



**Welcome to  
St. Marks's Episcopal Church**

*All are welcome, all are honored, all are embraced, all are loved.*

**THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS  
10:00 a.m.**

*A house of prayer for all people in the historic Radcliffeborough neighborhood  
of Charleston, South Carolina*

The Rt. Rev. Ruth Woodliff-Stanley, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina  
The Very Reverend Dr. Michael Shaffer, Interim Rector  
Loretta Haskell, Organist & Choirmaster  
Alphonso Grayson, Senior Warden – Bob Waters, Junior Warden

**THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS** (*beginning outside at corner of Thomas and Warren Streets*)

*The Celebrant says*

Celebrant Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.

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

*The Celebrant then continues*

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.**

Celebrant: A reading from the Gospel according to Mark. (Mark 11:1-11)

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! <sup>1</sup>Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" <sup>1</sup>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.

*The Celebrant then says the following*

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.**

*The Celebrant and People say*

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.*

#### PROCESSIONAL HYMN 154

*All glory, laud, and honor  
to thee, Redeemer, King!  
to whom the lips of children  
made sweet hosannas ring.*

Thou art the King of Israel,  
thou David's royal Son,  
who in the Lord's Name comest,  
the King and Blesséd One.  
*Refrain*

The company of angels  
is praising thee on high;  
and we with all creation  
in chorus make reply.  
*Refrain*

The people of the Hebrews  
with palms before thee went;  
our praise and prayers and anthems  
before thee we present.  
*Refrain*

To thee before thy passion  
they sang their hymns of praise;  
to thee, now high exalted,  
our melody we raise.  
*Refrain*

Thou didst accept their praises;  
accept the prayers we bring,  
who in all good delightest,  
thou good and gracious King.  
*Refrain*

*The Celebrant says the following Collect*

Almighty God, whose dear most 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.**

### **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 LESSONS**

*Please be seated.*

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?

Reader        The Word of the Lord.

**People**        ***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."***

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.

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

#### **HYMN 171**

Go to dark Gethsemane,  
ye that feel the tempter's power;  
your Redeemer's conflict see,  
watch with him one bitter hour;  
turn not from his griefs away,  
learn of Jesus Christ to pray.

Follow to the judgment hall;  
view the Lord of life arraigned;  
O the wormwood and the gall!  
O the pangs his soul sustained!  
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss;  
learn of him to bear the cross.

Calvary's mournful mountain climb;  
there, adoring at his feet,  
mark the miracle of time,  
God's own sacrifice complete;  
'It is finished!' hear him cry;  
learn of Jesus Christ to die.

### **THE PASSION GOSPEL: MARK 14:1—15:47**

*The congregation remaining seated, the Passion Gospel is read in parts, led by a narrator at the lectern who begins by saying: **The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.***

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!*" (*congregation says*)

NARRATOR: Pilate asked them,

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

NARRATOR: But they shouted all the more,

**CROWD:** "*Crucify him!*" (*congregation says*)

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.)*

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 Joses, and Salome.

These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

## THE SERMON

The Very Rev. Dr. Michael Shaffer

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: *Form IV*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

### *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
***Hear our prayer.***

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

### *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
***Hear our prayer.***

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

### *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
***Hear our prayer.***

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We invite your personal intercessions at this time, either aloud or in your heart. (Pause, followed by Intercessor Prayers)

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

**CONFESSION OF SIN**

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.***

*The Priest stands and says*

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**

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

**SONG** Surely the Presence of the Lord is In This Place *Sung by all.*

*Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.  
I can feel God's mighty power and God's grace.  
I can hear the brush of angel's wings,  
I see glory on each face.  
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.*

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OFFERTORY** What Wondrous Love is This John S. Dixon

**HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION** Hymnal # 380, verse 3  
**The Doxology**

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

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer A**

*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 God thanks and praise.*

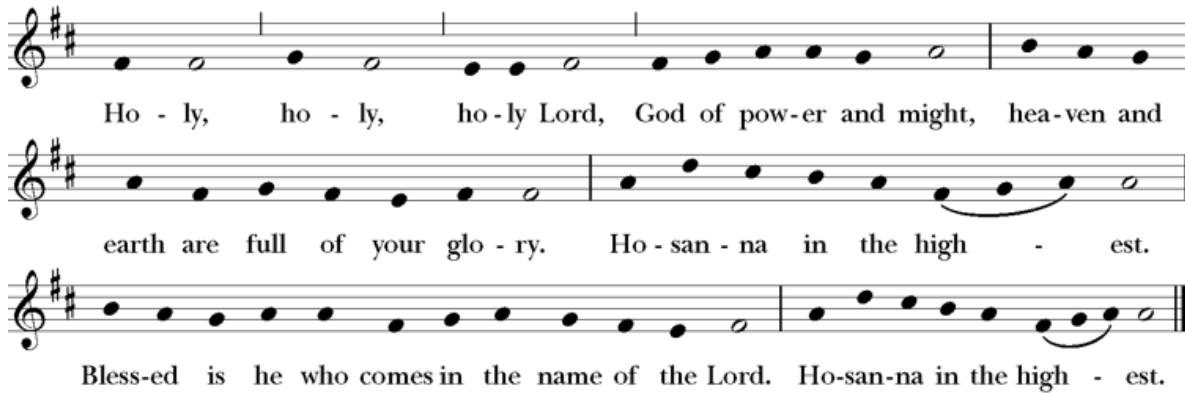
*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

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 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:

*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 sing*

*Our Father, which 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 debt, as we forgive our debtors. 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**

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.*

**Agnus Dei**

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

**THE INVITATION**

*At St. Mark's Episcopal Church, all desiring a deepening and reaffirming relationship with Christ are invited to come forward for Holy Communion or for a blessing. This is the table not of the Church, but of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who love God. Come, not because the Church invites you; it is Christ who invites you to be fed and blessed here. For He knows you by name and calls you by name.*

*Communion will be offered in two kinds. The wine may be received by either sipping the chalice or dipping the wafer in the wine by the Eucharistic Minister. If you do not wish to receive the wine, please indicate that by crossing your arms over your chest when the chalice is presented. Communion in one kind (in bread only) is a perfectly valid way to receive the sacrament. Gluten free hosts are available upon request. For a blessing, cross your hands over your chest. If you would like to have communion brought to your seat, please let an usher know.*



**MUSIC AT COMMUNION**

Near the Cross  
O How He Loves You and Me

**LEVAS 29**  
**LEVAS 35**

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

*After Communion, the Celebrant says.*

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**

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

**Hymnal 474**

**THE DISMISSAL**

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*People: Thanks be to God.*

**CLOSING HYMN**

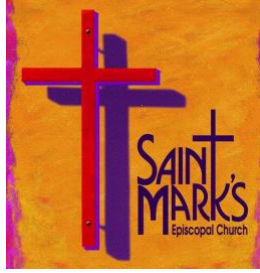
Thank You, Lord

*Sung by all.*

*Thank You, Lord (x's 3) I just want to thank you Lord.  
You've Been So Good (x's 3) I just want to thank you Lord.  
You've Been My Friend (x's 3) I just want to thank you Lord.*

***The worship is over. Now the service begins.***

*The Palms on the altar are given by Anita Jefferson to wish her mom,  
Verdelle German, a Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday!*



### SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:

The Very Reverend Dr. Michael Shaffer, *Celebrant & Preacher*  
Shawan Gillians & Ellen Hardin, *Eucharistic Ministers*  
Ellen Hardin, *Lector*  
Loretta Haskell, *Organist & Choirmaster*  
Ginny Grayson & Patricia Gates, *Altar Guild*  
Vicki Davis Williams & Ginny Grayson, *Ushers*

### **The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ: Palm Sunday**

Today's worship begins with glad shouts of "Hosanna!" and moves to shouts of "Crucify him!" We journey with Jesus as he is welcomed in triumph upon entering Jerusalem and then is utterly rejected and crucified at Golgotha outside the gates of the city. We enter Holy Week today with prayers, music, and ceremonies that would be recognized by ancient pilgrims to Jerusalem walking the way of the cross. This is not merely the story of Jerusalem two thousand years ago—it is our story, too. We have a part in this great act by which God redeems the whole of creation through Jesus Christ.

Today we are part of the passion of Christ and through it we see the reality of God's saving action in our lives. Hosanna means "save us." The jarring intersection of triumph and defeat encompassed in this worship shows us that when the power of self and the powers of this world fail utterly it is in this humble, frail Jesus of Nazareth that the power of God is revealed. We shout hosanna not knowing what it will bring. It brings the cross, at once a terrible death and a throne of mercy for us. We are the children whom God so loved that the only Son was sent to live and die as one of us. There is no moment of defeat, of alienation, of brokenness, or even of death itself that can keep God from us.

