

SAINT LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Organized 1871

Celebrating 154 Years of ministry in Columbia, South Carolina

*The Mission of St. Luke's Episcopal Church is to spread the Word
and share the love of God with all people.*



PALM SUNDAY

“Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord!”

Matthew 21:9 ESV

**The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday
The Liturgy of the Palms & The Holy Eucharist: Rite I**

March 29, 2026

9:45AM

**The Rev. Raphiell Ashford, Rector & Priest
Mr. Ezra Blackwell, Interim Supply Organist**

Vestry Theme for 2026

Reset to the New Normal: The Work Continues

Mission Statement

The mission of St. Luke's Episcopal Church is to spread the Word and share the love of God with all.

Vision Statement

{To become} a vibrant self-sustaining institution that serves and respects the spiritual, social, and physical needs of our community and congregation, while preserving the history of the church.

Quiet Please: Please be mindful of others as you enter the church before the service. Upon entering the nave, there should be a period of quiet and reverence as many parishioners are in prayer and or meditation.

OFFERINGS can be made online

<https://onrealm.org/StLukesEpiscopa59532/Give>

QR CODE FOR GIVING



*Use your phone to hold over the image

PARISH LENTEN THEME:

“Give me a clean heart.”

Saint Luke's Episcopal Church



It is the parish custom to observe silence prior to the start of the Eucharist. Be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent, for this is the House of God. Before the service, speak to the Lord, during the service, let the Lord speak to you; after the service, speak to one another.

We invite you to join us as an active participant in our worship of God.

This bulletin is your guide to our worship. You will find three books in front of you that contain most of the material needed for this service; *The Book of Common Prayer* [BCP], *The Hymnal 1982* [H], and *Lift Every Voice and Sing, II* [L].

[S] denotes service music which is found in the front of the hymnal.

✠ indicates where to make the sign of the cross

**At the ringing of the bell, all stand.

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

**all standing*

The Acclamation

Celebrant: ✠ Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.

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

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord 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 Gospel of the Triumphal Entry Matthew 21:1-11

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel ✠ of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory be to thee, Lord Christ.

When Jesus and his disciples had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie

them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, "Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey." The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, Lord Christ.

The Blessing of the Palms

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is meet and right so to do.

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.

The Distribution of the Palms

**After the palms have been blessed and distributed, then is said*

Celebrant: Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.

People: *Hosanna in the highest.*

**Those who have already received their palms now raise their palms in the direction of the Celebrant for the blessing.*

Bless, O Lord, these branches. Let them 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 leadeth to eternal life; who liveth and reigneth in glory with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

As the following responsive words are sung, the palms are distributed to those who have not yet received them.

THE PROCESSION

When all have received their palms, the following call to procession is sung

Priest: Let us go forth in peace;

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

The procession from the O'Neal Center to the church is led by the altar party and choir followed by the congregation. During the procession, all hold branches in their hands. Upon the arrival at the church, the Procession will halt for Organ Prelude.

******Upon arrival at the front doors of the Church, parishioners who do not wish to process into the Church may go to their seats.

THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude

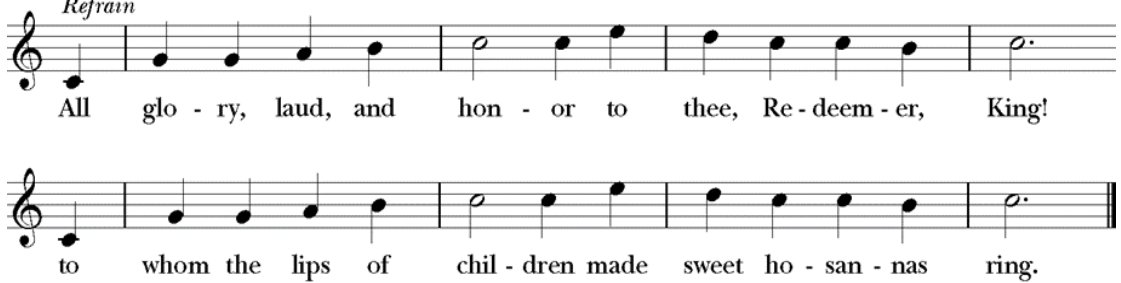
Finale pour orgue, Op. 78

Rachel Laurin

Hymn in Procession "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

Valet will ich dir geben

Refrain



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re - deem - er, King!
to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



