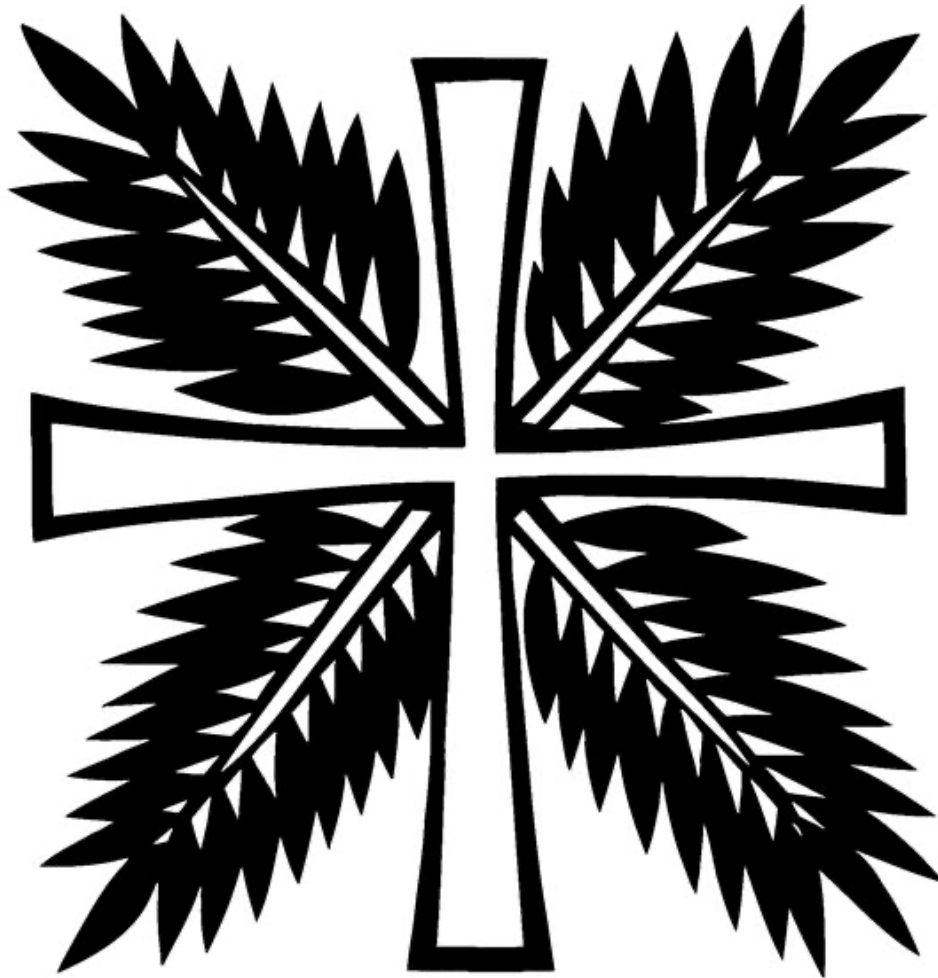


*The Sunday of the Passion:
Palm Sunday*



Holy Eucharist II

April 13, 2025
10:30 a.m.

Saint Alban's Episcopal Church Welcomes You
130 39th Ave. Pl. NW, Hickory, NC 28601
(828) 324-1351

*Welcome to St. Alban's. We are grateful for your presence.
Cloth pew bags are available for our younger worshippers.
Please return to the basket as you depart.*

Prelude

The Liturgy of the Palms

The ringing of a bell signals the start of the Liturgy in the churchyard.

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.***

A Reading from the Gospel of Luke: 19:28-40

²⁸Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

²⁹When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" ³²So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴They said, "The Lord needs it." ³⁵Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, ³⁸saying,

"Blessed is the king
who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest heaven!"

³⁹Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." ⁴⁰He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

Blessing of The Palms

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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.

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.

The Procession

BCP p. 271

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

Processional Hymn

All glory, laud, and honor to thee

Hymnal 154

Refrain

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re - deem - er, King!

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.

1 Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,
2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels is prais - ing thee on high;
3 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;
4 To thee be - fore thy pas - sion they sang their hymns of praise;
5 Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Repeat Refrain

1 who in the Lord's Name com - est, the King and Bless - ed One.
2 and we with all cre - a - tion in cho - rus make re - ply.
3 our praise and prayers and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent.
4 to thee, now high ex - al - ted, our mel - o - dy we raise.
5 who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King.

The Word of God

The Collect of the Day

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Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
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.*

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a (*The people sit.*)

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

⁴The 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.
⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backward.
⁶I 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.
⁷The 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;
⁸he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.
^{9a}It is the Lord GOD who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

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

Psalm: Psalm 31:9-16

(Psalm is spoken in unison as the people remain seated.)

⁹Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; *
my eye is consumed with sorrow,
and also my throat and my belly.
¹⁰For my life is wasted with grief,
and my years with sighing; *
my strength fails me because of affliction,
and my bones are consumed.
¹¹I 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.
¹²I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; *
I am as useless as a broken pot.
¹³For 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.
¹⁴But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. *
I have said, "You are my God.
¹⁵My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.
¹⁶Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me."

Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Church in Philippi.

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
⁶who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
⁷but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
⁸he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.
⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹and 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.

*Congregation is Seated***The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke***Congregation reads the part of the crowd.*

Narrator: Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying,

Assembly: “We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king.” Then Pilate asked him,

Pilate: “Are you the king of the Jews?”

Narrator: He answered,

Jesus: “You say so.”

Narrator: Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds,

Pilate: “I find no basis for an accusation against this man.”

Narrator: But they were insistent and said,

Assembly: “He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.”

