



Holy Eucharist at the Church of St. Paul, Cambria

• PALM Sunday • March 24, 2024 •

Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord:

Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

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.

Here a Deacon or other person appointed reads the following:

A Reading from the Gospel of Mark(11:1-11a):

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple.

The Celebrant then says the following blessing

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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.**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

During the singing of the hymn, palms are distributed to the congregation

Hymn for the Palms- Hymn 154

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living 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 Lessons

The first reading is from the Book of 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 awakens-- awakens 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 O: 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? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up. The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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 is from the Letter to the **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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Passion According to Mark

(The reading by parts begins with the people sitting. All stand when indicated. We will observe an extended period of silence after the reading of the Passion.)

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,

Congregation: "Crucify him!"

Narrator: Pilate asked them,

Pilate: "Why, what evil has he done?"

Narrator: But they shouted all the more,

Congregation: "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.

All Stand

Narrator: 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,

Passersby: "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,

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, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

Bystander: “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,

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

Narrator: Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

A period of silence is observed.

Narrator: 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!”

Passion reflections

The Prayers of the People

Our Lord comes to us humbly, riding a donkey and proclaiming a message of peace. Let us pray, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.

That Christians hear and share the word of God as true disciples, we pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That all the ends of the earth receive the words of the king of peace, we pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That all leaders, of church and of state, prefer humble service to empty power, we pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That those who see the cross starkly revealed in their lives draw strength from the name above every other name, we pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That we who hope to greet Jesus when he comes again be ready and joyful, we pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That all who have suffered on the field of battle, especially the people of Ukraine, Gaza and all places of conflict, be comforted by a God who shares our suffering and is with us in the depths of our sorrow.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That those who serve our country at home and in foreign lands act with justice and mercy and return home safe and whole.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That we faithfully discharge our duties to pray for all those of our community who have requested them, (*pause for names to be mentioned loud or silently*) we pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

The celebrant continues

God our creator, you show your sons and daughters the way to freedom through the gentle obedience of your Son Jesus Christ. Grant our petitions as we seek to follow him. We pray in his name, Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

The Holy Communion

I appeal to you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Romans 12:1

Offertory Hymn 602

Prayer over the gifts

Gracious God, the suffering and death of Jesus, your only Son, makes us pleasing in your sight. Alone we can do nothing, but through his sacrifice, may we receive your love and mercy.

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharist Prayer D)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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. 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:

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.

The people stand or kneel.

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power.
Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love.
You formed us in your own image, . . .

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

**We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

The Celebrant continues

Lord, we pray that in your goodness . . .

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

Let us pray in the name and in the words of Jesus, who learned obedience through what he suffered:

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

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

Then the celebrant and people pray together.

We do not presume to come to your holy table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your great mercy. We are not worthy even to gather the crumbs from under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the body of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.

Behold the Servant of God, obedient unto death, exalted as Lord of glory. Blessed are those who are called to the banquet of the Lamb.

The Communion

After Communion, the Celebrant says

God our help and strength, you have satisfied our hunger with this eucharistic food. Strengthen our faith, that through the death and resurrection of your

Son, we may be led to salvation. 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 for ever. Amen.

Knowing that all of our community cannot share the Eucharist in person, we affirm that the true mystical communion of Christ and His Church is a bond of spirit and heart, grounded in faith. Therefore, we commit ourselves to this deep bond of the Spirit in union with Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

May Christ who calls you to take up your cross, give you strength to bear your own and one another's burdens, and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

The Peace

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

Announcements

Thanksgiving Prayer: We give you thanks, O God, for your many blessings: for our days of celebration, for the love that surrounds us, for your healing presence in our lives. Keep us in your care, we pray, and help us to live as truly thankful people. Amen.

Closing Hymn 147

Go forth in the grace of God.
Thanks be to God