



ST. DUNSTAN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION: **PALM SUNDAY**
March 28, 2021
10 am

*Thank you for joining us for streaming worship at this time.
Stay connected with us through our website www.stdcv.org.*

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The Collect of the Day

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest 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.

Philippians 2:5–11

From one of the earliest Christian hymns we hear how Christ Jesus accepted the condition of a servant, was obedient even to the point of death, and was then given the name above every name. It is possible that this poem was adapted by Paul from the hopes for a savior of a people who did not yet know Jesus. He has fulfilled humanity's dream of one who will share fully in the mortal condition before his exaltation. To him every knee shall bow and every tongue confess the great name of the Lord now known in person, Jesus.

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.**

Psalm 31:9-16 *In te, Domine, speravi*

- 9 **H**ave 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."

John 12:12-16

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—the King of Israel!" Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: "Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Homily

Text, video, or audio recordings of sermons are available at www.stdcv.org/sermons

The Rev. Laurel Coote

The Prayers of the People

Leader As we near the end of Lent's forty-day journey of repentance and renewal, we bend our knees and confess with our tongues that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

That the church, teaching in the name of Christ, may sustain the weary with words of courage, righteousness and hope. Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader That civil authorities may open their ears and listen to the voices that cry out for food and shelter, for dignity, for equality and peace. Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader That those who face insult and degradation because of race, religious belief, gender, sexual orientation or political conviction, may be supported by disciples of the Lord. Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader For the sick and those who have asked our prayers, that those who by their sufferings share in the passion of Christ may share fully in Christ's exaltation. Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader That, as we celebrate Holy Week and the Triduum, we may empty ourselves as Christ Jesus did, serving in unselfish love. Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Priest Take away our sin, Lord Christ, by your glorious passion, and mercifully hear our prayers, you who are our Passover and our Peace. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Priest Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

Priest **A**lmighty 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.**

The Peace *All stand.*

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Announcements

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

People **O**ur 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.

Priest **O** God, we open our hearts.
We open our lives. Come into us.
Ride on in with your gentleness.
Visit our public spaces where everyone knows us.
Visit our private spaces where we hardly know ourselves.
Come with your wonderful forgiveness,
Come with your creative Spirit to help us begin again.
Come with your Spirit the comforter and bind our wounds.
Come with the cry for action, to move on, to take risks,
to stand up for justice, to promote peace and understanding.
Come into our crowded streets, our crowd lives,
Come into our lonely places where we feel abandoned.
Come in our daytime come in our night time.
Come even when we cry crucify and kill off love;
Come with your cross, your compassion,
that we may also know resurrection and new life.
Come, Lord Jesus, to us today. **Amen.**

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Narrator The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Mark.

It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; for they said,

Chief Priests “Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.”

Narrator While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. But some were there who said to one another in anger,

Disciples “Why was the ointment wasted in this way? For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor.”

Narrator And they scolded her. But Jesus said,

Jesus “Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.”

Narrator Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. When they heard it, they were greatly pleased, and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to him,

Disciples “Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?”

Narrator So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them,

Jesus “Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, ‘The Teacher asks, Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.”

Narrator So the disciples set out and went to the city, and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

When it was evening, he came with the twelve. And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said,

Jesus “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me.”

Narrator They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another,

Disciples “Surely, not I?”

Narrator He said to them,

Jesus “It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.”

Narrator While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said,

Jesus “Take; this is my body.”

Narrator Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them,

Jesus “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.”

Narrator When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. And Jesus said to them,

Jesus “You will all become deserters; for it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.’ But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.”

Narrator Peter said to him,

Peter “Even though all become deserters, I will not.”

Narrator Jesus said to him,

Jesus “Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.”

Narrator But he said vehemently,

Peter “Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.”

Narrator And all of them said the same. They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples,

Jesus “Sit here while I pray.”

Narrator He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And said to them,

Jesus “I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.”

Narrator And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said,

Jesus “Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.”

Narrator He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter,

Jesus “Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

Narrator And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. He came a third time and said to them,

Jesus “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest?

Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.”

Narrator Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying,

Judas “The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard.”

Narrator So when he came, he went up to him at once and said,

Judas “Rabbi!”

Narrator and kissed him. Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to them,

Jesus “Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled.”

Narrator All of them deserted him and fled. A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.

They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying,

Accusers “We heard him say, ‘I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.’”

Narrator But even on this point their testimony did not agree.

Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus,

High Priest “Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?”

Narrator But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him,

High Priest “Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?”

Narrator Jesus said,

Jesus “I am; and ‘you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power,’ and ‘coming with the clouds of heaven.’”

Narrator Then the high priest tore his clothes and said,

High Priest “Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy!
What is your decision?”

Narrator All of them condemned him as deserving death. Some began to spit on him,
to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him,

Accusers “Prophesy!”

Narrator The guards also took him over and beat him. While Peter was below in the courtyard,
one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by.
When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said,

Servant Girl “You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth.”

Narrator But he denied it, saying,

Peter “I do not know or understand what you are talking about.”

Narrator And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed.
And the servant-girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders,

Servant Girl “This man is one of them.”

Narrator But again he denied it.
Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter,

Bystanders “Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean.”

Narrator But he began to curse, and he swore an oath,

Peter “I do not know this man you are talking about.”

Narrator At that moment the cock crowed for the second time.
Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him,

Jesus “Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.”

Narrator And he broke down and wept.
As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and
scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over
to Pilate. Pilate asked him,

Pilate “Are you the King of the Jews?”

Narrator He answered him,

Jesus “You say so.”

Narrator Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again,

Pilate “Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.”

Narrator But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them,

Pilate “Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?”

Narrator For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again,

Pilate “Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?”

Narrator They shouted back,

Crowd “Crucify him!”

Narrator Pilate asked them,

Pilate “Why, what evil has he done?”

Narrator But they shouted all the more,

Crowd “Crucify him!”

Narrator So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor’s headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him,

Soldiers “Hail, King of the Jews!”

Narrator They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull).

Narrator And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

It was nine o’clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, “The King of the Jews.” And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying,

Bystanders “Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!”

Narrator In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying,

Chief Priests “He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.”

Narrator Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice,

Jesus “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?”

Narrator which means,

Jesus “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

Narrator When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

Bystanders “Listen, he is calling for Elijah.”

Narrator And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying,

Bystanders “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.”

Narrator Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said,

Centurion “Truly this man was God’s Son!”

Narrator There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Jesus, and Salome. These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock.

He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus saw where the body was laid.

*St. Dunstan’s Episcopal Church celebrates God’s diverse creation
and strives to build an inclusive community that welcomes everyone, no matter age, gender, sexual identity,
culture, ethnicity, economic status, or ability.*