

Sunday Services

9 AM • Holy Eucharist, Rite II
11 AM • Morning Prayer, Rite I
11 AM • Holy Eucharist, Rite I
(First Sundays each month)

Services are available online through Facebook Live: Facebook.com/StJohnSouthampton

For Pastoral emergencies, please contact Cn. Richard at (631) 974-4987 or rvisconti@stjohnsouthampton.org

Interim Priest-in-Charge

The Rev. Cn. Richard Visconti

The Vestry

William E. McCoy – Senior Warden
Lisa Vahradian - Junior Warden
Sandra Klemuk - Vestry Secretary/Clerk
Kathleen Doherty - Treasurer
Jeanne Ferrer
Lisa Gillespie
Pat Griffith
Florence Rolston
Håkan Wohlin

William E. McCoy - Senior Warden

(718) 762-6683 or wemccoy@aol.com

Lisa Vahradian - Junior Warden

(917) 509-2513 or lisa_vahradian@yahoo.com

St. John's Office Ursula Anderson

(631) 283-0549 or secretary@stjohnsouthampton.org



St. John's Episcopal Church



A Parish in Southampton, NY that makes a difference



A wooden Palmesel (figure of Christ on a donkey, mounted on a wheeled platform) from Southern Germany

Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday
April 13, 2025 • Holy Eucharist, Rite II • 9 AM

100 South Main Street | Southampton, New York 11968 | (631) 283-0549

Welcome to St. John's!

If you're visiting us today, we warmly invite you to sign our guest register at the back of the church and share your contact information. This helps us stay connected and share updates about our ministries, events, and opportunities to grow in faith.

We're delighted you've joined us for worship. May the peace of Christ fill your heart and the Word of God inspire you during this time together.

The Sunday of the Passion, also known as Palm Sunday, is filled with the tension of paradox. It combines the triumphant entry of Jesus Christ into the Holy City of Jerusalem with the reading of the Passion narrative. The day's liturgy calls us again to the great Paschal mystery that is begun in this service. We are called to conversion and transformation in the worship of Holy Week, each liturgy increasing in solemnity, and building this tension to its climax in the celebration of the Great Vigil of Easter.

Despite the various characteristics of the services of Holy Week, there is only one mystery being celebrated: Jesus' Passover from death to life. Therefore, these liturgies should not be compartmentalized, but rather seen as an overall narrative of the person, ministry and Gospel of Jesus Christ. It might be helpful to imagine Holy Week as a parish retreat with the single theme of the Gospel at its core.

Prelude

Gathering Prayer

The Liturgy of the Palms

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.**

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.







St. John's invites dedicated parishioners to join our mission of fostering a welcoming and supportive community. Heed the call of Our Lord to serve.

Please contact the following:

- Altar Guild: Ellen Greaves at greavese631@yahoo.com
- Coffee Hour: Sign up sheet in the Parish Hall or contacts Ursula at (631) 283-0549 or secretary@stjohnsouthampton.org
- Reading/Greeting/Ushering: Cn. Richard at (631) 974-4987 or rvisconti@stjohnsouthampton.org
- Buildings and Grounds/Hospitality/Historical Committees:

Cn. Richard at (631) 974-4987 or rvisconti@stjohnsouthampton.org William E. McCoy - Senior Warden at (718) 762-6683 or wemccoy@aol.com Lisa Vahradian - Junior Warden at (917) 509-2513 or lisa_vahradian@yahoo.com

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Supporting Outreach Through Plate Offerings

As part of our ongoing commitment to serve those in need, all plate offerings collected from now through Easter Sunday will be directed toward Outreach initiatives at St. John's. Your generous contributions during this time will help extend compassion and care beyond our church walls, making a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

This year, the following organizations and programs will benefit from your gifts:

World Central Kitchens (for California Wildfires)
North Sea Maritime Center for Tupper Boat House Restoration
Ellenor Whitmore Early Childhood Center
Hope And Resilience Of LI
Hampton Community Outreach
Village Improvement Association of Southampton
Share the Harvest

Thank you for your continued support and for being a part of our shared mission to love and serve our neighbors during this sacred season.

The Gospel

Luke 19:28-40

After telling a parable to the crowd at Jericho, Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" just say this, "The Lord needs it." So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!"

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Confitemini Domino

1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; * his mercy endures for ever.

2 Let Israel now proclaim, *
"His mercy endures for ever."

19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; * I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the Lord.

20 "This is the gate of the Lord; * he who is righteous may enter."

21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me * and have become my salvation.

22 The same stone which the builders rejected * has become the chief cornerstone.

23 This is the Lord's doing, * and it is marvelous in our eyes.

24 On this day the Lord has acted; * we will rejoice and be glad in it.

25 Hosannah, Lord, hosannah! * Lord, send us now success.

26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; * we bless you from the house of the Lord.