Narrator: When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies.

Narrator: Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them,

Pilate: “You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him.”

Narrator: Then they all shouted out together,

Assembly: “Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!”

Narrator: (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting,

Congregation: “Crucify, crucify him!”

Narrator: A third time he said to them,

Pilate: “Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him.”

Narrator: But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

Narrator: As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said,

Jesus: “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?”

Narrator: Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said,

Jesus: “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.”

Narrator: And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying,

Assembly: “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!”

Narrator: The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying,

Soldiers: “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!”

Narrator: There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

Narrator: One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying,

Criminal 1: “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!”

Narrator: But the other rebuked him, saying,

Criminal 2: “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.”

Narrator: Then he said,

Criminal 2: “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

Narrator: He replied,

Jesus: “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

**ALL STAND **

Narrator: It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said,

Jesus: “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.”

Narrator: Having said this, he breathed his last.

(Silence observed)

Narrator: When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said,

Centurion: “Certainly this man was innocent.”

Narrator: And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

The Prayers of the People *(People stand or kneel)*

Intercessor: Enter our hearts this day and every day, O Christ,

People: *and lead us on this walk of love, O Lord.*

Intercessor: Lead each member of your church in humility as we walk together. Guide our bishops and priests and deacons so that your glory may be revealed through them in your word and sacraments.

People: *Lead us on this walk of love, O Lord.*

Intercessor: Lead the leaders of every country in the way of justice for all of their citizens and peace between neighbors and nations.

People: *Lead us on this walk of love, O Lord.*

Intercessor: Remembering in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, the Diocese of Jerusalem, lead each of us to reach out our hands and hearts in love where there is suffering and anxiety, sickness and grief.

People: *Lead us on this walk of love, O Lord.*

Intercessor: Lead us to follow you as you we walk this earth so that with those who have died we may join you in our eternal home.

People: *Lead us on this walk of love, O Lord.*

Celebrant concludes

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Peace *(All stand.)*

BCP p. 360

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Holy Communion

Anthem

Hosanna! Blessed is He

arr. Jennings

Doxology

(People stand as offering is presented)

Hymn 380, verse 3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all the creatures here below; praise him above the heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer C *(Stand or kneel)*

BCP p. 369

The People remain standing.

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.

The Celebrant continues

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill.

You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us.

By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus

H800

Celebrant and People

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 Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. *AMEN.*

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 363

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

People and Celebrant

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

S-164

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:
Give us your peace, give us your peace.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.
Gluten free waters are available upon request at the altar rail.*

*Two chalices are offered at the altar rail. The first one is offered to those who prefer to drink from the cup.
The second chalice follow for those who prefer to intinct (dip) the wafer in the wine before consuming.*

Please hold the wafer in your open palm to indicate your preference to the server.

Communion Hymn

What wondrous love is this?

Hymnal 439

The Post-Communion Prayer

BCP p. 365

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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.

Solemn Prayer over the People

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your 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 lives and resigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Recessional Hymn

Cross of Jesus, cross of sorrow

Hymnal 160

Dismissal

BCP p. 366

Let us go forth into Holy Week to love and serve the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

***We gather for refreshments in the Commons Room immediately following the service.
All are welcome to participate
and check out the kiosk for more ways to Walk in Love!***



GOOD FRIDAY OFFERING

Creating new relationships with and among the Christians of the Middle East

The history of the Good Friday Offering reaches back to 1922 when, in the aftermath of World War I, The Episcopal Church sought to create new relationships with and among the Christians of the Middle East. From these initial efforts which focused on a combination of relief work and the improvement of ecumenical and Anglican relations, the Good Friday Offering was created.

Through the years many Episcopalians have found the Good Friday Offering to be an effective way to express their support for the ministries of the three dioceses of the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East. Pastoral care, education and health care continue to be primary ministries through which the reconciling spirit of the Christian faith serves all in need. Participation in this ministry is welcome. The generous donations of Episcopalians help the Christian presence in the Land of the Holy One to be a vital and effective force for peace and understanding among all of God's children.

For 103 years, Episcopalians have generously shared their love, compassion, and financial gifts to support the ministry of the Anglican Communion Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East. These gifts have made an astounding difference in the lives of many people in the homeland of Jesus and beyond.

Holy Week, Easter Day & Easter I & 2

HOLY WEEK

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 7 P.M.: This evening service invites us to focus on our Lord's Last Supper and his commandment to love one another as he loves us. The tradition of washing one another's feet is included as well.

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 18, NOON: This day of solemn observance is the one day of the year when Holy Eucharist is not celebrated. Prayers are offered, The Passion Gospel is read and includes time for meditation on the cross of Christ.

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 9 A.M.: This brief liturgy for Holy Saturday includes contemplation on the Empty Tomb and special prayers offered for all those whom we love but see no longer. Following the liturgy, the church is spruced up and decorated for Easter Morning. Many hands make light work.

EASTER DAY, APRIL 20

THE LORD IS RISEN! Invite friends to join you for our joyous celebration with glorious music for the occasion! You are invited to bring flowers for decorating the Flower Cross as you arrive on Easter Day!

Donuts, Coffee, & Easter Eggs: 9:45 a.m.
Festival Eucharist: 10:30 a.m.

EASTER 1 & EASTER 2

Help us celebrate Rev. Anne's wonderful ministry at St. Alban's on Sunday, April 27. Following worship we will gather for a LIVELY reception in Ferebee Hall.

Welcome Rev. Jonathan Stepp on Sunday, May 4! Before the service, Rev. Jonathan will hold an adult formation at 8:45 (coffee & donuts),
9 a.m. (Meet Fr. Jonathan - Adult Forum).