



“Our Welcome”

In the light of God’s unconditional love, we respect the dignity of every human being by welcoming and supporting all persons whatever their race, color, gender, age, sexual orientation, health status, marital status or stage of spiritual journeying. We invite you to explore, investigate, and grow in your faith and become a part of our shared journey with God.

THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION: PALM SUNDAY ANTECOMMUNION --- MARCH 28, 2021

St. Paul’s Episcopal Church
Office: 517-482-9454

218 W. Ottawa St. Lansing, MI 48933
www.stpaulslansing.org



This Sunday we will utilize a service known as Antecommunion.

What is ‘Antecommunion’?

The prefix *ante-* means ‘before’, so the service of Antecommunion is the Service of Holy Communion before, or leading up to and excluding, the actual celebration of Communion. Basically from the Organ Voluntary to the Offertory, this is the non-sacramental part of the Communion liturgy. The only difference is that Antecommunion is done on purpose, and ends with a few different prayers, making this specifically the Service of Antecommunion rather than the Service of Holy Communion

Why would anyone do this?

Antecommunion is a uniquely Anglican practice. Early in our church tradition, provision was made for the celebration of Holy Communion every Sunday and major Holy Days of the year, *but*, people were not used to such frequent reception of Communion, and despite the Reformers’ best efforts, the average English believer still only came to the Holy Table once a month at best. The priests, however, were still expected to fulfill the liturgical demands of the Book of Common Prayer, and so provision had to be made for situations in which there was a Service of Holy Communion offered but no communicants prepared to receive Holy Communion.

Now that Anglicans almost the world over are accustomed to weekly Communion, this “need” for Antecommunion is no longer common. If your parish priest is unexpectedly sick on a Sunday morning, then a Deacon or Lay Minister could lead an Antecommunion service instead, since it’s almost identical to the regular Communion service.

St. Paul’s Staff: The Rev. Karen C. Lewis, Rector; Ms. Stephanie Gewirtz, Minister of Music; Ms. Theresa Milne, Parish Administrator; Mr. Brandon Blanchard, Sexton; Ms. Ciera Hart, Nursery Attendant; Ms. Kathy Vogel, Wedding Coordinator

St. Paul’s Vestry: Dave Parks, Sr. Warden; Sue Le Duc, Jr. Warden; Jack Baker, Jane Bryce, Diane Clark, Graham Crabtree, Michael Hart, Susan Henderson, Martha Seaman McKee, Margaret Schulte, Gloria Sutton, Jeff Irwin, Treasurer, Sally Boron, Secretary

Please prepare yourself for worship. Find a space where you can be comfortable and undisturbed for awhile. Perhaps have a small cross and/or a candle placed on a small table by you.

Take a moment to be still and think of all those who will be joining you this morning in prayer.

THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION: PALM SUNDAY
MARCH 28, 2021

PRELUDE

Hosanna! Hosanna!

Dennis Eliot

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

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

People **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.**

Officiant 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.**

A Reading from the Gospel of Mark

Mark 11:1-11

When Jesus and his disciples were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethpage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he 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.

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

The Officiant continues

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.**

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

People **Hosanna in the highest.**

THE PROCESSION

Officiant Let us go forth in peace.

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

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

THE COLLECT FOR 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 READING

ISAIAH 50:4-9A

Reader A reading from the prophet 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 wakens – wakens 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. 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?

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God**

PSALM 31:9-16

- 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.

Reader A reading from Paul's letter 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 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 HOLY GOSPEL

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." ³³ He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. ³⁴ And he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake." ³⁵ And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. ³⁶ He said, "Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want." ³⁷ He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? ³⁸ Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." ³⁹ And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. ⁴⁰ And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. ⁴¹ He came a third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴² Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

⁴³ Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. ⁴⁴ Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard." ⁴⁵ So when he came, he went up to him at once and said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him. ⁴⁶ Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. ⁴⁷ But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. ⁴⁸ Then Jesus said to them, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? ⁴⁹ Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled." ⁵⁰ All of them deserted him and fled.

⁵¹ A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, ⁵² but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.

⁵³ They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. ⁵⁴ Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire. ⁵⁵ Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. ⁵⁶ For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. ⁵⁷ Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying, ⁵⁸ "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is

made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.”⁵⁹ But even on this point their testimony did not agree.⁶⁰ Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, “Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?”⁶¹ But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?”⁶² Jesus said, “I am; and ‘you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power,’ and ‘coming with the clouds of heaven.’”

⁶³ Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, “Why do we still need witnesses?⁶⁴ You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?” All of them condemned him as deserving death.⁶⁵ Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him, “Prophesy!” The guards also took him over and beat him.

⁶⁶ While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by.⁶⁷ When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said, “You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth.”⁶⁸ But he denied it, saying, “I do not know or understand what you are talking about.” And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed.⁶⁹ And the servant-girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders, “This man is one of them.”⁷⁰ But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, “Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean.”⁷¹ But he began to curse, and he swore an oath, “I do not know this man you are talking about.”⁷² At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, “Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.” And he broke down and wept.

