

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)

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

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the Way, the Truth and the Life. Help me to be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Lead me into the light and life you promise. Amen.

Adapted from prayers written by Rev. Scot Sherman, Redeemer Presbyterian Church

PRAYER OF BELIEF

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am more blind and sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete acceptance. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

"WITHOUT HIS CROSS" (MARTIN)

Without his tears, there is no comfort.

Without his death, there is no life.

Without his blood, there is no pardon.

Without his cross, there is no crown.

Without his shame, there is no glory.

Without his grief, there is no joy.

Without his stripes, there is no healing.

Without his cross, there is no crown.

Lamb of God, you bring salvation

And with your grace our hearts are sealed.

Lord, with your tears of love you bathe our sorrows;

In your eyes we stand revealed.

Without his tears, there is no comfort.

Without his death, there is no life.

Without his blood, there is no pardon.

Without his cross, there is no crown.

"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, make a friend, and attend one of the classes listed below.

How to Pray: Learning to Live Your Life with God

Led by a variety of teachers

Prayer is not just about our words; it's about living a life of communion with God. Hearing and responding to God's voice define the Christian life. So why is it so hard to pray? And why do we often avoid it? Using Pete Grieg's book *How to Pray* as a guide, come learn about prayer as a way of life. Together, we'll practice living in closer communion with the triune God.

CLASSROOM H (FRONT LEFT OF THE SANCTUARY)

The Thousand-Year-Old Te Deum Continues To Inspire

Led by Bill Payne and David Skove

Please join us as we take a Holy Week break from I John to listen to how four great composers—George Frideric Handel, Felix Mendelssohn, Gustav Holst, and John Rutter—put the blessed words of the Te Deum Laudamus (We Praise Thee, O God) to glorious music!

CLASSROOM B

Six Impacts of Faith on Your Work

Led by Roxanne Crosby and Jeremy Woltz, mission partners with Needle's Eye Ministries Do you ever wonder how your faith impacts your work life or vice versa? Join us as we explore the realities of our faith in the workplace and get practical tools and encouragement for how to move more deeply into your God-given purpose, identity, influence and mission at work.

CLASSROOM G

Men's Fellowship Hour

Led by the men of Third Church

Join other men from Third as we enjoy each other's good company and share our questions, struggles and earned wisdom on how to be faithful, ambitious, humble, strong, vulnerable friends and followers of the way of Jesus.

CLASSROOM I

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. Please check them in and drop them off before the service.

- Infants through 2-year-olds will be in their dedicated spaces.
- 3-year-olds through Kindergarten will be in the 3-year-olds' room.

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 and walk them to their room.
- Grades 5-6: meet in the Club 56 room on the first floor.
- Grades 7–12: meet in the main Student Ministry room on the second floor.

WIGGLE ROOM

There are lots of wiggle areas around our Regency space. At the back of the Sanctuary there are comfortable areas to hang with an infant or if you need to step out for any other reason. You'll still be able to hear worship, but may be just out of eyesight.

If you need more privacy, we have a Family Room on the first floor in the dedicated children's area. This is a good option for nursing mothers who are looking for a quiet space to nurse.

Prayer Needs

FOR OUR MISSION PARTNERS

Please be praying for our mission partner Murray Withrow and his family with Servant Partners in Richmond's East End. Pray for Murray as he focuses on shepherding boys to become men, and men to become better men through the power of the gospel by way of evangelism, discipleship and mentoring. They minister in Richmond to the men in Church Hill and Mosby Court.

FOR OUR CITY

We pray for the power of the resurrection to transform metropolitan Richmond: for the redeeming power of God to give us hearts of love, cooperation, peace, community, and commitment to all people in God's name.

FOR HEALTH

Peggy Dennis, William Higgins, Bev Newell, Elizabeth Flanary, Bill Payne, Don Floyd, Michael Collins, Ann Kooiman, Amber Anthony, Drew Cleveland, Elizabeth Conner, Ross Little, Holly Kinard, Donna Davis, Kathryn Keller, Keith Byers, Addy Allen, Susan Drumwright, Elaine Metcalf, Stan Smith, Mary Ann Hancock, Al Foster, Jerry Dearmon, Evi Burgin, Elaine Turner, Stephanie Brooks

FOR THOSE GRIEVING LOSS

Courtney Via (grandfather, 3/21); Scott Armistead (mother, 3/15); Kaye Phillips (sister, 3/6); Missy DeRegibus (mother, 2/26, father, 1/3); Carol Broaddus (daughter, 2/27); Harrison Higgins (mother, Susan, 2/25); Boyd Clarke (sister, 2/14); Bob McCray and Caroline Hutton (wife and mother, Billie, 2/2)

BIRTHS & ADOPTIONS	DEATHS
Asher Layne Headley 2/19	Veloa Christian2/20
Elizabeth Sophia Nix 2/4	Billie McCray
Owen Immanuel Porter 1/27	Dorothy Jones
Halle Joanne Eiswerth 11/27	Jimmie Massie 1/25
Lillian "Lily" Beth O'Keefe 11/14	Christie Geraty
Josephine "Josie" Beverly Wright 11/5	Doug Kinney

News & Events

SUNDAY FORUM: THE HEALING POWER OF CONVERSATION

Sunday, April 16, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

The last few years have brought an increase in stress, anxiety, depression, and a decline in mental health for many. Come hear from Lisa Ould, Executive Director of the Barnabas Counseling Center in Richmond, as she discusses healing and strengthening our spiritual and mental health.

JOIN THE HALLELUJAH CHORUS ON EASTER SUNDAY

At the close of our Easter service, we invite up anyone who would like to join us in singing the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's Messiah. Plan to join us for this wonderful tradition!

NEWCOMERS CLASS: EXPLORING COVENANT PARTNERSHIP

Friday, April 21–Saturday, April 22, and Saturday, April 29



Explore becoming a covenant partner of Third by taking this deep dive on our mission and vision as a church, and our core beliefs, theology, and polity. Full schedule and signup online.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

Thursdays, April 20 – May 25, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at Regency Connect with other caregivers, share stories, and gain tools to cope with the emotional, spiritual and physical toll that caring for loved ones often has. All are welcome. RSVP online.



JOIN US FOR HOLY WEEK

MAUNDY THURSDAY: A COMMUNION SERVICE IN THE ROUND

Thursday, April 6, 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

GOOD FRIDAY: ART INSTALLATION AND PRAYER

Friday, April 7, 3:00 - 7:00 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY

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