

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
Madison, AL



The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday
March 24, 2024

Fr. Chris Hartley, Rector
Fr. Dillon Green, Associate Rector
Rev. Lynn Bullard, Deacon
Tom Killian, Music Director
Susan Fletcher, Organist

Holy Eucharist Rite II

The service begins outdoors in the Labyrinth (weather permitting).

The 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.**

The Holy Gospel

Mark 11:1-11a

Deacon †The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples and said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.’” They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

“Hosanna!

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

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

***People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The 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.**

Celebrant 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.***

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 (*setting by Tom Killian*) Choir

John Charlton, *cantor*

The Procession of the Palms

Deacon Let us go forth in peace.

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

Processional Hymn #154 “All Glory, Laud and Honor”

(see separate sheet)

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray

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

The Liturgy of the Word

The First Reading

Isaiah 50:4-9a

A reading from the Book of Isaiah

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

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."

The Second Reading

Philippians 2:5-11

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Philippians

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.

<i>Reader</i>	The Word of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God.

Hymn #156
Congregation

“Ride On In Majesty”

Choir &

The Passion Gospel

Mark 14:1-15:47

The congregation remains seated. Follow along on the Narrative located on the pews.

The Sermon

Deacon Lynn

Prayers of the People

Form 1

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying
"Lord, have mercy."

We pray for The Church of The Province of West Africa; For our Companion Diocese of Honduras and their Bishop, Lloyd; For all victims of violence, hatred, prejudice, oppression, and for the agencies who advocate on their behalf; For Kairos & Kairos Outside; For St. Matthew's Grief/Share Ministry. For the peace of the world, especially in Ukraine and the Middle East, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For our presiding bishop, Michael, our bishops, Glenda and Brian, our rector, Chris, our associate rector, Dillon, our deacon, Lynn, our postulant for Holy Orders, Karen, for our retired clergy Sam, Steve and Bob. For St. Matthew's staff, vestry and laity, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For our president, Joe, our vice president, Kamala, our governor, Kay, our mayor, Paul, and for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For this city, Madison, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For the good earth, which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

✙ For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord. ***Lord, have mercy.***

In the communion of St. Matthew and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God. ***To thee, O Lord our God.***

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Welcome

The Offertory “Prepare The Royal Highway” *(arr. Bradley Ellingboe)*

Choir

When the offering is presented at the altar, the Celebrant says

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.

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

The Liturgy of the Table

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

The people remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, 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:

Sanctus & Benedictus #S-124

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 he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people kneel. Then 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.**

The Celebrant then continues

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

People and Celebrant

**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 priest breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

Agnus Dei #S-161

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.

Prayer Of Humble Access *The People may join in saying this prayer*

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen.*

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Hymn #337 “And Now, O Father, Mindful Of The Love” Choir & Congregation

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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.*

The Solemn Prayer

Deacon Bow down before the Lord.

Celebrant 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.

The Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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

The congregation departs in silence.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES:

Maundy Thursday – 7:00pm

Good Friday – 7:00pm & Stations of the Cross at noon

Easter Vigil with Baptism – 8:00pm

PRAYER NEEDS: *Please pray for St. Matthews's members who are distressed in body, mind, or spirit:* Bill Byrd, Chuck Vickers, Dottie Aldredge, Gina Centanni, Terry Schuster, George & Sandra Burgess, Ray & Shirley White, Canellia Patterson, David Osmond, Colleen Turner, Dick Pendleton, Anna Post, Bev Ryberg, David Newton, Jane Prince, Mary Travers, Marie Lutz, Josie Cooper, Anne Sullivan, Judy Elkins, Lynda Johnston, Maurice Hale, Jack Brown, Bob & Eileen Bogard, Tyron Newton, Roger & Rhoda Kitchen, Lynn Beasley, Janice Combs, Sande Smith, Brenda Kirkendall, Chris King, Eileen Lewis, Charles Bernhard, Steve Gruman. *Also pray for our friends and family members, especially:* Nancy Laws, Brenda Anderson, Diana Parks, Martha Bergmann, Chuck Sewell, Wes Patterson, Mike Rice, Samantha Rice, Richard Hattoway, Jenny Williams, Rosie Brown, Jack Cooper, Michael & Nancy Laws, Jewell Newton, Ginger Eich, Catherine S. Williams, Joe Allen, Caroline Thomas, Elyssa Nelson, Vaughn Cassell, Bill Fischer, Sally Flanigan, Theresa Richerson, family of Madison Gilbert, Scott Marbut, Todd Newman, Jessica Goodwin, Cathy Taveras, Fran Woytowich, BB McCalpin, Bob & Peggy Wagner, Nancy Ford, Stephen Byrd, Bronwen Murray, Katie Ray, Sherry Sampson, Kate Winkler, Joe Frank Trevino, Emmy & Drew Champion, Ron Mandelbaum, Dave Knowles, Wade Allen, Emily Nebrig, Bobby Paysinger, Barbara Lemley, Steve Sands, Felicia Temple.

WORSHIP SERVERS:

VOD: Gloria Boyd

8:30am

Altar Guild: B Combs

Nursery: Anderson/Brown

Hospitality: M Couch

Ushers: Prince/Stagner

Lectors: B Buzby/M Pezzula/B Williams

LEM's: Christopher

Counters: Cechovic/Modrall

Acolytes: L Hartley/E Bruce/C Pezzula/A Wales

11:00am

T Gruman

Anderson/Brown

M Pezzula

Anderson/Cassell

J Salmon/B Womack/J Hubbard

Hartley

Harrison/Keary

J Nixon/A Utt/M Collier/B Watson