



# The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 29, 2026 at 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

The Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist: Rite Two  
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church ☩ Richmond, Virginia

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*Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. We are glad you are here. We welcome and include all people without exception and we extend a special greeting to any visitors. Throughout this bulletin, helpful guidance is printed in italics. Visitor guides are found in racks at the entrance doors. When you wish to be known here, please fill out a welcome card (found in each pew or online); you may drop the card into the offering plate as it is passed. Children are very welcome in this service, and child care is also available for infants and children through age four in our nursery on the lower level near the main parking lot entrance; greeters are happy to guide you. The church is open for prayer from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Thursday. We hope to see you again soon!*

## The Liturgy of the Palms

*The congregation will gather outside the main church at the Three Chopt entrance.*

### The Liturgy of the Palms

The Book of Common Prayer, page 270

*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.**

**A Reading from the Gospel** Matthew 21:1-11

*Deacon* 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."

*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.**

**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.**

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

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

### **The Procession**

**Deacon** Let us go forth in peace.

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

## **The Word of God**

**Hymn 154** All glory, laud, and honor *Sung by all, repeated as necessary.* *Valet will ich dir geben*

*While singing the hymn printed below, the congregation will process into the church in remembrance of Jesus' own procession into Jerusalem. At 9:00, those worshipping in **Palmer Hall Chapel** will process behind the cross and donkey through the church, back outside, and to Palmer Hall for the rest of their service.*

### *Refrain*

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

**1 Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son,  
who in the Lord's Name comest, the King and Blessed One.** *Refrain*

**2 The company of angels is praising thee on high;  
and we with all creation in chorus make reply.** *Refrain*

**3 The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;  
our praise and prayers and anthems before thee we present.** *Refrain*

**4 To thee before thy passion they sang their hymns of praise;  
to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.** *Refrain*

**5 Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,  
who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King.** *Refrain*

### **The Collect of the Day**

Prayer Book, page 219

**Celebrant** The Lord be with you.

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

**Celebrant** Let us pray. *Silence is kept.*

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 Lesson** Philippians 2:5-11 *Please sit.*

**Reader** A Reading from the Letter of Paul 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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.  
People **Thanks be to God.** *A period of silence is kept.*  
**The Sermon** The Rev. John D. Rohrs



### **The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to St. Matthew**

*The customary responses before and after the Gospel are omitted.*

*The congregation is seated for the first part of the Passion. The congregation should follow along in the Passion Narrative folders. Please make the responses of the congregation and **stand** at the arrival at Golgotha.*



*One minute of silence is held for reflection.*

**Hymn 158** Ah, holy Jesus *Sung by all, standing.* *Herzliebster Jesu*

### **The Prayers of the People, Form II**

Prayer Book, page 385

**Celebrant** Let us pray for the church and the world.

*You may stand or kneel.*

*In the course of the pause after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.*

**Leader** I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

**Leader** I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

**Leader** I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison, remembering especially those who suffer in all places of conflict at home and abroad. Pray for those in any need or trouble, especially those people and places we name now.

**Leader** I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him. Pray that they may find and be found by him.

**Leader** I ask your prayers of thanksgiving for all the blessings of this life, [especially \_\_\_\_\_]. Pray for a heart to perceive where Christ calls us to bless others each day of this life.

**Leader** I ask your prayers for the departed, [especially \_\_\_\_\_]. Pray for those who have died.

**Leader** Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

**Celebrant** Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask, help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Peace** *Please stand.*

Prayer Book, page 360

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

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

*The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord. After exchanging the Peace, please be seated.*

### **Welcome and Announcements**

## **The Holy Communion**

*All comes from God, so from what God has given, we offer gifts as we participate in God's work in the world. You may offer your gift in an offering plate as they come by or make a gift online by scanning the QR code or texting STSTEPHENSVA to 73256.*



## At the Offertory

It is a thing most wonderful

*Sung by the choir.*

text: W. Walsham How; music: Philip Moore

It is a thing most wonderful, almost too wonderful to be that God's own Son should come from heaven, and die to save a child like me. And yet I know that it is true: he chose a poor and humble lot, and wept and mourned and toiled and died, for love of those who loved him not. I sometimes think about the cross, and shut my eyes and try to see the cruel nails and crown of thorns and Jesus crucified for me. But even could I see him die, I could but see a little part of that great love which like a fire, is always burning in his heart. And yet I want to love thee, Lord; O light the flame within my heart, that I may love thee more and more, until I see thee as thou art.

## At the Presentation

*Sung by all, standing.*

*Gardiner*

*The fruits of our labor are presented to God, along with gifts for our food ministry.*

All things are thine; no gift have we, Lord of all gifts, to offer thee;  
and hence with grateful hearts today thine own before thy feet we lay.

