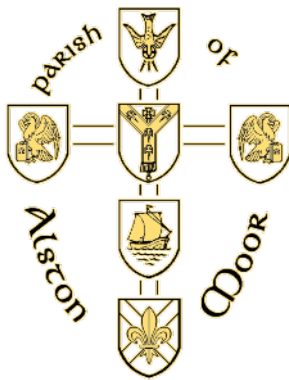


# Sung Eucharist

on



## Welcome

If you have a query,  
please speak to the welcomer,  
who will be glad to help you.

### Prayer Requests

If you would like us to pray for someone or  
something specific during the service,  
please speak to the welcomer.

### A Word to Children

You are very welcome at all our services.  
We want you to feel comfortable  
and able to join in,  
and we don't mind a bit of noise!

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#### Acknowledgements

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The Passion readings are slightly adapted from, the *New Revised Standard Version Bible: Anglicized Edition*, copyright © 1989, 1995 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

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## **If you are onsite**

### **Standing, sitting, kneeling**

This booklet suggests where to stand (to praise God), to sit (to receive from God) and to kneel (to ask from God).

But feel free to stand, sit or kneel at any time, as you are most comfortable.

### **Gluten Free Wafers**

All our wafers are gluten free.

### **Communion Wine**

Our communion is organically and ethically produced and fairly traded.

### **Loop System**

This church is equipped with a loop system: please set hearing aids to the "T" position.

### **Receiving Communion**

You are welcome to share bread and wine with us if you do so in any Christian church – or to receive a blessing if you prefer.

If you need assistance to get to the altar, or need to receive communion in your pew, please speak to the welcomer.

### **Livestreaming**

This service will be livestreamed on Zoom and YouTube. If you prefer not to be filmed, please ask the welcomer where to sit.



## **If you are joining in online**

### **Where to find us**

Find us on Zoom (Meeting 357 123 751) or at [www.alstonmoor.tiny.us/youtube](http://www.alstonmoor.tiny.us/youtube)

### **You may like to prepare ...**

- the Easter candle, or another candle, and something to light it with
- a Palm Cross or a branch
- today's readings and hymns from our website
- a little bread and wine

### **Microphones**

Please keep your microphone muted, except when joining in the responses or prayers

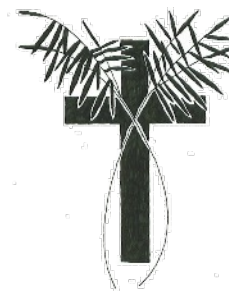
### **Livestreaming**

The service will be livestreamed on Zoom and YouTube. If you are uncomfortable with being seen online, or on a screen in church, please turn off your camera.

## **To our VISITORS**

Thank you  
for worshipping with us today.

We thank God  
for your presence in worship,  
and we invite you to return soon.  
Until then, we wish you God speed  
and a safe journey.



## ⊕ Leaving in God's Strength

**Notices** may be given out and **Banns of Marriage** may be published

*We stand*

*A hymn may be sung*

### CLOSING RESPONSES

The Lord be with you

**All And also with you.**

◆ We tell your story,  
we follow in your footsteps

**All Lead us into Holy Week.**

◆ We walk towards the city,  
we wait in the garden

**All Lead us into Holy Week.**

◆ We journey towards death,  
we hope for resurrection

**All Lead us into Holy Week.**

### THE BLESSING

Christ crucified draw you to himself,  
to find in him a sure ground for faith,  
a firm support for hope,  
and the assurance of sins forgiven;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you,  
and remain with you always.

**All Amen.**

◆ Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.



**All In the name of Christ. A - men.**



## ⊕ Jesus enters Jerusalem

*We stand as the ministers enter*

Hosanna to the Son of David, the King of Israel.  
Blessed is he  
who comes in the name of the Lord.

**All Hosanna in the highest.**

### THE WELCOME

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you

**All and also with you.**

*Words of welcome or introduction may be said*

◆ We come from diverse lives to meet with God.  
Let us recognize God's presence among us.

