



An Offering of Reflection, Prayer, and Music

Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

04.05.2020

Welcome to Trinity's online community!

As you watch the live stream of this service, feel free to add comments, likes, etc. to the comment section at any time!

You might want to light a candle and place it near you. During the service, you will be invited to light a candle if you haven't already, so at least gather what you need for that moment if you wish to participate.

When we don't have to practice social distancing, the people of Trinity Church gather around a table piled high with spiritual food, and there is a place for you and everyone at the table, whatever your religious practice may be. For now, that food really is spiritual, and there isn't a physical, sacramental aspect. Nevertheless, this is a time of sharing and connecting with one another, knowing that we are bound together by God's love. Trinity Church is a metropolitan house of prayer, a community of worship and spiritual inquiry, welcoming all people. Recognizing our common brokenness, yet rejoicing in the reconciling love of God through Jesus Christ, we nurture one another in our spiritual life together.

Trinity Church is an Episcopal Church and a member parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Western New York of the Episcopal Church in the United States, and is a part of the Anglican Communion, which is based in England, but found worldwide. If you would like to learn more about Trinity, see all our contact information on the last page.

PRELUDE

"HAIL, JESUS CHRIST, OUR REDEEMER" BY HUGH LIVINGSTON, JR.

CENTERING PRAYER

Let us pray out loud, together:

O God of peace, you have taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and in confidence shall be our strength: By the might of your Spirit lift us to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE STORY OF JESUS ENTERING JERUSALEM

MATTHEW 21:1-11

As they approached Jerusalem, entering Beth-Phage at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent off two disciples with the instructions, "Go into the village straight ahead of you, and immediately you will find a tethered donkey with her colt standing beside her. Untie them and lead them back to me. If anyone questions you, say, 'The Rabbi needs them.' Then they will let them go at once." This came about to fulfill what was said through the prophet: "Tell the daughter of Zion, 'Your Sovereign comes to you without display, riding on a donkey, on a colt—the foal of a beast of burden.'"

So the disciples went off and did what Jesus had ordered. They brought the donkey and her colt, and after they laid their cloaks on the animals, Jesus mounted and rode toward the city. Great crowds of people spread their cloaks on the road, while some began to cut branches from the trees and lay them along the path. The crowds—those who went in front of Jesus and those who followed—were all shouting,

*Cover image:
Mystical Procession
by Matt Lincoln*

*This centering
prayer is from the
Book of Common
Prayer 1979.*

*The four Gospels
hold the core of
Christian spiritual
wisdom, reflecting
the earliest stories
and images of
Jesus. Like all
Scripture, they
are not definitive
prescriptions but
narrative stories
requiring endless
interpretation.*

continued on next page

"Hosanna to the Heir to the House of David! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Most High! Hosanna in the highest!" As Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred to its depths, demanding, "Who is this?" And the crowd kept answering, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth in Galilee!"

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

ECHO

"GOODNESS IS STRONGER THAN EVIL"

Good-ness is strong - er than e - vil; love is strong - er than

hate; light is strong - er than dark - ness;

life is strong - er than death. Peace will be ours, peace will be

Oh, Peace will be ours, ours through God who loves us. us.

This echo comes from the Iona Community and is based on the words of Desmond Tutu.

*The Bible readings
are taken from
The Inclusive Bible:
The First Egalitarian
Translation by
Priests for Equality.*

MIDDLE READING

PSALM 118:1-2, 19-29

I thank you, God, for your goodness!
Your love is everlasting!
Let Israel say it:
 "Your love is everlasting!"
Open the gates of justice for me,
 let me come in and thank you, God.
This is the gate of God,
 and only the upright can enter!
Thank you for hearing me,
 for saving me.
It was the stone which the builders rejected that became the keystone;
 this is God's doing, and it is wonderful to see.
This is the day God has made—
 let us celebrate with joy!
Please, God, please save us!
 Please, God, give us prosperity now!
Blessings on the one who comes in the Name of God!
 We bless you from God's Temple!
The Lord is God and God has enlightened us. Join the festal procession!
 With palm fronds in hand, go up to the horns of the altar!
You are my God, and I thank you; you are my God, and I exalt you.
 Thank you for hearing me, for saving me.
Thank you, God, for your goodness!
 Your love is everlasting!

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

ECHO

"GOODNESS IS STRONGER"

See previous page.

PRAYER

Let us pray:
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.**

ECHO

"STAY WITH ME"

Sing this through 5 times.

Taizé chant by
Jacques Berthier

Stay with me, remain here with me, watch and pray, watch and pray.

