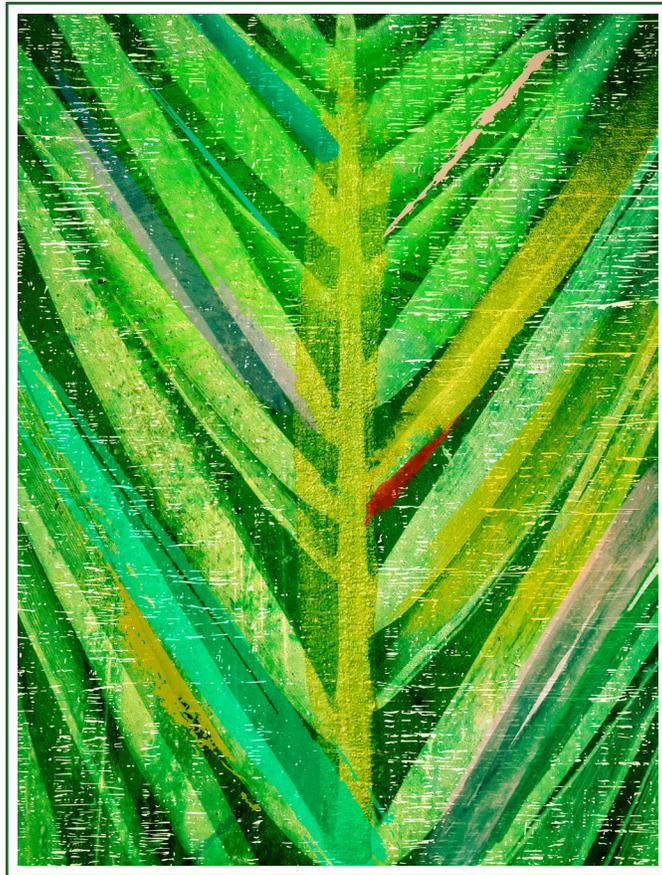


# PALMER MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HOUSTON, TEXAS

*Bringing the peace of Jesus  
to the whole world*



THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION: PALM SUNDAY  
THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS &  
CHORAL EUCHARIST, RITE I  
10:00 AM  
MARCH 29, 2026

**6221 MAIN STREET | HOUSTON, TEXAS 77030 | 713.529.6196**

**PALMERCHURCH.ORG**



## PALM•ER | PÄ(L)MER |

NOUN: PALMER; PLURAL NOUN: PALMERS

### I. *HISTORICAL*

A PILGRIM, ESPECIALLY ONE WHO HAD RETURNED FROM THE HOLY LAND WITH A PALM FROND OR LEAF AS A SIGN OF HAVING UNDERTAKEN THE PILGRIMAGE.

The story of Palm Sunday tells of how  
people removed their cloaks and spread them out  
in front of Jesus as he entered the City of Jerusalem.

The cloak we wear every day to face the world  
is both the persona we wish to present,  
and our defense against the elements.

As we begin this pilgrimage, we are invited  
to lay down our defenses and disguises  
before the One who sees us as we really are.

And then, set free to come to the Lord's Table,  
let us offer our praise and thanksgiving  
with open hearts and open hands.



## *Welcome to Palmer on our feast day of Palm Sunday!*

We are a community of Christians worshipping 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 morning. Scan the QR code to the left or visit [palmerchurch.org](http://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.

### **RECEIVING PRAYER**

If you would like someone to pray for you, members of the Order of St. Luke will be available for that in the narthex (i.e., the entryway near the front doors of the church) during the administration of communion.

### **SEEKING BAPTISM**

If you have never been baptized and desire to be immersed in grace and forgiveness as a follower of Jesus, please speak with a member of the clergy listed below or someone at the Welcome Table after this hour of worship. 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 stopping at the Welcome Table by the front doors of the church or contacting Suzie Dennis at [sdennis@palmerchurch.org](mailto: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 Allen M. Junek, *Associate Rector*

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

The Rev'd Mary Reddick, *Deacon*

The Rev'd Beth Anne Nelson, *The Diocese of Texas  
Missioner to Rice University*

Roger Hutchison, *Director of Family Ministries  
and Digital Storytelling*

Dr. Brady Knapp, *Director of Music*

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

Laura Smith, *Associate Organist*

David Ashley White, *Composer-in-Residence*

Courtney Daniell-Knapp, *Children's Choirs*

**Free parking is available every Sunday** across Cambridge Street from the church in the Memorial Hermann Medical Plaza parking garage (6400 Fannin Street), with entrances on both Fannin Street and Main Street. Palmer has purchased this convenient parking and absorbed the cost to provide it to parishioners and guests. Simply bring the ticket you receive when entering the parking garage to the Welcome Table by the front entrance of the church. Then validate your parking ticket by using a machine located on that table. If you do not receive a parking ticket, or happen to misplace your ticket, please notify a parking attendant by pressing the button on the ticket machine as you exit. 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.