¹⁵ As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate.² Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” He answered him, “You say so.”³ Then the chief priests accused him of many things.⁴ Pilate asked him again, “Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.”⁵ But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

⁶ Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked.⁷ Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection.⁸ So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom.⁹ Then he answered them, “Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?”¹⁰ For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over.¹¹ But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead.¹² Pilate spoke to them again, “Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?”¹³ They shouted back, “Crucify him!”¹⁴ Pilate asked them, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Crucify him!”¹⁵ So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

¹⁶ Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor’s headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort.¹⁷ And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him.¹⁸ And they began saluting him, “Hail, King of the Jews!”¹⁹ They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him.²⁰ After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

²¹ They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus.²² Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull).²³ And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it.²⁴ And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

²⁵ It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. ²⁶ The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." ²⁷ And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. ²⁹ Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, ³⁰ save yourself, and come down from the cross!" ³¹ In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. ³² Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

³³ When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ³⁴ At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" ³⁵ When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." ³⁶ And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." ³⁷ Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. ³⁸ And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. ³⁹ Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

REFLECTION

The Rev. Karen C. Lewis

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

On this day the church hears again the passion of our Lord, into which we are baptized. Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs, saying: Lord, have mercy.

For the whole church throughout the world, especially Michael our presiding bishop and Bonnie our bishop, and for all bishops, clergy, and the baptized that we may have the mind of Christ, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For peace among nations and forbearance among all people; for wise decisions by leaders of our communities and all nations that they may be ruled by humility and wisdom, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Ease our fear and anxiety, that we may share our resources rather than hoard them, and extend a helping hand to those in need. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this congregation as we strive to faithfully walk the road toward the cross, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the lonely and homeless, the oppressed and the forgotten, the weary and the sick, especially those on our parish prayer list and those we now name either silently or aloud _____; for those who are in prison and for the refugees seeking asylum from conflict; and for those who are consumed by sorrow, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For our community and for family, friends, and neighbors, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

We give thanks for all the departed whose faith and witness have nourished our own, and for ourselves, that we may be obedient even unto death, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

A brief silence. The Officiant concludes the prayer saying

Into your hands, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us prayer together in the words that our Lord Jesus Christ taught us

**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.**

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages.
Amen.**

SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Officiant Bow down before the Lord.

The people bow their heads.

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.**

THE PEACE

Officiant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

O Sacred Head

Setting by Teleman ed. Callahan

Prayer for a Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips remember those that have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country, let us choose love.

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,
let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbor.

Amen.

Author unknown



March 28, 2021

We pray for those who have ongoing needs for healing prayers: Margaret (Peggy) Richardson, Mason Hill, Marsha Macholz, Sebastian Cuesta, Clint Hogue, John Hawkins, Julie, Van Anderson, Marian Boulus, Nancy Rudd, Meadow Rawlins, Anna Hayward, Harvey Clark & Mary Armstrong, Michelle Levenick, Norma Lindholm, Audrey & David, Pat Bellinger, Joanne Boulton, Claudia Hamlin, Ronda Peters, Erica, Marta & Venancio, Mike Jacobs, Rick Wendorf, Chris Krupka, Paul Doersam, Robert Madrigal, Joy Brewer, William Gabel, Pat Seger-Krawczynski, April Cruz, Sally Boron, Pam & John Irwin, Kate Johnson, Doug, Jeff Waters, David Hemingway, Max Pierce, Michael Crouch, Sherry Sutton, Danielle Laurion, Michael O'Toole, Penny, Peggy, Karen Clarke, Eric, Amy Crabtree, Judy Manson, Patricia McMartin, Doug Boor, Craig, Odie, Leonard, Sarah, Larry Gut, Delaine Counsellor, Ellie Doersam, Gail & Bill Kendall, Lynn Dayton, Herb Tanner & Stacey O'Toole, Brian Baker, Margo Rudd, Barb Webb, Barb Heany, Jim Ewing, Jerry Simpson, and Jane Bryce.

We pray and remember those in the Military, and those who are serving in dangerous areas: Brendan Moody, Zachariah Reeves, Zachary Bellinger, Conrad Laurion, Alex Van Koevering, Tyson Carter, Amy Peryea, Suzette Bauman, John Bellinger, Doug Laurion, Erika Harkness Wilson, McKenzie Counsellor, and Josh Cramer.

We pray this week for the following St. Paul's members & family: Pat Bellinger; Rich, Vicky, John & Sophie Bellon; Melissa Blood & Ally Johnson; and Allan & Sally Boron.

We pray this week for the following community service agency: Sickie Cell Disease Association, 815 N. Washington Sq, Lansing 48933

We pray for our worshipping communities: Grace Church, Southgate; St. George's, Azuza, DR; and James the Apostle, Angelina, DR.

We pray for those in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui.

We pray for: Michael Bruce Curry, Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church; Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury; Bonnie A. Perry, our bishop; Karen C. Lewis, our rector; our worship ministers, and staff at St. Paul's.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S March 28, 2021 – April 4, 2021

<p>Sunday, 3/28:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">8:00am</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">11:30am</p>	<p>PALM SUNDAY</p> <p>Ante-communion – Online</p> <p>Coffee Hour – Zoom</p>
<p>Monday, 3/29:</p>	
<p>Tuesday, 3/30:</p>	
<p>Wednesday, 3/31:</p>	
<p>Thursday, 4/1:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">8:00am</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">7:00pm</p>	<p>MAUNDY THURSDAY</p> <p>Service -- Online</p> <p>Choir Meeting - Zoom</p>
<p>Friday, 4/2:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">8:00am</p>	<p>GOOD FRIDAY</p> <p>Service Online</p>
<p>Saturday, 4/3:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">8:00am</p>	<p>HOLY SATURDAY</p> <p>Service Online</p>
<p>Sunday, 4/4:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">8:00am</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">9:00am</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">11:00am</p>	<p>EASTER SUNDAY</p> <p>Ante-Communion – Online</p> <p>In-person worship St. Paul's</p> <p>In-person worship St. Paul's</p>