## The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer A

Prayer Book, page 361

*The people remain standing.*

*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 God thanks and praise.**

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

*Here a proper preface is said.*

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

*Sung by all.*

William Bradley Roberts

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might.  
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

*You may stand or kneel.*

*Celebrant*

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.**

*Celebrant*

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 say,

**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.**

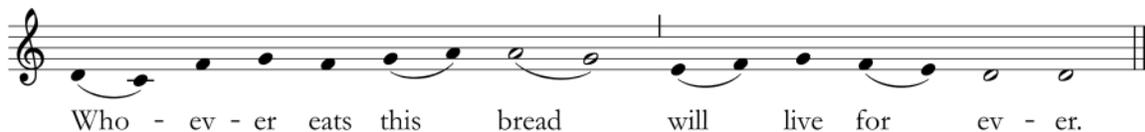
**The Breaking of the Bread**

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

*The cantor sings the antiphon, then all repeat. All sing the antiphon again after each verse.*

The Hymnal S-170

Mason Martens



*Cantor:*

1. This is the true bread which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.
2. Whoever believes in me shall not hunger or thirst, for the bread which I give for the life of the world is my flesh.

## The Invitation

### Celebrant

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more. So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, because it is the Lord who invites you. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

### At the Communion of the People

*All are welcome at the altar in this place. Communion is distributed at the chancel steps [9:00] or the high altar [11:15], and in either of the side chapels (kneeling or standing). The altar also extends to your pew if you need us to bring the sacrament to you; just let an usher know. To receive Communion, place your hands together, palms up. You may consume the bread and then drink from the wine in the larger chalice. If you prefer to "intinct" or touch the edge of your bread to the wine, please use one of the smaller cups, available at all stations. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms against your chest.*

### Music at Communion

**Anthem** Drop, drop, slow tears *Sung by the choir.* text: Phineas Fletcher; music: Orlando Gibbons,  
Drop, drop, slow tears, and bathe those beauteous feet, arr. David Blackwell  
which brought from heaven the news and Prince of Peace.  
Cease not, wet eyes, his mercies to entreat;  
to cry for vengeance sin doth never cease.  
In your deep floods drown all my faults and fears;  
nor let his eye see sin, but through my tears.

**Hymn 458** My song is love unknown *Sung by all, seated.* *Love Unknown*

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray. *You may stand or kneel.*

**All** **Lord Jesus Christ,**  
**you have put your life into our hands;**  
**now we put our lives into yours.**  
**Take us, renew us and remake us.**  
**What we have been is past;**  
**what we shall be, through you,**  
**still awaits us.**  
**Lead us on.**  
**Take us with you. Amen.**

## The Solemn Prayer

Adapted from St. Francis de Sales (1567-1622)

**Celebrant** Do not look forward in fear  
to the changes in life;  
rather look to them with full hope,  
that as they arise, God,  
whose very own you are,  
will lead you safely through all things;  
and when you cannot stand it,  
God will carry you in arms of love.  
Do not fear what may happen tomorrow;  
the same everlasting Father  
who cared for you today  
will take care of you then and every day.  
When suffering comes,  
God's unfailing strength will be with you;  
you are not alone.  
So be at peace  
and put aside all anxious thoughts and imaginations.

*Please stand for the silent procession as we enter into the rest of Holy Week. There is no Dismissal.  
Please refrain from conversation until you have left the church, in respect for those who may wish to remain in prayer.  
Please leave the Passion Narrative in the pews.*

## Memorial

The Palm Sunday arrangements are given to the glory of God and in memory of William Astor Stanley by his family

## Participants

9 A.M. // **CELEBRANT:** The Rev. William S. Stanley; **DEACON:** The Rev. Judy Webb Davis; **SUBDEACON:** Kathy Brock; **READER/INTERCESSOR:** Scott Green; **PREACHER:** The Rev. John D. Rohrs; **PASSION READERS:** Iffet Araniti-Davis, Charlie Caldwell, Meg Eckman, Scott Finn, David Hodge, Ada Mathews; **PREACHER:** The Rev. John D. Rohrs; **ASSISTING PRIEST:** The Rev. John W.A. Jenkins; **CHALICE BEARERS:** Bob Dibble, Clarice Dibble, Pat Githens, Bill Gray; **ACOLYTES:** Parker Birdsey, Wyatt Hobbs, Wilson Lucas, Emma Peay, Carley Rose, Linley Rose; **MUSICIANS:** Members of St. Stephen's Choir, Chris Edwards, *director*; Diana Chou, *organ*; **VERGER:** Andy Luke

11:15 A.M. // **CELEBRANT:** The Rev. Cate Anthony; **DEACON:** The Rev. John W.A. Jenkins; **SUBDEACON:** Earl Roney; **READER/INTERCESSOR:** Gail Waechter; **PREACHER:** The Rev. John D. Rohrs; **PASSION READERS:** Iffet Araniti-Davis, Charlie Caldwell, Meg Eckman, Scott Finn, David Hodge, Ada Mathews; **ASSISTING PRIEST:** The Rev. Judy Webb Davis; **CHALICE BEARERS:** Howard Anderson, Mim Oman, Laurie Rogers, Deborah Waters; **ACOLYTES:** Ada Mathews, Betsy Proutt, Olivia Randolph, Isabel Schaaf, Tripp Schnell, Colin Weis; **MUSICIANS:** St. Stephen's Choir, Chris Edwards, *director*; Diana Chou, *organ*; **VERGER:** Penn Rogers

