

# The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

9:00 & 11:00 a.m. Sunday, March 24, 2024

Newcomers and visitors, we welcome you warmly.

May you find here, by the grace of God, that which feeds your soul.

May you leave here with a heart prepared to serve.



Photo from our Altar Guild Luncheon this past Saturday, March 14, 2024.

If this is your first time here, we invite you to fill out a Welcome Card Found in the pews or on the Welcome Table in the courtyard.

# The Liturgy of the Palms

The ministers and people gather in the courtyard.

#### Choral Introit (11:00 a.m.)

Hosanna to the Son of David Sung by St. Mary's Parish Choir

Thomas Weelkes (1576-1623)

Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest heaven.

-Matthew 21

### **Opening Anthem**

Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord. *Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.* 

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*.

Gospel Reading Mark 11:1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, [Jesus] sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.' "They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

### **Blessing Over The Branches**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our 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*.

#### **Second Anthem**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

#### The Procession

Let us go forth in peace.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

The minsters lead the congregation through the courtyard and into the church. During the procession, all hold branches in their hands.

All Glory, Laud, and Honor



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

# The Word of God

### The Collect Of The Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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*.

First Reading Isaiah 50:4-9a

The people are seated.

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.

from insult and spitting.

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

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?

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### Gradual Psalm (11:00 a.m.)

Psalm 31:9-16



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- <sup>9</sup> Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in <u>trouble</u>; \* my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my <u>belly</u>.
- <sup>10</sup> For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with <u>sighing</u>; \* my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are con-<u>sumed</u>.
- <sup>11</sup> I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors, a dismay to those of my ac-quaintance; \* when they see me in the street they a-void me.
- <sup>12</sup> I am forgotten like a dead man, out of <u>mind</u>; \* I am as useless as a broken <u>pot</u>.
- <sup>13</sup> For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all a-<u>round</u>; \*

Jerome Webster Meachen

they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my <u>life</u>.

- <sup>14</sup> But as for me, I have trusted in you, O <u>Lord</u>. \* I have said, "You are my <u>God</u>.
- <sup>15</sup> My times are in your <u>hand</u>; \* rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute <u>me</u>.
- <sup>16</sup> Make your face to shine upon your <u>servant</u>, \* and in your loving-kindness save <u>me</u>."

#### Children's Choir Anthem (9:00 a.m.)

Hosanna! Hosanna! Melinda Ramseth Hoiland, Arr. Vicki Hancock Wright Sung by St. Mary's Children's Choir

Hosanna! Hosanna! Let all the people sing. Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna to our King! Open wide the gates of Jerusalem. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Second Reading Philippians 2:5-11

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.

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

Silence may follow.

# The Passion Gospel

Mark 14:1--15:47

The people are seated.

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; for they said, "Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people."

While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. But some were there who said to one another in anger, "Why was the ointment wasted in this way? For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor." And they scolded her. But Jesus said, "Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her."

Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. When they heard it, they were greatly pleased, and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to him, "Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, and wherever he enters,

say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks, Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there." So the disciples set out and went to the city, and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

When it was evening, he came with the twelve. And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another, "Surely, not I?" He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born."

While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

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

'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.'

But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." Peter said to him, "Even though all become deserters, I will not." Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." But he said vehemently, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And all of them said the same.

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake." And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, "Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want." He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to

say to him. He came a third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard." So when he came, he went up to him at once and said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him. Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to them, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled." All of them deserted him and fled.

A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.

They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying, "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.'" But even on this point their testimony did not agree. Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?" But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" Jesus said, "I am; and

'you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power,' and 'coming with the clouds of heaven.'"

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?" All of them condemned him as deserving death. Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him, "Prophesy!" The guards also took him over and beat him.

While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said, "You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth." But he denied it, saying, "I do not know or understand what you are talking about." And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed. And the servant-girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders, "This man is one of them." But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, "Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean." But he began to curse, and he swore an oath, "I do not know this man you are talking about." At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, "Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." And he broke down and wept.

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" He answered him, "You say so." Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again, "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you." But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" They shouted back, "Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!" So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

At the mention of the place called the Skull, all stand, as able, and remain standing.

