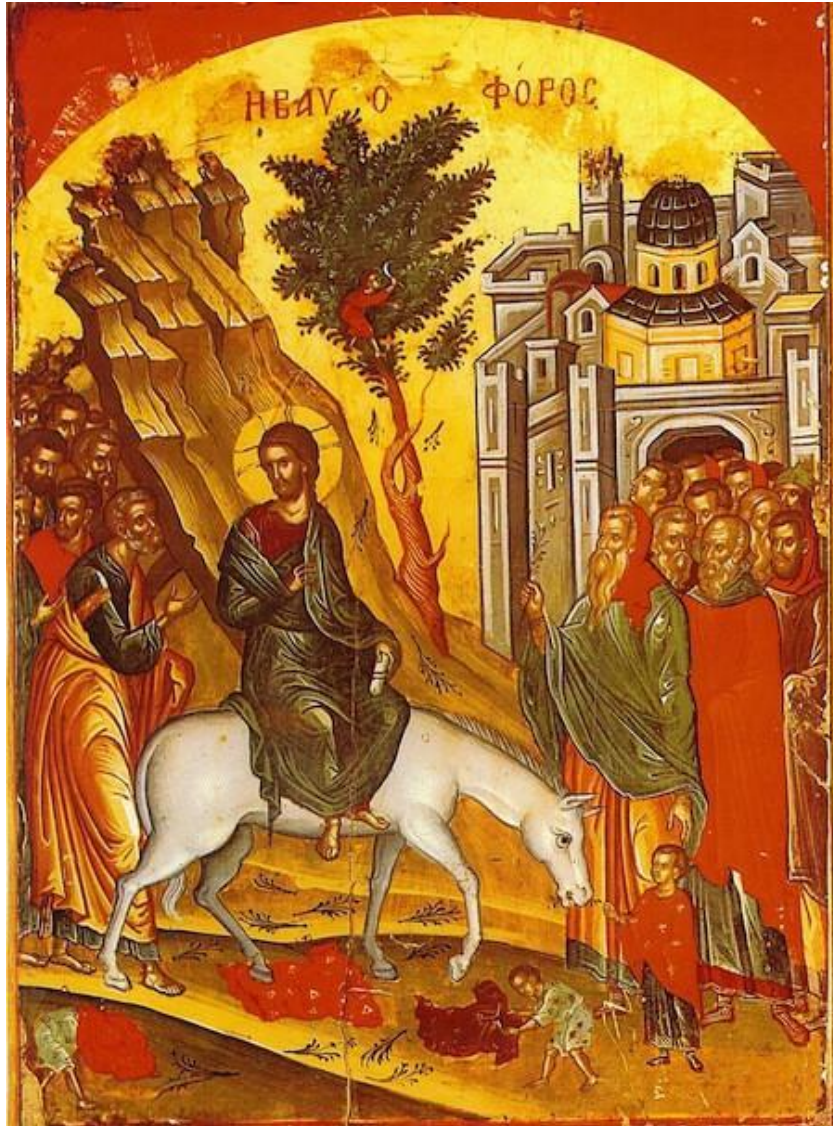


# ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA



**THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION: PALM SUNDAY**

**MARCH 24, 2024  
8:00AM**

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

## 8:00 AM

*A prayerful silence precedes the service.*

### THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

*The people gather with their palms.  
The Celebrant begins the service from the Font.*

#### THE OPENING ANTHEM AND COLLECT

BCP 270

*Officiant* Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.

*People* **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.**

*Officiant* 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 PALMS GOSPEL

Mark 11: 1-11

*Gospeler* The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, Jesus 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; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

*Gospeler*      The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*         **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

#### THE BLESSING OF THE PALMS

BCP 271

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

*The following or some other suitable anthem may then be sung or said*

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

*The procession then moves to the sanctuary.*

#### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*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.**

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?

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

## THE PSALM

*The Psalm is said responsively by whole verse.*

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

- 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 LESSON

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.

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

*The people remain seated for first part of the reading of the Passion Gospel. At the verse which mentions 'Golgotha', all stand.*

## THE PASSION GOSPEL

Mark 15:1-39

*Gospeler*      The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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, "Are you the King of the Jews?" He answered him, "You say so." Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again, "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you." 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, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" 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, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" They shouted back, "Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!" 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, "Hail, King of the Jews!" 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). 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, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!"

In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "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." 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, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah."

And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." 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, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

*A period of silence for reflection follows the reading of the Passion Gospel.*

THE HOMILY

The Reverend Andrew J. Hege

*A few moments of silence for reflection follow the homily.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, FORM II

BCP 385

*The Leader offers a series of biddings, each followed by silence. The people are invited to name their petitions and thanksgivings, either silently or aloud, during the periods of silence.*

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Presiding Bishop, Michael, and for our Bishop, Jose; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.  
Pray for the Church.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.  
Pray for justice and peace.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.  
Pray for those in any need or trouble.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.  
Pray that they may find and be found by him.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for the departed.  
Pray for those who have died.

*Silence*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.  
Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

*Silence*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

THE PEACE

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

*People* **And also with you.**

*The Ministers and People exchange a sign of peace.*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

BCP 361

*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.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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:

*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*

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 and for many 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.**

### THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Contemporary*)

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

**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 for ever. Amen.**

### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence follows.*

### FRACTION ANTHEM

*After breaking the consecrated bread, the Celebrant says,*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: **have mercy on us.**  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: **have mercy on us.**  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: **grant us peace.**

### MINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*To receive the sacrament, extend your hands so that the priest may place the bread in the palm of your outstretched hands. Gluten free wafers are available. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest as a sign to the priest.*

## THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

*The Celebrant and people say together,*

**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.**

## THE DISMISSAL

*Celebrant* Let us bless the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*The procession leaves in silence.*

*All are invited to remain in Church for prayer and reflection.*

**All Depart in Silence**

ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA

# HOLY WEEK & EASTER

April 2-9, 2023

You are invited to join us for the journey of Holy Week.

Experience the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus through song, silence, prayer, and proclamation.



## Palm Sunday

8:00am Holy Eucharist

10:10am Holy Eucharist w/ Palms Procession\*

## Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday

12:00pm Daily Holy Eucharist

## Maundy Thursday

6:00pm Maundy Thursday Holy Eucharist\*

## Good Friday

7:00am Stations of the Cross

12:00pm The Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday

## Holy Saturday

8:30am Liturgy of Holy Saturday

7:30pm The Great Vigil of Easter\*

## Easter Sunday

8:00am Holy Eucharist (spoken)

9:30am Easter Egg Hunt

10:10am Festal Holy Eucharist (with choir)\*

\*services include the use of incense

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**St. Mary of the Hills Episcopal Church**

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