and information.

Under the category "News and Sermons",
you will find resources such as:

- online resources for prayer
- Christian blogs
- Christian literary journals

<http://stthomasparish.org/let-us-pray/>

Public Health Information

The Episcopal Church encourages everyone to adhere to the Centers for Disease Control's recommendations to prevent the spread of this virus to not unintentionally harm neighbors at home, at school, at work, or others in the community. Please check in with the DE Dept of Health and Social Services for updates.

<https://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/>

God loves you. No exceptions.

The Episcopal Church Welcomes You.



Greetings! We're delighted you are here, and want for you to be comfortable so you can worship God and enjoy your visit today. We suspect you may have some questions. Everybody you see here was a newcomer at one time, and we've *all* had questions- probably some of the same you have today.

In the Episcopal Church, everybody doesn't always do things the same way. But, **when you're worshipping God, you can't get it wrong!** If you need help, ask the person next to you. We are friendly, helpful people here at St Thomas. Please bear in mind, regardless of what anybody else is doing, do what makes *you* comfortable.

Our weekly services:

Sunday 8am- Rite I (spoken Eucharist)

Sunday 10:30am- Rite II (sung Eucharist)

Wednesday 12:00pm- Intercessory Prayer with Holy Eucharist

The Christian life is a source of endless fascination. Just when we think we have seen and heard everything it has to offer, something new turns up. Committing to a life of learning and growing in the faith is an excellent way to make sure there is always enough fuel in the spiritual tank.

Ask, Seek, Knock from Matthew 7:7-8

⁷ "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ⁸For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened."

There are many opportunities for Christian growth within our parish. We welcome everyone to drop in and check out the many offerings. Our groups include:

- Children's Ministries, age 18mo-6th grade- meet weekly at 9:15am
- Youth CREW, 7th-12th grades- meet semi-weekly at 11:45am
- Youth Confirmation, grades 7 and 8- meet weekly at 9:00am
- ECM, college age students- meet weekly on Weds at 5:30pm
- The Parlor Class, adult ed- meet weekly at 9:15am
- Novel Theology, all ages- meet monthly at 9:15am
- Lectionary Bible Study, all ages- meet weekly on Weds at 10:30am

In addition to these groups, we also welcome the occasional guest speaker or activity during coffee hour, as well as special 6-week lecture series. For more information about any of our educational offerings, please ask any member of the vestry, speak with Fr Howie, or visit our website:

www.stthomasparish.org

Thank you for joining us today, and we hope to see you again soon!

LITURGY OF THE PALMS

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.

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.

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. Amen.

Deacon Let us go forth in peace.

People In the name of Christ. Amen.

Deacon Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

People Hosanna in the highest.

Hymn #154

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Hymnal #154

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,

1. who in the Lord's Name com - est, the King and Bles - sed 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 - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
5. who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King.

THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People His mercy endures forever.

Kyrie

Hymnal S-91

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us.

Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on -

us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Healey Willan

The Collect of the Day & Collect in Time of Sickness

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.

Most mighty and merciful God, in this time of great sickness, we flee to you for comfort. Deliver us, we pray, from our peril; give strength and skill to all who minister to the sick; prosper our efforts to protect and heal; and grant that, being aware of the frailty and uncertainty of our life, we may apply our hearts to that heavenly wisdom that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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?

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 31:9-16

In te, Domine, speravi

- 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 Lesson

Philippians 2:5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death--
even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name

that is above every name,
 so that at the name of Jesus
 every knee should bend,
 in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
 and every tongue should confess
 that Jesus Christ is Lord,
 to the glory of God the Father.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Hymn #158, vv. 1-3

Ah, Holy Jesus

Hymnal #158



1. Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed, that man to
2. Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my
3. Lo, the Good Shep-herd for the sheep is of - fered; the slave hath
4. For me, kind Je - sus, was thy in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal
5. There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -



1. judge thee hath in hate pre - tend - ed: By foes de - rid - ed,
2. trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,
3. sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for our a - tone - ment,
4. sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish
5. dore thee, and will ev - er pray thee, think on thy pi - ty



1. by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.
2. I it was de - nied thee: I cru - ci - fied thee.
3. while we noth - ing heed - ed, God in - ter - ced - ed.
4. and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.
5. and thy love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.

All stand

The Gospel

Matthew 21:1-11

Deacon The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Fr Howie

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

We stand with Christ in his suffering.

For forgiveness for the many times we have
denied Jesus, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy

For grace to seek out those habits of sin
which mean spiritual death, and by prayer
and self-discipline to overcome them, let
us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy

For Christian people, that through the
suffering of disunity there may grow a rich
union in Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy

For those who make laws, interpret them,
and administer them, that our common life
may be ordered in justice and mercy, let us
pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy

For those who still make Jerusalem a
battleground, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy

For those who have the courage to work
openly for justice and peace, let us pray to
the Lord.

Lord, have mercy

For all who serve in armed forces and all who
risk their own safety for the care and protection
of others, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who, weighed down with hardship,
failure, or sorrow, feel that God is far from
them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy

For those who are tempted to give up the way
of the cross, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy

For and all who are sick or in any kind of
trouble, especially those we name now, aloud
or in our hearts, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy

For the Church of Jerusalem and the Middle East,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy

For all the faithful departed, especially those we
name now, aloud or in our hearts, let us pray
to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy

Holy God
Holy and mighty
Holy and immortal
Have mercy on us.
Amen.

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All **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.

