

# The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday



St. Thomas' Episcopal Church  
March 29, 2026

2 St. Thomas Ave.  
Savannah, GA 31406  
912-355-3110

[www.stthomasioh.org](http://www.stthomasioh.org)

*We are a welcoming community of faith and love that serves one another  
and seeks to draw others to God through our ministries.*

**WELCOME TO ALL GUESTS**

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Thank you for joining us at worship. Restrooms are available in our parish hall and in the Christian Education building.

Children's faith formation is available during the 10:00 am service for children 0 years old to 5th grade. In the Nursery, those from 0-4 years old learn songs, hear Bible stories, do crafts, as well as play and have snack time. If you do choose to utilize our nursery, we hope you will bring your children back into church to receive communion or a blessing. During the school year we have "Children's Chapel" for the first part of the service. Children can process behind the cross where they will exit to go the CE Building. The children will return to the church from Children's Chapel at the Peace. For both the nursery and Children's Chapel, adults are welcome to accompany their child if that would be helpful. Please see an usher if you have any questions.

In the Episcopal Church, all baptized Christians, regardless of denomination or age, are invited to be fed at God's table. We use the "common cup" at St. Thomas. You can choose to eat your bread and sip from the chalice when it comes to you or you may hold on to your bread and dip it into the chalice when it comes to you. If you do not wish to receive wine, you may cross your arms over your chest. If you would like to come forward for a blessing, come to the railing and cross your arms over your chest to receive God's blessing. If you would like to learn more about the customs of our tradition, please contact The Rev. Colette Hammesfahr.

Please, fill out a visitor card from the pew rack and give to one of the clergy or the ushers so that we may greet you more formally in the days to come.

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The Rt. Rev. Frank Sullivan Logue, Bishop of Georgia  
The Rev. Colette Hammesfahr, Priest in Charge of  
Parish Life, Worship, and Pastoral Care  
Tripp Hardee, Minister of Music  
Dionne Greenlee, Parish Administrator  
Mallory Abshire, Bookkeeper  
Greg Washabaugh, Sexton  
Dianne Jones, Nursery Supervisor

**The Vestry**

Charlie Barrow, Senior Warden  
Lizann Roberts & Stewart Marshall, Co-Junior Wardens  
Mitch Green, Treasurer      Jane Gilchrist, Clerk

Charlie Barrow	Tracy Edgar	Robert Lupacchino	Lizann Roberts
Jennifer Calver	Betty Henderson	Stewart Marshall	Benjamin Watson
Marie Centgraf	Robert Hughes	Amy Minis	Claudia Welch

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2 St. Thomas Avenue, Savannah, GA 31406  
Telephone: (912) 355-3111 [www.stthomasioh.org](http://www.stthomasioh.org)

If you would like to give electronically towards our offering today or if you are traveling during the year, there are two easy and safe options: through our website at [www.stthomasioh.org/give](http://www.stthomasioh.org/give) or through Venmo @StThomasEpiscopalChurch.



**HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE ONE**  
**8:00 AM**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS Bulletin 4

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY BCP 168

*Celebrant* Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, who, of thy tender love towards mankind, hast sent thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh, and to suffer death upon the cross, that all mankind should follow the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may both follow the example of his patience, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 21:1-11 Bulletin 6

THE HOMILY

THE NICENE CREED Bulletin 6

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Bulletin 7

THE CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION BCP 331

THE PEACE BCP 332

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

THE PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING BCP 333

THE LORD'S PRAYER BCP 336

THE FRACTION AND THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS BCP 337

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER BCP 339

THE SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE AND BLESSING Bulletin 11

THE PASSION GOSPEL: Luke 22:14-23:56 Bulletin 12

*The ministers and people depart in silence.*

*You may take your palm frond with you, or you may leave it on the back pew for us to burn for ashes on Ash Wednesday 2027. Information on how to make a palm cross and its devotional use can be found on page 19 of this booklet.*

**HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II**  
**10:00 AM AND 11:30 AM**

*The people are invited to gather outside around the main parish hall entrance for the 10:00 a.m. palm procession and to walk in procession into the church. Those who do not wish to process can proceed into the church and be seated. The congregation outside will be asked to line up along the walkway between the church and Christian Ed building just before the service starts. The congregation will follow the first cross and the torches into the church in procession. The children will gather by the CE building. The Children's cross and children will follow the congregation. The second cross will follow the children. The Choir will gather in the herb garden and will follow the second cross into the church, followed by the Lay Eucharistic ministers, book bearer, and the clergy. Please, take your blessed palm home with you after the service is over, or hand it to one of the ushers to be collected, or return it to the bulletin table at the entrance.*

**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 FIRST READING**

Zechariah 9:9-12

A Reading from Zechariah.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the warhorse from Jerusalem; and the battle-bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

The Word of the Lord.