They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him

wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!" In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

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

### **Prayers Of The People**

Benevolent God, we pray that you will hear our prayers, and we, like your son, will become vessels of humility and love.

Your son emptied himself, taking on human form; we pray for the Church, and all her people that we become a community that empties itself for others. Bless us with resolve.

Hear our prayer.

Your son, by the incarnation, humbled himself in obedience even to the point of death; we pray for our own country, its leaders, and all of its people. Bless us with humility. *Hear our prayer*.

Your son was born in human likeness, we pray for the whole incarnate family, and for all who live in the midst of the ravages of war, famine, and danger. Bless us with mercy.

Hear our prayer.

You gave your son the name that kindles hope; we pray in your name for those who are suffering and hurting in any way. We pray especially for (N.) and others we may now name. Bless us with compassion.

Hear our prayer.

Your son's humility and love for us was so broad and deep, it cost his human life. We pray for those who have entered your heavenly realm and now rest in glory. We pray especially for (N.) and others we may now name. Bless those who mourn with comforting grace.

Hear our prayer.

You blessed us with the gift of your son. We give thanks for all the blessings of our lives. Bless us with a joyful heart.

Hear our prayer.

The Officiant closes the prayers with the following collect:

Merciful God, you have promised to hear what we ask in the name of your son: accept our petitions, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve, but as you know and love us in your son Jesus Christ. *Amen*.

#### The Peace

All stand.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The Ministers and the People share the peace of Christ with one another.

# The Holy Communion

### **Offertory Sentence**

The Celebrant says

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:*2

# **Anthem At The Offertory**

at 9:00 a.m.

'Tis Midnight, and On Olive's Brow Sung by St. Mary's Youth Choir

'Tis midnight; and on Olive's brow

The star is dimmed that lately shone;

'Tis midnight; in the garden now

The suff'ring Savior prays alone.

'Tis midnight; and from all removed

The Savior wrestles 'lone with fears;

The one disciple whom He loved

Heeds not his Master's grief and tears.

'Tis midnight; and for others' guilt

The Man of Sorrows weeps in blood;

Lowly this night He kneels in anguish,

Not forsaken by His God.

'Tis midnight; and from heav'nly plains

Isborne that song that angels know;

Unheard by mortals are the strains

That sweetly soothe the Savior's woe.

'Tis midnight, 'tis midnight; the Savior prays alone.

Mark L. Williams

-William Bingham Tappan

at 11:00 a.m.

Christus Factus Est

Felice Anerio (1560-1614)

Sung by St. Mary's Parish Choir

Christ became obedient for us unto death, even to the death, death on the cross.

Therefore God exalted Him and gave Him a name which is above all names.

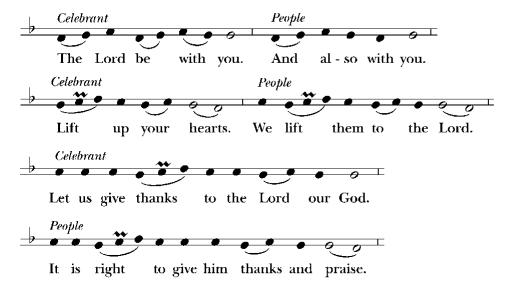
-Philippians 2

#### **Hymn At The Presentation**

Hymnal, #160

Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow *The people stand*.

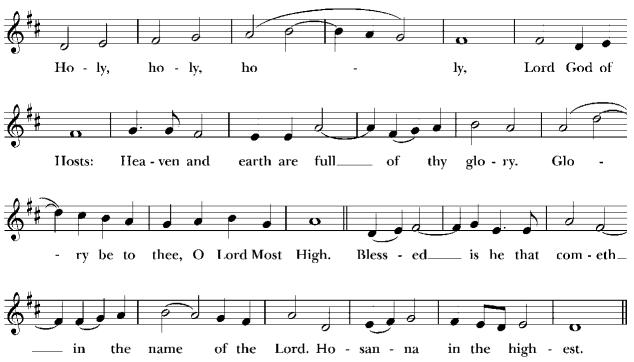
# The Great Thanksgiving



It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. 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, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

#### Sanctus & Benedictus



Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets

to renew your promise of salvation.

Then, in the fullness of time,
you sent your eternal Word,
made mortal flesh in Jesus.