*Silence is kept.*

◆ Whether present in this building,  
or joining in online

**All We are united in the love of Christ.**

***We light the Paschal Candle in church,  
and our candles at home, as a sign of Christ's  
presence among us***

### INTRODUCTION

◆ Dear friends in Christ, during Lent we have  
been preparing by works of love and self-  
sacrifice for the celebration of our Lord's  
death and resurrection.

Today we come together to begin this  
solemn celebration in union with the  
Church throughout the world. Christ enters  
his own city to complete his work as our  
Saviour, to suffer, to die, and to rise again.

Let us go with him in faith and love, so that,  
united with him in his sufferings, we may  
share his risen life.



## THE PALM GOSPEL

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

*Yr A* Your King comes to you riding on a donkey.

*Yr B* Blessed is the one who comes  
in the name of our God.

*Yr C* If you are silent even the stones will cry out.

*All* **Praise to you, O Christ,  
King of eternal glory.**

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to *Name*.

*All* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*

This is the gospel of the Lord.

*All* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## RESPONSES

◆ Jesus is coming

*All* **Shout Hosanna!**

◆ He's riding on a donkey

*All* **Shout Hosanna!**

◆ Fling wide the gates

*All* **Shout Hosanna!**

◆ Wave the branches

*All* **Shout Hosanna!**

◆ Spread out your coats

*All* **Shout Hosanna!**

◆ Glory in highest heaven

*All* **Shout Hosanna!**



*If there is a Procession, a minister says*

Let us go forth, praising Jesus our Messiah.

*We sing a hymn or hymns holding our palms*

## THE BLESSING OF THE PALMS

*We hold up branches or palm crosses to be blessed*

The Lord be with you  
*All* **and also with you.**

God our Saviour,  
whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem  
as Messiah to suffer and to die;  
bless these palms,  
that they may 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 is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

*All* **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word,  
and I shall be healed.**

## SHARING COMMUNION

*If you are onsite*

*You are invited to come forward to the altar to  
receive the bread and wine (if you would do so in any  
Christian church), or else to receive a blessing*

*If you wish to receive a blessing, please keep your  
hands lowered*

*If you are joining in online*

*You may wish to pray this Act of Spiritual Reception*

**Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ,  
for all the benefits you have given me,  
for all the pains and insults  
you have borne for me.  
Since I cannot now receive you  
sacramentally,  
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.  
O most merciful redeemer,  
friend and brother,  
may I know you more clearly,  
love you more dearly,  
and follow you more nearly, day by day.  
Amen.**

*after the Prayer of St Richard of Chichester*

*A hymn may be sung*

## PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

*Please kneel*

*Silence is kept*

May I never boast of anything  
except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
by which the world has been crucified to me,  
and I to the world.

*Galatians 6.14*

*All* **Faithful God,  
may we who share this banquet  
glory in the cross  
of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
our salvation, life and hope,  
who reigns as Lord now and for ever.  
Amen.**



## AGNUS DEI

*Either we sing*

*All* *mp* Lamb of  
God, you take a-way the sin, the  
sin of the world; *mf* have  
mer-cy u-pon us, have mer-cy u-  
-pon us, have mer-cy u - pon  
*mp* us. Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sin, the  
sin of the world; *mf*  
grant us your peace; grant us your  
peace; *dim.* grant us your  
*rall.*  
*mp* peace. *p*

*Or we say*

*All* Jesus, Lamb of God,  
have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins,  
have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
grant us your peace.

## THE COLLECT (PRAYER FOR THE DAY)

Let us pray for a closer union with Christ  
in his suffering and in his glory.

*Silence is kept*

True and humble king,  
hailed by the crowd as Messiah:  
grant us the faith to know you and love you,  
that we may be found beside you  
on the way of the cross,  
which is the path of glory.

*All* Amen.

*A Sermon may be preached now or later in the service*



## ☉ Listening & Responding to God

### READING

*We sit for a reading from the Old or New Testament  
At the end, the reader may say*

Your word is a lamp to our feet  
*All* and a light to our path.

