



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Seeking to see and serve Christ in all persons

**Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday
March 28, 2021**

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 Celebrant then says the following blessing

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.*

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

Celebrant Let us go forth in peace.
People *In the name of Christ. Amen.*

The Hymn in Procession

*All glory, laud and honor
Hymnal 154*

The Liturgy of the Word

The Introit

Little Grey Donkey

Natalie Sleeth (Sung by the Children's Choir)

Little grey donkey, ho
Do you know just who it is you carry on your back?
Tis no ordinary load, no mean or common pack.
You are blessed of all beasts to carry into town.
Christ the Lord of Galilee, he wears no earthly crown.
Once you were a simple beast of poor and lowly state.
Christ himself hath chosen you and honored is your fate.
Though your path with palms is spread, make haste along the way;
You were destined here to ride on this triumphal day.
Yonder is a grassy hill; it's known as Calvary.
Up against the cloudless sky a barren cross you see.
Little grey donkey, little grey mare, don't hide your head in shame.
For you bear the Lamb of God, and Jesus is his name.

The Collect of the Day

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 First Reading: Isaiah 50: 4-9a

The Lord God has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens--
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.
The Lord God has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backward.
I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.
The Lord God helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like 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 are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.
It is the Lord God who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

The Psalm: 31: 9-16

9 Have 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."

The Second Reading: Philippians 2: 5-11

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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

The Sequence Hymn

At the name of Jesus
Hymnal 435

The Passion Gospel: Mark 14:1-15:47

The Passion Gospel is read in parts, led by a narrator who begins by saying: The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Mark. The congregation is seated until the mention of Golgotha, the place of the skull, at which time all who are able may stand.

NARRATOR: 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.

NARRATOR: 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.

At the mention of Golgotha, all stand as able and remain standing for the remainder of the reading.

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). 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 Joseph, 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 Joseph saw where the body was laid.

A period of silence is kept.

A Time for Reflection

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

Celebrant As we journey this week with Christ and celebrate the paschal mystery of his death and resurrection, let us earnestly pray to God for those following the way of the cross and for all people everywhere.

Intercessor For the holy catholic church throughout the world, sharing the death and resurrection of Christ.

People *Lord, have mercy.*

Intercessor For Michael, our presiding bishop; Robert, Don, and Paul, our bishops; Hazel our rector; and for all the holy people of God.

People *Lord, have mercy.*

Intercessor For all nations, peoples, tribes, clans, and families.

People *Lord, have mercy.*

Intercessor For justice, mercy, and peace in all the world. We pray for those in the military, and for civilians, serving at home and overseas.

People *Lord, have mercy.*

Intercessor For all who are oppressed, afflicted, or in need. We pray for those impacted by the tornado, and for those on our prayer list, especially: Daniel, Linda, Megan.

People *Lord, have mercy.*

Intercessor For the dying and the dead, especially Billy Cosper, and for those who mourn.

People *Lord, have mercy.*

Intercessor For our families, friends, and companions, and for all those we love. We give thanks for the lives of those who celebrate birthdays this week: Amanda, MJ, Flora Jane, Ssuan, Kevin, Liam, Anne, Krista, Michael, Mark, Bonnie, Patty, John, Garrett, Daphne, Emily, Lou, Connor.

People *Lord, have mercy.*

Intercessor Remembering blessed Mary, blessed Paul and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

People *To you, O Lord.*

Celebrant Blessed are you, Lord our God, who sent your Son among us to bear the pain and grief of humankind. Receive the prayers we offer this day for all those in need in every place and grant us strength on our journey; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Confession of Sin and Absolution

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

Silence may be kept.

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.*

Celebrant 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.*

The Peace

All stand, as able.

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

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Anthem

Tenebrae factae sunt
Michael Haydn

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A
BCP 361

The people remain standing, as able.

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.*

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

The Sanctus

Hymnal S 124

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 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.

The Celebrant continues

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,

People and Celebrant

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

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People Therefore let us keep the feast.

