

The Entry Into Jerusalem

JOHN 12:12-13, 17-19

The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem.

They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting,

"Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the King of Israel!"

Now the crowd that was with him when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to spread the word. Many people, because they had heard that he performed this sign, went out to meet him. So the Pharisees said to one another,

"See, this is getting us nowhere.

Look how the whole world has gone after him!"

"HOSANNA, LOUD HOSANNA"

GREETING OF PEACE

OUR OFFERINGS

Lord, who are we that we are able to give so generously? For all things come from you and what we now offer is already yours.

OFFERTORY | "HOSANNA SONG" (PAUL ZACH)

DOXOLOGY

The Last Supper

MATTHEW 26:3-5, 14-35

Then the chief priests and the elders of the people assembled in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas, and they schemed to arrest Jesus secretly and kill him.

"But not during the festival," they said,
"or there may be a riot among the people."

Then one of the Twelve —the one called Judas Iscariot—went to the chief priests and asked,

"What are you willing to give me if I deliver him over to you?"

So they counted out for him thirty pieces of silver. From then on Judas watched for an opportunity to hand him over.

On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus and asked,

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

He replied, "Go into the city to a certain man and tell him,
"The Teacher says: My appointed time is near.

I am going to celebrate the Passover with my disciples at your house."

So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them and prepared the Passover.

When evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the Twelve. And while they were eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me."

They were very sad and began to say to him one after the other, "Surely you don't mean me, Lord?"

Jesus replied,

"The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me.

The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him.

But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man!

It would be better for him if he had not been born."

Then Judas, the one who would betray him, said, "Surely you don't mean me, Rabbi?"

Jesus answered, "You have said so."

While they were eating, Jesus took bread and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body."

Then he took the cup and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you.

This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Then Jesus told them,

"This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written: I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee."

Peter replied,

"Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will."

"Truly I tell you," Jesus answered,
"this very night, before the rooster crows,
you will disown me three times."

But Peter declared.

"Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you." And all the other disciples said the same.

The Agony of the Garden

FROM MATTHEW 26:36-42, 47-56, AND 6:9-13

Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there to pray."
He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled.
Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me."

Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done.

Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping.
"Couldn't you men keep watch with me for one hour?" he asked Peter.
"Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation.
The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived. With him was a large crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them:

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

Going at once to Jesus, Judas said,

"Greetings, Rabbi!"

and kissed him. Jesus replied, "Do what you came for, friend."

Then the men stepped forward, seized Jesus and arrested him. With that, one of Jesus' companions reached for his sword, drew it out and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear.

Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

"Put your sword back in its place," Jesus said to him, "for all who draw the sword will die by the sword.

Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels?

But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?"

In that hour Jesus said to the crowd, "Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me?

Every day I sat in the temple courts teaching, and you did not arrest me.

But this has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled."

Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

The Judgment

FROM LUKE 22:54-71

Then seizing him, they led him away and took him into the house of the high priest.

Peter followed at a distance.

And when some there had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and had sat down together, Peter sat down with them. A servant girl saw him seated there in the firelight.

She looked closely at him and said, "This man was with him."

"Woman, I don't know him."

A little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them."

Peter replied,

"Man, I am not!"

But he denied it.

About an hour later another asserted, "Certainly this fellow was with him, for he is a Galilean." Peter replied,

"Man, I don't know what you're talking about!"

Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed.

The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter.

Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him:

"Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times."

And he went outside and wept bitterly.

The men who were guarding Jesus began mocking and beating him. They blindfolded him and demanded,

"Prophesy! Who hit you?"

And they said many other insulting things to him.

At daybreak the council of the elders of the people, both the chief priests and the teachers of the law, met together. Jesus was led before them.

"If you are the Messiah, tell us."

Jesus answered, "If I tell you, you will not believe me, and if I asked you, you would not answer.

But from now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the mighty God." They all asked,

"Are you then the Son of God?"

He replied, "You say that I am." Then they said,

"Why do we need any more testimony? We have heard it from his own lips."

Dawn Friday: Jesus Before Pilate

FROM LUKE 23:1-25

Then the whole assembly rose and led him off to Pilate. And they began to accuse him, saying,

"We have found this man subverting our nation. He opposes payment of taxes to Caesar and claims to be Messiah, a king." So Pilate asked Jesus, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

"You have said so," Jesus replied.

Then Pilate announced to the chief priests and the crowd,

"I find no basis for a charge against this man." But they insisted,

"He stirs up the people all over Judea by his teaching. He started in Galilee and has come all the way here."

On hearing this, Pilate asked if the man was a Galilean.

When he learned that Jesus was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod.

When he was with Herod, Jesus was vehemently accused and treated

with contempt. Then Herod and his soldiers ridiculed and mocked him.