1 Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,
2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels is prais - ing thee on high;
3 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;
4 To thee be - fore thy pas - sion they sang their hymns of praise;
5 Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Repeat Refrain



1 who in the Lord's Name com - est, the King and Bless - ed One.
2 and we with all cre - a - tion in cho - rus make re - ply.
3 our praise and prayers and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent.
4 to thee, now high ex - al - ted, our mel - o - dy we raise.
5 who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King.

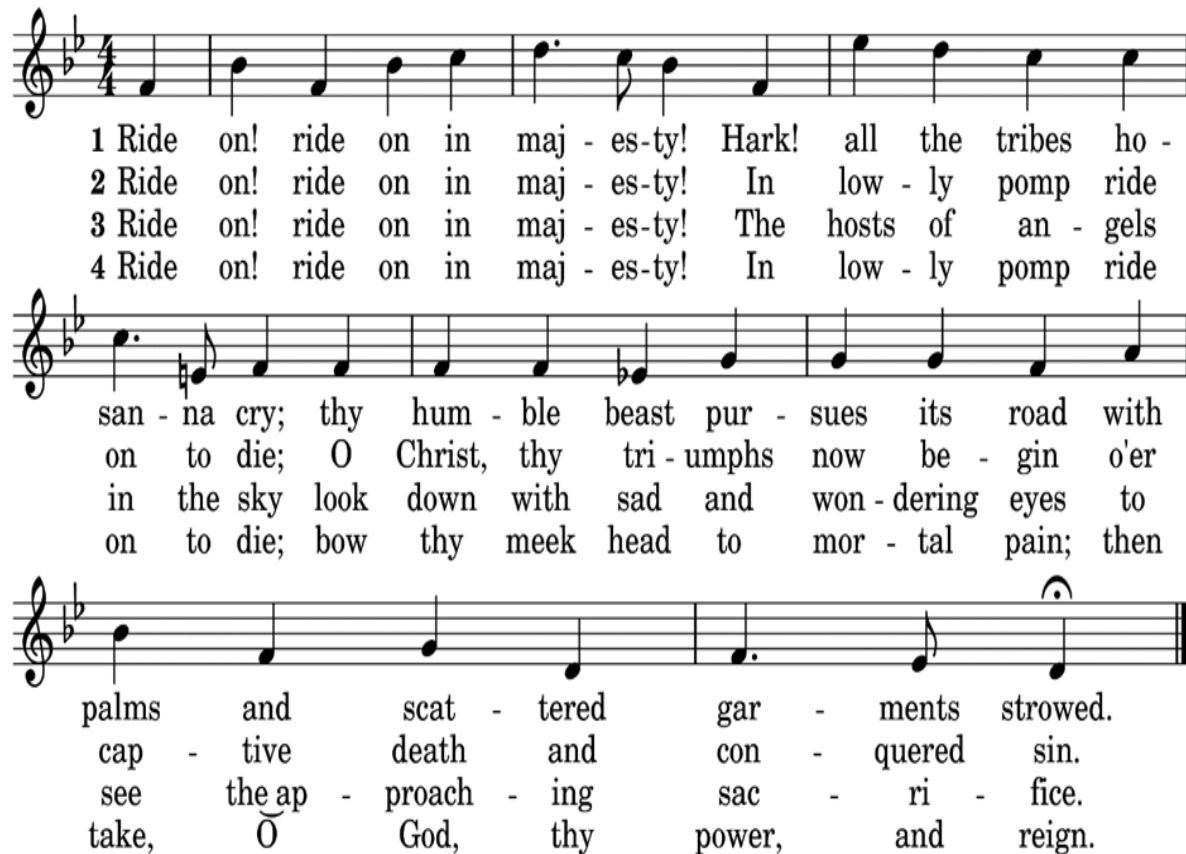
The stanzas may be sung by choir alone or alternately by contrasted groups; all sing the refrain.

