

Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

The Liturgy of the Word

The Collect:

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.

Old Testament: Isaiah 50:4-9a

⁴The 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. ⁵The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. ⁶I 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. ⁷The 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; ⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ⁹It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

Psalm: 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."

Epistle: Philippians 2:5-11

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.