Celebrant 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.**

Offertory Hymn

Above All
Michael W. Smith

Above all powers
Above all kings
Above all nature and all created things
Above all wisdom and all the ways of man
You were here before the world began

Above all kingdoms
Above all thrones
Above all wonders the world has ever known
Above all wealth and treasures of the earth
There's no way to measure what you're worth

Crucified
Laid behind the stone
You lived to die
Rejected and alone

Like a rose trampled on the ground
You took the fall
And thought of me
Above all

Above all powers
Above all kings
Above all nature and all created things
Above all wisdom and all the ways of man
You were here before the world began

Above all kingdoms
Above all thrones
Above all wonders the world has ever known
Above all wealth and treasures of the earth
There's no way to measure what...

Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. 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:

Sanctus S-130

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,____

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,____

hea - ven and earth are full,____ full____ of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes____ in the name of the Lord.____ Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

F. Schubert, arr. R. Proulx

The people stand or kneel.

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.

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

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

**Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
All Therefore let us keep the feast.

Fraction Anthem

This is My Body

Levas #155

This is my bod - y giv - en up for you, this is my
blood poured out for you. This is my bod - y giv - en
up for you, this is my blood poured out for you.
Bod - y of Christ, A - men, Blood of Christ, A - men,
Bod - y of Christ, A - men, Blood of Christ, A - men.

Edward V. Bonnemere

Celebrant Behold the Lamb of God,
Behold Him who takes away the sins of the world;
Happy are they who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

***O Lord, I am not worthy that you should come under my roof,
but speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.***

The Communion

A prayer for spiritual Communion

Lord Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things,
and I desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive you sacramentally,
I pray that you will come spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you as if you were already there
and unite myself wholly to you.
Never permit me to be separated from you.
Amen.

Hymn #313

Let Thy Blood in Mercy Poured

Hymnal #313

1. Let thy Blood in mer - cy poured, let thy gra - cious Bo - dy bro - ken,
2. Thou didst die that I might live; bles-sed Lord, thou cam'st to save me;
3. By the thorns that crown'd thy brow, by the spear-wound and the nail - ing,
4. Wilt thou own the gift I bring? All my pen - i - tence I give thee;
be to me, O gra - cious Lord, of thy bound-less love the to - ken.
all that love of God could give Je - sus by his so - rows gave me.
by the pain and death, I now claim, O Christ, thy love un - fail - ing.
thou art my ex - alt - ed King, of thy match-less love for - give me.
Thou didst give thy - self for me, now I give my - self to thee.

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

All 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.

Announcements

Blessing of Birthdays and Anniversaries

The Passion Gospel

Matthew 26:14-27:66

Deacon The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

One of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, "What will you give me if I betray him to you?" They paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." And they became greatly distressed

and began to say to him one after another, "Surely not I, Lord?" He answered, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born." Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" He replied, "You have said so."

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, "You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written,

'I will strike the shepherd,
the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'

But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee." Peter said to him, "Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you." Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." Peter said to him, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And so said all the disciples.

Then Jesus went with them 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.

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 judgment 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 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." 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 Prayer over the People

Hymn #L-38

The Old Rugged Cross

Levas #38



1. On a hill far a - way stood an old rugged cross, the _
2. Oh, that old rug-ged cross so de - spised by the world, has a
3. In the old rug-ged cross, stain'd with blood so di - vine, a _
4. To the old rug-ged cross I will ev - er be true, its _

em - blem of suf - f'ring and shame; and I love that old cross where the
won - drous at - trac - tion for me; _ for the dear Lamb of God left His
won - drous beau - ty I see; _ for 'twas on that old cross Je - sus
shame and re - praach glad - ly bear; _ then He'll call me some day to my

dear - est and best for a world of lost sin - ners was slain. _
glo - ry a - bove, to _ bear it to dark Cal - va - ry. _
suf - fer'd and died, to _ par - don and sanc - ti - fy me. _
home far a - way, where His glo - ry for - ev - er I'll share.

So I'll cher - ish the old rug-ged cross till my tro - phies at last I lay down; I will
cling to the old rug-ged cross, _ and ex - change it some day for a crown.

Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

The cover picture on the bulletin this morning is of a painting of the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem by Jean-Hippolyte Flandrin (1809-1864).

EPISCOPAL
CHURCHES OF
SAINTS THOMAS
AND NICHOLAS

HOLY
WEEK
2020

ALL
are
Welcome!

LIVE on
YouTube

service leaflets
available via email
StThomasOffice@googlegroups.com
and at StThomasParish.org

Palm Sunday

Holy Eucharist 8 and 10:30am
*The liturgy of the Palms streaming
LIVE from St Nicholas, Newark DE*

MONDAY

Holy Eucharist 5:30pm
*A quiet, spoken service with prayers from the
Eastern Orthodox Service of the Bridegroom
(Matthew 25:1-13)*

TUESDAY

Holy Eucharist 5:30pm
*A quiet, spoken service with
prayers for healing*

WEDNESDAY

Holy Eucharist 12 noon
Solemn Evensong 7pm
*Our usual Wednesday midday Eucharist with intercessory prayer.
In the evening, a chanted service of evening prayer,
with the community gathered virtually.*

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Holy Eucharist begins the vigil of the watch 7pm
*Holy Eucharist, sacramental washing of HANDS, and the removal
of ornaments in the church in preparation for Good Friday.
The church will stream LIVE continuously until Friday evening for those who
wish to follow Our Lord's request to watch with Him "one brief hour"
(Matthew 26:40)*

GOOD FRIDAY

Liturgy 12 noon
*The principal Good Friday Liturgy will be observed at noon,
with the solemn collects and Eucharist from the Reserved Sacrament.*

HOLY SATURDAY

Great Vigil of Easter 8pm
*We will gather for the Church's most solemn observance-
waiting and watching for Our Lord's Resurrection.
We will light the new Paschal fire,
renew our baptismal promises, and make a joyful noise.*

SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION

Holy Eucharist 8 and 10:30am
*Join us LIVE on YouTube to celebrate
the resurrection of our Savior!*