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

**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.**

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

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

**THE PROCESSION OF THE PALMS**

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in peace.

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

The people are invited to wave your palms during the procession into the church.

THE OPENING HYMN

All glory, laud, and honor

Hymnal #154

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 219

*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.**

THE SEQUENCE HYMN

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

1. Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, the lit - tle chil - dren sang; through  
2. From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed mid an ex - ul - tant crowd, the  
3. "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" that an - cient song we sing, for

pil - lared court and tem - ple the love - ly an - them rang.  
vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant - ing clear and loud.  
Christ is our Re - deem - er, the Lord of heaven our King.

To Je - sus, who had blessed them close fold - ed to his breast,  
The Lord of earth and heav - en rode on in low - ly state,  
O may we ev - er praise him with heart and life and voice,

the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.  
nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren should on his bid - ding wait.  
and in his bliss - ful pres - ence e - ter - nal - ly re - joice!

*Celebrant* 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Colette Hammesfahr

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

**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.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The Leader and People pray responsively.*

*Litanist* Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

*Litanist* O God, you announce words of grace and truth. Give wisdom to all preachers in your church both globally and locally. Open our hearts to encounter the infinite life you offer in Jesus. Hear us, O God.

*People* **Your mercy is great.**

*Litanist* You hold the whole universe. Gather sun and moon, clouds and stars, land and sea, and plants and animals around the cross, so that all creation bears witness to your saving love. Hear us, O God.

*People* **Your mercy is great.**

*Litanist* Your power is sure. Destroy inequity and division in every place, and build your beloved community among all people. Guide judges, attorneys, and juries so that they act with justice and fairness. Hear us, O God.

*People* **Your mercy is great.**

*Litanist* Your heart breaks open at our pain. Send healing and vindication to all who, like Jesus, know the sting of betrayal, denial, abuse, or false accusations. Be with those experiencing pain or loss this day especially those we name aloud or silently within our hearts (*brief silence*). Hear us, O God.

*People* **Your mercy is great.**

*Litanist* Your ways show compassion. Let this same mind be in us as we enter Holy Week. Bless those here who will lead worship and tell the story of Jesus' death and resurrection. Hear us, O God.

*People* **Your mercy is great.**

*Litanist* O God, your embrace is eternal. Praise and thanks to you for all the faithful departed who rest in your mercy. Deliver us all from death's power and raise us to life in you. Hear us, O God.

*People* **Your mercy is great.**

*Litanist* Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.  
**Amen.**

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Deacon or Celebrant says:*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Minister and People*

**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.**

*The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says:*

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.**

*Please stand.*

#### THE PEACE

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

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### ANNIVERSARY & BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

#### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Let the Rocks Cry Out!*

by Lloyd Larson

#### DOXOLOGY (10:00 am)

**Praise God throughout these forty days;  
Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise;  
And praise the Spirit who imparts;  
God's love in Christ into our hearts. Amen.**

#### THE PRESENTATION (11:30 am)

*Celebrant* All things come of you, O Lord;  
*People* **And of your own have we given you. Amen.**

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING : Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 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 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. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By this grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for and rose again. 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.

