

# St. Alban's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*welcomes you*



**The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday**

Holy Eucharist: Rite II

March 29, 2026

10:30 a.m.

# The Liturgy of the Palms

*The congregation gathers in the Parish Hall for the Liturgy of the Palms.*

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

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

Let us pray. Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Reading from Matthew 21:1-11

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

**People: Glory to you, 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."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## The Blessing of the Palms

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

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

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

Celebrant: 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.**

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

People: **Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant: Let us go forth in peace.

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

## The Procession

*The people follow the crucifer, choir, and clergy in procession to the nave, waving the palm branches along the way.*

### \*The Processional Hymn: 154 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 procession pauses at the doors for the following Collect.*

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

People: **Hosanna in the highest.**

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.**

## **\*The Processional Hymn: 89 Hosanna, Laud, Hosanna**

ELLECOMBE

*During the hymn, the congregation enters the nave and makes their way to their seats.*

Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang;  
Through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang.  
To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to His breast,  
The children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

From Olivet they followed mid an exultant crowd,  
The victor palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud;  
The Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state,  
Nor scorned that little children should on His bidding wait.

“Hosanna in the highest!” That ancient song we sing,  
For Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven our King.  
O may we ever praise Him with heart and life and voice,  
And in His blissful presence eternally rejoice.

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

*Welcome to St. Alban's! Thank you for worshipping with us today. Page numbers in the bulletin refer to The Book of Common Prayer (BCP), the book with the cross on the cover. Hymnals and Prayer Books can be found beneath the seats. If you choose to kneel for parts of the service, please use the kneeler beneath your own chair. Children of all ages are always welcome in worship. Crayons and a Bible story coloring page are available on the table just outside the doors to the nave. \*The congregation is invited to stand as able when indicated by an asterisk.*

### **The Greeting and Announcements**

#### **\*The Opening Acclamation**

*Book of Common Prayer (BCP) p. 355*

**Celebrant:** Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

**People:** **His mercy endures forever.**

#### **\*The Collect for Palm Sunday**

*BCP p. 357*

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Celebrant:** Let us pray.

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 Lesson**

**Isaiah 50:4-9a**

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** *Read responsively by half verse*

Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; \*

**my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.**

For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; \*

**my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.**

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.**

I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; \*

**I am as useless as a broken pot.**

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.**

But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. \*

**I have said, "You are my God.**

My times are in your hand; \*

**rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

Make your face to shine upon your servant, \*

**and in your loving-kindness save me.**

**The Second Lesson**

**Philippians 2:5-11**

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 Sequence Hymn: 480 When Jesus Left His Father's Throne**

KINGSFOLD

*The Children's Choir will sing the stanzas of Hymn 104 between the stanzas of Hymn 480.*

*Following the Sequence Hymn, all children are invited to the narthex for Children's Chapel. They will return at the Passing of the Peace.*

## **The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ**

**Matthew 27:11-54**

*The congregation may be seated for the first part of the Passion. At the verse which mentions the arrival at Golgotha (the Skull), all stand as able. The congregation is asked to read the parts of the crowd.*

*Narrator:* Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him,

*Reader:* “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,

*Reader:* “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,

*Reader:* “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,

*Reader:* “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,

*Reader:* “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?”

*Narrator:* And they said,

*Crowd:* **“Barabbas.”**

*Narrator:* Pilate said to them,

*Reader:* “Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?”

*Narrator:* All of them said,

*Crowd:* **“Let him be crucified!”**

*Narrator:* Then he asked,

*Reader:* “Why, what evil has he done?”

*Narrator:* But they shouted all the more,

*Crowd:* **“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,

*Reader:* “I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.”

*Narrator:* Then the people as a whole answered,

*Crowd:* **“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,

*Reader:* “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. 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,

*Reader:* “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,

*Reader:* “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,

*Reader:* “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,

*Reader:* “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.”

*Narrator:* Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. 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,

*Reader:* “Truly this man was God’s Son!”

**\*The Prayers of the People**

*The congregation is invited to stand or kneel as able. Please read together the names on our prayer list when prompted.*

*Deacon*

As sinners created from dust and destined for dust, but also as disciples created from love and destined for love, we lift our prayers to God, saying: "O Savior, hear us, help us, send us."

*Intervenor*

Holy God, as we enter Holy Week and prepare our hearts for Easter, draw your Church more deeply into the words and ways of Jesus. Teach us to live like him and love like him. Grant to your people devotion as strong as that of the woman who anointed him, and the courage of all the disciples who followed him to Golgotha. O Savior, **hear us, help us, send us.**

Give wisdom and compassion to the leaders of our nation and of all nations, that they might join you in the work of creating the world you intend for all your people. O Savior, **hear us, help us, send us.**

Show your mercy to those who are fearful, grieving, or suffering. May your healing presence abide with those who are in need. Together, we pray for... Are there others? O Savior, **hear us, help us, send us.**

We pray also for all those who have died. O Savior, **hear us, help us, send us.**

*Celebrant*

As your imperfect yet beloved disciples, O God, lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust, from falsehood to truth, from war to peace, from hatred to love, from death to resurrection. Send us forth to proclaim with boldness the truth of your mercy and the depths of your Son's love. **Amen.**

**\*The Exchange of the Peace**

*BCP p. 360*

*The people greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

**The Holy Communion**

**The Offertory Anthem: Ave Verum Corpus**

W. A. Mozart

*Children's Choir and Parish Choir*

*Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord. To utilize our text-to-give option, simply text "ALBANS" to 73256.*

**\*The Presentation of Gifts**

**\*The Doxology: 143, O Father, Son, and Spirit Blest**

ERHALT UNS, HERR

**O Father, Son, and Spirit Blest,  
to Thee be every prayer addressed,  
who art in three-fold name adored,  
from age to age, the only Lord.**

**\*The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer A**

**\*The Sursum Corda**

*Celebrant* *People*  
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*Celebrant* *People*  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

*The Celebrant continues.*

**\*The Sanctus: S 129**

**Holy, Holy, Holy**

Robert Powell

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_

*The Celebrant continues. The congregation is invited to stand or kneel as able.*

**Celebrant:** Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**People:** **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues.*

*Celebrant* *People*  
A-men.