The Fraction

Hymnal S 161

The Communion Anthem

Ave verum corpus
Robert Pearsall

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

The Closing Hymn

O sacred head, sore wounded
Hymnal 168

Please remain seated until the ushers indicate that the people in your pew may process to the designated exit.

Remember in your prayers:

We pray for those with ongoing concerns: Roxanne Wallis, Malcolm Velasca, Kiran Force, Alice Magnan, Annie Bulford, Margaret Crary, Trina Hall, Tyler Chapman, Anna Endres, Kimberly Leitch, Candy Waldron, Peter Funnell, Kirk Goodell, Bo Warren, Brittany Jones, Ralph Hajosy, Judy Causey, Amanda Howell Eber, Jeff Lawhead, Billy Newman, Phil Watkiss.

We pray for those with timely concerns: Joan Kelley, Mary Tatnall, Daniel Webb, Linda Waskan, Megan LeVan.

We pray for those who are sick and those who love them, and for those who have died because of the coronavirus; for those who are oppressed by fear and for those who are losing the income that sustains them. Let us also pray for those in the medical, scientific, research and pharmaceutical communities devoting their time and talent to the cause of global health. And, let us pray for all our elected officials and all those who hold the common trust that their wisdom and compassion for all people will increase.

We pray for the members of the Vestry: Jennifer, Nicole, Philip, Frankey, Mark, Geoff, Renee, Heather, Virginia, Jennifer; the Clergy and Staff: Hazel, Mason, Lesley, Dawn, Elisabeth, Mary Margaret, Britney, Mary, Kimberly, Cole.

We pray for members of our armed services and their families: Phil Kearney, Kevin Bradley, Joe Clay, Tom Choate, Linda Boyce, Dariel Johnson, Sean McGraw, Steven Puckett, Bill Tudor, Jr., Scott Woodward, Luke White, Tommy White, Zach Simkins, Jacob Britt, Morgen Davis, Luke Eason, Michael Rafferty, David Norwood, Arron Essex, Adam Harrison, Sam Vermilyea, Charles Mathews, Nick Watts, Cameron Everett, Lanier Sealy, Beau Massenburg.

We give thanks for the lives of those celebrating birthdays this week: Amanda Hand, MJ McCollough, Flora Jane Marchman, Ssuan Payne, Kevin Allen, Liam Bulford, Anne Josey, Krista Morin, Michael Junda, Mark LeVan, Bonnie Umberger, Patty King, John Cummins, Garrett Cathey, Daphne Carter, Emily Budd, Lou Graner, Connor Rethmel.

We pray for those who have died: Billy Cosper, friend of Hazel Glover. *Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon him. Amen.*

Lent 2021 Worship, Practices, and Programs

Sunday Evenings Virtual Compline -- Led by parishioners, compline is held virtually on Sunday evenings at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. [Click here](#) to launch the Zoom meeting at that time. On March 14, Compline will be led by Gina Watkiss. If you experience issues accessing the meeting via the hyperlink, open Zoom on your browser or app and enter Meeting ID: 836 0894 1943 / Passcode: 442688 -- The service of Compline may be found beginning on page 127 of the Book of Common Prayer. [Click here](#) for an online version.

Self-Directed Practice: Exploring the Gospel of Mark -- Most scholars believe The Gospel According to Mark was the first gospel to have been written. Some date it as early as A.D.55, within twenty five years of Jesus' ministry. Mark acted as Peter's assistant and translator, and on many occasions and would have heard Peter telling the story of Jesus. Peter's first hand accounts were likely the source of Mark's Gospel. We encourage you to watch a theatrical reading of Mark by Max McLean presented in 16 videos. Access all 16 videos [HERE](#). Or watch this full length version by David Suchet at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JjOgcMOXvSc>

Self-Directed Practice: 40 Days and 40 Miles -- If you enjoy a morning walk or an evening stroll, this is an offering for you! We invite you to set a goal of walking 40 miles during the 40 days of Lent. This is a spiritual discipline that engages our full body. The 40 days does not include Sundays and concludes on Holy Saturday, the day immediately prior to Easter Sunday. The 40-day time frame represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry. You can log your miles via [this form](#), which will track individual responses and give us a total tally of miles at the conclusion of Lent. You can log daily, weekly, or whatever makes sense to you.