*Celebrant and People*

S-114

**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.**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of

Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -

- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth -

— in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

*The people stand or kneel.*

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.**

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 FRACTION ANTHEM

S-158

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -  
 way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -  
 on us. O Lamb of God, that  
 ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have  
 mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of  
 God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the  
 world, grant us thy peace.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

THE FRACTION (11:30 am)

*Celebrant* O Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world:  
*People* **Have Mercy on Us**  
*Celebrant* O Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world:  
*People* **Have Mercy on Us**

*Celebrant* O Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world:

*People* **Grant us Your Peace**

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God.  
Take them in remembrance that Christ died for  
you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

HYMN AT COMMUNION

*The Holy City*

by Stephen Adams  
Cantors

*O sacred head, sore wounded*

Hymnal #169

A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*Those unable to take communion today may pray this prayer*

Faithful God, in the wonder of your wisdom and love you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels, and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life. Though I cannot consume these gifts of bread and wine, I thank you that I have received the sacrament of Christ's presence, the forgiveness of sins, and all other benefits of Christ's passion. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may I embody your desire and be renewed for your service through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE COMMISSIONING OF THE LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITOR

*Celebrant* In the Name of God and of this congregation we send you forth bearing holy gifts; that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood:

*People* **We who are many are One Body, for we all share One Bread and One Cup. Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 366

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**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 forever. Amen.**

THE SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE AND BLESSING

Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice for ever in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty: the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you this day and always. **Amen.**

*The customary responses are omitted from the gospel today. The congregation may remain seated until the mention of Golgotha, the place that is called The Skull, when those who are able are encouraged to stand.*

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*Narrator* After the Passover meal, Jesus came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them,

*Jesus* "Pray that you may not come into the time of trial."

*Narrator* Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed,

*Jesus* "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done."

*Narrator* Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground. When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, and he said to them,

*Jesus* "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial."

*Narrator* While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said to him,

*Jesus* "Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?"

*Narrator* When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked,

*Congregation* "**Lord, should we strike with the sword?**"

*Narrator* Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said,

*Jesus* "No more of this!"

*Narrator* And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him,

*Jesus* "Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!"

*Narrator* Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, "This man also was with him." But he denied it, saying,

*Congregation* "**Woman, I do not know him.**"

*Narrator* A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said,

*Congregation* "**Man, I am not!**"

*Narrator* Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, "Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean." But Peter said,

*Congregation* "**Man, I do not know what you are talking about!**"

*Narrator* At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly. Now the men who were holding Jesus began to mock him and beat him; they also blindfolded him and kept asking him,

*Congregation* "**Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?**"

*Narrator* They kept heaping many other insults on him. The assembly of the elders of the people rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying,

*Congregation* **"We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king."**

*Narrator* Then Pilate asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" He answered,

*Jesus* "You say so."

*Narrator* Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no basis for an accusation against this man." But they were insistent and said,

*Congregation* **"He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place."**

*Narrator* When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies. Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him." Then they all shouted out together,

*Congregation* **"Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!"**

*Narrator* (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting,

*Congregation* **"Crucify, crucify him!"**

*Narrator* A third time he said to them, "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him." But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished. As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said,

*Jesus* "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

*Narrator* Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said,

*Jesus* "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."

*Narrator* And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying,

*Congregation* **"He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!"**

*Narrator* The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying,

*Congregation* **"If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"**

*Narrator* There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied,

*Jesus* "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

*Narrator* It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said,

*Jesus* "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."

*Narrator* Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said,

*Congregation* **"Certainly this man was innocent."**

*Narrator* And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things. Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was beginning. The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments. On the sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

THE CLOSING HYMN

*When I survey the wondrous cross*

Hymnal #474

CHORAL BENEDICTION

*See The Cross*

arr. David Angerman

*People depart in silence.*

*You may take your palm frond with you, or you may hand it to an usher or leave it on the entrance table for us to burn for ashes on Ash Wednesday 2027.*

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### SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP TODAY

*Ushers:* (10:00 am) Bob Luppachino and Dick Young

(11:30 am) Bill Franklin

*Vestry on Duty:* (10:00 am) Tracy Edgar

(11:30 am) Stewart Marshall

*Lectors:* (8:00 am) Howard Bacon (10:00 am) Will Calver

(11:30 am) Bill Franklin

*Lay Eucharistic Ministers:* (8:00 am) Dave White

(10:00 am) Charlie Barrow and Susan Tutan-Gonzales

*Acolytes: Crucifer:* Eva Aguilar, *Book Bearer:* Marin Brooks

*Lay Eucharistic Visitor:* Charlie Barrow

*Hospitality:* Kelley Marshall and Ellie Titus

*Worship Tech:* Tino Aguilar

*Altar Guild:* Jennifer Calver, Sandra Calver, Kelley Marshall, Beth Wall and Sheldon White

*Children's Chapel:* Karen Conner and Elizabeth Varner *Nursery:* Dianne Jones and Holly Barrett

