



Palm Sunday: The Sunday of the Passion

March 24, 2024, 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II



Feeding the Hungry + Welcoming the Stranger + Being Transformed by God

Welcome to today's worship.

Thank you for joining us. If you are new to our service, please take a moment to fill out our visitor's card so we can get to know you. Use this bulletin, the red Book of Common Prayer (BCP), and the blue Hymnal to follow along in worship. Nursery care is available down the stairs at the back of the church. Activity bags and weekly handouts are available at the back of the church to keep little hearts and hands engaged.

Palm Sunday and Holy Week

Today's liturgy marks the beginning of Holy Week. In this Palm Sunday service, we journey with Jesus as he is welcomed in triumph upon entering Jerusalem and then rejected and crucified at Golgotha (or "Place of a Skull") outside the gates of the city. Today's reading of Christ's passion sets forth the central act of God's love for humankind, and through it we come to know the reality of God's saving action in our lives.

Introit (*sung by choir ensemble*)
Hosanna filio David (chant)
Hosanna filio David (choral setting)

Gregorian Chant (Anonymous)
Tomas Luis de Victoria
text from Mark 11:9–10

Hosanna filio David:
Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.
Rex Israel: Hosanna in excelsis.

Hosanna to the son of David:
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
O King of Israel: Hosanna in the highest.

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.***

The Holy Gospel

Mark 11:1–11

Deacon The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
People ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

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.

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

The Blessing of the Palms

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People ***And also with you.***
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People ***It is right to give God 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!*

Deacon Let us go forth in peace.

People *In the name of Christ. Amen.*

The Procession

All glory, laud, and honor

Hymnal 154

*Refrain: All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King!
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.*

1. *Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's Name comest, the King and Blessed One.* Refrain
2. *The company of angels is praising thee on high;
and we with all creation in chorus make reply.* Refrain
3. *The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;
our praise and prayers and anthems before thee we present.* Refrain
4. *To thee before thy passion they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.* Refrain
5. *Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King.* Refrain

The Word of God

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant 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 Children's Procession

Children in grades K–5 are invited to a children's ministry time. They will process out of the church together and go to the classroom hall for Godly Play (K–2) and Kids of the Kingdom (3–5), returning for the Eucharistic Prayer.

Jesus loves me (sung by all)

A Reading from the New Testament

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

The Psalm (*sung by choir ensemble*)

Psalm 31:9–16

Anglican Chant Psalter #65, by James Turle

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

*For my life is wasted with grief,
and my years with sighing; *
my strength fails me because of affliction,
and my bones are consumed.*

*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.*

*I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; *
I am as useless as a broken pot.*

*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.*

*But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord. *
I have said, "You are my God.*

*My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.*

*Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me."*

Hymn (*seated*)

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended (v. 1 solo, v. 2 choir, vv. 3–5 sung by all)

Hymnal 158

Prayers of the People (*standing or kneeling*)

Our Lord comes to us humbly, riding a donkey and proclaiming a message of peace. Let us pray, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.

That Christians hear and share the word of God as true disciples, we pray: ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

That all the ends of the earth receive the words of the king of peace, we pray: ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

That all leaders, of church and of state, prefer humble service to empty power, we pray: ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

That those who see the cross starkly revealed in their lives draw strength from the name above every other name, we pray: ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

That we who hope to greet Jesus when he comes again be ready and joyful, we pray: ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

Celebrant continues

God our creator, you show your sons and daughters the way to freedom through the gentle obedience of your Son Jesus Christ. Grant our petitions as we seek to follow him. We pray in his name, Christ the Lord. ***Amen.***

The Peace

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

Jesu, ohne Missetat from St. Mark Passion, BWV 247

Johann Sebastian Bach (reconstruction)
text by Picander

*Jesus, without sin, was present in the garden,
when they captured you tightly with cruel bonds.
When the evil enemy will bind us with sin,
then let us, O friend of humanity! through this find release.*

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP p. 361

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People ***And also with you.***
Celebrant Lift 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 God thanks and praise.***

Sanctus

Hymnal S-130

Hymns beginning with S- are found in the section for Service music in the front pages of your hymnal.

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 364

The Breaking of the Bread

We are offering Communion in both kinds. If you do not want to receive Communion but would like to come forward for a blessing, come to either side of the altar rail and place your arms across your chest in the form of an "X" or cross.

Communion Hymns (sung by all)

Go to dark Gethsemane Hymnal 171
O sacred head, sore wounded Hymnal 168
When I survey the wondrous cross Hymnal 474

Postcommunion Prayer (standing or kneeling)

BCP p. 365

Solemn Prayer

Deacon Bow down before the Lord.
Celebrant 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.***

Please be seated.