Born into the human family,
and dwelling among us,
he revealed your glory.

Giving himself freely to death on the cross,
he triumphed over evil,
opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us,
Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread,
and when he had given thanks to you,
he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said:
"Take, eat:
This is my Body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."
Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation

this bread and this wine.

By your Holy Spirit may they be for us

the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that we who share these gifts

may be filled with the Holy Spirit

and live as Christ's Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage

of your children,

that with Mary, the Christ Bearer and all your saints,

past, present, and yet to come,

we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

to you be honor, glory, and praise,

for ever and ever. AMEN

# The Lord's Prayer

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

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,

forever and ever. Amen.

# The Breaking of the Bread

Christ, our passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore, let us keep the feast.



#### Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

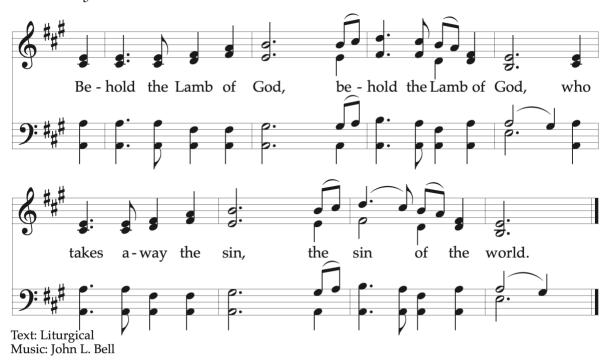
#### The Communion

All who desire to know God better are invited to receive the consecrated Bread and Wine. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. You may drink from a common chalice, or you may intinct the Bread into the Wine. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please simply cross your arms over your chest.

The people are seated.

### Communion Chant (9:00 a.m.)

Chanted by all, seated



# Communion Music (11:00 a.m.)

O Saviour of the World Sung by St. Mary's Parish Choir

John Goss (1800-1880)

O Saviour of the World, who by thy cross and precious blood hast redeemed us. Save us and help us, we humbly beseech Thee, O Lord. Amen

### **Post-Communion Prayer**

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People, in unison, standing

Loving God,
we give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth
a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

# **Prayer Over The People**

Bow your head before the Lord.

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. *Amen*.

# **Post-Communion Hymn**

Hymnal, #156

Ride On! Ride On In Majesty

### **Dismissal**

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Remain standing in silence as the ministers process out of the church.

Then, the people leave in silence.

# Announcements at St. Mary the Virgin

Welcome Visitors And Guests

March 24, 2024

Thank you for wrapping your prayer with ours today. We welcome all that seek the Holy. St. Mary's prays, celebrates, and serves our community and our neighbors as we strive to live as the body of Christ in the world. Check out the announcements at the back of the service bulletin for more ways to connect with us or email office@smvsf.org and we will stay in touch with you. We look forward to traveling this journey of faith with you.

# Rev. Kathy, Thank You! and See You in the Fall!

Rev. Kathy's seasonal time with us is coming to a close. She will be with us through Easter, March 31, and then she will be heading back to her home in Maine. It is always a sad moment when we must say so long to Rev. Kathy and her husband David, but we take hope in the fact that they will return among us again near the Thanksgiving holiday. Thank you Rev. Kathy and David, for your presence and partnership at St. Mary's.

# Byron Adams: Stabat Mater featuring Soprano Ellen Leslie Friday, March 29

The *Stabat Mater* is a 13th-century hymn text that portrays Mary standing before the crucified Christ. The text encompasses the agony of losing a child, the torment of the crucifixion, and Mary's compassion for all who suffer. Many composers throughout history have set this evocative text to music, including Pergolesi, Dvořák, and Poulenc. Byron Adams has composed a brand new setting of this piece for soprano Ellen Leslie and conductor Eric Choate, and we will give the world premiere performance at St. Mary's on Good Friday this year. It is scored for

soprano solo chamber orchestra, and will be offered in the context of a sacred concert, in which meditative readings are offered in between pieces of music. Please consider making this a part of your Holy Week journey, and join us on Good Friday, March 29th, at 7:00 p.m.