27 God is the Lord; he has shined upon us; * form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.

28 "You are my God, and I will thank you; * you are my God, and I will exalt you."

29 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; * his mercy endures for ever.

The palms used today will become the ashes used in the Ash Wednesday liturgy next year, highlighting how the vanities of those who would proclaim Jesus as merely an earthly king are brought to naught. The procession, a practice dating from at least the 3rd century in the Church, is a dramatic portrayal of the people's acclamation of Christ as that earthly Messiah. In the Middle Ages the procession would include a life-size statue of Jesus mounted on a real donkey. Any awkwardness you might feel in the procession is efficacious, given that Christ's entrance was soon an awkward memory for his followers when the true nature of His kingship became revealed.

Blessing of the Branches

CelebrantThe Lord be with youPeopleAnd also with youCelebrantLift 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

Celebrant 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.**

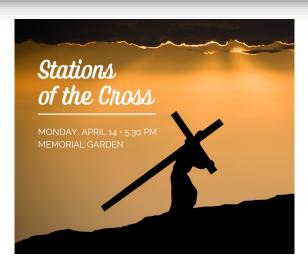
The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord. People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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announcements



Stations of the Cross

This Monday, April 14, at 5:30 PM, we will gather for the Stations of the Cross in our serene Memorial Garden. The Stations of the Cross is a liturgical way to reenact and remember not only our Lord's final days on this earth; but how our personal journeys interact with His. It is a meditation of worship, an act of devotion to God. In remembering the events of Jesus' last days on earth by walking the Stations of the Cross, we are not just reenacting a 2,000-year-old event. We are making our own journey and, in the process, confessing our own dependence upon God.



People Stand or Kneel

Prayer over the People

Celebrant

Bow down before the Lord.

The People kneel or stand, and the Celebrant says:

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.**

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

People Hosanna in the highest.

The Procession

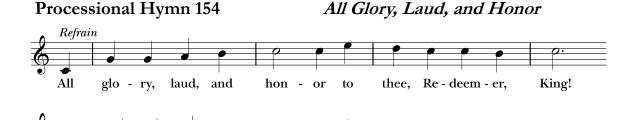
Celebrant Let us go forth in peace.

whom the lips

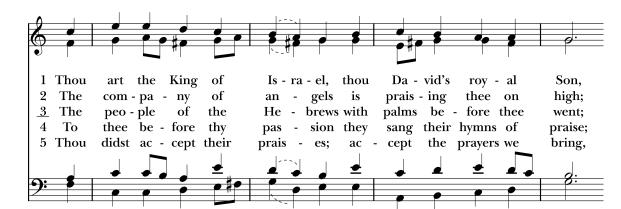
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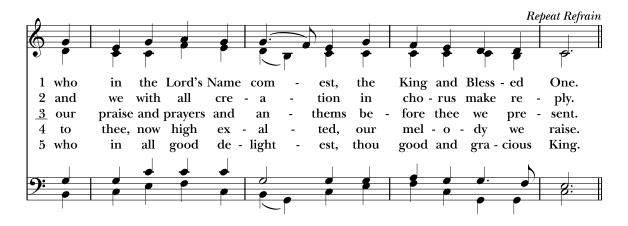
People In the name of Christ. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: 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**



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The Collect of the Day

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

Remain standing as the Officiant says the Collect.

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

A reading from the Book of 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 wakenswakens 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.



Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant
Let us pray.

Officiant and People

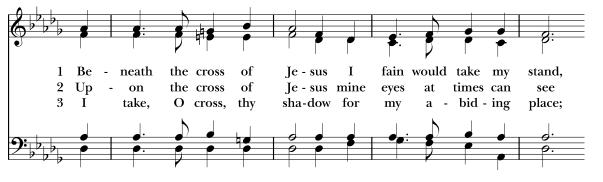
Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Closing Hymn 498

Beneath the Cross of Jesus



The Invitation to Communion (BCP 364)

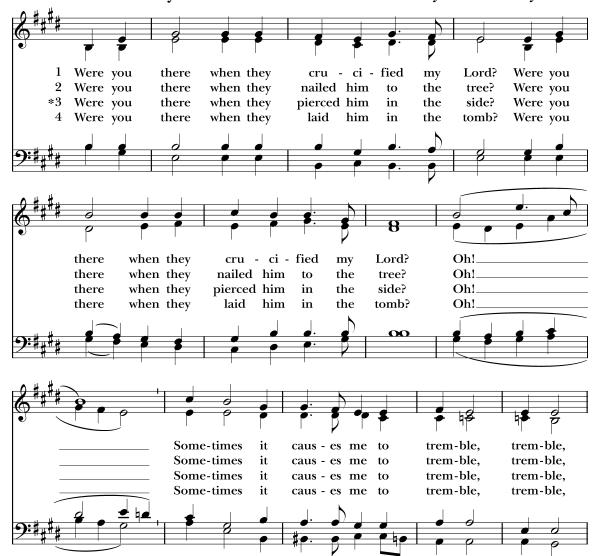
All Baptized Christians are welcome to receive the consecrated bread and/or wine. All are welcome to come up to receive a blessing.