Dressing him in an elegant robe, they sent him back to Pilate.

Pilate called together the chief priests, the rulers and the people, and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was inciting the people to rebellion. I have examined him in your presence and have found no basis for your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us; as you can see, he has done nothing to deserve death. Therefore, I will punish him and then release him."

"Away with this man! Release Barabbas to us!"

Barabbas had been thrown into prison for an insurrection in the city, and for murder. Wanting to release Jesus, Pilate appealed to them again. But they kept shouting,

"Crucify him! Crucify him!"

"Why? What crime has this man committed? I have found in him no grounds for the death penalty. Therefore I will have him punished and then release him." But with loud shouts they insistently demanded that he be crucified:

"Crucify him! Crucify him!"

So Pilate decided to grant their demand.

He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, the one they asked for, and surrendered Jesus to their will.

"HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR US"

Friday Morning: The Crucifixion

FROM LUKE 23:26-46

As the soldiers led him away, they seized Simon from Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him. Jesus turned and said to them.

weep for yourselves and for your children.

For the time will come when you will say,
'Blessed are the childless women, the wombs
that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!'
Then they will say to the mountains,
'Fall on us!' and to the hills, 'Cover us!'
For if people do these things when the tree is green,
what will happen when it is dry?"

"Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me;

Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed.

When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left.

Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said,

"He saved others; let him save himself if he is God's Messiah, the Chosen One."

The soldiers also came up and mocked him, offering him sour wine. There was a written notice above him, which read:

"This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him:

"Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"

But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God,"

he said, "since you are under the same sentence?

We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve.

But this man has done nothing wrong. Then he said,

"Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

Forgive us our trespasses. Deliver us from evil. Thine is the kingdom.

And Jesus said to him-

And the power—

"Truly, I say to you—"

And the glory-

"Today you will be with me in Paradise."

Forever and ever, Amen!

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, for the sun stopped shining.

And the curtain of the temple was torn in two.

Jesus called out with a loud voice,

"Father, into your hands I commit my spirit."

When he had said this, he breathed his last.

"GO TO DARK GETHSEMANE"

The Burial

FROM MATTHEW 27:57-61

As evening approached, there came a rich man from Arimathea named Joseph, who had himself become a disciple of Jesus.

Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body, and Pilate ordered that it be given to him.

Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and placed it in his own new tomb that he had cut out of the rock.

He rolled a big stone in front of the entrance to the tomb and went away.

Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were sitting there opposite the tomb.

"WERE YOU THERE?"

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

FOR OUR GUESTS

The Lord's Supper, or Communion, is one of the two sacraments we celebrate (the other is baptism). It's one of the most important things we do when we gather together, because the bread and juice are concrete signs of what Jesus has done for us on the cross. When we come forward to receive them, we believe that Jesus is actually present through the Holy Spirit, extending his grace and forgiveness to us. We welcome anyone to the table who is willing to forsake their sin and trust in Jesus Christ for salvation. If you are not able to receive Communion, we invite you to use this time to meditate on one of the following prayers.

PRAYER FOR THOSE SEARCHING FOR TRUTH

God, I am not sure what I believe and I have a lot of questions. But I hear the claim that you love me, that you are for me, that you have given yourself to me in the person of Jesus Christ. If this is indeed true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Help my unbelief. Amen.

PRAYER OF BELIEF

Holy God, I don't want to do life on my own anymore. I admit that I have often lived my life apart from you, even in rebellion against you. Yet I see that you love me. I believe that you have given your Son Jesus Christ to live, die, and rise for me. I trust in his work on my behalf and I receive your grace and forgiveness. Send your Holy Spirit into my life to help me follow Jesus and his way. Amen.

"WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS" (MARTIN)

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died, My richest gain I count but loss and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the death of Christ my God! All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down! Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all!

"JESUS, REMEMBER ME"

PASTORAL PRAYER

"WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS"

COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION FROM LUKE 9:51, MATTHEW 16:24-25

Our Lord is on a journey, leading through betrayal, suffering, and torture, and ending on the cross. He invites us to follow him. Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

May the Lord grant us grace to follow Jesus and to give to him our very lives. For in giving away our lives we find them, and in dying we live.

The Ten O'Clock Hour

Join us between our morning services today to grab some coffee or tea downstairs and visit with a friend. Also, consider checking out one of the options listed below:

Music For Holy Week

Led by Bill Payne and David Skove

Please join us as we listen to seven glorious pieces of music, primarily by 20th century composers, that use scripture from the books of Isaiah, Psalms, Lamentations, Matthew, and John to celebrate the events of Holy Week.

CLASSROOM B

Discover the Bible: Galatians

Led by Becky Bowers and Rick Hutton

This class explores the letter of Galatians and the freedom we have in Christ. This is an open and casual group discussion-based class for all ages.