#### **Sunday School Update**

Today is the last day of Sunday school until after Easter (no classes on Palm Sunday or Easter) so of course we'll be delving into Holy Week stories and doing crafty items to reinforce those themes. But Sunday is March 17, so a little St. Patrick lore will sneak in, too.

# A Hopeful Holy Land Pilgrimage, April/May 2025 Forum w/Rev. David Sunday, April 7

Visiting the Holy Land is an exciting and formative experience for Christians. It allows scripture to come alive and invites an unparalleled opportunity of understanding of the Hebrew Scriptures and Christ's time on Earth.

Rev. David Erickson will, hopefully, be leading a St. Mary's pilgrimage to the Holy Land April 21-May 2, 2025. Please join him on April 7 at 10:15 a.m. to learn more about this wonderful opportunity, including the fully refundable deposit!

Please contact our pilgrimage coordinator, Max Kirby, at <a href="mailto:pilgrimage@smvsf.org">pilgrimage@smvsf.org</a>, with any questions, and please join us on April 7.

#### Rev. David Sabbatical begins April 8

Rev. David will be away on Sabbatical from April 8th to September 8th, 2024. While he is away the church is in good hands with Rev. Kira running the daily operations and The Very Rev. Eric Metoyer assisting her. Our wardens, Russel Fudge and Linda Woodworth, hold the authority of the church and will shepherd that authority alongside the entire vestry. Should you have any concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to contact Rev. Kira at Kira@smvsf.org, or the wardens through the vestry email, vestry@smvsf.org.

Rev. David's time away will focus on rest and time with family and friends. To learn more about his sabbatical, please watch his presentation which can be found on our website smvsf.org under Adult Forum talks.

While Rev. David is away, he hopes you also will find times for rest and renewal for yourselves, and in the Fall we may all energetically and enthusiastically follow the call to follow Christ in our lives.

# Acts of the Apostles Bible Study Sundays at 12:30 p.m. starting April 14th Come learn about the Acts of the Apostles

Come learn about the Acts of the Apostles as we read through sections during Eastertide.

This discussion-based group will explore all about this action-packed New
Testament book about the formation of the early church and the various adventures of the apostles. Bring your Acts-related questions, opinions, confusion, problems—or feel free to just listen in! We will begin meeting at 12:30 PM in the library on Sundays, starting on April 14th, the second Sunday in Eastertide. Handouts for each chapter will be provided, but bring your own lunch! Any questions, contact Eden Gallanter (edengallanter@gmail.com)

# The Very Rev. Eric Metoyer Joins Us as a Sabbatical Priest

We are incredibly excited to announce that the Very Rev. Eric Metoyer will be serving as a part time sabbatical priest while Rev. David is away. Eric will be with us two days a week, Tuesdays and Sundays, primarily focusing on Sunday worship. Eric has a long and loving history with St. Mary's and it is a delight to have him serve alongside us.

The Very Rev. Eric Metoyer is currently a regional dean on behalf of the Episcopal Bishop of California, focusing on congregation and community issues. In addition, he serves as a deputy to the General Convention of the Episcopal Church (four terms) and is a member of the Advisory Group on Church Planting and

Redevelopment for The Episcopal Church. Rev Metoyer is a featured speaker on Church Planting, Multi-Cultural and Ecumenical Relations in The Episcopal Church, and has also served as interim vicar and rector of parishes in the Diocese of California. His family joined St Mary's in 1993 and he was ordained from this parish.

Rev. Metoyer was raised in the NorthEast Kingdom of Vermont, attending schools and college in New England. He moved to San Francisco in 1990 for love and also to begin his career in corporate accounting. Many years later, he answered a call to ministry in the Episcopal Church, being ordained to Holy Orders in 2011. He is a member of the Union of Black Episcopalians, the Sovereign Order of St John of Jerusalem, Knights Hospitaller. He is a member of several nonprofit boards, including Episcopal Community Services, Cathedral School for Boys and Book Club of California. He is married to Jessica Metoyer, JD, and they have a son, former SMV chorister Victor Metoyer IV, USMCR. He looks forward to returning to St. Mary the Virgin!

