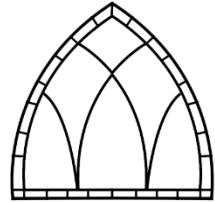


THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
OF THE REDEEMER
Shelby, NC



**Sunday, April 13, 2025 – Sunday of the Passion:
Palm Sunday**



Holy Eucharist: Rite Two – 9:30 a.m.

Welcome to Redeemer! We are delighted you have chosen to worship with us today. There are candles available at the devotional candle stand, located behind the pews on the right-hand side of the altar rail. Please feel free to light a candle representing your prayers or intentions for today, before the service or during communion.

The Liturgy of the Palms

All standing:

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

Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

Presider 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.***

Processional Gospel Reading: Luke 19:28-40

28[Jesus] went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

29When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, 30saying, “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. 31If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’” 32So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. 33As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” 34They said, “The Lord needs it.” 35Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. 36As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. 37As 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, 38saying, “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!” 39Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” 40He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

The Presider then says the following blessing

Presider The Lord be with you.

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

Presider 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.*

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

Hosanna in the highest.

The Procession

Deacon Let us go forth in peace.

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

During the procession, all hold branches in their hands.

Procession Hymn All glory, laud, and honor (H 154)

Procession Collect

At a suitable place, the procession may halt while the following or some other appropriate Collect is said
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.

The Word of God

Entrance Hymn All glory, laud, and honor (H 154)

Opening Acclamation

The people standing, the Presider says

Presider Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **His mercy endures for ever.**

Collect for Purity

The Presider may say

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Opening Anthem

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One.
Have mercy upon us.

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider 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

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

4The 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. 5The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. 6I 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.

7The 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; 8he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.

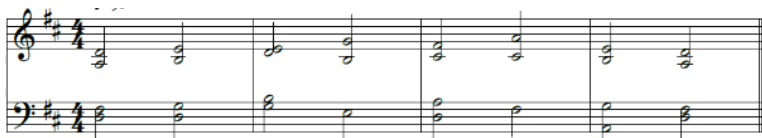
9aIt is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 31:9-16

Remain seated.



9Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in | **trouble**; * |
my eye is consumed with sorrow,
and also my throat and my | **belly**. |

10For my life is wasted with grief,
and my years with | **sighing**; * |
my strength fails me because of affliction,

and my bones are con- | **sumed**. ||
 11I 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**. |
 12I am forgotten like a dead man, out of | **mind**; * |
 I am as useless as a broken | **pot**. ||
 13For I have heard the whispering of the crowd;
 fear is all a- | **round**; * |
 they put their heads together against me;
 they plot to take my | **life**. |
 14But as for me, I have trusted in you, O | **Lord**. * |
 I have said, “You are my | **God**. ||
 15My times are in your | **hand**; * |
 rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
 and from those who | **persecute me**. |
 16Make your face to shine upon your | **servant**, * |
 and in your loving-kindness | **save me**.” ||

Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Philippi.

5Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, 6who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, 7but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, 8he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.

9Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, 10so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Reade The Word of the Lord.

r

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn *All hail the power of Jesus' Name* (H 450)

The Passion of Jesus Christ According to St. Luke

Luke 22.14 – 23.56

This Passion is read by four voices: The Narrator, Jesus, Peter, and Pilate. In addition the congregation should contribute the voices of the crowd. These sections are marked "CONGREGATION" and italic.

NARRATOR: When the hour (for the Passover meal) came, Jesus took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. He said,

JESUS: I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.

NARRATOR: Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said,

JESUS: Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.

NARRATOR: Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying,

JESUS: This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

NARRATOR: And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying,

JESUS: This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table. For the Son of Man is going as it has been determined, but woe to that one by whom he is betrayed!

NARRATOR: Then they began to ask one another, which one of them it could be who would do this. A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. But he said to them,

JESUS: The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves. You are those who have stood by me in my trials; and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel. Simon, listen! Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.

NARRATOR: And he said to him,

PETER: Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death!

NARRATOR: Jesus said,

JESUS: I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day, until you have denied three times that you know me.

NARRATOR: Jesus said to them,

JESUS: When I sent you out without a purse, bag, or sandals, did you lack anything?

NARRATOR: They said,

CONGREGATION: *No, not a thing.*

NARRATOR: He said to them,

JESUS: But now, the one who has a purse must take it, and likewise a bag. And the one who has no sword must sell his cloak and buy one. For I tell you, this scripture must be fulfilled in me, ‘And he was counted among the lawless’; and indeed what is written about me is being fulfilled.

NARRATOR: They said,

NARRATOR: Lord, look, here are two swords.

NARRATOR: He replied,

JESUS: It is enough

NARRATOR: He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them,

JESUS: Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.

NARRATOR: Then he withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, knelt down, and prayed,

JESUS: Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.

NARRATOR: Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground. When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, and he said to them,

JESUS: Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial.

NARRATOR: While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said to him,

JESUS: Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?

NARRATOR: When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked,

CONGREGATION: *Lord, should we strike with the sword?*

NARRATOR: Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said,

JESUS: No more of this!

NARRATOR: And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him,

JESUS: Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!

NARRATOR: Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest’s house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said,

CONGREGATION: *This man also was with him.*

NARRATOR: But he denied it, saying,

PETER: Woman, I do not know him.