CLASSROOM C/D

Prayer Room

Our prayer room is open to all those who need a place to pray or who desire to join with others to pray for each other, the life and mission of the church, and our world.

CLASSROOM F

Intergenerational Wisdom

Led by Drew Cleveland

There is much to learn from one another's experiences of the world and God's grace. Join us as we hear a different story from a different generation each week.

CLASSROOM G

Metamorphosis: On Loneliness

Led by Mary Damon and Tom Ebel

Join this safe community of curious souls for an open and honest conversation about loneliness, centered on Dr. Mark Mayfield's The Path Out of Loneliness.

CLASSROOM I (DOWNSTAIRS)

Third Kids

Each Sunday we offer childcare during the services for infants through kindergarten; older kids worship with their parents. Then at 10:00 a.m. we have a dedicated Sunday school hour where our kids meet in age-specific classrooms to learn, sing, and read the Bible together.

CHILDCARE

8:45 AND 11:00 A.M.

During our worship services, childcare is available for children kindergarten and younger.

Infants, Toddlers, and Little Lambs are in their dedicated classrooms.

Little Lions–Kindergarten are meeting in the Little Lions classroom.

FOLLOWING THE 8:45 SERVICE

If you are planning to attend Sunday school after the service, your child will be escorted to their assigned classroom. Please notify your teacher on the sign-in sheet that your child will be attending Sunday school!

If you are not attending Sunday school, please pick up your children as soon as the service ends.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:00 A.M.

All our Sunday school classes take place at 10:00 a.m.

- Infants through fourth grade: check your child in on the first floor.
- Grades 5-6: meet in the Club 56 room on the first floor.
- Grades 7–12: meet in the Student Ministry Lounge (Room E) on the second floor.

FAMILY ROOM

Looking for a private and quiet space to nurse your infant? Check out the Family Room on the first floor. Families with strollers can use the elevator by the Prayer Room, in the back corner of our space.

Prayer Needs

FOR OUR MISSION PARTNERS

Please be praying for Director Margie Satterfield and the Center for Christian Counseling as they pursue transformation in the lives of individuals, couples, families, and congregations, providing therapy using Scripture combined with sound mental health practices.

FOR OUR CITY

Please be praying for the power of the resurrection to transform metropolitan Richmond: for the redeeming power of God to work justice, righteousness, equality, and mutual benefit.

FOR HEALTH

Betty Schwarten, Vickie O'Dell, Margaret Leith, Greg Ellen, Patrice Foster, Jean Sommerville, Judy Duarte, Susan Barr, Ian Woie, Karen Tatti, Juan Ledon, Patrick Wallace, Bill Payne, Elaine Metcalf, Elaine Turner, Stephanie Brooks

FOR THOSE GRIEVING LOSS

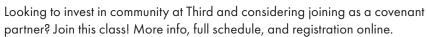
Kate Strickland (mother, 3/16); Randy Harrison (mother, 2/21); Holly Smith (father, 2/13); Barbara Romanello (husband, 2/8); Jesse Kell (father, 1/4); Glenn Davis (mother, 1/4); Parker Hale (father, 12/8); Alex Bruce (mother, 12/1)

BIRTHS & ADOPTIONS	DEATHS
Caleb Daniel Olson	Evi Burgin
Thomas Jennings Hiltz	
Peter Scott Copeland2/27	
Charles Hunter Brady Williams 2/16	

News & Events

EXPLORING COVENANT PARTNERSHIP

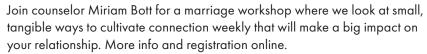
Friday and Saturday, April 12-13





MARRIAGE WORKSHOP WITH MIRIAM BOTT

Saturday, April 20, 9:30 a.m. - Noon, Regency





SUNDAY FORUM AND LUNCH WITH KAITLYN SCHIESS

Sunday, April 7, 10:00 a.m. for forum, 12:30 p.m. for lunch

Author and speaker Kaitlyn Schiess will be with us on April 7 to share on spiritual formation, the tension of politics and the big picture of God's kingdom to prepare us for this national election year.

IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE RESOURCE FAIR

Tuesday, April 16, 5:30-7:30 p.m.





WE'RE HIRING!

We have positions open for the roles of Facility Manager, Associate Director of Student Ministry, and Summer Interns. Apply at thirdrva.org/employment.



JOIN US FOR HOLY WEEK

MAUNDY THURSDAY: A COMMUNION SERVICE IN THE ROUND

Thursday, March 28, 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

GOOD FRIDAY: MIDDAY PRAYER

Friday, March 29, 12:00 p.m., First Floor of Regency

GOOD FRIDAY: ART INSTALLATION AND PRAYER

Friday, March 29, 1:00 – 7:00 p.m., First Floor of Regency

EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, March 31, Services at 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary