

THE KALENDAR

S. Stephen's Church
in Providence

PALM SUNDAY: THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION

5 APRIL 2020

VIRTUAL LOW MASS 10 AM

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

Please stand when the bell is rung.

COLLECT

Celebrant Let us pray.

Assist us mercifully with thy help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby thou hast given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL – Matthew 21:1-11

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant ✠ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

When Jesus and those who followed him drew near to Jerusalem and came to Beth'phage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find an ass tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If any one says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfil what was spoken by the prophet, saying, "Tell the daughter of Zion, Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on an ass, and on a colt, the foal of an ass." The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the ass and the colt, and put their garments on them, and he sat thereon. Most of the crowd spread their garments on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" And when he entered Jerusalem, all the city was stirred, saying, "Who is this?" And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth of Galilee."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

THE BLESSING OF THE PALMS

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

The acolyte holds the palm branches aloft for the following blessing:

It is right to praise thee, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which thou hast redeemed us through thy 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. Bless, O Lord, these branches. Let them 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 leadeth to eternal life; who liveth and reigneth in glory with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The celebrant sprinkles the palm branches.

THE LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

COLLECT OF THE DAY *(Please remain standing)*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

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 partakers of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING – *Isaiah 50:4-9a (Please be seated)*

The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him that is weary. Morning by morning he wakens, he wakens my ear to hear as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I turned not backward. I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I hid not my face from shame and spitting. For the Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been confounded; therefore I have set my face like a 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 is my adversary? Let him come near to me. Behold, the Lord God helps me; who will declare me guilty?

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 31:10-18 *In te, Domine, speravi (Read in unison)*

- 10 Have mercy upon me, O Lord, for I am in trouble, * **and mine eye is consumed for very heaviness; yea, my soul and my body.**
- 11 **For my life is waxen old with heaviness, * and my years with mourning.**
- 12 **My strength faileth me, because of mine iniquity, * and my bones are consumed.**

- 13 I became a reproach among all mine enemies, but especially among my neighbors; * and they of mine acquaintance were afraid of me; and they that did see me without, conveyed themselves from me.
- 14 I am clean forgotten as a dead man out of mind; * I am become like a broken vessel.
- 15 For I have heard the blasphemy of the multitude, and fear is on every side; * while they conspire together against me, and take their counsel to take away my life.
- 16 But my hope hath been in thee, O Lord; * I have said, Thou art my God.
- 17 My times are in thy hand; deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, * and from them that persecute me.
- 18 Show thy servant the light of thy countenance, * and save me for thy mercy's sake.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son *
and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be *
world without end. Amen.

EPISTLE READING – *Philippians 2:5-11*

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL – *Matthew 27:11-54 (Please stand)*

Celebrant ✠ The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said, “You have said so.” But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he made no answer. Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?” But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge; so that the governor wondered greatly. Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. And they had then a notorious prisoner, called Barab'bas. So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you, Barab'bas or Jesus who is called Christ?” For he knew that it was out of envy that they had delivered him up. Besides, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, “Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much over him today in a dream.” Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the people to ask for Barab'bas and destroy Jesus. The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barab'bas.” Pilate said

to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said, "Let him be crucified." And he said, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified." So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." And all the people answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!" Then he released for them Barab'bas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the praetorium, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe upon him, and plaiting a crown of thorns they put it on his head, and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they spat upon him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe, and put his own clothes on him, and led him away to crucify him. As they went out, they came upon a man of Cyre'ne, Simon by name; this man they compelled to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Gol'gotha (which means the place of a skull), they offered him wine to drink, mingled with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots; then they sat down and kept watch over him there. And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus the King of the Jews." Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him; for he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way. Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, la'ma sabach-tha'ni?" that is, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" And some of the bystanders hearing it said, "This man is calling Eli'jah." And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Eli'jah will come to save him." And Jesus cried again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit. And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom; and the earth shook, and the rocks were split; the tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe, and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!"

HOMILY (*Please be seated*) (*Video can be accessed on the website*)

Fr. Mead

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY ANTHEM – *My song is love unknown*

Patrick Hadley (1899 – 1973)

My song is love unknown, My saviour's love to me; Love to the loveless shown That they might lovely be, Oh who am I that for my sake My Lord should take frail flesh and die? He came from his blest throne, Salvation to bestow; But men made strange and none the longed for Christ would know. But oh, my friend, my friend indeed, Who at my need His life did spend. In life no house, no home my Lord on earth might have; In death no friendly tomb But what a stranger gave. What may I say? Heaven was His home; But mine the tomb wherein he lay. Here might I stay and sing No story so divine; Never was love dear King, never was grief like thine! This is my friend in whose sweet praise I all my days could gladly spend. Light of the lonely pilgrim's heart, Star of the coming day, Arise and with thy morning beams Chase all our griefs away. Come, blessed Lord, bide every shore And answering island sing The praises of Thy royal name And own Thee as their King. Bid the whole world responsive now To the bright world above, Break forth in rapturous strains of joy in answer to thy love. Thine was the Cross with all its fruits Of grace and peace divine; Be thine the crown of glory now, The palm of victory thine. Amen.

Samuel Crossman & Sir Edward Denny

OFFERTORY PRAYERS

Celebrant Blessed art thou, Lord God of all creation; through thy goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth hath given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

People **Blessed be God for ever.**

Celebrant Blessed art thou, Lord God of all creation; through thy goodness we have this wine to offer: fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.

People **Blessed be God for ever.**

ORATE, FRATRES (*Please stand*)

Celebrant Pray, my brothers and sisters, that this my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the Almighty Father.

People **May the Lord receive this Sacrifice at thy hands, to the praise and glory of his Name, both to our benefit, and that of all his holy Church.**

SURSUM CORDA

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People **It is meet and right so to do.**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who for our sins was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; who by his suffering and death became the author of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

✠ Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER I *(Kneeling or standing)*

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat,

THIS IS MY BODY,
WHICH IS GIVEN FOR YOU.
Do this in remembrance of me."

✠

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this;

FOR THIS IS MY BLOOD,
OF THE NEW TESTAMENT, WHICH IS SHED FOR YOU,
AND FOR MANY, FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS.
Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

✠

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, ✠ be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

✠ By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

Celebrant & People

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

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And with thy spirit.

AGNUS DEI

O Lamb of God, **that takest away the sins of the world,**
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, **that takest away the sins of the world,**
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, **that takest away the sins of the world,**
grant us thy peace.

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

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 our sinful bodies may be made clean by his Body, and our souls washed through his most precious Blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION: *ECCE AGNUS DEI*

Celebrant ✠ Behold the Lamb of God. Behold him that taketh away the sins of the world. Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof:

People But speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

In union, O Dear Lord, with the faithful at every altar of thy Church, where thy blessed Body and Blood are being offered to the Father, I desire to offer thee praise and thanksgiving. I present to thee my soul and body, with the earnest wish that I may ever be united to thee. And since I cannot now receive thee sacramentally, I beseech thee to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to thee, and embrace thee with all the affections of my soul. O let nothing ever separate me from thee. Let me live and die in thy love. Amen.

Grant, O Lord Jesus Christ, that as the hem of thy garment, touched in faith, healed the woman who could not touch thy Body, so the soul of thy servant may be healed by like faith in thee, whom I cannot now sacramentally receive; through thy tender mercy, who livest and reignest with the Father in the unity of the Holy Ghost ever one God. Amen.

THE CLOSING RITE

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Celebrant Bow down before the Lord.

Almighty God, we pray thee graciously to behold this thy 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 liveth and reigneth for ever and ever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL *(Please stand)*

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

By ancient tradition, on this day the Celebrant, Acolyte, and people depart in silence.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES

Monday

Virtual Evening Prayer 5:30 pm

Virtual Low Mass 6 pm

Tuesday

Virtual Noonday Prayer 12 noon

Virtual Low Mass 12:10 pm

Spy Wednesday

Virtual Evening Prayer 5:30 pm

Virtual Low Mass 6 pm

Maundy Thursday

9 April 2020

Virtual Maundy Thursday Liturgy 7:30 pm

Virtual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8:30-9:30 pm

Good Friday

10 April 2020

Virtual Good Friday Liturgy 12 noon

Virtual Stations of the Cross 2:30 pm

Virtual Ringing of the Chimes 3 pm

Easter Eve

11 April 2020

Virtual Great Vigil of Easter

7:30 pm

Easter Day

12 April 2020

Virtual Sunday of the Resurrection

Low Mass 10 am

S. STEPHEN'S CHURCH
in Providence

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The Rev'd Andrew C. Mead, OBE, DD, *Priest-in-Charge*
The Rev'd Michael A. Pearson, *Assisting Priest*
The Rev'd William Locke, *Assisting Priest*
The Rev'd Gary K. Sturni, *Assisting Priest*
James Busby, D.Mus., *Organist & Choirmaster*
Joel McCoy, *Cantor*

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