*A hymn, psalm or canticle may follow*

### THE PASSION READING

*We remain standing, and join in the parts of the  
Chief Priests, the Scribes, the Crowd and the Soldiers  
as appropriate*

*In Year A (2023, 2026, 2029),  
the Passion Reading is from St Matthew's Gospel,  
starting on page 4.*

*In Year B (2024, 2027, 2030),  
the Passion Reading is from St Mark's Gospel,  
starting on page 7.*

*In Year C (2022, 2025, 2028),  
the Passion Reading is from St Luke's Gospel,  
starting on page 10.*

## THE PASSION READING (MATTHEW 27.11-56)



**Matt** Praise to you, O Christ,  
King of eternal glory.  
Truly this man was a son of God.

**All** **Praise to you, O Christ,  
King of eternal glory.**

**Matt** Hear the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Matthew.

Now Jesus stood before the governor;  
and the governor asked him,

**Pilate** Are you the King of the Jews?

✠ You say so.

**Matt** 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?

**Matt** 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?

**Matt** For he realized that it was out of jealousy  
that they had handed him over.

Besides, while he was sitting on the  
judgement seat, his wife sent word to him,

**Wife** Have nothing to do with that innocent man,  
for today I have suffered a great deal  
because of a dream about him.

**Matt** 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?

**All** **Barabbas.**

**Pilate** Then what should I do with Jesus  
who is called the Messiah?

**All** **Let him be crucified!**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*We kneel*

- ◆ Kneeling at the foot of the cross,  
let us pray with confidence  
as our Saviour has taught us:

*We pray the Lord's Prayer, in whichever version or  
language we wish*

**Either**

**All** **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,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

**Or**

**All** **Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**



## BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The priest breaks the consecrated bread.*

Every time we eat this bread  
and drink this cup,

**All** **we proclaim the Lord's death  
until he comes.**

When supper was ended  
he took the cup of wine.

Again he praised you,  
gave it to them and said:  
'Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.'

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence  
his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you  
the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection  
until he comes in glory.

◆ Praise to you, Lord Jesus:



*All* *f* Dy - ing you des - troyed our  
death, ri - sing you res - tored our  
life: Lord Je - sus, come in glo - ry.

Lord of all life, help us to work together  
for that day when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen  
in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with [N. and] all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours,  
O loving Father, for ever and ever.



*All* *f* A - men, A - men.



*Pilate* Why, what evil has he done?

*All (louder)* **Let him be crucified!**

*Matt* 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.

*Pilate* I am innocent of this man's blood;  
see to it yourselves.

*All* **His blood be on us and on our children!**

*Matt* So Pilate 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,

*All* **Hail, King of the Jews!**

*Matt* 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:

*All* **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.**



*Matt* In the same way the chief priests also,  
along with the scribes and elders,  
were mocking him:

**All** 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."

**Matt** 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,

✕ Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?

**Matt** that is,  
 'My God, my God,  
 why have you forsaken me?'  
 When some of the bystanders  
 heard it, they said,



**All** This man is calling for Elijah.

**Matt** 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,

**All** Wait, let us see whether  
 Elijah will come to save him.

**Matt** 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,

**Cent.** Truly this man was God's Son!

**Matt** 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.

This is the Passion of the Lord.

*No response is made*

**The service continues on page 13**

**All** *f* Ho - ly, ho - ly,  
 ho-ly Lord, God of power and might,  
 Heav'n and earth are  
 full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na, Ho-  
 - san-na, *ff* Ho-san-na in the high-est.  
*A tempo* *mf* Bles - sèd is he who  
 comes in the name of the  
 Lord, the name of the Lord. *f* Ho-  
 - san - na, Ho - san - na, *ff* Ho-  
 - san - na in the high - est.

We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
 through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
 and as we obey his command,  
 send your Holy Spirit,  
 that broken bread and wine outpoured  
 may be for us  
 the body and blood of your dear Son.  
 On the night before he died  
 he had supper with his friends  
 and, taking bread, he praised you.  
 He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
 'Take, eat;  
 this is my body which is given for you;  
 do this in remembrance of me.'



## PREPARATION OF THE TABLE TAKING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

A *hymn* is sung. The gifts of the people may be presented

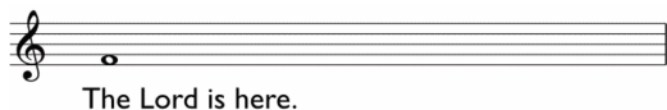
The priest takes the bread and wine

Jesus, true vine and bread of life,  
ever giving yourself that the world might live,  
let us share your death and passion:  
make us perfect in your love.

