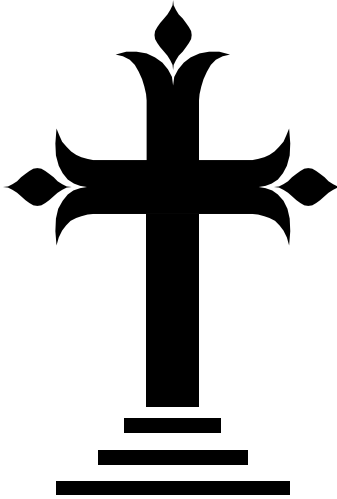


*Saint Matthew's  
Episcopal Church*



101 Saint Matthew's Lane  
Spartanburg, South Carolina 29301  
(864) 576-0424  
[www.stmatthewsepiscopal.org](http://www.stmatthewsepiscopal.org)

*Our mission is to preach, teach, heal and make disciples.*

**Sunday Services – 9:00 A.M. & 11:15 A.M.  
Christian Formation – 10:15 A.M.  
Wednesday Evening Prayer & Healing Service – 6:30 P.M.**

**The Right Reverend Daniel P. Richards, Bishop  
The Reverend Robert L. Brown, Rector  
The Reverend Paul R. Abernathy, Assistant Rector  
Donna Simpson, Organist/Choir Director  
Derek R. Langley, Director of Christian Formation  
Lisa Fowler, Preschool Director  
Michelle Pierce, Director of Communications  
Jane Bird, Church Administrator  
Allie Fowler & Melissa Pellin, Nursery**

# *The Sunday of the Passion - Palm Sunday*

**March 29, 2026**

## **The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two**

*Please talk to God in silence before the service; after the service talk to friends*

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

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

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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

### **Matthew 21:1-11**

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."

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

It is right to praise you, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was proclaimed as King of kings by those who spread their garments and branches of palm along his way. Let these branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant

that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

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.

