



Palm Sunday / The Sunday of the Passion

The Collect of the Day

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.

“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.”

Today is the first day of Holy Week and the last Sunday in Lent, known as Palm Sunday or the Sunday of the Passion. The day begins by marking Christ’s triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Many churches participate in the Liturgy of the Palms, first offered in The Episcopal Church in the 1960 Book of Offices. In this liturgy, the celebrant blesses palms or other branches, and, following a reading from the Gospels, leads the congregation in procession into their church—often singing “**All Glory, Laud, and Honor**” or “Ride On! Ride On In Majesty!”

This liturgy evokes the early observances of Palm Sunday. According to Armentrout and Slocum’s *An Episcopal Dictionary of the Church* (Church Publishing, 2000), by the year 381, the faithful would process from the Mount of Olives into Jerusalem, waving palm or olive branches. As they processed, they sang songs from Scripture – including the exultant antiphon of Psalm 118 sung at Christ’s entrance into the city: “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

When the Palm Sunday service includes the Eucharist, the Liturgy of the Palms is followed by the salutation and the collect of the day. Afterward, the tone of the service shifts noticeably. In contrast to the earlier song of joy, Psalm 31, appointed for today, cries, “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.” The Gospel reading is likewise sorrowful, recalling the events of Jesus’ Passion (that is, the events and suffering before and during his death). Still, we are reminded throughout the difficult days ahead that this is not the end of the story.

Despite the Savior’s death on the cross, he promises to rise again. The Man of Sorrows remains the one at whose name, “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” (Philippians 2:10-11).

Life Transformed: The Way of Love in Lent - WORSHIP

Drawing on the ancient practice of setting aside Lent as a period of study and preparation for living as a Christian disciple, we are pleased to present weekly teachings from *Life Transformed: The Way of Love in Lent*. Learn more at episcopalchurch.org/life-transformed.

READ Zephaniah 3:12-20

One of the most dramatic elements of WORSHIP in the Easter Vigil is the element of surprise and delight baked into the liturgy. We start in darkness and subdued energy only to have a burst of worship-filled energy when we get to the ultimate song of worship: the Gloria! When we arrive at the Gloria, we throw on the lights, ring bells, sing at our loudest, and may even have a gleeful asperging (sprinkling of holy water as a reminder of our baptism). We are celebrating the greatest surprise of all: the resurrection of Jesus, which put an end to death. This drama is an invitation to let our hearts be moved from fear and despair into gratitude and joy.

In this final oracle from Zephaniah, we hear a distinct call to worship that follows the same dramatic arc that we find in the Easter Vigil. God has come. It is a time for celebrate. We are told to “Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you.... On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion ... he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love.” Here we see that God intends to turn all our fear into rejoicing, which means our worship should well up as an overwhelming act of gratitude.

In Jesus, the prophecy of Zephaniah is fulfilled. From the very moment he was born, the angels cried out to say “fear not” before breaking into their own Gloria song, mirroring ours during the Easter Vigil. In response to this wonderful gift from God, the shepherds ran to his stable to worship the newborn King of Peace. As their fears subsided, their gratitude naturally flowed. Yet, by the time Jesus’ life is ending, when faced with the possibility of following him to the cross, the disciples are once again filled with fear. When they are reunited with the resurrected Jesus, the doors of a new future are flung open and they return to a stance of gratitude and worship. Their fear of eternal death, as well as our own, has been buried in the empty tomb. We are invited to rejoice and let our gratitude for the gift of new life draw us to worship God.

REFLECT: In our reading this week, we are called let go of our fears so that we might truly worship God. What brings you the most joy in your life? Can that joy be offered up to God as an act of worship?

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Please Join Us for Holy Week and Easter at All Souls'

Sunday, April 14th
PALM SUNDAY

Thursday, April 18th
MAUNDY THURSDAY

Friday, April 19th
GOOD FRIDAY

Saturday, April 20th
HOLY SATURDAY

Sunday, April 21st
EASTER SUNDAY

The Liturgy of
Palm Sunday

Commemoration
of the Last Supper

The Liturgy
of the Passion

The Great
Easter Vigil

The Day of
Resurrection

All Souls' – 10:30 am

All Soul's – 7:00 pm

All Souls' – 7:00 pm

TRINITY CATHEDRAL
8:00 PM

All Souls' – 10:30 am



Easter Egg Hunt!

Join us on April 21st after the for the Sunday Eucharist for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt. This fun event is open to both the young and the young at heart! 😊

Thank you!

On behalf of the Vestry and Congregation, we extend our sincerest gratitude to everyone who participated in the Church Cleaning for Holy Week!!

Egg Sunday: Boiled Eggs for the Homeless

April 21st is our next monthly opportunity to extend our hospitality as an act of outreach and inclusion to those whose life circumstances have rendered them homeless and often hungry. **We encourage you to bring as many hard-boiled eggs as you are able** so that we may continue to play a part in one of downtown Miami's **Feed My Sheep feeding programs**



Easter Lilies for Easter Season

Please consider donating to the Easter Lilies fund in thanksgiving for a special occasion, a special person or in remembrance of a departed loved one.

A cash or check donation can be enclosed in an envelope with "Easter Flowers" written on the outside and placed in the Sunday collection plate. Include the name of the loved one or occasion you would like to dedicate the flowers to.

Stewardship Opportunities

During this exciting time of transition for All Souls' Episcopal Church, we have **numerous stewardship opportunities to give your talents and time to our church** community. **Please**

Speak with a vestry member to learn more about the ways you can give your gifts to the All Souls' congregation.

Hospitality

If your surname begins with M - R, a reminder that there is an opportunity for you to provide a much-needed food item for our hospitality next **Sunday, April 21st**. **Joyce is updating her "Hospitality List,"** please check with her this morning and let her know if you are able to bring a food item for our Sunday Brunch.



We Hold in Prayer †

Dear Lord, we come before You today in need of Your healing hand. In You all things are possible. Hold our hearts within Yours, and renew our mind, body and soul. We are lost, but we come to You with grace. You gave us life, and You also give us the gift of infinite joy. Give us the strength to move forward on the path you've laid out for us. Guide us towards better health and give us the wisdom to identify those you've placed around us to help us get better. Amen †

For Healing:

Baby Ailia, Bob, Bronwen, Carmela Dana, Daphne, Darryl, Dennis, Gary, Glen, Greg, Fr. Errol Harvey, Baby Hunter, Jim, Karen, Deacon Katon, Ken, Reverend Kleban, Lily, Malu, Nellie, Paul, Rafael, Ray, Richard, Rick, Rito, Rose, Santos, Sheila, Bishop Sturdie, Tania and Tony.

For the dying and those who watch and care for them and mourn for their loss.

For all our Loved ones, our Friends & our Neighbors:

For those celebrating Birthdays or Anniversaries. For our visitors today and their safe travel back to their homes. For peace throughout the world.

Prayer List

We are continuously updating our church's Prayer List. If you would like to add the name of a loved one, a place, an organization, an event or a situation to the Prayer List, please email us at: parishoffice@allsouls.org

STAY CONNECTED!!! Visit our website: www.allsoulsmb.org & sign up to receive our Weekly Newsletter by email!!



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