### **An Invitation from Fr. Michael – *The Week that changes lives!***

If there's ever a week to worship - and if there's ever a week to invite someone to experience our worship - this is it.

Get ready for the most significant and moving week of the year – Holy Week, as we live Jesus' journey from his triumphal entry into Jerusalem as king, to the tragedy of betrayal and crucifixion, to the promise of resurrection for us all. You may just find that it takes you on the ride of your life ... and death ... and life again.

### **Thursday, March 28- Maundy Thursday Foot Washing and Eucharist- 6:00 PM**

We commemorate the Last Supper. We remember Jesus taking the bread and wine, declaring them to be his Body and Blood, and giving himself for his disciples. As he washed the feet of the disciples before dinner, so we will wash each other's feet during worship. Doing so, we live out Jesus' commandment to love through service to others.

### **Keep Watch at the Altar of Repose**

“*Could you not watch one hour with me?*” The Altar of Repose is a temporary altar where the elements consecrated on Maundy Thursday are reserved for distribution on Good Friday. Those desiring to keep vigil at the Altar of Repose respond to Jesus' admonition to his disciples to stay awake to pray with him. A sign-up sheet to Keep Watch is available in the Narthex. Watch will be kept from 10:00 PM Thursday evening until 6:00 AM Friday morning.

### **Friday, March 29 – Good Friday**

#### **Stations of the Cross – Noon**

A traditional devotion for Lent and Passiontide is making The Stations of the Cross, as we prayerfully walk around the church, pausing at each of the 14 Stations to reflect on an incident in Jesus' last walk to Calvary and his suffering, death and burial.

#### **1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. • Reconciliation of a Penitent - *All may, none must, some should.***

Reconciliation of the Penitents is a Sacramental rite in which those who repent may confess their sins to God in the presence of a priest and receive the assurance of pardon and the grace of absolution (BCP, p. 861). It is also called penance and confession. The church's ministry of reconciliation is from God, “*who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation*” (2 Cor 5:18). The ministry of reconciliation has been committed by Christ to the church. It is exercised through the care each Christian has for others, through the common prayer of Christians assembled for public worship, and through the priesthood of the church and its ministers declaring absolution (BCP, p. 446). The Reconciliation of a Penitent is not limited to times of sickness. Confessions may be heard by Fr. Michael in the Sanctuary between 1:00 and 3:00 PM. The secrecy of the confession is morally absolute for the confessor and must not be broken (BCP, p. 446).

#### **Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday – 6:00 PM**

This service is like no other – a time to put ourselves face to face with the cross, the instrument of bloody death and ultimate salvation, and contemplate the deep mystery of God's own sacrifice for us. No Eucharist may be celebrated on this day of our Lord's death, but we will receive Communion from the Reserved Sacrament – the Body and Blood of Christ consecrated at our Maundy Thursday celebration the night before.

### **Sunday, March 31 - Easter Service with Baptism – 10:00 AM**

We'll welcome this happy morning with our Festival Eucharist of Easter. The “alleluias” will return as we celebrate the joy of Christ's resurrection and the joy of our own new lives – sacraments of resurrection foreshadowing the eternal life Jesus has won for us. We'll also welcome in baptism Cameron Scott Gartner into the Community of Saints! A reception will follow with cake and champagne. *Alleluia, Christ is Risen!*

I hope you will join us for each and every service as you schedule permits. The summit of the Liturgical Year is the Easter Triduum—from the evening of Holy Thursday to the evening of Easter Sunday. Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery. The single celebration of the Triduum marks the end of the Lenten season and leads to the Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord on Easter morning. *Invite a friend and change a life!*

## Announcements



**Easter Flower Donations** – Next Sunday is Easter Sunday, the most joy filled Sunday of our liturgical year. We will not only be celebrating the Risen Lord, but welcoming young Cameron Scott Gartner into the Communion of Saints in baptism. We're expecting a number of visitors for this occasion, so please help out by making a special donation for our Altar Flowers for Easter. If writing a check, please note "Altar Guild- Easter" in the memo line.

A reminder also that Altar Flowers may be donated throughout the year by signing up for any given Sunday in the Altar Flower Notebook in the church Narthex. Suggested donation is a minimum of \$40.00.

**Free parking** is available during Sunday Worship Services at Ashley Hall School parking lot, located at the corner of Warren and Smith Streets, only one block from St. Mark's Church.

**Parish Office Hours** are every Friday, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Other times, contact Fr. Michael at 843-830-1220.