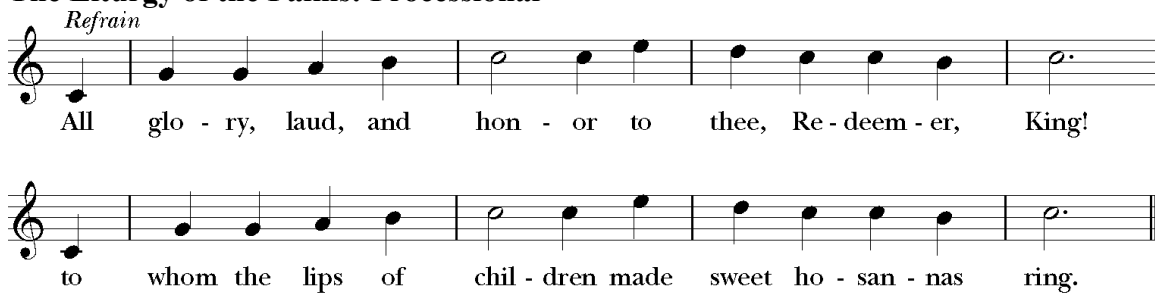
People: *In the name of Christ. Amen.*

*During the procession, all hold palm branches in their hands as they sing.*

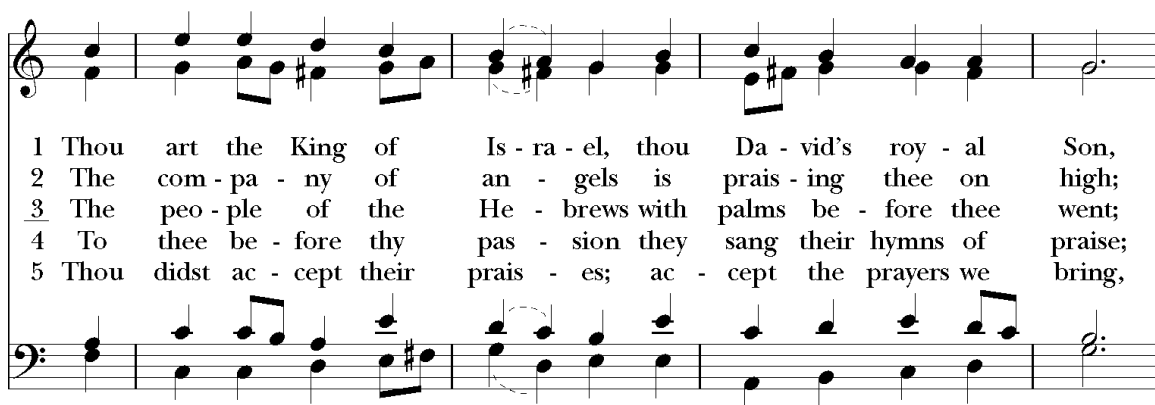


The Liturgy of the Palms: Processional

*Refrain*

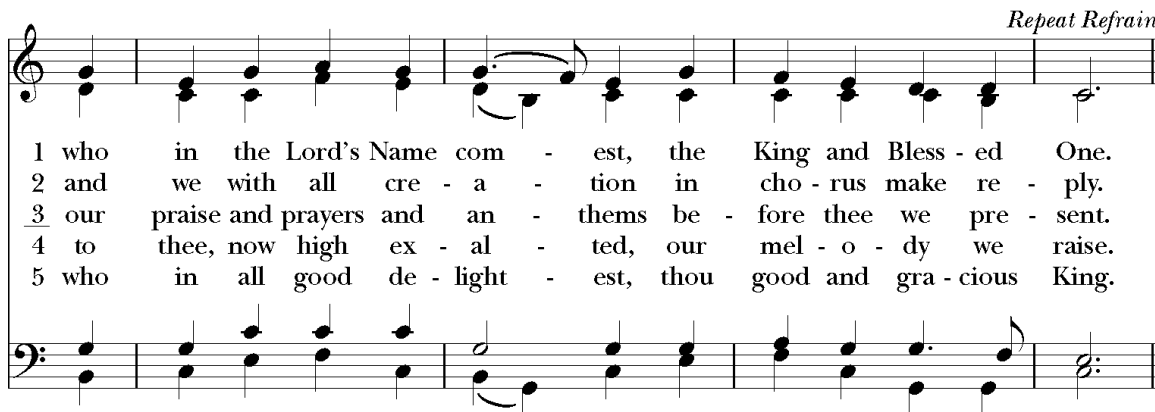


All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re - deem - er, King!  
to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



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.

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;  
People: *His mercy endures for ever.*

## 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 First Reading

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Isaiah describes the suffering of God's servant in words that Christians will apply to the suffering of Jesus during his Passion.

### A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah:

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?

Lector: The Word of the Lord

People: *Thanks be to God.*

### Psalm 31:9-16 *In unison*

- 9 Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble; \*  
my eye is consumed with sorrow,  
and also my throat and my belly.
- 10 For my life is wasted with grief,  
and my years with sighing; \*  
my strength fails me because of affliction,  
and my bones are consumed.

- 11 I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors,  
a dismay to those of my acquaintance; \*  
when they see me in the street they avoid me.
- 12 I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; \*  
I am as useless as a broken pot.
- 13 For I have heard the whispering of the crowd;  
fear is all around; \*  
they put their heads together against me;  
they plot to take my life.
- 14 But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord. \*  
I have said, "You are my God.
- 15 My times are in your hand; \*  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,  
and from those who persecute me.
- 16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, \*  
and in your loving-kindness save me."

### **The Epistle**

Philippians 2:5-11

Jesus expresses ultimate humility by declining to exploit his role as God incarnate.

### **A reading from the Letter of Paul 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.

Lector: The Word of the Lord

People: *Thanks be to God*

### **Gospel Hymn**

*"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"*

Hymnal 474

*The Passion Gospel is announced in the following manner and the customary responses before and after the Gospel are omitted. The congregation remains seated until the arrival at Golgotha.*

## **The Passion Gospel: Matthew 27:1-66**

*The people are seated.*

Narrator: The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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,

Judas: "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood."

Narrator: But they said,

Chief Priests and Elders: "What is that to us? See to it yourself."

Narrator: 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,

Chief Priests and Elders: "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money."

Narrator: 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,

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

Jesus: "You say so."

Narrator: But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him,

Pilate: "Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?"

Narrator: 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,

Pilate: "Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?"

Narrator: For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgement seat, his wife sent word to him,

Pilate's Wife: "Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him."

Narrator: 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,

Pilate: "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?"

Crowd: "Barabbas!"

Pilate: "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?"

Crowd: "Let him be crucified!"

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

Narrator: But they shouted all the more,

Crowd: "Let him be crucified!"

Narrator: 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,

Pilate: "I am innocent of this man's blood. See to it yourselves."

Narrator: Then the people as a whole answered,

Crowd: "His blood be on us and on our children!"

Narrator: So, Pilate 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,

Soldiers: "Hail, King of the Jews!"