THE PASSION OF JESUS CHRIST

MATTHEW 27:11-54 (ABRIDGED)

Narrator Then Jesus was arraigned before Pontius Pilate, the governor, who questioned him.

Pilate "Are you the King of the Jews?"

Jesus "You say that I am."

Narrator Yet when Jesus was accused by the chief priests and elders, he made no reply. At the time they were holding a notorious prisoner named Barabbas. So when the crowd gathered, the chief priests and elders convinced the crowds that they should ask for Barabbas and have Jesus put to death. So when the governor asked them,

Pilate "Which one do you wish me to release for you?"

Narrator They all cried,

Crowd "Barabbas!"

Pilate "Then what am I to do with Jesus, the so-called Messiah?"

Crowd "Crucify him!"

Pilate "Why? What crime has he committed?"

Crowd "Crucify him!"

Narrator Pilate finally realized that he was getting nowhere with this—in fact, a riot was breaking out. Pilate called for water and washed his hands in front of the crowd, declaring as he did so,

Pilate "I am innocent of this man's blood. The responsibility is yours."

Crowd "Let his blood be on us and on our children."

Narrator At that, Pilate released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus whipped with a cat-o'-nine-tails, then handed him over to be crucified.

The governor's soldiers took Jesus inside the Praetorium and assembled the whole cohort around him. They stripped off his clothes and wrapped him in a scarlet military cloak. Weaving a crown out of thorns, they pressed it onto his head and stuck a reed in his right hand. Then they began to mock Jesus by dropping to their knees, saying,

Soldiers "All hail, King of the Jews!"

Narrator They also spat at him. Afterward they took hold of the reed and struck Jesus on the head. Finally, when they had finished mocking him, they stripped him of the cloak, dressed him in his own clothes and led him off to crucifixion.

Nobody set out to write The Bible. The Hebrew Scriptures were created over many centuries by many people to record the Jewish People's experience of God. The same is true of the Christian Scriptures, some of which were letters written to a specific audience in response to specific needs—and were then found to be helpful to the faithful even after fulfilling their original purpose.

The sermon invites your curiosity and thoughtfulness about the theme of worship, and is intended to evoke your thoughts rather than direct them. An audio recording of the sermon is posted to the parish website each week, usually by Tuesday.

On their way out, they met a Cyrenian named Simon, whom they pressed into service to carry the cross. Upon arriving at a site called Golgotha (which means Place of the Skull) they gave Jesus a drink of wine mixed with a narcotic herb, which Jesus tasted but refused to drink. Once they had nailed Jesus to the cross, they divided his clothes among them by rolling dice; then they sat down and kept watch over him. Above his head, they put the charge against him in writing: "This is Jesus, King of the Jews."

Two robbers were crucified along with Jesus, one at his right and one at his left. People going by insulted Jesus. The robbers who had been crucified with Jesus jeered at him in the same way.

At noon, darkness fell over the whole land until about three in the afternoon. At that hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice,

Jesus "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?"

Narrator which means, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?"

Once again, Jesus cried out in a loud voice, then he gave up his spirit. Suddenly, the curtain in front of the Holy of Holies was ripped in half from top to bottom. The earth quaked, boulders were split, and tombs were opened.

(Pause for silence)

Many bodies of holy ones who had fallen asleep were raised. After Jesus' resurrection, they came out of their tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. The centurion and his cohort, who were standing guard over Jesus' body, were terror-stricken at seeing the earthquake and all that was happening, and said,

Centurion "Clearly, this was God's Own!"

(Pause for silence)

SERMON

THE REV. MATT LINCOLN

MUSICAL REFLECTION

"DROP, DROP SLOW TEARS" BY HOWARD GOODALL
Laura Munson, soprano

Drop, drop slow tears and bathe those beauteous feet
Which brought from Heaven the news and Prince of Peace.
Cease not, wet eyes, His mercies to entreat;
To cry for vengeance sin doth never cease.

Recordare Jesu pie, quod sum causa tuae viae
Ne me perdas illa die.

Drop, drop, in your deep floods drown all my faults and fears.
Nor let his eye see sin, but through my tears.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We are not alone, we live in God's Creation.

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

Continued on next page

This creed comes from the United Church of Canada. Like the Nicene Creed that it reflects, it is an expression of faith intended as a symbol of solidarity with other Christians throughout history but not as a pledge of allegiance required for membership.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

**to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus,
crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

COMMUNITY PRAYER: RECEIVING AND RELEASING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

If you haven't already lit a candle near where you are seated, you are invited to do so now. Spend a moment gazing at it, receiving the light through your eyes, receiving God's assurance that you are loved, as are all the people who are in your prayers. Then, after a moment of being receptive, extinguish the candle, and release your prayers to rise to the transcendent God the same way the smoke from the extinguished candle dissipates.

MUSICAL RESPONSE

"JESUS, LAMB OF GOD"

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

Franz Schubert

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Now would be a great time to add a comment to the Live Stream!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY HYMN

"MY SONG IS LOVE UNKNOWN"

Your financial support is not only a practical necessity. It can also be a very meaningful symbolic gesture, expressing your gratitude for the blessings in your life and your hope for health in the world. While the church is not open, Trinity has made a commitment to keep staff on the payroll. Plus, all the Trinity services are available online, either with Zoom or Facebook live streaming. You can [donate online here](#). You can also mail a check to Trinity at 371 Delaware Ave., Buffalo, NY 14202. Thank you!

1 My song is love un - known, my Sa - vior's love to me, love
 2 He came from his blest throne sal - va - tion to be - stow, but
 3 Some - times they strew his way, and his strong prais - es sing, re -
 7 Here might I stay and sing, no sto - ry so di - vine: ne -

1 to the love - less shown that they might love - ly be. O
 2 men made strange, and none the longed - for Christ would know. But
 3 sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas to their King. Then
 7 ver was love, dear King, ne - ver was grief like thine. This

1 who am I that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh, and die?
 2 O my friend, my friend in - deed, who at my need his life did spend.
 3 "Cru - ci - fy!" is all their breath, and for his death they thirst and cry.
 7 is my friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could glad - ly spend.

Words: Samuel Crossman (1624-1683), alt.
 Music: *Love Unknown*, John Ireland (1879-1962)

$\text{♩} = 54$
 66. 66. 44. 44

**Jesus revealed a new, personal sense of relationship with God by addressing God as something like "Papa." Always feel free to use your most meaningful name for God in saying the Lord's Prayer.*

CONCLUDING PRAYERS

Now, as Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

**Our Father,* who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy Name,
 thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread.
 And forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us.**

*This prayer is
found in both
Morning Prayer
and Evening
Prayer in the Book
of Common Prayer.*

*This blessing
is based on
Philippians 4:8.*

**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.**

PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

Let us pray:

**Gracious God, you have given us grace at this time
with one accord to make our common supplication to you;
and you have promised through your well-beloved Son
that when two or three are gathered together in his Name
you will be in the midst of them:
Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us;
granting us in this world knowledge of your truth,
and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.**

BLESSING

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things, and the blessing of God, the Holy and undivided Trinity, be with you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Take your leave, trusting that we are made one in Christ, to shine in the world with God's light.
Thanks be to God.

Trinity's other weekly worship services are shared as Zoom meetings online. Trinity@7 starts at 7pm on Sunday nights. and features poetry and jazz. Wednesday@Noon offers prayer and holy conversation. 12 Steps@Trinity starts at 7pm Thursday nights and offers the wisdom and fellowship of 12 Step Recovery. Click here to [find the readings](#). The Zoom Meeting ID is: 274-366-3028.

For Holy Week, the Rt. Rev. Sean Rowe, our bishop, will be leading simple, brief services on Zoom at 7pm on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The Zoom Meeting ID is 127-336-938.

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Judy Atkinson Miller, Junior Warden

Bing Sherrill, Treasurer

Susana Bernhardt, Clerk

John Alduino

Joe Chamberlain

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Karen Hall

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Christina Kinney

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Elaine "Gretchen" Lodick

Tom Owen

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Laura Munson, *Section Leader*

Betsy Curtis

Cheryl Fisher

Elaine "Gretchen" Lodick

Christina Kinney

Suzanne Fatta, *Section Leader*

Susana Bernhardt

Sue Doherty

Mimi Dow

Carol Case Syracuse

John Clayton, *Section Leader*

Peter Dow

Dan Galley

Steve Shanley

Nicholas Williams, *Section Leader*

Peter Curtis

Tom Owen

TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM

Choir: Laura Munson, Suzanne Fatta,
John Clayton, Nicholas Williams

Readers: Teresa Maciocha, Emily Carlin, John Fantini,
Tracy Draksik, Carol Case Syracuse, Tim Lane

Guest Musician: Bobby Militello, saxophone

Sunday @10:30am

Includes communion at an open table

Sunday @7:00pm

An encounter with God through poetry, jazz, and meditation

Wednesday @11am

Rite 2 communion and coffee

Thursday @7pm

12steps@Trinity, based on 12-step spirituality