NARRATOR: A little later someone else, on seeing him, said,

CONGREGATION: *You also are one of them.*

NARRATOR: But Peter said,

PETER: Man, I am not!

NARRATOR: Then about an hour later still another kept insisting,

CONGREGATION: *Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean.*

NARRATOR: But Peter said,

PETER: Man, I do not know what you are talking about!

NARRATOR: At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, ‘Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times.’ And he went out and wept bitterly. Now the men who were holding Jesus began to mock him and beat him; they also blindfolded him and kept asking him,

CONGREGATION: *Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?*

NARRATOR: They kept heaping many other insults on him. When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought him to their council. They said,

CONGREGATION: *If you are the Messiah, tell us.*

NARRATOR: Jesus replied,

JESUS: If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I question you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God.

NARRATOR: All of them asked,

CONGREGATION: *Are you, then, the Son of God?*

NARRATOR: He said to them,

JESUS: You say that I am.

NARRATOR: Then they said,

CONGREGATION: *What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!*

NARRATOR: Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying,

CONGREGATION: *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.*

NARRATOR: Then Pilate asked him,

PILATE: Are you the king of the Jews?

NARRATOR: He answered,

JESUS: You say so.

NARRATOR: Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds,

PILATE: I find no basis for an accusation against this man.

NARRATOR: But they were insistent and said,

CONGREGATION: *He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.*

NARRATOR: 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,

PILATE: 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.

NARRATOR: Then they all shouted out together,

CONGREGATION: *Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!*

NARRATOR: (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,

CONGREGATION: *Crucify, crucify him!*

NARRATOR: A third time he said to them,

PILATE: 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.

NARRATOR: 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, **JESUS:** 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?

(Here, all may stand.)

NARRATOR: Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. 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,

JESUS: Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.

NARRATOR: And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying,

CONGREGATION: *He saved others; let him save himself If he Is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!*

NARRATOR: The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying,

CONGREGATION: *If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!*

NARRATOR: 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,

CONGREGATION: *Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!*

NARRATOR: But the other rebuked him, saying,

CONGREGATION: 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.

NARRATOR: Then he said,

CONGREGATION: *Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.*

NARRATOR: He replied,

JESUS: Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.

NARRATOR: 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,

JESUS: Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.

*(Silence Is kept for a few moments;
some may wish to kneel.)*

NARRATOR: Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said,

CONGREGATION: *Certainly this man was Innocent.*

NARRATOR: 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. Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning. The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments. On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

The Sermon *The Rev. Michele Wiltfong*

The Creed

All stand.

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:

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.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He 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.

The Prayers of the People

We are called, especially during this holy season, to lift up all the needy world to God. Let us pray for those who are in need, saying: Lord, have mercy.

For the church, that during these days of Lent we may clear away much that is needless and become true ministers of reconciliation, praying especially for... let us pray to the Lord; **Lord have mercy.**

For this nation and all nations, especially... that we have the courage to give up war, bitterness and hatred, and live in harmony and peace, let us pray to the Lord; **Lord have mercy.**

For the outcasts, the alienated and rejected of this world, that all may come to know God's welcome to join us at the table, let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

For this community, that we may seek the lost and rejoice when they are found, let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who are sick, for all the dying, for all who grieve, for all who are lonely, for those whose burden is too deep for words, especially... let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who have gone before us, family, friends, and neighbors, mighty saints and repentant sinners, especially... let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

Mighty God, mercifully hear the prayers of your people. Give us zeal in our ministries and joy in our work, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Presider adds a concluding Collect.

Confession of Sin

The Deacon or Presider says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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.
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.**

The Priest stands and says

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.

Healing Prayer offered at the Altar Rail.

The Peace

All stand.

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

The Presider says

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

Offertory Hymn *My God, thy table now is spread* (H 321)

Presentation Hymn *Praise God from whom all blessings flow* (H 380 v 3)

The Great Thanksgiving

The People remain standing.

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Facing the Holy Table, the Presider 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, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus S 124 Holy, holy, holy

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

The People stand or kneel.

The Presider 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.

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:

Presider and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Presider 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.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

People and Presider

**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

Fraction Anthem

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

Invitation

The Presider says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Distribution

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

All are invited to God's Table. If you wish to receive communion, please come forward to the altar rail on either side. You may consume the wafer and sip from the larger chalice, or you may intinct (dip) your wafer in the wine from the smaller chalice before you consume it. It is perfectly OK to consume only bread if that is your preference. If you do not wish to consume the bread and wine but would like to receive a blessing, please come to the altar rail and cross your arms across your chest. Please use the hand sanitizer that is available up front or in your pew prior to coming to the altar rail. This will reduce the transmission of illnesses and protect those in our parish who are vulnerable. Thank you!

The Sending out of Lay Eucharistic Visitors

In the name of God and of this parish, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

We who are many are one body, because we share one Bread, one Cup.

Post-Communion Prayer

After Communion, the Presider says

Let us pray.

Presider and People

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Blessing

The Priest blesses the people, saying

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Post-Communion Hymn *O for a thousand tongues to sing* (H 493)

Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Voluntary *Ah, Holy Jesus – arr. Charles Callahan*

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