Narrator: 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. And when they came to a place called Golgotha, which means Place of a Skull,

*The people stand.*

Narrator: 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,

Crowd: “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.”

Narrator: In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying,

Chief Priests and Elders: “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’.”

Narrator: 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,

Jesus: “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?”

Narrator: That is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” When the crowd heard it, they said,

Crowd: “This man is calling for Elijah.”

Narrator: 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 others in the crowd said,

Crowd: “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.”

Narrator: Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. 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 he said,

Centurion: “Truly this man was God’s Son!”

Narrator: 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 elders gathered before Pilate and said,

Chief Priest and Elders: “Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, ‘After three days I will rise again.’ Therefore command that the tomb 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: “You have a guard of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can.”

Narrator: So, they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

*At the conclusion of the narrative the congregation is silent.*

**Sermon** “My God, my God, *why?*”

The Rev. Paul Abernathy

### **Prayers of the People, Form III**

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

*That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

*That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest;

*Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

*May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions.*

### **Prayer for Spiritual Growth**

*Gracious Father, we ask spiritual growth for ourselves, our families and friends, and especially for our family St. Matthew's. Grant us growth in understanding and willingness to be your Body in this world. Empower us to live the mission of Christ: to preach, teach, heal and make disciples. In joyful thanksgiving for the blessing of your presence in our lives, compel us to share you with everyone we meet. May our numbers increase, our commitment deepen, our lives be joyfully yours. Make us a God-centered people. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.*

### **Peace**

*All stand.*

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

People: *And also with you.*

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

### **The Holy Communion**

#### **Offertory Anthem**

*"Surely, He Hath Borne Our Griefs"*

by Victor C. Johnson (2006 Lorenz Pub. Co.)

#### **Offertory Hymn**

*The Doxology*

#### **The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer B**

BCP 367

*The people remain standing.*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*The Celebrant 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.

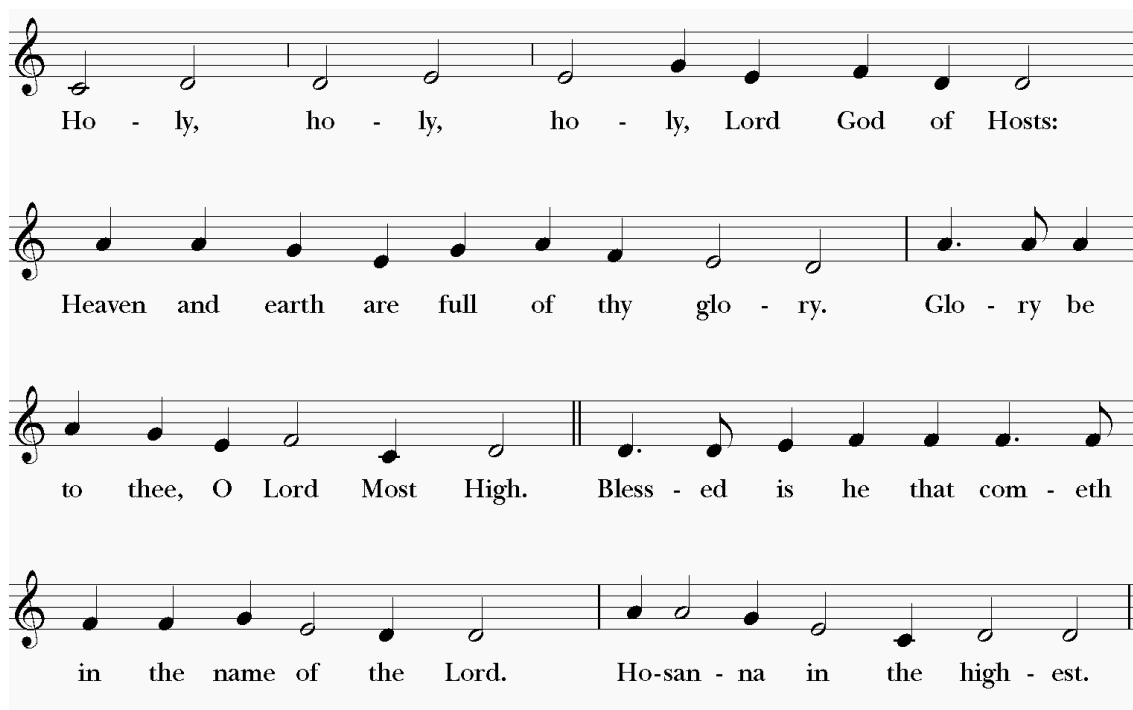
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. For our sins he was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; and, by his suffering and death, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him.