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew

Matthew 27:11-54

The Passion Gospel is read in parts, led by a narrator who begins by saying:

NARRATOR: Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him,
PILATE: "Are you the King of the Jews?"
NARRATOR: Jesus said,
JESUS: "You say so."
NARRATOR: But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him,
PILATE: "Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?"
NARRATOR: 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,

PILATE: "Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?"

NARRATOR: 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,

PILATE'S WIFE: "Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him."

NARRATOR: 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,

PILATE: "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?"

NARRATOR: And they said,

CONGREGATION: "Barabbas."

NARRATOR: Pilate said to them,

PILATE: "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?"

NARRATOR: All of them said,

CONGREGATION: "Let him be crucified!"

NARRATOR: Then he asked,

PILATE: "Why, what evil has he done?"

NARRATOR: But they shouted all the more,

CONGREGATION: "Let him be crucified!"

NARRATOR: 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,

PILATE: "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves."

NARRATOR: Then the people as a whole answered,

CONGREGATION: "His blood be on us and on our children!"

NARRATOR: 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,

SOLDIERS: "Hail, King of the Jews!"

NARRATOR: 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.

At the mention of Golgotha, the congregation should stand for the remainder of the reading.

NARRATOR: 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,

BYSTANDERS: "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."

NARRATOR: In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying,

CHIEF PRIESTS: "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.'"

NARRATOR: 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,

JESUS: "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?"

NARRATOR: That is,

JESUS: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

NARRATOR: When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

BYSTANDERS: "This man is calling for Elijah."

NARRATOR: 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,

BYSTANDERS: "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him."

NARRATOR: 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,

CENTURION: "Truly this man was God's Son!"

NARRATOR: Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had provided for him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said,

CHIEF PRIESTS: "Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' Therefore command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, 'He has been raised from the dead,' and the last deception would be worse than the first."

NARRATOR: Pilate said to them,

PILATE: "You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can."

NARRATOR: So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

Please be seated.

Choral Meditation

Were You There

Traditional Spiritual, arr. Patrick Dupre Quigley

Leave in Silence

Join us for fellowship after church.

We will gather in the Parish Hall for coffee and conversation and to make palm crosses for Holy Week.

Acolytes: Matthew Anderson, Molly Anderson, Levi Haynes, Lindy Taylor. **Readers:** Cheri Courtright, Tommy Webb. **Verger:** George Hanna. **Server:** Debbie Dowd. **Chalicians:** Barbara Lawless, Anne Webb. **Ushers:** Tim Fleming, Mark Kaley, Charles Kelshaw, Linda Van Ormer, Mike Van Ormer. **Greeters & Newcomer Hosts:** Jon Anderson, Nancy Bishop. **Altar Guild:** Pat Baker, Beth Berger, Nancy Bishop, Mary V. Compton, Scott Durham, Virginia Haskett, Nancy Kimbrough, Barbara Lawless, Sandy O'Briant, Laurinda Stokes. **Livestream Team:** Phil Barrineau, Virginia Haskett.

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We Pray For

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church of the Province of West Africa

Simply put, the Anglican province of West Africa contains everybody except the Nigerians, who have their own province. This province includes Sierra Leone, since 1852 the historic center of Anglican mission work in the region, with its Fourah Bay College preparing generations of West African intellectuals and church leaders; Ghana, the strongest Anglican presence in the region these days; Liberia, one of only two territories in Africa that was never colonized, and which has historic American church ties; and the Gambia, the tiniest of them all. In post-independent West Africa, these Anglicans initiated missionary dioceses in nearby French-speaking nations; and Cameroon, Guinea, and Senegal, along with the former-Portuguese Cape Verde islands, are now part of the province.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Stephen's, Erwin; Trinity Church, Fuquay-Varina

Those on our parish prayer list: Mary Stalter, Norma Bullock, Moira Ermentrout, Maria Wilmoth, Jimmye Olivey, Patrick and Margaret Miller, Ed Morea, Julie Dameron, Traci and Erik, Barbara Cernansky, Ella Janssen, Gabriel, Charles Claunch, Libby Eberhard, Gwen Snead, Ali Avery, Barbara Van Cleve, David Heflin, Jeff Cummer, Charles Kelshaw, David McGraw, Maureen Morea, Carolyn Ritchie, Betty Atwell, Eva Harris, Harold Johnson, Bob Emmaus, Judy Gecinger, Liz Wert, Carol Phillips, Leslie Deaton, Ed Phelps, Tom Walton, Mack Baker, Amber Morales, Lauren, Phillip Marion, Downs Brown Jr., Martha and Jim Kaley, Ben Dormus, Nancy O'Donnell, Tina Sink Gangi, Florine, Vickie, Heather, Victoria, Dean Barrett, Bob, Leslie, Johnetta Shaback, Doug Baker, Erik Flak, Bill Hill, Ginny Inman, Elizabeth Nevius, Frank Tatem, Steven Ritchie, Amos Fisher, Pauline Tatum, Jim Tatum