All **Amen.**

## GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

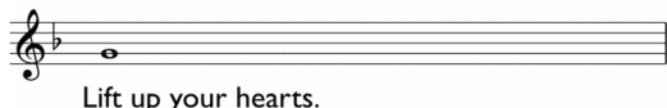
We remain standing



The Lord is here.



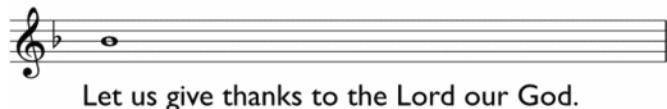
All **His Spi - rit is with us.**



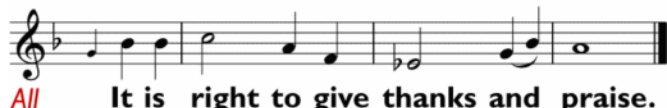
Lift up your hearts.



All **We lift them to the Lord.**



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and just,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For as the time of his passion  
and resurrection draws near  
the whole world is called  
to acknowledge his hidden majesty.  
The power of the life-giving cross  
reveals the judgement  
that has come upon the world  
and the triumph of Christ crucified.

He is the victim who dies no more,  
the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever,  
our advocate in heaven to plead our cause,  
exalting us there to join  
with angels and archangels,  
for ever praising you and singing:

## THE PASSION READING (MARK 15.1-39)



**Mark** Praise to you, O Christ,  
King of eternal glory.  
Jesus made no further response,  
so that Pilate was amazed.

All **Praise to you, O Christ,  
King of eternal glory.**

**Mark** Hear the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Mark.

As soon as it was morning,  
the chief priests held a consultation with the  
elders and scribes and the whole council.  
They bound Jesus, led him away,  
and handed him over to Pilate.

Pilate asked him,

**Pilate** Are you the King of the Jews?

**Mark** Jesus answered him,

✠ You say so.

**Mark** Then the chief priests  
accused him of many things.

Pilate asked him again,

**Pilate** Have you no answer?

See how many charges they bring against you.

**Mark** But Jesus made no further reply,  
so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the festival  
he used to release a prisoner for them,  
anyone for whom they asked.

Now a man called Barabbas was in prison  
with the rebels who had committed murder  
during the insurrection.

So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate  
to do for them according to his custom.

Then he answered them,

**Pilate** Do you want me to release for you  
the King of the Jews?

**Mark** For he realized that it was out of jealousy  
that the chief priests had handed him over.  
But the chief priests stirred up the crowd  
to have him release Barabbas for them  
instead.

Pilate spoke to them again,

**Pilate** Then what do you wish me to do  
with the man you call the King of the Jews?

**Mark** They shouted back,

All **Crucify him!**

*Mark* Pilate asked them,

*Pilate* Why, what evil has he done?

*Mark* But they shouted all the more,

*All* **Crucify him!**

*Mark* So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him.

And they began saluting him,

*All* **Hail, King of the Jews!**

*Mark* They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him.



After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him.

Then they led him out to crucify him.

They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus.

Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it.

And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him.

The inscription of the charge against him read, 'The King of the Jews.'

And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying,

*All* **Aha!**  
**You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!**



*Silence is kept*

*A hymn may be sung*

## **SERMON**

*A sermon may be preached*

## **PRAYING FOR THE WORLD**

*We kneel or sit*

Let us bring to the Father our prayers of intercession through Christ who gave himself for the life of the world.

*One of these, or another response may be used*

Let us pray to the Lord,

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Or*

By the Saviour's cross and passion,

*All* **Lord, save us and help us.**

*At the end, this prayer may be used:*

Holy God,

*All* **holy and strong,  
holy and immortal,  
have mercy upon us.**



## **☩ God Present in Bread & Wine**

### **THE PEACE**

*We stand*

Once we were far off, but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near through the shedding of Christ's blood, for he is our peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you **and also with you.**

*All*

◆ Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace with immediate neighbours, for example in sign language, or with a handshake and greeting such as "Peace be with you"*

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said,

✘ Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.