# Parish Retreat Registration Now Open!

Registration is now open for St. Mary's annual parish retreat scheduled for May 17-19th, 2024 at the Bishop's Ranch in Healdsburg, CA! This much-loved tradition is a time for parishioners of all ages, from all services, to come together and enjoy fun and fellowship. Engage in hiking, eating, swimming in the saltwater pool, worshipping in the Ranch's lovely historic chapel, dropping into quiet contemplation,

exploring the town of Healdsburg, doing crafts, playing games, s'mores by the campfire, and yes, some fellowship and community! If cost is a deterrent, please contact Rev'd Kira (kira@smvsf.org) as scholarships are available. Register at smvsf.org/blog/retreat-2024

#### The Bishop's Ranch Tournament

You have the opportunity to help St. Mary the Virgin save 75% on their next visit to The Bishop's Ranch by becoming a sustaining member for only \$25/month! Join the Ranch's Annual Fund 2024 - Connecting through Beauty and Rest - and help both organizations. The first group to have 40 wins "The Bishop's Ranch Tournament". The tournament ends at midnight on March 31. To become a sustaining member please visit bishopsranch.org/donate-bishopsranchtournament

# Spread the Love this Lent! Share Your Church Experience on Yelp and Google!

As we journey through the season of Lent, take a moment to reflect on the blessings we've received from being a part of St. Mary's. Your positive experiences and heartfelt moments at our church could inspire others to join our loving community and find solace in their spiritual journey.

This Lent, we invite you to spread the love by writing a 5-star review on Yelp and Google. Your kind words could be the beacon guiding someone in search of a welcoming sanctuary. Whether it's the uplifting sermons, the supportive community, or the sense of belonging you've found, your review could make a world of difference to someone seeking spiritual fulfillment.

Let's come together as a community and shine a light on the positivity and joy St. Mary's brings to people's lives. Together, let's make this Lenten season a time of sharing, love, and encouragement. Write your review today and help us spread the message of hope and faith!

# Easter Flower Donations Due Monday, March 25

Please help contribute toward decorating our Easter services in honor of Christ's resurrection. Your donation made toward the cost of our Easter flowers may be made in honor or in memory of someone dear to you. Please complete the form found on our website and list who the flowers are in honor or memory of in the note section.

Mail your check to St. Mary's, or donate online at secure.myvanco.com/L-Z9N1/campaign/C-14HFW

Please make checks payable to The Episcopal Church of St. Mary the Virgin with a note indicating the donation is for Easter Flowers. Contributions received after March 25, will be accepted, but unfortunately will not appear in the Easter Sunday program.

# St. Mary Magdalene Scholarship 2024-2025

#### **Applications Due April 1**

The St. Mary Magdalene Scholarship Fund was created by a generous bequest of a long-time parishioner of St. Mary the Virgin. This gift funds undergraduate college scholarships for young women in our parish attending college during the 2024-2025 academic year.

More information and 2 application forms are available on the Episcopal Church of St. Mary the Virgin's website under the Formation tab. One form is for new applicants and there is a different form for previous applicants who received scholarships last year. Applications are due by April 1, 2024. Please contact Ruth Tatum at <a href="mailto:ruth.tatum@gmail.com">ruth.tatum@gmail.com</a> with questions.

#### Have a Heart for Gubbio

For the second year, the Sunday school's annual Lenten Outreach Project will benefit the Gubbio Project in the Mission District, and with Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day both occurring on February 14th, we invite you to pick a Valentine, signed and decorated by a Sunday school student, from the Have a Heart for Gubbio Garland in the narthex during Lent.

Just this past Advent, St. Mary's provided dozens of warm jackets and stacks of cozy blankets for the unhoused men, women, and children who find respite and support at Gubbio. With spring coming, their pressing need is for basic supplies like socks, hygiene, supplies, underwear, soup and peanut butter. Each Valentine includes

a request for an item or two from the list above. Throughout the weeks of Lent, we'll have a heart-festooned collection basket in the narthex where you can drop off items.

Thank you in advance for "having a heart for Gubbio" and the unhoused population of our city!

# Register for Episcopal Summer Camps at Bishops Ranch and St. Dorothy's Rest

Registration is now open for Episcopal Summer Camps at Bishop's Ranch and St. Dorothy's. To register please visit bishopsranch.org/events/camps and stdorothysrest.org/camp

#### Youth Group Update

Youth Group will be gathering this Sunday, March 24, from 6-8pm in the Great Room. All 6th-12th graders are welcome for fun, food, and friends! There will NOT be Youth Group March 31 or April 7, but we will be back in swing for an awesome Adventure Night on April 14.