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:

## Sanctus

Hymnal S-113

*Celebrant and People together sing*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts:  
Heaven 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 stand or kneel.*

*The Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

***We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;***

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Matthew, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

*The Celebrant then continues*

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

*People and Celebrant*

*Our Father, 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.*

### **Breaking of the Bread**


BCP 364

*A period of silence is kept.*

*Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
Therefore let us keep the feast.*

## Fraction Anthem

Hymnal S-157



O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the  
sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the  
sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a - way the  
sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

*The Celebrant says*

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.

*All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion.*

## Communion Hymns

*“Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended”*

*“Let Thy Blood and Mercy Poured”*

*“And Now, O Father, Mindful of the Love”*

Hymnal 158

Hymnal 313

Hymnal 337

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**

**Hymn for Going Forth**      *“Alone, Thou Goest Forth, O Lord”*

Hymnal 164

**Dismissal**

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

People:          Thanks be to God.

**Passion Narrative Readers: 9:00am**

Narrator	Susan Pretulak
Judas	Mark Simpson
Jesus	Rob Rhoden
Chief Priests	Amy Holbein, Allie Fowler
Pilate	John Richardson
Pilate’s Wife	Delia Roberts
Soldiers	Joseph Allen, Debbie Richardson
Centurion	Henry Roberts

**11:15am**

Kathy Miller
Mark Simpson
Ben Loftis
Debbie Richardson, Allie Fowler
John Richardson
Grace Keller
Diane McArthur, Sarah Donnan
Danny Shelton

## Birthdays and Anniversaries this week

29 Sutton Graham  
Nicole Turner  
Heather Garrett  
30 Julia Kitchens

31 Reid Beebe  
APRIL  
3 Paul & Ponthoolla Abernathy (A)  
4 Lindsey Ford

### *For a Birthday*

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant as *he/she* begins another year. Grant that *he/she* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *his/her* trust in your goodness all the days of *his/her* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### *For a Wedding Anniversary*

O God, You have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church; Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants N. and N., that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### *The Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:*

Calvary Church, Glenn Springs; Church of the Redeemer, Greenville;  
The Ministry of Altar and Flower Guilds

### *The Anglican Cycle of Prayer:*

The Anglican Church of Melanesia

### **Servers:**

Eucharistic Minister (Vested):

Eucharistic Minister:

Lector:

Crucifer:

Greeters:

Ushers:

Streaming and Sound Tech Team:

Vestry of the Month:

### **9:00am**

Grace Keller

Amy Holbein

Derek Langley

Allie Fowler

Lindsay & Bob Leaman

Zach Pretulak, Henry Roberts,

Leesa Simmons

Parham Poost Foroosh

Ted Lucktenberg, Randy Mathis

Laura McGee

### **11:15am**

Danny Shelton

Derek Langley

Mark Simpson

Debbie Richardson

Brandon Turner

Will Boyd



**PONCHO DRIVE for the Homeless:** Spring rains are coming so let's see if we can collect 100-200 ponchos by Easter! Walmart has rain ponchos for less than \$5 as well as disposable ones – for kids and adults. You may also donate in the offering plate marked “Poncho Drive,” or drop by the church office. Questions? Contact Don Davis at [donaldsdavissr@aol](mailto:donaldsdavissr@aol).

## SAVE THE DATE

**March 29, 2026**

- Mar 29** *Holy Week Begins: Palm Sunday, Passion Narrative.*  
*Sunday Services* at 9 & 11:15 am.  
*Children's Formation* at 10:15 am. 6mo-5K to The Nursery, 1st-5th grade to Large Classrm.  
*Adult Formation* at 10:15 am in the Library & Kelly Room.  
*Bible, Bread & Wine* at 5:30 pm.  
*EYC* at 5:30 pm.
- Mar 31** *Tuesday, Clergy Renewal of Vows and Chrism Mass*, 11am, Trinity Cathedral.
- April 1** *Wednesday: Agape Meal* at 6:30 pm.
- April 2** *Maundy Thursday: Washing of Feet, and Stripping of the Altar*, 6:30 pm.
- April 3** *Good Friday: Solemn Collects* at 12 noon  
*Stations of the Cross* through Downtown, 5:30 pm, Start and End at The Church of The Advent.
- April 5** *Easter Sunday:*  
*Easter Vigil* at 7:00 am  
*Sunday Services* at 9 & 11:15 am.  
*Brunch & Easter Egg Hunt* between the 9 and 11:15 am services  
No Bible, Bread & Wine.
- April 8** *Wednesday: Holy Eucharist w/ Healing*, 6:30 pm.
- April 12** *Confirmation Classes Resume.*
- April 13** *Education for Ministry (EfM) Open House* at 6:00 pm in the Library.
- May 10** *Daughters of the King, Service of Admission of Daughters* at 9 am. *Mother's Day.*
- May 17** *Youth Sunday* at the 9:00 service.  
*Fishing Tournament at Twin Ponds*, cookout and fellowship from 3-7 pm.  
*Cake and Ice Cream for Father Paul.*
- May 24** *Pentecost, and EFM Graduation* at 9:00 am.
- **May 26** *Full-Day Summer Camps Begin*, 5K - 2nd Grade, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, Monday-Friday.  
Nine Themed Sessions. <https://stmatthewsepiscopal.org/preschool/summercamp>.
- June 7** *One Service, Visitation by Bishop Richards with Confirmation* at 10:00 am