Those serving in our military: Tom Stauffer, Paul Zeigler, Stephen Johnson, Benjamin Phillips, Kenneth Gearhart, Alex Reyes, Michael McNeil, Jordan Payne, Catharyn Nosek

The departed: Bernadette Martin, mother of Stephen Martin; Joyce Cudd, Wes Hood

Birthdays: Matthew Anderson, Owen Carter, Beth Gobble, Margaret Ann Horne, Elly Martin, Corinth Milikin, Bob Mills, Jacob Perkins, Glenn Strohl, John Walton, Kimberly White

Anniversary: Danny and Susan Frye

Prayer requests can be sent to Susan Frye at parish@standrewsgso.org or 336-275-1651, ext. 1. Please let Susan know if you would like a name to be listed for longer than six weeks. Please also contact Susan with birthdays and anniversaries for the bulletin.

Today & This Week

Walk the Labyrinth in the Chapel—Today after Worship through Thursday

Our beautiful labyrinth will be set up in the Chapel beginning after worship today. Printed information will be available for those who are new to the labyrinth. Please read the announcement on the back of today's bulletin for information about planning your visit during the coming days, and stop by today.

What's Up? Soup's Up for Pickup—Today's the Day, Right after Worship

"The time has come, the walrus said, to keep you in the loop: Please come to the Parish Hall to pick up your delicious soup!" Soup orders can be picked up in the Parish Hall today, 11:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m. Orders not claimed will be returned to stock. *For assistance with pickup, call Geoff Swan at 336-847-8601.*

EYC Love & Light in Lent—Help Provide School Supplies and Solar Support

Thank you for continuing to bring gifts of **crayons, notebooks, lined paper, pencils, and backpacks** St. Stephen's Episcopal Elementary School in Grand Cape Mount County, Liberia. If you would like to make a monetary donation toward the purchase of solar lamps for the school, please use the default "Donation / Pledge Offering" fund at abundant.co/standrewsepisopalch/give, and type "St. Stephen's School" in the memo line. We will bless and ship all gifts in the Easter season.

Building a Burgundy Bag Habit—Help Us Fill the Shelves at One Step Further Pantry

This Lent we are extending an invitation to St. Andrew's to Build a Burgundy Bag Habit. Please help yourself to a burgundy bag from the narthex or office hallway this morning and return it with items for One Step Further Food Pantry. Your gifts carry out our mission to feed the hungry in our community. *Especially needed are dried beans, rice, pasta; and canned vegetables, beans, meats, and fish.* Every gift helps.

Give Up Your Silence: A Lenten Invitation—Eastertide Advocacy to Follow

The Diocese of North Carolina invites you to reflect this Lent and discern ways you might give up your silence and lend your voice to uphold the values consistent with the teachings and example of Jesus. This is a time to clarify why it matters to you and how giving up your silence might look for you. *If Lent is the season for discerning, Easter is the season to take action.* As part of Advocacy Day 2024, Episcopalians across the Diocese will be invited to give up their silence and add their voices to those meeting in person with legislators in May. You can do this by taking part in a "Give Up Your Silence" postcard campaign in April. Details will be shared in the coming weeks and can also be found at episdionc.org/lent-2024-give-up-your-silence/.

Announcements

Easter is Almost Here, with Special Plans for Children and an Egg Hiding Mission for Youth

If you've been spending time in the Godly Play room on Sundays, you know that we are approaching the end of the purple days in the circle of the church year, which means that Easter is almost here! We can't wait to celebrate the risen Lord with our families and friends on Easter Sunday, March 31. Our Nursery will be open, as usual, for our youngest children. Godly Play friends are invited to remain in the sanctuary for the entire service with special busy bags full of stickers, bells to ring, and other activities available at the front of the church. We will have an egg hunt immediately after church on Easter Sunday and a festive coffee hour too. The celebration will continue on **April 7, with a Children's Chapel** and music with Mr. Riley. *EYC, put your egg hiding skills to the test with us on Easter morning. We'll gather before church at 9:40 to hide 250 eggs for the little ones to find.*

HUGS Camp Applications Now Open for Staff and Buddy Campers—July 6–13

The planning for HUGS Camp is underway, and applications for both staff and buddy campers are now open. Camp will run July 6–13 at Haw River State Park. HUGS is a unique camp for unique people, bringing together young people of diverse abilities. They overcome barriers of real and imagined differences and build bridges of understanding. HUGS is about acknowledging the good creation in each of us and more fully knowing and loving our God through it. The great differences among campers and staff help all of us learn to appreciate and celebrate our diversity as we recognize our common ground. *See eNews for links.*

EYC Heads for the Hills, June 9–14—First Payment Date is April 7

This summer our middle and high school youth return to Asheville to serve our neighbors experiencing hunger, housing insecurity, and poverty in the North Carolina mountains. We're looking forward to working with our friends at Asheville Youth Mission. The cost of the trip is \$150 per person, and a \$75 deposit is due by Sunday, April 7. *Payments can be made by check to St. Andrew's (memo "EYC Mission Trip") or at Abundant (choose "EYC Glory Ridge" fund and add camper's name as memo). Please contact Martha Chaires with questions, at martha@standrewsgso.org.*

Pastoral Care Team Invites New Members

Pastoral Care is an important part of our life together. In whatever season of life people find themselves, relationships are important. We're looking for people who are ready to help walk our church family through grief and loss, tear down strongholds and build up healthy foundations through fellowship, and visit or call people in the hospital or at home. If you are a person who likes to listen and share the Good News of Christ's love with others, we are looking for you! *Please contact Deacon Pam at deacon@standrewsgso.org to express your interest or to learn more.*

Save the Dates for VBS for Ages 3–10 & Volunteers—August 5–9

VBS is back and better than ever this summer with *Compassion Camp: What Every Living Thing Needs*. We have so many surprises in store for our campers this summer, from a water day to some furry and four-legged guests. Mark your calendar for the best week of summer and look for more information to come soon. *Volunteers, mark your calendars too! You won't want to miss this week of fun with St. Andrew's little ones.*

Supporting St. Andrew's—Everything We Do is Because of You

Thank you for your continued gifts that sustain St. Andrew's and our outreach in the community. To make a new or pledged gift, visit abundant.co/standrewsepiscopalch/give, scan the QR code at right, or mail a check to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Bookkeeper, 2105 W. Market St., Greensboro, NC 27403. If you have questions about your giving, please email Ray Marsh at bookkeeper@standrewsgso.org, or call him at 336-265-1651, ext. 3. Ray is in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays.





Love Grows Here

Join Us for Holy Week and Easter

Walk the Labyrinth ***Today through Thursday (Chapel)***

Walking the labyrinth is an ancient form of reflection or silent prayer and is often used as a practice for healing and growth in God. Many see it as a metaphor for our spiritual journey. Our beautiful portable labyrinth was created by Karen Spencer and will be set up in our Chapel beginning after worship today and remaining through mid-day on Maundy Thursday. Printed information will be available for those new to the labyrinth or who want to learn more and is also linked in our March 21 Weekly eNews. Feel free to take time to walk the labyrinth if you are in the building. You may use it any time the church is open or, if need be, by appointment. Please call Marcia Moore at 336-202-6516 for assistance arranging times outside of Parish Office hours (Tuesday-Thursday, 10am-2pm).

Maundy Thursday Service ***March 28, 7 p.m. (Sanctuary)***

Join us for our Maundy Thursday Service, in which we commemorate Jesus' servanthood in the washing of feet and the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper. The word Maundy comes from the Latin mandatum novum or the new commandment. "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." (John 3:34) This liturgy is filled with conflicting images. There is the joy of Communion, celebrated with all its splendor, but there is also deep sadness expressed in the stripping of the altar as we prepare the church for Good Friday, for the agony in the garden, and the arrest and betrayal of Jesus.

Good Friday Service ***March 29, 12 p.m. (Chapel)***

On Good Friday, the most solemn fast day of the church year, we gather to remember Christ's suffering and death on the cross. In preparation for Good Friday services, all decorations have been removed. The inexorable truth of Good Friday is that death precedes resurrection. Join us in the Chapel at noon.

Prayer and Stations of the Cross ***March 29, 12-3 p.m. (Sanctuary)***

In addition to our service at noon in the Chapel, we will open our sanctuary from 12-3 p.m. as a space for prayer and meditation and walking the Stations of the Cross. Booklets for the Stations of the Cross will be provided.

Easter Sunday Worship ***March 31, 10 a.m. (Sanctuary)***

***Arrive early for brass and organ prelude music and flowering of the cross.
Stay for an Easter Egg Hunt for children and a Festive Reception for all!***

On Easter Sunday we will welcome all to celebrate the risen Christ with joy. A brass and organ prelude will be offered in the 10 minutes before worship. You are invited to bring flowers to add to the cross outside and bells to ring. Nursery care will be provided. School-age children will stay in church on this special day of worship. We will have bags for them to decorate, butterflies for them to color, bells to ring each time we hear the word "Alleluia," and other fun ways for children to participate in the service. Join us after worship for an Easter Egg Hunt, snacks and crafts on the lawn, and a Festive Coffee Hour.