Wednesday Night Bible Stories for Children-- During Lent, the Children's Ministry is offering "Wednesday Night Bible Stories" via ZOOM at 6:00 p.m. Come gather around, hear Bible stories, and participate in an optional craft or activity to go along with the story. Offerings will alternate weeks based on Children's ages. Reach out to [Elisabeth Copeland](#) or [Whitney Lowe](#) for more information.

Lenten Bible Study for Youth -- The youth are invited to participate in a virtual Bible Study for the duration of Lent. The course focuses on John, chapters 4-6. Through the free app [WordGo](#), you'll spend about 10 minutes of your own time, reading passages, asking questions and taking notes to share with the group each week. Email [Mary Margaret Stewart](#) with any questions.

Lent Family Devotional -- During this Lent season, the Children's Ministry is providing a calendar with daily devotionals, readings, and suggested donations and fasts to get children of all ages involved with this holy season. While each day lists a full set of suggestions, families should feel free to mix and match, and should do what works best for their family. Email [Elisabeth Copeland](#) or [Whitney Lowe](#) for more information and for a copy of the calendar.

Holy Week and Easter Services and Activities

Holy Week and Easter indoor services will be held with COVID-19 restrictions in place, such as the requirement of masks, no congregational singing, and communion in one kind only. In addition, the number of people in the congregation will be limited and preregistration will be required. All services will continue to be live streamed online.

Register for the following services by clicking on each service:

[Palm Sunday, March 28 at 10:30 a.m.](#) (this service is at capacity but there is a waiting list.)

[Easter Day, April 4 at 8:30 a.m.](#)

[Easter Day, April 4 at 10:30 a.m.](#) (this service is at capacity but there is a waiting list.)

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services will remain online only. They will be live streamed on our Facebook page and website at 7:00 p.m. on April 1st and 2nd, respectively. All live streamed services are recorded and available for viewing after the initial broadcast.

Flowering the Cross Festival -- On Saturday, April 3 from 2-3pm, the Children's Ministry, with help from our youth, is excited to host our first ever Flowering of the Cross Festival! This outdoor, socially-distanced event is open to the entire parish of St. Paul's and will include activities, games, prizes, and crafts to bring us together in fellowship during this Easter season. Activities to include: paper flower making and flowering of the cross, corn hole, guess the jelly beans, sidewalk chalk, egg and spoon races, and more! Please sign up [here](#) so that we know how many supplies to provide. Note: masks are required at all times, even when outdoors, and no food or beverages will be provided.

Easter Day Bulletin Dedications -- Easter brings members and friends of St. Paul's the opportunity to thank God for the blessings and special people in their lives and to remember loved ones at this holy time of year, by making a special donation to the Music and Flower ministries. A dedication from the donor will be included in the Easter Day bulletins. To submit a donation and dedication, please email Lesley Williams at lesley@stpaulsnewnan.org by March 28.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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CLERGY AND Staff

The Rev. Hazel Smith Glover, Rector; **Mason Copeland**, Organist and Choirmaster; **Lesley Williams**, Parish Administrator; **Dawn Harrison**, Music Associate; **Elisabeth Copeland**, Director of Children's Ministry; **Mary Margaret Stewart**, Youth Director; **Britney McCord**, Nursery Worker; **Mary Tipton**, Nursery Worker; **Kimberly Stokes**, Bookkeeper; **Cole Hankins**, Multimedia Associate.

Vestry

Jennifer Thomasson, Senior Warden; **Mark LeVan**, Junior Warden; **Nicole Edwards**, Outreach Liaison; **Philip Hand**, Stewardship Liaison; **Frankey Henderson**, Parish Life Liaison; **Geoff Mattera**, Communications Liaison; **Renee Powell**, Health and Healing Liaison; **Heather Turner**, Welcoming Liaison; **Virginia Williams**, Compliance and Documentation Liaison; **Jennifer Jones**, Clerk of the Vestry; **Beth Gourley**, Treasurer.