## WORSHIP

### *Sundays:*

**Holy Eucharist**, 9 & 11:15 am

**Christian Formation**, between services.

**Childcare** in the Nursery, 6 mos - 4 yrs

**Episc. Youth EYC**: 5:30 with Derek

**Bible, Bread & Wine**, 5:30 pm. Kelly Rm.

**Wednesdays: Holy Eucharist w/ Healing**,  
6:30 pm.

**Every Evening: Compline**, between 9 & 10  
pm. Live on St. Matt's Facebook.

## SERVICE & FELLOWSHIP

### **Food Pantry & Free Medical Clinic:**

**Wednesdays:** Welcome & Assist Clients, 9:30-11am  
Contact Harvey Gloystein, 713-816-0112

**Tuesdays:** Setting Up for Wednesdays  
Contact Heather Yevcak, 704-560-3905

**Brotherhood of St. Matthew's:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues./mo. 6:30 pm.

**Women's Bible Study:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues./mo. 11am & 6:30pm.

**Daughters of the King:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat./month. 2 pm.

**Choir:** Wednesday nights 7 - 8 pm.

**Education for Ministry (EfM):** Mondays, 6:00 pm.

**Vestry:** 3rd Tues./mo. 6:30 pm, Library Conf. Rm.



### **How to Support St. Matthew's with Online Giving and Beyond**

Scan the QR Code or visit [stmatthewsepiscopal.org/giving](https://stmatthewsepiscopal.org/giving) to donate online.

Remember there are many ways to support St. Matthew's: pledges, stock gifts, online giving, or direct transfers such as Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs).

**Parish Prayer List:**

**Members of the Parish**

Alex Garmise  
Carol and Doug Wishard  
Debbie Townsend  
Debbie Edwards  
Deborah Smith  
Donnie Bird  
Don Davis  
Edith Webb  
Ethel Tortorice  
Florence Donnan  
Gail Stellar  
Gene Halford  
Geoffrey Thomas  
Glyn Shackelford  
Hazel Cannon  
Jackie Bailey  
Jandy Williams  
Jean Wales  
Jerry Bowers  
Juanita Thaxton  
Karen Garber  
Kathleen Bonner  
Kathleen Jennings  
Kate Price  
Katie Ponder  
Kim Cope  
Louise Rambo  
Louise Wickersheim  
Lynn Kerfoot  
Maria King  
Marie Urquhart  
Mary File  
Max & Angie Painter  
Maxine Wood  
Neil Thomas  
Peggy Ewing  
Pete Hulett  
Robin Hayden  
Sandi Spanitz  
Scott Garber  
Shirley Gould  
Susan Cherry-Casey  
Tom & Debbie Morton  
Will Boyd

