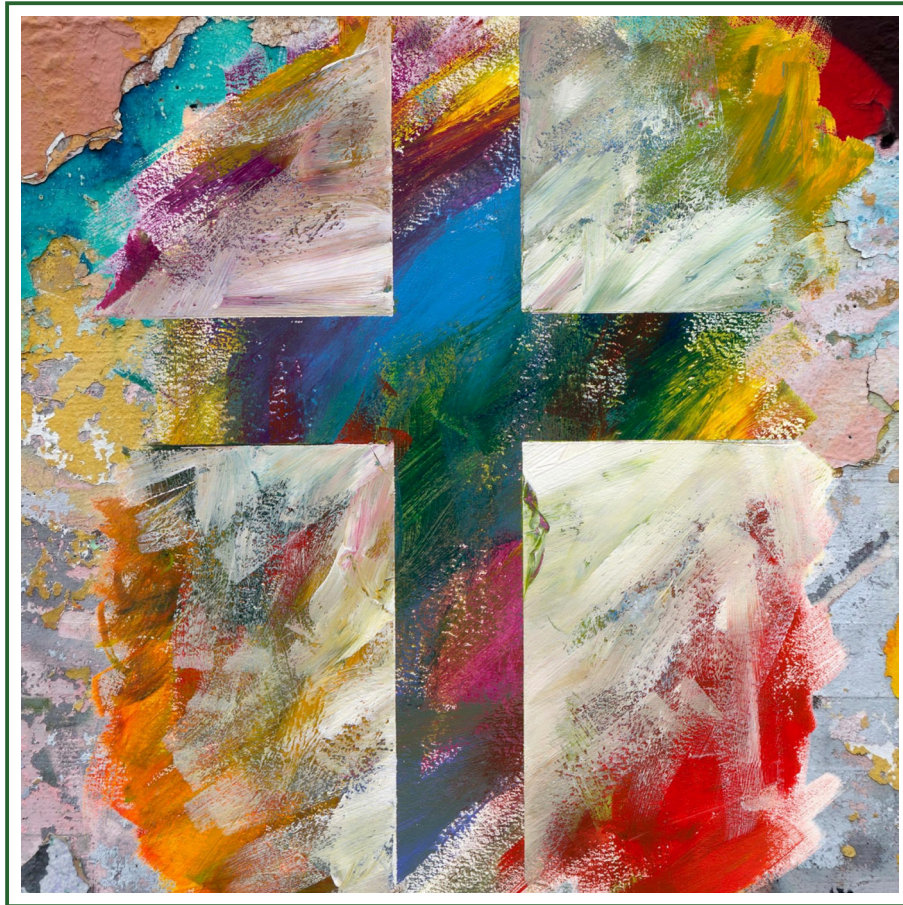


PALMER MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

— HOUSTON, TEXAS —

*Bringing the peace of Jesus
to the whole world*



GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY

12:00 PM

APRIL 18, 2025

6221 MAIN STREET | HOUSTON, TEXAS 77030 | 713.529.6196

PALMERCHURCH.ORG



Welcome to Palmer during Holy Week.

We are a community of Christians worshiping in the Episcopal tradition, which has its roots in the practices of the ancient Church. We are a congregation that values not only eternal answers but also important questions. You are surrounded by the love of Jesus here this afternoon. Scan the QR code to the left or visit palmerchurch.org/connect to fill out a welcome card or a request for prayer.

RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

If you are a baptized Christian of any tradition, you are invited to receive communion with us after the Breaking of the Bread. The consecrated bread will be placed in your outstretched hands. Those who require either grape juice or gluten-free bread and wine should join in the line on the left side of the church and let the minister of communion know. When the chalice of consecrated wine comes to you, you may sip from the chalice, or carefully dip part of the consecrated bread into the wine, or decline it. Rest assured that you will have made a full communion if you choose to receive the consecrated bread only, with nothing lacking in your experience of God's grace today.

RECEIVING A BLESSING

If you are not a baptized Christian, or your Christian tradition does not allow you to receive communion with us, we encourage you to come forward at the time of communion to receive a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest as someone approaches with the bread, and that person will know to give you a blessing instead of communion. In this way, everyone can participate in this part of the service.

SEEKING BAPTISM

If you have never been baptized and desire to be immersed in grace and forgiveness as a follower of Jesus, please send an inquiry to info@palmerchurch.org. It would be a joy to baptize you as a Christian here at Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church.