The Collect in Procession

Celebrant 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.

At the conclusion of the Processional Collect, the doors to the church are opened, and the procession enters the church singing the final two verses of Hymn 154 (above). Once you are in your pew, please remain standing for the singing of "Ride On! Ride On in Majesty" and the Collect of the Day.

The Hymn in Procession "Ride On! Ride On! in Majesty" *St. Drostan*



1 Ride on! ride on in maj - es-ty! Hark! all the tribes ho -
2 Ride on! ride on in maj - es-ty! In low - ly pomp ride
3 Ride on! ride on in maj - es-ty! The hosts of an - gels
4 Ride on! ride on in maj - es-ty! In low - ly pomp ride

san - na cry; thy hum - ble beast pur - sues its road with
on to die; O Christ, thy tri - umphs now be - gin o'er
in the sky look down with sad and won - dering eyes to
on to die; bow thy meek head to mor - tal pain; then

palms and scat - tered gar - ments strowed.
cap - tive death and con - quered sin.
see the ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.
take, O God, thy power, and reign.

The Salutation

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Collect for the Sunday of the Passion

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 people sit.*

The First Lesson

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Lector: A reading from the Book of 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?

[Silence]

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 31:9-16 *In te, Domine, speravi*

**The antiphon is sung first by the Cantor and then by all; Thereafter where indicated.*

In - to your hands, O Lord,
I com - mend my spir - it.

A B

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.

{Antiphon}

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.

{Antiphon}

The Epistle

Philippians 2:5-11

Lector: A Reading from the Letter of Paul 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.

[Silence]

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Sequence Hymn H·160 “Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow” *Cross of Jesus*

The Lenten Gospel *Acclamation*

*Sung first by the Cantor; then by all.



Praise to you, Lord_ Je-sus Christ, King of end-less glo-ry!
Alt. Ref.: *Praise and glo - ry to you, O Christ, to-day__ and for - ev - er!*

“Christ became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him which is above every name.”

(Philippians 2:8)



Praise to you, Lord_ Je-sus Christ, King of end-less glo-ry!
Alt. Ref.: *Praise and glo - ry to you, O Christ, to-day__ and for - ev - er!*

The Passion Gospel

Matthew 26:14-27:66

*The customary responses before and after the Gospel are omitted. The congregation may be seated for the first part of the Passion. All stand where notated in the Passion Gospel and/or as indicated by the Narrator.

The Passion Gospel is announced in the following manner:

NARRATOR: Hear the passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

NARRATOR: One of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said,

JUDAS: "What will you give me if I betray Jesus to you?"

NARRATOR: They paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying,

DISCIPLES: "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?"

NARRATOR: He said,

JESUS: "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'"

NARRATOR: So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said,

JESUS: "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me."

NARRATOR: And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another,

DISCIPLES: "Surely not I, Lord?"

NARRATOR: He answered,

JESUS: "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born."

NARRATOR: Judas, who betrayed him, said,

JUDAS: "Surely not I, Rabbi?"

NARRATOR: He replied,

JESUS: "You have said so."

NARRATOR: While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said,

JESUS: "Take, eat; this is my body."

NARRATOR: Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying,

JESUS: "Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

NARRATOR: When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them,

JESUS: "You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written,

'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'

But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee."

NARRATOR: Peter said to him,

PETER: "Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you."

NARRATOR: Jesus said to him,

JESUS: "Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times."

NARRATOR: Peter said to him,

PETER: "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you."

NARRATOR: And so said all the disciples.

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples,

JESUS: "Sit here while I go over there and pray."

NARRATOR: He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them,

JESUS: "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me."

NARRATOR: And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed,

JESUS: "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want."

NARRATOR: Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter,

JESUS: "So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

NARRATOR: Again, he went away for the second time and prayed,

JESUS: "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done."

NARRATOR: Again, he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them,

JESUS: "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

NARRATOR: While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying,

JUDAS: "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him."

NARRATOR: At once he came up to Jesus and said,

JUDAS: "Greetings, Rabbi!"