The Priest invites the people to Communion

Priest

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.

Postcommunion Hymn 172 Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?



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?

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

Psalm 31:9-16

In te, Domine, speravi

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 Second Reading

Philippians 2:5-11

A Reading from the Letter of Saint 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 deatheven 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.

People Thanks be to God.

who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread



He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may Faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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**.

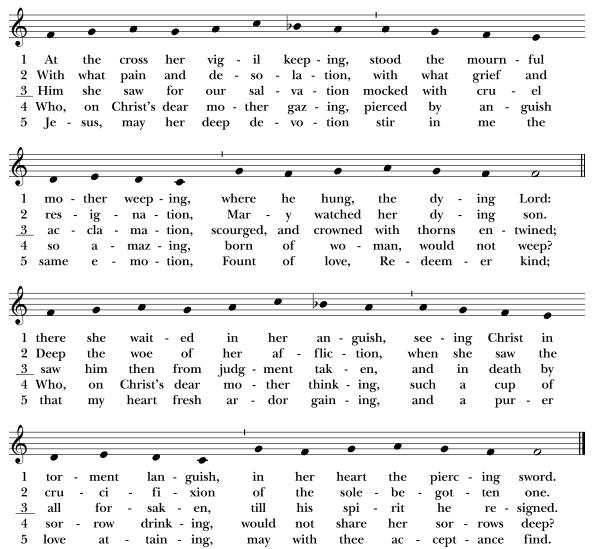
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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

Gospel Hymn 159

At the Cross Her Vigil Keeping



The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.

The Gospel

Luke 23:1-49

The assembly of the elders of the people rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king." Then Pilate asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" He answered, "You say so." Then Pilate said

to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no basis for an accusation against this man." But they were insistent and said, "He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place."

When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies.

Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him."

Then they all shouted out together, "Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!" (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!" A third time he said to them, "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him." But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?" Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him.

All stand

Officiant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

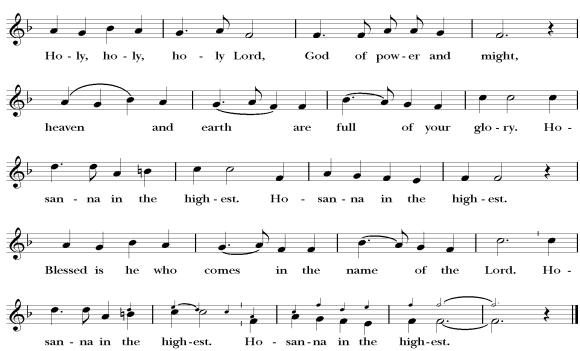
The Celebrant proceeds

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:

Celebrant and People



The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Absolution

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

The Peace

All Stand

Officiant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

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

All are Seated

Announcements

Offertory Sentence

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

Offertory

All Stand for Doxology

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The Liturgy of the Table

The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer A

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent." And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

The Sermon

The Rev. Cn. Richard Visconti

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

14

by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary
and was made man
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Celebrant

As we journey this week with Christ and celebrate the paschal mystery of his death and resurrection, let us earnestly pray to God for those following the way of the cross and for all people everywhere.

Intercessor

For all who are to be baptized; and for all those preparing for Baptism and all their sponsors; for the holy catholic church throughout the world, sharing the death and resurrection of Christ.

Lord, have mercy.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, for Lawrence, our Diocesan Bishop, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons; for all who minister in Christ and for all the holy people of God.

Lord, have mercy.

For Donald, our President, Kathy, our Governor, William our Mayor; for all nations, people, tribes, clans, and families.

Lord, have mercy.

For justice, mercy, and peace in all the world.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who are tempted, oppressed, afflicted, or in need.

Lord, have mercy.

For the dying and the dead, and for those who mourn.

Lord, have mercy.

For all refugees and those seeking safety in the midst of chaos; for our families, friends, and companions, and for all those we love.

Lord, have mercy.

Remembering all those who have gone before us in faith, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

To you, O Lord, our God.

Intercessions

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

Celebrant

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, whose Son humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death. Receive the prayers we offer this day for all those in need in everyplace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Celebrant and People

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.