Our mission
To bring by the power of the Holy Spirit as many people as possible to know, love, and serve God as revealed through Jesus Christ; and to be transformed into spiritually renewed disciples of Jesus who know, love and serve one another and the world.

Palm Sunday
April 5, 2020

Prelude: “Imperial March”… Edward Elgar
(Dr. David Henning Director of Music and Parish Organist)

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS
May be found on page 270 in the Book of Common Prayer

Celebrant: Blessed is the King who cometh in the name of the Lord.
People: Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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

OUR LORD’S ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW
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 with thy spirit.
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.
Celebrant: Let us go forth in peace;
People: In the name of Christ. Amen.

Anthem. . . “All Glory Laud and Honor” Hymn 154
(Annamarie Zmolek and Patrick Perez, St. Martin’s Choir)

COLLECT OF THE DAY

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 LESSON

Philippians 2:5-11

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.
Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said, “You say so.” But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?” But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed. Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?” For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, “Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.” Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barabbas.” Pilate said to them, “Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?” All
of them said, “Let him be crucified!” Then he asked, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Let him be crucified!”

So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.” Then the people as a whole answered, “His blood be on us and on our children!” So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor’s headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him. As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, “This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.” Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, “You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save
yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.” In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, “He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, ‘I am God’s Son.’” The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way. From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o’clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, “This man is calling for Elijah.” At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.” Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, “Truly this man was God’s Son!”

THE SERMON . . . “Absence makes the heart. . .”

_The Rev. Dr. Russell J. Levenson, Jr._
THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
May be found on page 383

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For our Anglican Communion; for the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin; for our Presiding Bishop, Michael; for all bishops, especially Andy, Jeff, Kai, and Hector, Bishops of the Diocese; and for all clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For our President, Donald, the Congress, the Courts, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, especially those in hospitals __________, and those who have requested our prayers __________, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the many people who have contracted the coronavirus; for comfort for those grieving loved ones who have died and peace for those who are fearful as the virus spreads, for those in isolation, those who have lost their job or their business, for parents who find themselves trying to home school their children, and for all those in our communities involved in ministering to the sick, especially for all health care workers, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.
For other concerns of our Parish, especially for all who serve in our armed forces and their families, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For peace throughout the world, especially in the Middle East, for the victims of terror attacks, and for the protection of our Christian brothers and sisters who face danger or persecution for their faith, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those impacted by natural disasters, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**
For all the blessings of this life, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, especially __________, and we give thanks for their lives and pray for their loved ones left behind, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

In the communion of Martin and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

**To thee, O Lord our God.**

I invite your own prayers and intercessions.

*A period of silence, during which people may add their own petitions quietly or in the privacy of their hearts.*

*Celebrant adds a concluding Collect*
Grant to thy people, O Lord, grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil, and in thy mercy graciously fulfill our petitions, through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. AMEN

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: And with thy spirit

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Offertory Anthem . . . “The Holy City” Stephen Adams
(Annamarie Zmolek and Patrick Perez, St. Martin’s Choir)

Doxology . . . “All things are thine” William Gardiner
Text, John Greenleaf Whittier, 1872; Music, Gardiner, William Gardiner’s Sacred Melodies, 1815; By permission of Houghton Mifflin Company.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.
Celebrant: Let us pray.
THE LORD’S PRAYER
May be found on page 54

Celebrant and People
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.

CONCLUDING PRAYERS

PALM SUNDAY BLESSING

Almighty God, we pray thee graciously to behold this thy 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 liveth and reigneth for ever and ever; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with for ever. Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

A Minister says the dismissal

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: “Ride on Ride on in Majesty”
(Dr. David Henning, Director of Music and Parish Organist)