NARRATOR: and kissed him. Jesus said to him,

JESUS: "Friend, do what you are here to do."

NARRATOR: Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to him,

JESUS: "Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once

send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?"

NARRATOR: At that hour Jesus said to the crowds,

JESUS: "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled."

NARRATOR: Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last, two came forward and said,

ACCUSERS: "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.'"

NARRATOR: The high priest stood up and said,

HIGH PRIEST: "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?"

NARRATOR: But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him,

HIGH PRIEST: "I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God."

NARRATOR: Jesus said to him,

JESUS: "You have said so. But I tell you, From now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven."

NARRATOR: Then the high priest tore his clothes and said,

HIGH PRIEST: "He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?"

NARRATOR: They answered,

CHIEF PRIESTS: "He deserves death."

NARRATOR: Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, saying,

CHIEF PRIESTS: "Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?"

NARRATOR: Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said,

SERVANT GIRL 1: "You also were with Jesus the Galilean."

NARRATOR: But he denied it before all of them, saying,

PETER: "I do not know what you are talking about."

NARRATOR: When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders,

SERVANT GIRL 2: "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth."

NARRATOR: Again, he denied it with an oath,

PETER: "I do not know the man."

NARRATOR: After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter,

BYSTANDER: "Certainly, you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you."

NARRATOR: Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath,

PETER: "I do not know the man!"

NARRATOR: At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said:

JESUS: "Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times."

NARRATOR: And he went out and wept bitterly.

When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor.

When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. He said,

JUDAS: "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood."

NARRATOR: But they said,

CHIEF PRIESTS: "What is that to us? See to it yourself."

NARRATOR: Throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said,

CHIEF PRIESTS: "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money."

NARRATOR: After conferring together, they used them to buy the potter's field as a place to bury foreigners. For this reason, that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one on whom a price had been set, on whom some of the people of Israel had set a price, and they gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me."

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 and remain standing 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.

****Here ALL kneel or bow (pause) for a short time, until the Narrator continues.**

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.

The Homily

The Reverend Raphiell Ashford

**On Palm Sunday, the Nicene Creed and the Confession of Sin may be omitted at this service.*

The Prayers of the People

Form III

BCP 387

✠ "Give to the departed eternal rest;"

The Comfortable Words

BCP 343

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Announcements/Birthday and Anniversary Blessings

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory Anthem "What Wondrous Love Is This" arr. Charles Dupree

At the Presentation of Alms

*All standing

"From All That Dwell Below the Skies"

Old 100th

1 From all that dwell be - low the skies let
2 E - ter - nal are thy mer - cies, Lord, and
*3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise

the Cre - a - tor's praise a - rise! Let the Re - deem - er's
truth e - ter - nal is thy word: thy praise shall sound from
him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye

Name be sung through ev - ery land, by ev - ery tongue!
shore to shore till suns shall rise and set no more.
heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), para. of Psalm 117. St. 3, Thomas Ken (1637-1711)

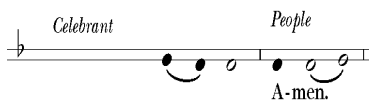
Music: Old 100th, melody from *Pseaumes octante trois de David*, 1551, alt.; harm. after Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?)

The Prayer of Consecration

BCP 334

✠ “be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction ...”

The Great Amen



The Lord's Prayer (*Pater Noster*) S • 119

Plainsong

*The priest sings the Pater Noster. The congregation joins in with “who art in heaven.”

The Breaking of the Bread

*A period of brief silence is kept.

The Fraction Anthem

“O Lord, I Am not Worthy”

Non Dignus

*See pew card or inside back cover of the hymnals.

Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

The Prayer of Humble Access

BCP 337

*Prayed by all

Celebrant The Gifts of God ✠ for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Music at Communion

H • 435

“At the Name of Jesus”

King’s Weston

H • 313

“Let Thy Blood in Mercy Poured”

Jesus, meine Zuversicht

L • 28

“Down at the Cross”

John H. Stockton

The Post-Communion Hymn H • 435

“Alone Thou Goest Forth, O Lord”

Bangor

The Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. *Amen.*

Solemn Prayer over the People for Palm Sunday

Priest: Bow down before the Lord.