*Cantors:* Elijah Green, Emma Reardon and Kaleb Reavis

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#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, March 29	9:00 am	Bible Study in the Library
	5:30 pm	AA Meeting in the CE Building
		Deadline to order Easter Flowers
Monday, March 30	10:00 am	Planning in the CE Building
	2:00 pm	Women Sharing Wisdom in the Parish Hall
Tuesday, March 31	9:00 am	Staff Meeting
	11:00 am	Women's Bible Study in the Library
	1:30 pm	Tuesday Tiles-Mahjong in the Parish Hall
Wednesday, April 1	11:30 am	Healing Service in the Chapel
	5:00 pm	Handbell Rehearsal
	5:30 pm	Wymberly Garden Club in the CE Building
	6:00 pm	Wednesday Night Supper-Agape Meal
	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, April 2	6:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Service*
Friday, April 3	12:00 pm	Good Friday Service-The Solemn Liturgy*
	6:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Service-Tennebrae*
Saturday, April 4	8:00 pm	Easter Vigil Service*

\* Nursery and livestream provided

#### **Women Sharing Wisdom**

There's an extra Monday in the month of March so Women Sharing Wisdom will meet on Monday March 30<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm. We'll be packing Easter Eggs for the children's Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday.

#### **Altar Guild Polish and Shine**

On Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am the Altar Guild will gather to polish and shine to prepare the church for the Easter services. For more information, please contact Sandra Calver at (912) 661-1288.

#### **Building and Grounds**

The Building and Grounds committee will meet on Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm in the library. For more information please contact Lizann Roberts at [lizann@me.com](mailto:lizann@me.com)

#### **Art Fair**

Join us for **TIDE** (Talent in Design & Expression), a relaxed, family-friendly art and music fair at St. Thomas'. We'll gather, connect and celebrate the creativity of local Lowcountry artists and musicians. Mark your calendar for **April 18** from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and plan to spend the day with us. Consider volunteering or sharing your creative work as a vendor. Applications are now open. For more information, visit [tideisleofhope.com](http://tideisleofhope.com) and follow us on [social@tide.fair](mailto:social@tide.fair).

## Creating a Painting

Creating a Painting is a watercolor class focused on developing strong skills in both drawing and painting. The class emphasizes understanding the process behind creating artwork—how artists move from idea to finished painting with intention. All levels of artistic experience are welcome! The class meets once a week for four weeks and are led by local artist, Sarah Long. The cost is \$25 per class. We need a minimum of 7-8 people to have a class. Dates and time will be determined by those interested. If you are interested or want more information please contact Mary Hill at [singmlhill@yahoo.com](mailto:singmlhill@yahoo.com) or (912) 665-1859.

**WALK THE JOURNEY OF HOLY WEEK AT ST. THOMAS'**

HOLY WEEK IS SOMETHING WE WALK, NOT JUST OBSERVE.

**PALM SUNDAY (March 29)**  
8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 11:30 AM  
HOSANNA  
as we shout "Hosanna" and hear the story turn toward the cross.

**WEDNESDAY (April 1)**  
6:00 PM  
We gather for an Agape Meal—a simple meal shared in love before the days grow heavy.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY (April 2)**  
6:00 PM  
LAST SUPPER  
We remember the Last Supper, the washing of feet, and the command to love.

**ALTAR OF REPOSE (CE Building)**  
As the altar is stripped, we follow Christ into the night. The sacrament is carried to the altar of repose, recalling the Garden of Gethsemane, and you are invited to come and pray and keep watch.

**GOOD FRIDAY (April 3)**  
12:00 PM SOLEMN LITURGY  
6:00 PM TENEBRAE  
as we sit in the deepening darkness.

**SATURDAY (April 4)**  
8:00 PM  
at the Easter Vigil, we walk back into the tomb—into the quiet and the waiting—and there, light breaks in.

**EASTER SUNDAY (April 5)**  
8:00 AM, 10:00 AM  
We gather to proclaim the good news: Christ is risen.

We invite you to experience the whole journey. Each step draws us deeper into the story—and into the hope that meets us there.

**Easter Brunch & Egg Hunt**

APRIL SUNDAY  
5TH 11 AM

EASTER SUNDAY  
IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE  
10 AM SERVICE