

# — ST. MICHAEL'S — EPISCOPAL CHURCH



March 29, 2026  
Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

## PRELUDE MUSIC & WELCOME

*Officiant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People* **His mercy endures forever.**

*Officiant* Jesus said, “The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.”

## GENERAL CONFESSION

*Officiant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*People* **Gracious God,  
we praise you for accepting us as your children  
and making us heirs of eternal life.  
In your mercy you have washed us from our sins  
and made us clean in your sight.  
Yet we still fail to love you as we should  
and serve you as we ought.  
Forgive us our sins and renew us by your grace,  
that we may continue to grow as members of Christ,  
who is our savior and redeemer. Amen.**

*Officiant* Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Officiant* Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **THE LESSONS & PSALM**

### **A reading from the book of Isaiah (50:4-9a)**

The Lord God has given me  
the tongue of a teacher,  
that I may know how to sustain  
the weary with a word.  
Morning by morning he wakens--  
wakens my ear  
to listen as those who are taught.  
The Lord God has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious,  
I did not turn backward.  
I gave my back to those who struck me,  
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;  
I did not hide my face  
from insult and spitting.  
The Lord God helps me;  
therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like flint,  
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;  
he who vindicates me is near.  
Who will contend with me?  
Let us stand up together.  
Who are my adversaries?  
Let them confront me.  
It is the Lord God who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

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

**Please pray Psalm 31:9-16 responsively by half-verse**

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."**

## **PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL 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."

*Officiant* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## CANDLE LIGHTING AND SILENT PRAYER

You are invited to light a candle and observe a period of silent personal prayer time.

### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Officiant* Lord God in humility and reverence we offer you our prayers, be swift to answer them we beg as we say, Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Reader* Father, the world waits for your Good News. Be present to all who turn to you, strengthen those who fail or hesitate, come into our lives each day, and give us hearts that greet you with joy. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We call those who follow you, “the church” - and we have surrounded these faithful people with buildings, ministries, hierarchies, rubrics, headaches, heartaches and deep joy. Remind us that we need only You and one another. We especially pray for Archbishop of Canterbury Sarah Mullally, Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Megan our Bishop, Megan, Katie, Mike, Rod, and Jesse, our clergy. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give your grace to this nation, to our leaders, to our public servants and to our health care workers and first responders. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Remind us of just how connected we are and how much we need each other. We offer our deepest prayers for the recovery of the human family, that we might form a sustainable way of life for the well-being of the people of the world. We pray especially for

Christine, our head of school, for all the staff, teachers and students at St. Michael's Day School and Starr King TK-8. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Comfort us. Comfort all people. And strengthen us for the days to come. We pray for all who suffer in body, mind or spirit, especially **Mark, Zach, Michael, Ramiro, Jeff, Liz, George, Jackie, Perry, Jane, Fred, Ellen, Jim, Bill, Carol, Dave, Holly, Sara, Kathy, Dan, Jon, Sarah, Jennifer, Andrea, Chris, Liz, Mike, Hunter, and Billie.** Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We mourn those who have died and left this world. Bless the departed with eternal light and joy when the day of new life comes. We especially pray for the repose of the souls of Kay Griffin and Diane Gilmore, and for peace and comfort to their families and loved ones. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For what else or whom else shall we pray? (*A time of silence is kept.*) Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Officiant* We are entering into a Holy Week stripped bare of its usual patterns and rhythms. Give us the will to use this time to draw closer to you and your Son as we consider the meaning and the unbelievable truth of his passion and death this week, that we might live deeper into the radical offering of love that was the passion of Christ. **Amen.**

## **THE PEACE**

*Officiant* The peace of Christ be always with you.

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

## **SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER \***

*Officiant* In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is celebrated, we desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our souls and bodies with the earnest wish that we may always be united to you, and, since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. We unite ourselves with you and embrace you with all the love of our souls. Let nothing ever separate you from us. May we live in you, and may you live in us, both in this life and in the life to come.  
**Amen.**

*\*Julian of Norwich liturgy*

*Officiant* Together, let us pray the prayer Jesus taught us.

**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.**

## **BLESSING**

*Officiant* Look with compassion, O Lord, upon these your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, we may learn to know

you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

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

CONCLUDING REMARKS, DISCUSSION, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND  
CHECK IN.