**The people kneel or sit.*

Priest: Look with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Blessing

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

Hymn in Procession

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

Hamburg



1. When I sur - ve y the won - drous cross, On which the
2. For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, Save in the
3. See, from His head, His hands, His feet, Sor - row and
4. Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a



Prince of glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that
love flow min - gled down; Did e'er such love and
pres - ent far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss, And pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.
sor - row meet, Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all.

The Dismissal

Priest Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Meditation on EBENEZER

Thomas J. Williams

arr. Rebecca Velde

****No applause**

****The ministers and people leave in silence.**

*It is the custom of this parish to remain seated in prayer and reflection during the Organ Postlude. If you need to leave, please do so quietly.

INTERCESSIONS



- **Parishioners:** Charles W. Blakely, Gary Bowden, John Bowden, Damion Cokley, Jackson Cokley, Patricia Cokley, Byron Eaddy, Gloria Eaddy, Eddie Glenn, Cynthia Goines, Robert Green, Yvonne Hall, Daryl Hammonds, Jr., Desmond Hammonds, Valencia Hammonds, Tarnez Hickman, Justin Hickmon, LaToya Hickmon, Levi Johnson, Sr., James McLemore, Marie Martin, Gwendolyn Meadows, Carmen Murray, Jay'ceon Quattlebaum, Malik Quattlebaum, Joseph Ray, Reginald Reed, Cassandra Sims, Peyton Parker-Smith, William Smith, Jr., Ronald Turner, Dorothy Walker
- **Family & Friends:** Ingrid Dowdell, Ernestine Grant, Gerald L. McNair, Elsie Mitchell, Katherine Robinson, Mattie Anderson-Roberson, Theodora Washington
- **Diocesan Cycle of Prayer...** Calvary Church, Glenn Springs; Church of the Redeemer, Greenville; The Ministry of Altar and Flower Guilds.
- **Birthdays...** Vickie Williams (30th), Julia Meadows (3rd), Rudy Wise, II (4th)
- **Anniversaries...**
- **Births...**
- **Deaths...**
- **Traveling Mercies.....**
- **Confirmands...** Kennedy Johnson, Nadia Muhammad

Create in me a clean
HEART
O God;
and renew a right spirit
within me.
PSALMS 51:10

SERVANTS FOR THE LORD

The Old Testament Lector

Kennedy Johnson

The Epistoler

DeNell Hickman

The Gospel Book Bearer

Cynallyhia Indriago

Server

Herman Hickman

Intercessors

Isabella Bracy

Lay Eucharistic Minister

Pauette Parker-Smith

Crucifer

Jaylen Caldwell
Herman Hickman
Isabella Bracy

Oblation Bearers

Deadra Bowden
Stephanie Baldwin

Thurifer & Boat Bearer

Levi Johnson, Jr.

Videographer

Joni James

Ushers

Darnell Holmes
Ronald Turner
Rudolph Wise

Torch Bearers

DeNell Hickman
Kennedy Johnson

Cantors

Shekinah Frieson
Anne Mozeleski

Security

Terrell McCombs

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALLEN UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH CONCERT...

Allen University will host a Women's History Month Concert on Sunday, March 29th, at 5pm. It'll be held in Chappelle Auditorium and will feature Dr. Angela Blalock, Carmen Jordan, and Shekinah Frieson-GENERATIONS IN SONG.

SAFE CHURCH TRAINING... All persons in leadership & volunteer positions in the Church must be certified in Safe Church Training. The online training is offered for free courtesy of the Diocese. An email will be sent to those persons who are in need of the training. Training must be completed by April 3rd.

ST. LUKE'S ENDOWMENT FUND... Please consider giving a donation on your birthday and/or anniversary of \$1 per year. Donations to the Endowment Fund will help to secure the future of St. Luke's. Your donations are needed and appreciated.

EASTER BRASS... If you would like to have Brass on Easter Day, please make a donation to the Blakely-Robinson Fund and earmark it "Easter Brass."

155th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY/ST LUKE'S DAY... Our beloved parish will be 155 years old on May 21st. We will observe this anniversary on the Feast of Saint Luke Sunday, October 18th. Each parishioner is asked to give \$155 in celebration for the anniversary.

MORNING PRAYER/ANTE COMMUNION SERVICE... If you would like to learn how to lead these services or any of the other Daily Offices, please contact the Rector. Persons leading these services must be trained by their priest and licensed by the bishop. I would like to hold the training in Lent. **These services are not meant to replace the Holy Eucharist when a supply priest is available, per +Bishop Richards.**

SERVANTS FOR THE LORD... If you have a desire to serve in the Church in a certain capacity, please contact the Rector. If you are not sure what you calling is, contact the Rector for a one on one so that the two of you might discover your gifts and talents.

PASTORAL CARE...The Rector is always available for pastoral care, but you must inform him of your need if not known. This also includes requests for home blessings, anointing and confession.

SECURITY.... Parishioners, in light of recent events in our nation and city, the importance of security cannot be taken lightly. Please consider giving a donation for Security so that we may be proactive and not reactive.

ST. LUKE'S CHORAL SCHOLARS & BLAKELY-ROBINSON MUSIC FUND...Your contributions are always appreciated and needed more than ever. Contributions to these funds help to secure choristers & instrumentalists for our Sunday services as well as special services: funerals, weddings, etc. It is because of your continued generous contributions that we are able to present glorious choral & instrumental music to the glory of God. Please consider contributing towards this fund

MARCH 2026 CALENDAR OF SERVICES/MEETINGS/EVENTS

MARCH	SERVICE/MEETING/EVENT	TIME & PLACE
29 th (Sunday)	HOLY WEEK BEGINS The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday 9:45am The Liturgy of the Palms The O'Neal Center	10:00am The Holy Eucharist: Rite I w/the Passion Play
30 th (Monday)	HOLY MONDAY Rector's Day Off	
	CONFIRMATION CLASS 5:00pm	Griffin Hall
31 st (Tuesday)	HOLY TUESDAY Clergy Renewal of Vows & Chrism Mass	11:00am-1:00pm Trinity Cathedral
APRIL		
1 st (Wednesday)	THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS	4:45pm/Nave
	Choir Rehearsal for Easter Day	6:00pm--8:00pm

2 nd (Thursday)	<p style="text-align: center;">MAUNDY THURSDAY</p> <p>The Holy Eucharist: Rite I w/the Ceremony of the Washing of the Feet (optional participation), the Procession to the Altar of Repose, and the Stripping of the Altar.</p>	6:30pm Nave
3 rd (Friday)	<p style="text-align: center;">THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST</p> <p>Fr. Raphiell will speak on the first two of the seven last words. Topic: Forgiveness</p>	12:00pm Bethlehem Baptist Church 187 Williams St. North, SC
	<p style="text-align: center;">GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY</p> <p>w/the Veneration of the Cross & Communion from the Reserved Sacrament</p>	6:30pm Nave
4 th (Saturday)	<p style="text-align: center;">HOLY SATURDAY</p>	
	Devotions/Morning Prayer: Rite I	10:00am/Griffin Hall
	<p style="text-align: center;">The Flowering of the Cross</p> <p>The Memorial Garden Committee & all others who would like to participate.</p>	Time: 11:00am At the Wooden Cross Church Yard/Lady St.
	<p style="text-align: center;">Altar Guild prepares the Church for Easter Day</p>	Time: TBD
5 th (Sunday)	<p style="text-align: center;">The Sunday of the Resurrection: Easter Day</p> <p>Festal Choral Eucharist: Rite II w/the Resurrection of the Alleluia, Asperges, and the <i>Regina Coeli</i> Brass (?)</p>	10:00am Nave
	<p style="text-align: center;">EASTER EGG HUNT & EASTER DAY BRUNCH</p>	TBD