**Expectant Mothers**

Amy Beckler  
Deedee Thomas  
Mary Geraldine

**Babies & Families**

Patrick Albert  
Charlotte, Cara & Zach Brown  
Saylor, Jessi & Austin Hilton

Wendel Sullens  
**Friends & Family**

Anita McGee  
Dr. Arturo Riojas  
Bart Owens  
Bill Kerfoot  
Bill Lewis  
Boone Brooks  
Brian Yanaconne  
Bruce Patrick  
Carlos Anthony Frias, Jr.  
Father Charles Smith  
Charlie Sasser  
Charlton Sy  
Chelsea Smith  
Chris Solem  
Christopher Oxford  
Chuck and Pat Piazza  
Cindy Holtzman  
Dale Pretulak  
Danet Peterson  
Danielle Anne Baum  
David and Nancy Church  
David Morgan  
David Sanabria  
David Wright  
Deacon Samuel  
Dee Wolfe  
Detra Peyton  
Doug Frazier  
Ed Bloomfield & Family  
Elizabeth Greco  
Emily Painter  
Forest  
Harriett Seabrook  
Janet Koss  
Jerry  
Joyce Ford  
Joyce TD  
Justus Link  
Lenny  
Lib Hughes  
Lourdes Go  
Lourdes Loreto  
Lynn Fields  
Marianne Beck  
Mark Bonn  
Mary Nelle Beckler  
Matthew Garrett  
Michael Szelepsik  
Mildred Pretulak  
Nancy Buttner  
Nancy McCart  
Philip Watters

Rakim Jr.  
Randy Mullis  
Rich Turner  
Richard Ziegler  
Robert Baker  
Rocio Navarro Linares  
Roger Go  
Ronny Thompson  
Rylan Buckley  
Satoya Means  
Saydet Didert  
Skyler and Fletcher families  
Stacey Latronica  
Suzi King  
Terry & Ronald Coleman  
Tina Bain  
Tom Archer  
Tori  
Tracie Powell Wilkin  
Travis & Kimberly  
Trish Wilson  
Wayne Fisher  
William Brace

**Military/First Responders**

LT Anna Lee Van Abel  
CAPT Baxter Murray  
SPC Clayton Cole  
PVT Courtney S. Detwiler  
Jack Bankhead, Firefighter  
PVT2 James C. Garber  
CPO John Watters  
Jordan Bailey, Firefighter  
LT Joshua Van Abel  
CAPT Katie Donnan  
SPC Katie Villatoro  
LT Mason R. Beebe, IV  
CAPT Pace Murray  
Lt. Rebecca M. Beebe  
Officer Robert Molina  
2nd LT Trevor Owens  
Will Townsend  
Kozimor Family

**Missions/Missionaries**

Drs. Ryan & Chelsea Porter  
Roberto & Cameron Vivanco  
Laura & Jorge Estevez  
Education = Hope  
Food Pantry  
Free Medical Clinic  
GoForth Recovery  
Kairos Prison Ministry  
Safe Homes  
St. Matthew's Preschool

## Holy Week 2026

*All week: Requesting donations of candy for the Egg Hunt, and Rain Ponchos for the homeless.*

### April 1:

**The Agape Meal**, 6:30 pm.

The candlelit Agape Meal is a simple, beautiful meal of olives, wine, breads, cheeses, and other delicacies, shared in worship and fellowship before the deeply meaningful days that follow. The Hospitality Team would be grateful for help with setup, serving, and cleanup. If you would like to assist, please contact any member of the Team or see the bulletin board in the hall.

### April 2:

**Maundy Thursday: Washing of Feet, and Stripping of the Altar**, 6:30 pm. On the night before the cross, Jesus washed his friends' feet. We do the same, and then we strip the altar bare. It is one of the most quietly moving things we do all year. Come and walk it with us.

### April 3:

**Good Friday, Solemn Collects** at 12 pm. At noon, we read the Passion, venerate the cross, and pray together for the whole world. Some of the oldest prayers in the Christian church. Come as you are and let the quiet prepare you.

**Stations of the Cross** through Downtown, 5:30 pm. We walk with our banners and our sister churches through downtown Spartanburg, stopping at fourteen places to pray the story of Christ on his way to the cross. This year we begin and end at the Church of the Advent. It's beautiful. Come with us.

### April 5:

**Easter Sunday, Easter Vigil** at 7:00 am.

We gather at dawn to kindle the New Fire, process into the growing light, and **proclaim the Resurrection** as morning rises around us. It is one of the most ancient liturgies of the Church - a movement from darkness into light - echoing Mary Magdalene's early walk to the tomb and the holy stillness before joy broke open the world. **We are planning ahead and would love to know if you are considering attending at 7:00 a.m.**

**Easter Services**, at 9:00 and 11:15 am.

Christ is risen! The long journey through Lent and Holy Week breaks into celebration with music, joy, and the full voice of the Church raised in hope.

### **Easter Brunch & Children's Egg Hunt!**

Between the services, join us for Easter Brunch and our annual Egg Hunt. Our parish cooks and bakers will have the tables full, and the children will be off in search of eggs. Come linger, share a plate, and celebrate the morning together. Mealtrain for Easter Brunch:

<https://www.mealtrain.com/potlucks/zm1836>