*Luke* And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying,

*All* **He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!**

*Luke* The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying,

*All* **If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!**

*Luke* There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.' One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying,

*Crim.1* Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!

*Luke* But the other rebuked him, saying,

*Crim.2* Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.

*Luke* Then he said,

*Crim.2* Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.



*Luke* Jesus replied,

✘ Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.

*Luke* It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said,

✘ Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.

*Luke* Having said this, he breathed his last.

When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said,

*Cent.* Certainly this man was innocent.

*Luke* And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

This is the Passion of the Lord.

*No response is made*

*Mark* In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying,

*All* **He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.**

*Mark* Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice,

✘ Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?

*Mark* which means,

✘ My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

*Mark* When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

*All* **Listen, he is calling for Elijah.**

*Mark* And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying,

*Person* Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.

*Mark* Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said,

*Cent.* Truly this man was God's Son!

*Mark* This is the Passion of the Lord.

*No response is made*

*The service continues on page 13*



## THE PASSION READING (LUKE 23.1-49)

*Luke* Praise to you, O Christ,  
King of eternal glory.  
Truly I tell you, today you  
will be with me in paradise.



*All* **Praise to you, O Christ,  
King of eternal glory.**

*Luke* Hear the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Luke.

The assembly of the elders of the people  
rose as a body and brought Jesus before  
Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying,

*All* **We found this man  
perverting our nation, forbidding us  
to pay taxes to the emperor,  
and saying that he himself  
is the Messiah, a king.**

*Luke* Then Pilate asked him,

*Pilate* Are you the king of the Jews?

*Luke* He answered,

✠ You say so.

*Luke* Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the  
crowds,

*Pilate* I find no basis for an accusation against  
this man.

*Luke* But they were insistent and said,

*All* **He stirs up the people by teaching  
throughout all Judea, from Galilee  
where he began even to this place.**

*Luke* When Pilate heard this, he asked whether  
the man was a Galilean. And when he  
learned that he was under Herod's  
jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who  
was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When  
Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he  
had been wanting to see him for a long time,  
because he had heard about him and was  
hoping to see him perform some sign. He  
questioned him at some length, but Jesus  
gave him no answer.

The chief priests and scribes stood by,  
vehemently accusing him. Even Herod with  
his soldiers treated him with contempt and  
mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on  
him, and sent him back to Pilate. That same  
day Herod and Pilate became friends with each  
other; before this they had been enemies.

Pilate then called together the chief priests,  
the leaders, and the people, and said to them,

*Pilate* You brought me this man as one who was  
perverting the people; and here I have  
examined him in your presence and have  
not found this man guilty of any of your  
charges against him. Neither has Herod, for  
he sent him back to us.

Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve  
death. I will therefore have him flogged and  
release him.

*Luke* Then they all shouted out together,

*All* **Away with this fellow!  
Release Barabbas for us!**



*Luke* (This was a man who had been put in prison  
for an insurrection that had taken place in  
the city, and for murder.)

Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed  
them again; but they kept shouting,

*All* **Crucify, crucify him!**

*Luke* A third time he said to them,

*Pilate* Why, what evil has he done? I have found in  
him no ground for the sentence of death;  
I will therefore have him flogged and then  
release him.

*Luke* But they kept urgently demanding with loud  
shouts that he should be crucified; and their  
voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict  
that their demand should be granted.

He released the man they asked for, the one  
who had been put in prison for insurrection  
and murder, and he handed Jesus over as  
they wished.

As they led him away, they seized a man,  
Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the  
country, and they laid the cross on him, and  
made him carry it behind Jesus.

A great number of the people followed him,  
and among them were women who were  
beating their breasts and wailing for him.  
But Jesus turned to them and said,

✠ Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for  
me, but weep for yourselves and for your  
children. For the days are surely coming  
when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren,  
and the wombs that never bore, and the  
breasts that never nursed.' Then they will  
begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us';  
and to the hills, 'Cover us.'

For if they do this when the wood is green,  
what will happen when it is dry?

*Luke* Two others also, who were criminals, were  
led away to be put to death with him.