## **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.

## THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

Introit: Hosianna

Christian Gregor

Hosianna! O blessed is He who comes!  
Hosianna! Hosianna!  
O blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord!  
Hosianna in the highest!

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

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

*Priest* Let us pray.

Assist us mercifully with thy help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby thou hast given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The person appointed reads the following*

When Jesus and his disciples had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, "Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven! "When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee." *Matthew 21:1-11*

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Priest* Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

*People* **It is meet and right so to do.**

It is meet and right to praise thee, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which thou hast redeemed us through thy 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 dost lead to eternal life; who liveth and reigneth in glory with thee and the Holy Ghost, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Priest* Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

*People* **Hosanna in the highest.**

## The Procession

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

*During the procession, all hold branches in their hands. Children and others may hold bells and noise makers, making a joyful noise as the Ministers and People walk through the gates of the courtyard and around the sidewalks to the front doors of the church. Several times along the way, the following words will be shouted, with a prayer added at the front doors of the church.*

*Priest* Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
*People* **Hosanna in the highest.**

*Priest* Let us pray.

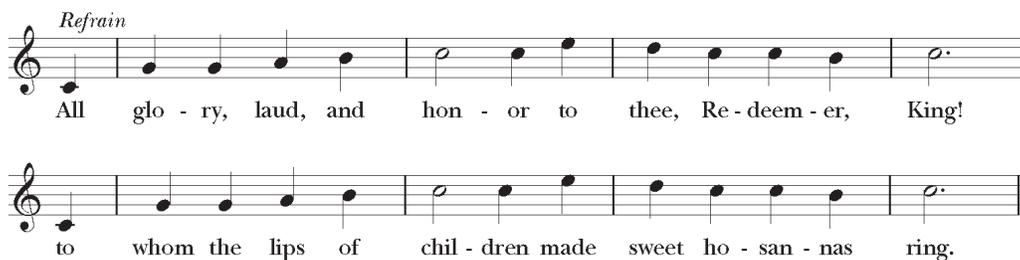
Merciful God, as we enter Holy Week and gather at thy house of prayer, turn our hearts again to Jerusalem, to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, that, united with him and all the saints, we may one day enter in triumph the city not made with hands, the new Jerusalem, eternal in the heavens. This we ask in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

*After the congregation has entered the pews inside the church, the following hymn is sung.*

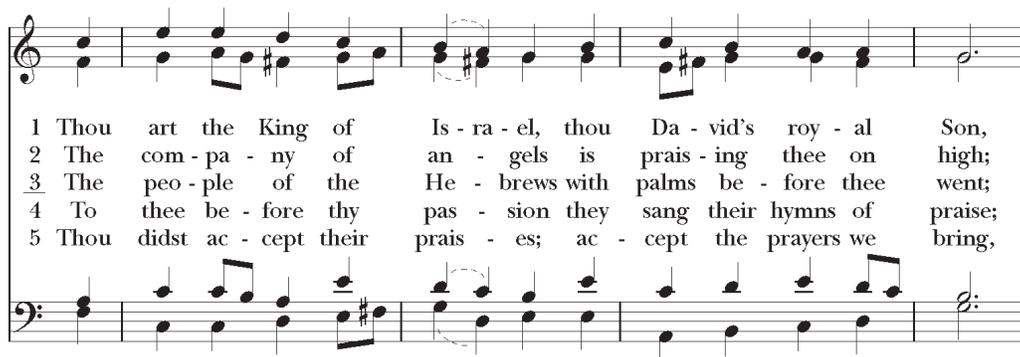
### Processional Hymn 154 "All glory, laud, and honor"