## Holy Week and Easter at St. Stephen's Church

Worship services and offerings for Holy Week and Easter Day are described in a brochure at Information Central; in the **Spirit**, the printed newsletter inside this bulletin; and at [ststephensRVA.org/holy-week-and-easter](http://ststephensRVA.org/holy-week-and-easter).

## The Parish Prayer List

Loretta Albertis, Kay Alley, Leilani Allwine, Patricia Atkins-Smith, Sue Atkinson, Elizabeth Bannerman, Lash Barksdale, Nancy Beale, Linda Bennett, Christine Boeteger, Emma Bolduc, Genie Borum, Julia Bouck, Gene Bowles, Sturges Brian, Kathy Brock, Leslie Brockman, Alex H. Brown, Pat Brown, Sarah Jo Bryce, Turner Bruneau, Matt Boyd, Patti Bullen, Tammy Carleton, Scott Carnohan, Paula Chambers, Michael Click, Nancy Cole, Sarah Cole, Susan Collier, Mary Cooke, Prior Cooper, Kathy Conrad, John Corey, Tracy Councill, Don Cowles, Michelle Crim, the Rt. Rev. Michael Curry, Debbie Cuseo, Chris Davis, Patricia Delany, Ham DeRosa, Terry Dickinson, Davis Dunn Dillard, Stephen Drake Sr., Kristen Estes, Jonathan Fava, Debbie Ferguson, Guy Frank, April Greenwood, Janis Hall, Rodger Hardy, David Harrell, Katie Hellebush, Dan Hill, Anna Hurdle, Alan Jameson, John Turner Jenkins, Lena Jones, Justin Jones-Nickerson, Jane Kelly, Linda Lewis, Genie Lucyk, Margaret Lyle, Pam Lynch, Ross Mackenzie, Barbara Mathison, Adrienne Maxwell, Michael McCabe, Schnucki McCabe, Morgan McCall, Stratton and Robin McCrady, Gertrude McLean, Nancy Meath, Jack Miller, Mary Miller, B. Millner, Tina Millner, Susan Minyard, Sallie Moncol, Susan Moore, Lee W. Mumford, *Shelby Nichols*, Ashley Nickerson, Mary Beth Noel, Sallie Nolte, Jan Orgain, Tricia Payne, Beth Pearce, Ernest Perry, Courtney Phillips, Scott Pittman, Wilde Poole and family, Lyn Presson, Alma Price, Jamey Price, *Julia Putney-Brandt*, Brick Quinn, Cary Ragland, Luke Robertson, Jennifer Reed, Aleta Richards, Emery Rivera, Ryan Rohadfox, Bette Shiflett, Chrys Sills, Aiden Thomas Smith, Josh Spain, Regena Stith, Beth Thomas, Bruce Thomas, Margaret Thompson, Brian Trollope, Kenneth Valke, Pam W., Timothy W., Ozzie Wade, Suzanne Wallace, Tom White, Terri Wilcox, Donna Williams, Steve Williams, Martha Wilson, Claire Wood, Emily H. Wood, Rosalyn Wootten, Sue Wootton, Rick Wortham, *J. Morgan Wright*, Margaret P. Young. **For the blessings of this life**, especially for the installation of the Most Reverend and Right Honorable Sarah E. Mullally as 106th Archbishop of Canterbury. **For those who have died**, especially Dr. Jen Domer, Dana King, John Franklyn Newsom III, Mack Ruffin III, and Todd Shelton. **For those expecting a child**, especially Ian Hayes and Corinne Torres, Preston and Cate Kendig, and Megan and Tim Watson. **For our missionaries**, Heidi Schmidt and Monica Vega, and the people they serve in Argentina. **In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer**, we pray for *the Anglican Church of Melanesia*. **For ReWork Richmond**. **For an end to gun violence**. **For peace and reconciliation** in Haiti, Iraq, Iran, Israel/Palestine, Nigeria, North Korea, South Sudan, Syria, and Ukraine, and at our borders. **For those serving overseas in the military or diplomatic service**: CPT Anna Broadbent-Evelyn, Caroline Finn, and Lt. Jonathan Dean Hudson.

*Names in italics were added to the prayer list this week.*

*In order to keep our prayer list current and facilitate the intentionality and mindfulness with which we pray, we print names on the list for three months or less. If you would like for someone to remain on the list for more (or less) time, please call the office or email Kitty Ball at [kball@ststephensRVA.org](mailto:kball@ststephensRVA.org).*

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