# Ongoing Weekly Offerings \*Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel

Please join us Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in the Chapel for a time to time to breathe, center yourself, and feel God's presence while silently being one in community. For those unfamiliar with Centering Prayer, our time will include a Breathing Meditation, 15-20 minutes of silent prayer, followed by an opportunity for prayer requests and thanksgivings, and close with the Lord's Prayer. Those who wish may remain for a time of sharing. Please feel free to contact

Debbie Veatch at <u>veatchdl@gmail.com</u> or 415-244-3515 with any questions.

\*Sundays at 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary Join us for "The 5PM", a creative, casual worship service.

Immerse yourself in an atmosphere of inspiration and collaboration. From interactive discussions to creative liturgy, "The 5 PM" encourages open conversations and unique forms of worship expression.

No need to dress up – come as you are!

# We Pray For...

# PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES and FRIENDS

Natasha Riveron Margaret Rafferty

Theresa Burke Dan Herling

Randy

Judith Audley

Giancarlo Petr Obbard

Katherine Elaine Sims

Walter Owen

#### IN DISCERNMENT

Michael Stafford

#### RECENTLY DECEASED

Marsha Maytum Vicki Haggin Aleksei Navalny

Alice Watts Jared Ede Fred Martin Renate Mori

Florence Fowler

Dix Boring

Stewart Murray

#### **CONTINUING PRAYERS**

Please remember these individuals who have ongoing concerns in your personal prayers this week.

Deborah

Gordon Bellis

June

Kevin Teeney

The Community at the Heritage & St.

Francis

Jane

Quinn Charles Fay

Erich Simon

Phyllis Shepherd Shirlee Martin Francis Kalani Will Driscoll

The Crossley Family Kevin Fisher Paulson

David Schade Jeanne Lacy

Gloria & Everett Powell

Bill

Dani May Sarah Ellwein Yuming Kuo

Valerie Schneider

# St. Mary's Holy Week & Easter Day Schedule 2024

# Maundy Thursday

Thursday, March 28, 2024

6:00 p.m. (begins in Great Room)

A light meal interspersed with scripture in the Great Room begins a solemn service that commemorates the institution of the Eucharist and servanthood.

### **Good Friday**

Solemn Liturgy for Good Friday

Friday, March 29, 2024

12:00 noon

Honor the mystery of Jesus' death and love for the world with the solemn liturgy of the day and the veneration of the cross.

Adams: Stabat Mater Friday, March 29, 2024

7:00 p.m.

Ellen Leslie, soprano, premieres this new work as prayerful meditation on the most solemn day of the liturgical year. This work is part of the Candlelight Concert series and is sponsored by the Elizabeth Gillespie Women in Music Fund.

# **Great Vigil of Easter**

Saturday, March 30, 2024

7:30 p.m. (Hellman Hollow Picnic Area)

Join us for the first service of Easter and one of the oldest liturgies of the church outside as we light the new fire of Easter, recount salvation history through Scripture, baptize new members of the church, and celebrate Eucharist. After the service, we will break our Lenten fast with s'mores and festive beverages! Bring a chair and flashlight.

# **Easter Day**

Sunday, March 31, 2024

**Festive Choral Eucharist** 

8:00, 9:30, and 11:15 a.m.

Festive Choral Eucharist celebrating Christ's resurrection and a special late afternoon Easter Evening Eucharist.

**Easter Evening Eucharist** 

5:00 p.m.

# Thank you for Joining Us at St. Mary the Virgin



To visit our website you may visit smvsf.org, or you can open your camera app on your phone and hover over the QR code shown below.



#### LITURGICAL STAFF



The Rev. David Erickson
Rector
The Rev. Kira Austin-Young
Associate Rector
The Rev. Kathy Guin
Visiting Priest

Natalie Hala Verger & Liturgist Eric Choate Director of Music Marla Perkins
Music Associate
The Rev. Nancy Bryan
Deacon
The Rev. Tim Smith
Deacon



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