*Valet will ich dir geben*

*Refrain*

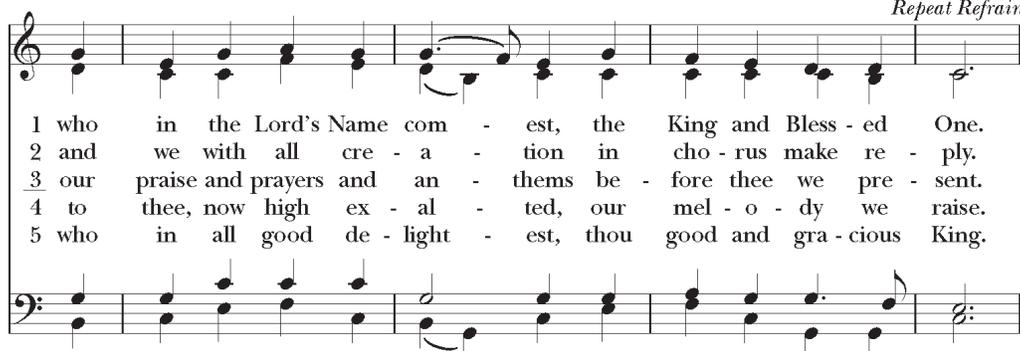


All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re - deem - er, King!  
to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



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

*Repeat Refrain*



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

*The stanzas may be sung by choir alone or alternately by contrasted groups; all sing the refrain.*

## The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who, of thy tender love towards humanity, hast sent thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh, and to suffer death upon the cross, that all of us should follow the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may both follow the example of his patience, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## The Lessons

First Reading

Philippians 2:5-11

*Reader* A reading from the Letter to the Philippians.

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.**

Psalm 31:9-16 (*sung by choir*)

Plainchant

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

*During this liturgy, children of all ages are invited at the beginning of the Sequence Hymn to follow the children's cross to St. Bede's Chapel for Liturgy Preparation. After learning, praying, and singing together in St. Bede's Chapel, the children return to the Church at the Peace to receive communion with their families.*

Sequence Hymn 435 "At the Name of Jesus" (vs. 1-3, 6)

*King's Weston*



1 At the Name of Je - sus ev - ery knee shall bow,  
 2 Hum - bled for a sea - son, to re - ceive a Name  
 3 bore it up tri - um - phant, with its hu - man light,  
 4 Name him, Chris - tians, name him, with love strong as death,  
 \*5 In your hearts en - throne him; there let him sub - due  
 \*6 Chris - tians, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain,



1 ev - ery tongue con - fess him King of glo - ry now;  
 2 from the lips of sin - ners, un - to whom he came,  
 3 through all ranks of crea - tures, to the cen - tral height,  
 4 name with awe and won - der and with bat - ed breath;  
 5 all that is not ho - ly, all that is not true;  
 6 with his Fa - ther's glo - ry o'er the earth to reign;



1 'tis the Fa - ther's plea - sure we should call him Lord  
 2 faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last,  
 3 to the throne of God - head, to the Fa - ther's breast;  
 4 he is God the Sa - vior, he is Christ the Lord,  
 5 crown him as your Cap - tain in temp - ta - tion's hour;  
 6 for all wreaths of em - pire meet up - on his brow,



1 who from the be - gin - ning was the might - y Word.  
 2 brought it back vic - to - rious, when from death he passed;  
 3 filled it with the glo - ry of that per - fect rest.  
 4 ev - er to be wor - shiped, trust - ed, and a - dored.  
 5 let his will en - fold you in its light and power.  
 6 and our hearts con - fess him King of glo - ry now.

*The Celebrant invites the congregation to be seated. The customary responses before and after the Gospel are omitted.*

The Passion Narrative

Matthew 26:14- 27:66

*Priest* The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

One of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, "What will you give me if I betray him to you?" They paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, "Surely not I, Lord?" He answered, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. 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." Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" He replied, "You have said so."

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, "You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written,

'I will strike the shepherd, the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'

But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee." Peter said to him, "Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you." Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." Peter said to him, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And so said all the disciples.

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me." And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want." Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Again he went away for the second time and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the

elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him." At once he came up to Jesus and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him. Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you are here to do." Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?" At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled." Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.'" The high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?" But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, "I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God." Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven."

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?" They answered, "He deserves death." Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, saying, "Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?"

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean." But he denied it before all of them, saying, "I do not know what you are talking about." When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth." Again he denied it with an oath, "I do not know the man." After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you." Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, "I do not know the man!" At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: "Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor.

When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. He said, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." But they said, "What is that to us? See to it yourself." Throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money." After conferring together, they used them to buy the potter's field as a place to bury foreigners. For this reason that field has been called the

Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah, “And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one on whom a price had been set, on whom some of the people of Israel had set a price, and they gave them for the potter’s field, as the Lord commanded me.”

Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said, “You say so.” But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?” But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?” For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, “Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.” Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barabbas.” Pilate said to them, “Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?” All of them said, “Let him be crucified!” Then he asked, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Let him be crucified!”

So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.” Then the people as a whole answered, “His blood be on us and on our children!” So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor’s headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross.

*All stand as are able.*

And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, “This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.”

Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, “You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.” In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, “He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, ‘I am God’s Son.’” The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last.

*Silence is kept.*

At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had provided for him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, "Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' Therefore command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, 'He has been raised from the dead,' and the last deception would be worse than the first." Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can." So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

*Silence is kept. Then the Celebrant says*

God of grace, the cadences of suffering love sound in thy Church this Holy Week as we ponder what it means to follow Jesus, not only into the City of Jerusalem but also into the City of Houston. Remind us, once again, that he went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified. And 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 Peace

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

*People* **And with thy spirit.**

*Then the Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of

Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -

- ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The people kneel or stand.*

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. AMEN.

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.**



Anthem: *Drop, drop slow tears*

Robert Graham

Drop, drop, slow tears,  
and bathe those beauteous feet,  
which brought from heav'n  
the news and Prince of Peace.

In your deep floods  
drown all my faults and fears;  
nor let his eye see sin,  
but through my tears.

Cease not, wet eyes,  
his mercies to entreat;  
to cry for vengeance  
sin doth never cease.

Anthem: *Under oak, ash & thorn*

Russell Woolen

Under oak, ash, and thorn, my soul was born.  
Under oak, ash, and thorn, my body beat to the lash.  
Under oak, ash, and thorn, my heart broke.  
Under oak, ash, and thorn, all three, I was nailed to a tree.

Hymn 167 "There is a green hill far away"

*Horsley*

The musical score is written for two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with the bass clef providing a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with line numbers 1 through 5 indicating the start of each line of text.

1 There is a green hill far a - way, out - side a ci - ty wall,  
 2 We may not know, we can - not tell, what pains he had to bear,  
 \*3 He died that we might be for - given, he died to make us good,  
 \*4 There was no o - ther good e - nough to pay the price of sin,  
 5 O dear - ly, dear - ly has he loved! And we must love him too,

1 where our dear Lord was cru - ci - fied who died to save us all.  
 2 but we be - lieve it was for us he hung and suf - fered there.  
 3 that we might go at last to heaven, saved by his pre - cious blood.  
 4 he on - ly could un - lock the gate of heaven and let us in.  
 5 and trust in his re - deem - ing blood, and try his works to do.

Hymn 458 "My song is love unknown" (vs. 1-3, 7)

*Love Unknown*

*Unison or harmony*

1 My song is love un - known, my Sa - vior's love to me, love  
 2 He came from his blest throne sal - va - tion to be - stow, but  
 \*3 Some - times they strew his way, and his strong prais - es sing, re -  
 \*4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite? He  
 \*5 They rise, and needs will have my dear Lord made a - way; a

1 to the love - less shown that they might love - ly be. O  
 2 men made strange, and none the longed - for Christ would know. But  
 3 sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas to their King. Then  
 4 made the lame to run, he gave the blind their sight. Sweet  
 5 mur - der - er they save, the Prince of Life they slay. Yet

1 who am I that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh, and die?  
 2 O my friend, my friend in - deed, who at my need his life did spend.  
 3 "Cru - ci - fy!" is all their breath, and for his death they thirst and cry.  
 4 in - ju - ries! Yet they at these them - selves dis - please, and 'gainst him rise.  
 5 stead - fast he to suf - fer - ing goes, that he his foes from thence might free.

\*6 In life no house, no home  
 my Lord on earth might have;  
 in death no friendly tomb  
 but what a stranger gave.  
 What may I say?  
 Heaven was his home;  
 but mine the tomb  
 wherein he lay.

7 Here might I stay and sing,  
 no story so divine:  
 never was love, dear King,  
 never was grief like thine,  
 This is my friend,  
 in whose sweet praise  
 I all my days  
 could gladly spend.

*After communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant* Almighty and everliving God,

*People* we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

*In lieu of a blessing, the Celebrant says the following prayer, and then the Deacon dismisses the people.*

Pour out thy grace, most merciful God, into the hearts of thy people, that they may become prisoners not of fear but of hope as they follow Jesus into the world throughout this Holy Week. **Amen.**

*Deacon* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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

Closing 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.