LITURGY NOTES

HOLY WEEK

From early times Christians have observed the week before Easter as a time of special devotion. As the pilgrim Egeria recorded in the late fourth century, Jerusalem contained many sacred places that were sites for devotion and liturgy. Numerous pilgrims to the holy city followed the path of Jesus in his last days. They formed processions, worshipped where Christ suffered and died, and venerated relics. From this beginning evolved the rites we observe today on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. These services provide a liturgical experience of the last days of Jesus' earthly life, as well as the time and events leading up to his resurrection. The BCP provides special liturgies for each of these days. The eucharistic lectionary also provides proper readings for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday in Holy Week. Some parishes observe the service of Tenebrae on one of these days in Holy Week. In many dioceses, the diocesan clergy will make a reaffirmation of ordination vows in the context of a eucharist during Holy Week, usually before Maundy Thursday. The three holy days, or Triduum, of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday are at the heart of the Holy Week observance. In many Episcopal parishes, the liturgical color for Holy Week from Palm Sunday through Maundy Thursday is red. Holy Week ends at sundown on the Saturday before Easter, or with the celebration of the Easter Vigil.

PALM SUNDAY

This Sunday observes the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem that was marked by the crowds, who were in Jerusalem for Passover, waving palm branches and proclaiming him as the messianic king. The Gospels tell us that Jesus rode into the city on a donkey, enacting the prophecy of Zechariah 9:9, and in so doing emphasized the humility that was to characterize the Kingdom he proclaimed. The irony of his acceptance as the new Davidic King (Mark 11:10) by the crowds who would only five days later cry for his execution should be a sobering reminder of the human tendency to want God on our own terms. Traditionally, worshippers enact the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem by the waving of palm branches and singing songs of celebration. Sometimes this is accompanied by a processional into the

church. This Sunday is also known as “The Sunday of the Passion” to commemorate the beginning of Holy Week and Jesus’ final agonizing journey to the cross. The English word *passion* comes from a Latin word that means "to suffer," the same word from which we derive the English word *patient*. In most Protestant traditions, the liturgical color for the Lenten season is purple, and that color is used until Easter Day. In the Catholic and Episcopal traditions (and some others), the colors are changed to Red for Palm Sunday.

APRIL 2026 CALENDAR OF SERVICES/MEETINGS/EVENTS

APRIL	SERVICE/MEETING/EVENT	TIME & PLACE
1 st (Wednesday)	Holy Wednesday The Stations of the Cross	4:45pm Nave
	Choir Rehearsal for Easter Day	6:00pm-7:30pm Nave
2 nd (Thursday)	Fresh Start Ministry Closed for Holy Week	
	Maundy Thursday The Holy Eucharist: Rite I w/the Institution of the Lord’s Supper, the Ceremony of Foot-Washing, the Procession to the Altar of Repose, and the Stripping of the Altar	6:30pm Nave
3 rd (Friday)	The Good Friday Liturgy w/Communion from the Reserved Sacrament	6:30pm Nave
4 th (Saturday)	Holy Saturday Morning Prayer	9:30am Nave
	The Flowering of the Cross	11:00am
	Memorial Garden (?)	
	Altar Guild prepares the Church for Easter Day	

5 th (Sunday)	The Sunday of the Resurrection: Easter Day The Holy Eucharist: Rite II w/Asperges, the renewal of Baptismal Vows, and the return of the Alleluia	Nave 10:00am
6 th (Monday)	Rector's Day Off	Rector's Vacation Week
7 th (Tuesday)		
8 th (Wednesday)	Adult Formation w/Morning Prayer Rite I	10:30am Griffin Hall
9 th (Thursday)	Fresh Start Ministry	9:00am-12noon The O'Neal Center
10 th (Friday)	Rector's Spiritual Day Sermon Prep, Spiritual Direction etc	
11 th (Saturday)	2 nd Saturday Feeding	12:00pm-1:00pm Griffin Hall; distributed @ the door
12 th (Sunday)	The Second Sunday of Easter The Holy Eucharist: Rite II	10:00am Nave
13 th (Monday)	Rector's Day Off	
14 th (Tuesday)	Archives Committee	10:30am Archives Room
	Finance Committee	3:00pm Finance Room
15 th (Wednesday)	Choir Rehearsal	6:00pm Chancel
16 th (Thursday)	Fresh Start Ministry	9:00am-12noon The O'Neal Center
17 th (Friday)	Rector's Spiritual Day	