## \*The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 364

*Celebrant and People*

**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 Fraction Anthem: S 161

## Lamb of God

David Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## The Ministration of Communion

BCP p. 365

*All are welcome to gather at the Lord's table. At the appropriate time, you may come forward to the altar rail, filling in from right to left. Kneeling is optional. Gluten-free wafers are available; please make your need known to the clergy. Wine is available either by sipping from the common cup (silver chalice) or by intinction (dipping the wafer into the pottery chalice). If you are choosing the common cup, it will be stationed in front of the altar rail in the center— please make your way there after consuming your wafer at the rail. If you choose to intinct, please remain where you are and hold your wafer visibly to indicate that is your preference. Please take utmost care to keep your fingers from touching the wine as you dip. You may choose to receive only the bread or the wine, as either one alone is a full Communion. Please tell an usher if you need Communion brought to you. In the Episcopal Church, it is customary that those receiving Communion have been baptized in any Christian tradition, and no one who comes to the altar in faith is turned away. If you would like to learn more about Baptism at St. Alban's, please be in touch with the clergy. If you are not receiving Communion, we hope you will come forward and cross your arms over your chest, so that we might share a blessing with you.*

## The Communion Anthem: The Crucifixion

Samual Barber

*Barbara Brehm, soloist*

## The Communion Hymn: 458, My song is love unknown

LOVE UNKNOWN

## The Post Communion Prayer

BCP p. 366

*The congregation is invited to kneel as able.*

**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 for ever. Amen.**

## **\*The Solemn Prayer over the People**

*Please stand or kneel as you are able.*

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 Recessional Hymn: 158 Ah Holy Jesus**

HERZLIEBSTER JESU

## **\*The Dismissal**

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**The Postlude:** Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Don Hustad

## **Holy Week & Easter Schedule**

### **Monday, March 30 | Monday in Holy Week**

12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II in the chapel

### **Tuesday, March 31 | Tuesday in Holy Week**

12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II in the chapel

### **Wednesday, April 1 | Wednesday in Holy Week**

12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II in the chapel

### **Thursday, April 2 | Maundy Thursday**

7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

### **Friday, April 3 | Good Friday**

11:00 a.m. Stations of the Cross

12:00 p.m. Good Friday Service

7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service

### **Saturday, April 4 | Holy Saturday**

8:00 p.m. Easter Vigil, Holy Eucharist Rite II

### **Sunday, April 5 | Easter Sunday**

7:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II with Children's Choir and Parish Choir

10:15 a.m. Children's Easter Egg Hunt, outside if weather permits (*no Sunday School*)

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II with Parish Choir

## Altar Arrangement

The altar arrangement this morning is given to the glory of God and in memory of Mark Scott Harrison, March 27, 1945 - January 20, 2026. “Joy and grief in equal measures, brought out into the light...” Mark, your memoir is even now being written on all that you have touched though your humor, kindness, service and love.

**Copyright Notices:** Hymns are from *The Hymnal 1982*, © 1985 The Church Pension Fund: 154 *All glory, laud, and honor*; 89 *Hosanna, loud hosanna*; 480 *When Jesus left his Father's throne*; 143 *O Father, Son, and Spirit Blest*; 458 *My song is love unknown*; 158 *Ab, holy Jesus*. Service Music: S 129 *Holy, holy, holy*, Robert Powell; S 161 *Lamb of God*, David Hurd. Anthem: *Ave Verum Corpus*, W. A. Mozart/Oxford Publishing; *The Crucifixion*, Samuel Barber; *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*, Don Hustad/Hope Publishing. All rights reserved. Reprinted and streamed under OneLicense.net #A-735692.

# Welcome to St. Alban's!

Together We...*Gather to Worship, Scatter to Serve, Love Like Jesus*



We pray that your worship with us will bring you the grace, peace, and joy of Christ. If you are new to our faith community, we would love to connect with you. Please fill out a purple sheet located on the Welcome Center table in the narthex or scan the QR code to the left with the camera on your smart phone which will direct you to an online newcomer form.

## St. Alban's is a Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina

**The Right Reverend Samuel Sewall Rodman, III**, Bishop of North Carolina

**The Right Reverend Jennifer Brooke-Davidson**, Assistant Bishop

### The Clergy and Staff

**The Reverend Carmen Germino**, Rector

**The Reverend Kevin Lloyd**, Associate Rector

Davidson College Campus Minister

**The Reverend Leslie Nuñez Steffensen**, Priest Associate

**Bob Beckham**, Facility Manager

**Jessica Ewell**, Parish Administrator and Communications Director

**Courtney Fossett**, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

**Erin Garrett**, Director of Finance

**Matt Presson**, Director of Children's Choir and Stream Team

**Nadia Rahaim**, Preschool Director

### The Vestry of St. Alban's

Denise Badgett, Sandy Beetner, Zee Berl, Elaine Carmann, Gordon Garrett, Sarah Hicks, Mike Kingsley, Mike McDonnell, Kaitlin Mollenkopf, Dave Pylipow, Michael Spivey, Jim Turner



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