Postlude: *Herzlich tut mich verlangen*, Op. 122, No. 10

Johannes Brahms



# TOGETHER, WE PRAY

## Please pray for these people:

Polly Allen	Linda Ittner	Eleanor Viebig
James Armstrong	The Lang Family	Fran Wallis
Georgia Barton	Jim Lober	Shannon Westin
Kim Bavousett	Jo Lyday	Daniel Allen White
Roger Beebe	Shirley Matthews	David Ashley White
Viola Cleo Bradshaw	Don May	The Williams Family
Leigh Anderson Burdette	Terri McCauley	Tonya Williams
Carlos	Penny Meitz	Lewis Williams
Jeff Carowitz	Graham Norwood	Marie Woodward
Katie Courtney	The Rev'd Liz Parker	Audrey Worthing
Mike Collins	Jane Richardson	Donna Yacoe
Dan Cromack	Bill Robertson	George Whittenburg
Richard Fay	Don Robinson	Beth
David Furr	The Ross Family	Robert Brock Kraebel
Michael Gamboa	Roxane Short	Victoria Junek
Brandon Hertz	The Smith Family	Bob Watson
Patricia Hinojosa	Stephanie	Sheila Ryan
Holman Family	Linda Sylvan	Joe Gonzales
Steve Howard	The Thomas Family	Luisa Tse Wing
Connie Hulin	Bill Tilney	Becky Vowell

Names remain on the list for two Sundays unless the request is renewed by contacting one of the coordinators of our Pastoral Care Ministry: Ruth Davies at [rmmdavies@cebridge.net](mailto:rmmdavies@cebridge.net) for Palmers or Suzie Dennis at [sdennis@palmerchurch.org](mailto:sdennis@palmerchurch.org) for non-Palmers.

## Please pray for expectant households or families with newborns:

Ashley Elizabeth and Cory Condrey  
Ashley and Stephen Zatcoff  
The Stiver Family

Those expecting a child by birth or adoption are encouraged to contact Roger Hutchison at [rwhutchison@palmerchurch.org](mailto:rwhutchison@palmerchurch.org).

## Please pray for those in the armed forces:

Evan Adams	Jarrett Johnson	Adam Salvati
Nathan Adam	Christopher Kent	Alex Swartz
Michael Anderson	James King	Matthew Van Arsdale
Gaston Baza	Mike Martinez	Ashley Waddle
Travis Chambers	Nate Miller	Alex Walker
Owen Green	Andrew Nesom	Taylor Wilby
John Harrison	Harrison Power	
Connor Hurt	Jim Rosenbach	

## Please pray for our congregation's five-year strategic plan called *Come. Be. Palmer.*

*God of grace and glory, you are faithful from one generation to another: Grant to us, as Palmers, the courage to know and boldly share the love of Jesus Christ, that our own hearts and the world around us may be changed and reflect more and more your great mercy and compassion; through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.*

For more information visit [palmerchurch.org/strategicplan](http://palmerchurch.org/strategicplan)

# JOIN US FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

## MAUNDY THURSDAY | April 2

- 5:30 PM Holy Week Wonderings in the Holy Cross Children's Room**  
*This is an opportunity for children to ask questions about the meaning of Holy Week.*
- 6:00 PM Simple Dinner in St. Bede's Chapel**
- 7:00 PM Holy Eucharist, Rite I, and Stripping of the Altar in the Church**  
*This service will include the optional rite of foot-washing.*
- 8:00 PM All Night Prayer Vigil at the Altar of Repose in St. Bede's Chapel**  
*Participation requires pre-registration. Contact [info@palmerchurch.org](mailto:info@palmerchurch.org) to sign up.*

## GOOD FRIDAY | April 3

- 12:00 PM Good Friday Liturgy in the Church**
- 1:15 PM Stations of the Cross in the Church**
- 7:00 PM Good Friday Meditation with Organ Music and Readings in the Church**  
*Palmer's Organist and Artist-in-Residence, Ken Cowan, will play Marcel Dupré's *Le Chemin de la Croix* (Stations of the Cross) on our Fisk organ. The poetry of Paul Claudel, read by Carol Streatfeild, will accompany the music.*

## HOLY SATURDAY | April 4

- 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 5 \*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.

On the morning of Easter Day, free parking will also be available in the parking lot to the north of Palmer's campus, 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: <https://palmerchurch.org/welcome/>

*For more info visit [palmerchurch.org/holyweek](https://palmerchurch.org/holyweek)*