	Sermon Prep, Spiritual Direction etc	
18 th (Saturday)	National Pan Hellenic Council @ Columbia, South Carolina SC AMEN education session Prostate Cancer Screening Program for African American men ages 40-69	10:00am-12:00noon Griffin Hall *See Newsletter for registration info
	Daughters of the King (DOK)	3:00pm Griffin Hall
19 th (Sunday)	The Third Sunday of Easter The Holy Eucharist: Rite II	10:00am Nave
20 th (Monday)	Rector's Day Off	
21 st (Tuesday)	Vestry Meeting	6:00pm-7:15pm Griffin Hall
22 nd (Wednesday)	Quilters & Crafters	10:30am-1:00pm Griffin Hall
	Choir Rehearsal	6:00pm Chancel
23 rd (Thursday)	Fresh Start Ministry	9:00am-12noon The O'Neal Center
	Bylaws Committee	
24 th (Friday)	Rector's Spiritual Day Sermon Prep, Spiritual Direction etc	
25 th (Saturday)	4 th Saturday Feeding	12:00pm-1:00pm Griffin Hall; distributed @ the door
26 th (Sunday)	The Fourth Sunday of Easter The Holy Eucharist: Rite II w/the Rite of Baptism &	10:00am Nave 11:30aam Griffin Hall

	Celebration of the 80 th Birthday of Patricia Ancrum	
27 th (Monday)	Rector's Day Off	
28 th (Tuesday)	Buildings & Grounds	5:30pm-6:30pm Griffin Hall
29 th (Wednesday)		
30 th (Thursday)	Fresh Start Ministry	9:00am-12noon The O'Neal Center
	Endowment Committee	12:30pm-1:30pm

Music Acknowledgements & Permission for Use

Psalm

Acclamation

The Portland Psalter

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Service music

Opening Acclamation, *Kyrie, Sursum corda, Sanctus, the Lord's Prayer & Agnus Dei*; Permission by RiteSong online music library for one-time use of this material for congregational use.

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Lenten Gospel

from Oregon Catholic Press

**JOIN US FOR THE
FLOWERING OF THE
CROSS!**



**Saturday, April 4, 2026
at 11:00am**

**SAINT LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1300 PINE STREET
COLUMBIA, SC 29204**

**Celebrate the Joy and hope of Easter as
we decorate the cross with fresh
flowers.**

**Bring a fresh flower to place on
the cross and share in this
beautiful tradition of new life and
resurrection.**

Light refreshments will be served.

Everyone in the community is welcomed!

St. Luke's Episcopal Church

1300 Pine Street/Columbia, South Carolina 29204

(803) 254-2327

St. Luke's Vestry

Class of 2026

Yvonne Hall

Joni James

Errol Porter, *Sr. Warden*

Beverly Turner, *Jr. Warden*

Class of 2027

Angela Blalock

Robert Green

Joseph Ray

Rudolph Wise

Class of 2028

Edwina Fields

Cynthia Goines

Herman Hickman

Cynthia Parker Reed

~

Patricia Ancrum, *Clerk of the Vestry*

Sheryl D. Belcher, *Parish Secretary*

~

Karen Castelli, *Website Administrator*

Shauna Hicks, *Newsletter Editor*

Valerie Riley, *Executive Director—Fresh Start Ministry*

~

Patricia Cokley, *Parish Treasurer*

Darnell Holmes, William Smith, Jr., *Asst. Parish Treasurers*

Sheryl D. Belcher, *Assoc. Parish Treasurer*

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<http://www.stlukescolasc.org> (Website)

YouTube: [@Fr.Raphiell6290](https://www.youtube.com/@Fr.Raphiell6290)

“The Episcopal Church is a secret too well kept. Many are starved for what we experience daily and too easily take for granted. Invite others to come to your parish to experience this joy.”

Louie Crew, author of *101 Reasons to be Episcopalian*