MEDICAL CENTER GUESTS

If you or a family member are here for care at the Texas Medical Center, please let us know how we can support you while you are in Houston by contacting Suzie Dennis at sdennis@palmerchurch.org.

CARING FOR THE WELLNESS OF OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

We strongly encourage everyone to be up to date on vaccinations and boosters. Masking is optional.

CLERGY AND LITURGICAL CHURCH STAFF

The Rev'd Neil Alan Willard, *Rector*

The Rev'd Katherine Tuttle, *Director of Parish Life and Membership*

Roger Hutchison, *Director of Children's and Youth Ministries*

Will Parker, *Seminarian*

Dr. Brady Knapp, *Director of Music*

Ken Cowan, *Organist and Artist-in-Residence*

Sunkyung Smith, *Associate Organist*

David Ashley White, *Composer-in-Residence*

Courtney Daniell-Knapp, *Children's Choirs*

OUR MISSION

To know and boldly share the love of Jesus Christ through deep understanding of our relationship with God, ourselves, and our neighbors, in a joyfully engaged and welcoming community, dedicated to thoughtful and focused service, and inspired by worship that renews curiosity about all of creation.

OUR VALUES AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Liturgical Excellence

We believe in sharing God's unconditional love in Jesus, which we call grace, with all who come through our church doors. The beauty and power of our liturgy drawn from the Book of Common Prayer and our music drawn from the Anglican choral tradition are the beginning, not the end, of our weekly Christian journey. Like a flourishing tree, they root us in the past, shelter us in the present, and reach out to the future with the strength and confidence of God's promises to all.

Joyful Companionship

We believe spending time together and connecting across the generations fosters our spiritual growth. Palmers accompany each other on our pilgrimage with God, toward God. We are an ever-growing household, for the youngest child and each of us through the end of life, built with grace, love, acceptance, laughter, tears, service, singing, and Jesus as our cornerstone.

Bold Curiosity

We believe the gift of inquiry, curiosity, and profound conversation leads to a greater understanding of our place in God's creation and our relationship with God, ourselves, and our neighbors. Knowing and sharing the love of Jesus is experienced in our worship and also through artistic expression, intellectual generosity, and spiritual teaching.

Spiritual Sanctuary

We believe God loves each of us, no exceptions. As human beings created in God's image, we should have a place where the love of Jesus is made real, a place where we can experience the celebration of who we are and an acceptance of where we are on life's journey. We aspire to be an inclusive community of faith and a beacon of hope for those seeking spiritual refuge.

Loving Service

We believe following Jesus, as we are called to do, involves caring for our neighbors as we care for ourselves, joining in God's mission to connect with and work alongside an extraordinary array of people, institutions, and communities, and bearing witness to the work of the Holy Spirit in the world around us.

On this day the ministers enter in silence, all then kneel for silent prayer, after which the Celebrant stands and begins the liturgy, saying

Blessed be our God.

People **For ever and ever. Amen.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, we pray thee graciously to behold this thy 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 now liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

First Reading

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Reader A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high. Just as there were many who were astonished at him--so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of mortals--so he shall startle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which had not been told them they shall see, and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate. Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account. Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the Lord shall prosper. Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
 and are so far from my cry and from the words of my distress?
 O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer;
 by night as well, but I find no rest.
 Yet you are the Holy One,
 enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
 Our forefathers put their trust in you;
 they trusted, and you delivered them.
 They cried out to you and were delivered;
 they trusted in you and were not put to shame.
 But as for me, I am a worm and no man,
 scorned by all and despised by the people.
 All who see me laugh me to scorn;
 they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,
 "He trusted in the Lord; let him deliver him;
 let him rescue him, if he delights in him."
 Yet you are he who took me out of the womb,
 and kept me safe upon my mother's breast.
 I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born;
 you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.
 Be not far from me, for trouble is near,
 and there is none to help.

First Reading

Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

Reader A reading from the Book of Hebrews.

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

1 Cross of Je - sus, cross of sor - row, where the
 2 Here the King of all the a - ges, throned in
 3 O mys - ter - ious con - de - scend - ing! O a -
 4 Cross of Je - sus, cross of sor - row, where the

blood of Christ was shed, per - fect Man on
 light ere worlds could be, robed in mor - tal
 ban - don - ment sub - lime! Ve - ry God him -
 blood of Christ was shed, per - fect Man on

thee did suf - fer, per - fect God on thee has bled!
 flesh is dy - ing, cru - ci - fied by sin for me.
 self is bear - ing all the suf - fer - ings of time!
 thee did suf - fer, per - fect God on thee has bled!

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO JOHN

The Passion Narrative from the Gospel of John, which is read publicly in Christian worship on Good Friday, makes frequent reference to "the Jews" in most translations from ancient Greek into contemporary English. These words are broadly understood by biblical scholars as referring to some of the religious authorities in Judea who were opposed to Jesus, and not to Jews as a people, then or now. Throughout the centuries, when these words have been misunderstood, Jews have experienced violence at the hands of Christians during Holy Week, especially on Good Friday.

The translation of the Bible used in liturgies for this congregation is the New Revised Standard Version, which has been modified in this Good Friday liturgy to clarify the meaning of "the Jews," where appropriate, as authorized by the General Convention of the Episcopal Church and the Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas. Those modifications are examples of what is sometimes described as a "dynamic equivalence" translation, which seeks to convey the full meaning of a word or phrase.

*The customary responses before and after the Gospel are omitted.
The congregation plays the part of the religious leaders, which is printed in bold type.*

NARRATOR: Jesus went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with guards from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them,

JESUS: "Whom are you looking for?"

NARRATOR: They answered,

PRIESTS AND GUARDS: "Jesus of Nazareth."

NARRATOR: Jesus replied,

JESUS: "I am he."

NARRATOR: Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they stepped back and fell to the ground. Again he asked them,

JESUS: "Whom are you looking for?"

NARRATOR: And they said,

PRIESTS AND GUARDS: "Jesus of Nazareth."

NARRATOR: Jesus answered,

JESUS: "I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these men go."

NARRATOR: This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken, "I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me." Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus. Jesus said to Peter,

JESUS: "Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?"

NARRATOR: So the soldiers, their officer, and the Judean guards arrested Jesus and bound him. First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Judean leaders that it was better to have one person die for the people. Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. The woman said to Peter,

WOMAN: "You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?"

NARRATOR: He said,

PETER: "I am not."

NARRATOR: Now the slaves and the guards had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself. Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. Jesus answered,

JESUS: "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Judeans come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said."

NARRATOR: When he had said this, one of the guards standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying,

GUARD: "Is that how you answer the high priest?"

NARRATOR: Jesus answered,

JESUS: "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?"

NARRATOR: Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest. Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him,

GUARD: "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?"

NARRATOR: He denied it and said,

PETER: "I am not."

NARRATOR: One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked,

SLAVE: "Did I not see you in the garden with him?"

NARRATOR: Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed. Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. So Pilate went out to them and said,

PILATE: "What accusation do you bring against this man?"

NARRATOR: They answered,

PRIESTS AND GUARDS: "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you."

NARRATOR: Pilate said to them,

PILATE: "Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law."

NARRATOR: The Judean leaders replied,

PRIESTS AND GUARDS: "We are not permitted to put anyone to death."

NARRATOR: (This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.) Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him,

PILATE: "Are you the King of the Jews?"

NARRATOR: Jesus answered,

JESUS: "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?"

NARRATOR: Pilate replied,

PILATE: "I am not a Jewish, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?"

NARRATOR: Jesus answered,

JESUS: "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Judeans. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here."

NARRATOR: Pilate asked him,

PILATE: "So you are a king?"

NARRATOR: Jesus answered,

JESUS: "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

NARRATOR: Pilate asked him,

PILATE: "What is truth?"

NARRATOR: After he had said this, he went out to the Judean leaders again and told them,

PILATE: "I find no case against him. But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?"

NARRATOR: They shouted in reply,

CONGREGATION: "Not this man, but Barabbas!"

NARRATOR: Now Barabbas was a bandit. Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him, saying,

SOLDIERS: "Hail, King of the Jews!"

NARRATOR: and striking him on the face. Pilate went out again and said to them,

PILATE: "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him."

NARRATOR: So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them,

PILATE: "Here is the man!"

NARRATOR: When the chief priests and the guards saw him, they shouted,

CONGREGATION: "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

NARRATOR: Pilate said to them,

PILATE: "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him."

NARRATOR: The Judean leaders answered him,

CONGREGATION: “We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God.”

NARRATOR: Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus,

PILATE: “Where are you from?”

NARRATOR: But Jesus gave him no answer. Pilate therefore said to him,

PILATE: “Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?”

NARRATOR: Jesus answered him,

JESUS: “You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin.”

NARRATOR: From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Judean leaders cried out,

CONGREGATION: “If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor.”

NARRATOR: When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge’s bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Judean leaders,

PILATE: “Here is your King!”

NARRATOR: They cried out,

CONGREGATION: “Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!”

NARRATOR: Pilate asked them,

PILATE: “Shall I crucify your King?”

NARRATOR: The chief priests answered,

PRIESTS: “We have no king but the emperor.”

NARRATOR: Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

Here, all stand as are able.

NARRATOR: So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” Many of the Judeans read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate,

PRIESTS: “Do not write, ‘The King of the Jews,’ but, ‘This man said, I am King of the Jews.’”

NARRATOR: Pilate answered,

PILATE: "What I have written I have written."

NARRATOR: When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another,

SOLDIERS: "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it."

NARRATOR: This was to fulfill what the scripture says, "They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots." And that is what the soldiers did. Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother,

JESUS: "Woman, here is your son."

NARRATOR: Then he said to the disciple,

JESUS: "Here is your mother."

NARRATOR: And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home. After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture),

JESUS: "I am thirsty."

NARRATOR: A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said,

JESUS: "It is finished."

NARRATOR: Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Silence is kept for a few moments.

NARRATOR: Since it was the day of Preparation, the Judean leaders did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. (He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken." And again another passage of scripture says, "They will look on the one whom they have pierced."

After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Judean leaders, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the Jewish burial custom. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

A period of silence follows the reading.

The Sermon

The Rev'd Beth Anne Nelson, *Diocesan Missioner to Rice University*

The Solemn Collects

All standing, the assisting priest says to the people

Dear People of God: Our heavenly Father sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved; that all who believe in him might be delivered from the power of sin and death, and become heirs with him of everlasting life.

We pray, therefore, for people everywhere according to their needs.

Those who are able may kneel, after which the assisting priest says

Let us pray for the holy Catholic Church of Christ throughout the world;

For its unity in witness and service

For all bishops and other ministers and the people whom they serve

For Andy, our Bishop, and all the people of this diocese

For all Christians in this community

For those about to be baptized

That God will confirm the Church in faith, increase it in love, and preserve it in peace.

Silence is kept. Then the Celebrant says

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of thy faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before thee for all members of thy holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve thee; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The assisting priest says

Let us pray for all nations and peoples of the earth, and for those in authority among them;

For Donald, the President of the United States

For the Congress and the Supreme Court

For the Members and Representatives of the United Nations

For all who serve the common good

That by God's help they may seek justice and truth, and live in peace and concord.

Silence is kept. Then the Celebrant says

Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with thy wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth; that in tranquility thy dominion may increase, until the earth is filled with the knowledge of thy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The assisting priest says

Let us pray for the Jewish people, who by the grace of their eternal covenant with God, were delivered from bondage into freedom;

For their continued faithfulness
For their flourishing in peace as witnesses to God's sustaining love
For their safety from all malice and harm
For their liberation from all forms of antisemitism and hatred
For the fullness of redemption for the sake of God's Name

That unity and concord may exist between Jews and Christians, in obedience to God's will.

Silence is kept. Then the Celebrant says

God of Abraham, thou didst plant thy people Israel as the root and grafted all people as wild branches into a single olive tree of praise to thee: As we come near to the cross, we lament Christian acts of prejudice and violence against thy faithful people, of whom Jesus Christ was born. Bless the children of thy covenant, so that together we may attain the fullness of thy blessing for the world. **Amen.**

The assisting priest says

Let us pray for all who suffer and are afflicted in body or in mind;

For those who are hungry and homeless, destitute and oppressed
For those who are ill or disabled, in body, mind, or spirit
For those who are lonely, fearful, or anguished
For those who face temptation, doubt, and despair
For those who are sorrowful and bereaved
For those who are prisoners, refugees, and captives
For those who are victims of war, genocide, and trafficking, and all those in mortal danger
For those who are persecuted for the sake of Christ

That God in divine mercy will comfort and relieve them, and grant them the knowledge of divine love, and stir up in us the will and patience to minister to their needs.

Silence is kept. Then the Celebrant says

Gracious God, the comfort of all who sorrow, the strength of all who suffer: Let the cry of those in misery and need come to thee, that they may find thy mercy present with them in all their afflictions; and give us, we pray, the strength to serve them for the sake of him who suffered for us, thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The assisting priest says

Let us pray for those who have not embraced God's redemptive love;

For those who have never heard the word of salvation
For those who have lost their faith
For those hardened by sin and indifference
For those who are contemptuous or scornful
For those who are persecutors of Christ's disciples
For those who in the name of Christ have persecuted others

That God will open their hearts to truth, and lead them to faith and obedience.

Silence is kept. Then the Celebrant says

Merciful God, creator of all the peoples of earth and lover of souls: Have compassion on all who do not know thee; let the Good News of thy salvation be preached with grace and power to those who have not heard it; turn the hearts of those who resist it; and bring home to thy fold those who have gone astray; that there maybe one flock under one shepherd, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The assisting priest says

Let us commit ourselves to our God, and pray for the grace of a holy life, that, with all who have departed this world and have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to God alone, we may be accounted worthy to enter into the fullness of the joy of our Lord, and receive the crown of life in the day of resurrection.

Silence is kept. Then the Celebrant says

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on thy whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of thy providence, carry out in tranquillity the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Veneration of the Cross

Members of the clergy and the altar party will take turns kneeling before the cross at the foot of the chancel steps. Those in the congregation may then come forward as led by the Spirit, if they desire to do the same.

Veneration Anthem: *O Saviour of the world*

John Goss

O Saviour of the world,
Who by thy Cross and precious Blood hath redeemed us,
Save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee O Lord.
Amen.

Anthem: There is a green hill

Majalisa Dunnewald

There is a green hill far away,
without a city wall,
where our dear Lord was crucified,
who died to save us all.

We may not know,
we cannot tell,
what pains he had to bear;
but we believe it was for us
he hung and suffered there.
He died that we might be forgiv'n,
he died to make us good,

that we might go at last to heav'n,
saved by his precious blood.

There was no other good enough
to pay the price of sin;
he only could unlock the gate
of heav'n, and let us in.

O dearly, dearly has he loved,
and we must love him too,
and trust in his redeeming blood,
and try his works to do.

The Reserved Sacrament, blessed at the Maundy Thursday service last night, is brought into the church from the Altar of Repose in St. Bede's Chapel.

Confession of Sin

The Celebrant says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Those who are able may kneel, and silence is kept.

Celebrant Most merciful God,
People we confess that we have sinned against thee
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved thee with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in thy will,
and walk in thy ways,
to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

The Celebrant stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Holy Communion from the Reserved Sacrament

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

Celebrant Our Father,
People 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 Celebrant says this 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.

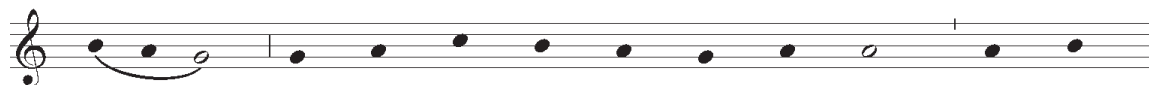
*Improperium exspectavit cor meum, et miseriam:
et sustinui qui simul contristaretur, et non
fuit: consolantem me quaesivi, et non inveni:
et dederunt in escam meam fel, et in siti mea
potaverunt me aceto.*

My heart awaited reproach and misery; and I
hoped for one that would grieve together with
me, but there was none; I looked for one who
would comfort me, and found no one. For food
they gave me gall; in my thirst they gave me
vinegar to drink.

Hymn 166 "Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle" (vs. 1-3, & 6)

Pange lingua

1 Sing, my tongue, the glo - rious bat - tle; of the might - y con - flict
2 Thir - ty years a - mong us dwell - ing, his ap - point - ed time ful -
3 He en - dures the nails, the spit - ting, vin - e - gar, and spear, and
4 Faith - ful cross! a - bove all o - ther, one and on - ly no - ble
5 Bend thy boughs, O tree of glo - ry! Thy re - lax - ing sin - ews
*6 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, praise and hon - or to the



1 sing; tell the tri - umph of the vic - tim, to his
2 filled, born for this, he meets his pas - sion, this the
3 reed; from that ho - ly bo - dy bro - ken blood and
4 tree! None in fo - liage, none in blos - som, none in
5 bend; for a - while the an - cient ri - gor that thy
6 Son, praise and hon - or to the Spi - rit, ev - er



1 cross thy tri - bute bring. Je - sus Christ, the world's Re -
2 Sa - vior free - ly willed: on the cross the Lamb is
3 wa - ter forth pro - ceed: earth, and stars, and sky, and
4 fruit thy peer may be: sweet - est wood and sweet - est
5 birth be - stowed, sus - pend; and the King of heaven - ly
6 Three and ev - er One: one in might and one in



1 deem - er from that cross now reigns as King.
2 lift - ed, where his pre - cious blood is spilled.
3 o - cean, by that flood from stain are freed.
4 i - ron! sweet - est weight is hung on thee.
5 beau - ty gent - ly on thine arms ex - tend.
6 glo - ry while e - ter - nal a - ges run.

Hymn 168 "O sacred head, sore wounded"

Herzlich tut mich verlangen

1 O sa - cred head, sore wound - ed, de - filed and put to scorn;
 2 Thy beau - ty, long - de - sir - ed, hath va - nished from our sight;
 3 In thy most bit - ter pas - sion my heart to share doth cry,
 *4 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
 *5 My days are few, O fail not, with thine im - mor - tal power,

1 O king - ly head, sur - round - ed with mock - ing crown of thorn:
 2 thy power is all ex - pir - ed, and quenched the light of light.
 3 with thee for my sal - va - tion up - on the cross to die.
 4 for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pi - ty with - out end?
 5 to hold me that I quail not in death's most fear - ful hour;

1 what sor - row mars thy gran - deur? Can death thy bloom de - flower?
 2 Ah me! for whom thou di - est, hide not so far thy grace:
 3 Ah, keep my heart thus mov - ed to stand thy cross be - neath,
 4 Oh, make me thine for - ev - er! and should I faint - ing be,
 5 that I may fight be - friend - ed, and see in my last strife

1 O coun - te - nance whose splen - dor the hosts of heaven a - dore!
 2 show me, O Love most high - est, the bright - ness of thy face.
 3 to mourn thee, well - be - lov - ed, yet thank thee for thy death.
 4 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er, out - live my love for thee.
 5 to me thine arms ex - tend - ed up - on the cross of life.

After communion, the Celebrant concludes the service with following prayer.

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, we pray thee to set thy passion, cross, and death between thy judgment and our souls, now and in the hour of our death. Give mercy and grace to the living, pardon and rest to the dead, to thy holy Church peace and concord; and to us sinners everlasting life and glory; who with the Father and the Holy Spirit livest and reignest, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

There is no dismissal or blessing during the Holy Three Days.

All leave in silence. The people may stay for prayer and meditation and leave when they desire.

Because some people remain for prayer and meditation, all are asked to leave quietly.

Crucifixion: Jesus is nailed to the cross

by Malcolm Guite

See, as they strip the robe from off his back
And spread his arms and nail them to the cross,
The dark nails pierce him and the sky turns black,
And love is firmly fastened onto loss.
But here a pure change happens. On this tree
Loss becomes gain, death opens into birth.
Here wounding heals and fastening makes free
Earth breathes in heaven, heaven roots in earth.
And here we see the length, the breadth, the height
Where love and hatred meet and love stays true
Where sin meets grace and darkness turns to light
We see what love can bear and be and do,
And here our saviour calls us to his side
His love is free, his arms are open wide.

JOIN US FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

HOLY SATURDAY | April 19

10:00 AM “Easter Grace Garden” Making and Holy Saturday Prayers in the Courtyard

Everything will be provided, but you may also bring a flowerpot or shallow dish to fill.

7:00 PM The Great Vigil and First Eucharist of Easter, Rite II, in the Church

This service will include hymns and anthems by the adult choir.

EASTER DAY | April 20 **Note the shift in times to accomodate extra guests.*

9:00 AM The Second Eucharist of Easter, Rite II, in the Church

This service will include hymns and anthems by the adult choir.

11:00 AM The Third Eucharist of Easter, Rite I, in the Church

This service will include hymns and anthems by the adult choir.

Free parking will be available in the Memorial Hermann Medical Plaza parking garage located across Cambridge Street from the church at 6400 Fannin Street. Simply bring the ticket you receive when entering the parking garage to the Welcome Table at the front entrance of the church to validate it. Upon exiting the parking garage, if the ticket machine indicates that you owe a fee, press the cancel button, and then insert your validated parking ticket into the machine. The gate will go up right away. Again, if you need assistance, please notify a parking attendant by pressing the button on the ticket machine.

Free parking will also be available in the parking lot to the north of Palmer’s campus on the morning of Easter Day. Free parking will also be available in the parking lot to the south of Palmer’s campus, along the Palmer side of Main Street, and on the other side of Main Street at Rice University in the Founder’s Court parking lot. For information about where the Founder’s Court parking lot is located and how to take advantage of that offer, please use the following link to the Welcome Page on the church website, which also includes details about options for paid parking in the parking garages at Rice University’s Cambridge Office Building and Memorial Hermann Medical Plaza: <https://palmerchurch.org/welcome/>

For more info visit palmerchurch.org/holyweek