

WELCOME

We're blessed by your presence.

Holy Week—The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

Today's liturgy marks the beginning of Holy Week. In today's liturgy, we journey with Jesus as he is welcomed in triumph upon entering Jerusalem, and then betrayed, utterly rejected, and crucified at Golgotha outside the gates of the city. Today's reading of Christ's passion sets forth the central act of God's love for humankind. We are not just observers but are part of the Passion of Christ and through it we come to know the reality of God's saving action in our lives. Holy Week will culminate in the celebration of the Triduum—the Sacred Three Days of Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection—a single drama in three acts.

After worship we meet downstairs for fellowship and snacks. Come and greet our Bishop.

**The People's responses
are printed in boldface.**

Please silence electronic devices.

**AND please remember: beginning next
Sunday, Easter Day, our worship time
through May 31, will be 10:00 a.m.**

**St. Peter's Cathedral
Helena, Montana**

**The Rt. Rev. Marty Stebbins, Bishop
The Very Rev. Kendra Wilde, Dean**



SUNDAY OF THE PASSION: PALM SUNDAY

March 29, 2026

9:00 a.m. and Live-streamed



**The Ministers of the Liturgy
are the people assembled, including:**

Presider / Preacher

The Right Reverend Marty Stebbins

Deacon

The Reverend Deacon Roger Reynolds

Acolyte and Oblation Bearer

Duke Demmons

Lectors

Scott Hibbard and Ruth Ann Shuler

Eucharistic Minister

Larry Nielsen

Ushers

Marsha Baumeister and Cathy Morris

Organ

John Goodwin

St. Peter's Choir

Patty Dean, Interim Music Director

Please join us, as able, in the Memorial Garden outside where the service begins

Proper Liturgy for The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

The Liturgy of the Palms

Presider Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.

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

Presider Let us pray.

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

The Deacon reads the Gospel

Matthew 21:1-11

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

✠ The Blessing of the Palms

The Presider

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

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.**

Cantor

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

People

Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Procession

Cantor

People

Let us go forth in peace. In the name of Christ. A - men.

Led by the children, the procession begins as directed by the Presider

✚ Song at the procession *(Led by the children)*

Sing Hosanna! Sing Hosanna! Sing Hosanna! to the Lord, our King!

When the ministers, choir, and people are in their places, all stand, as able, and sing

✚ The Opening Hymn

All Glory, laud, and honor

Tune: *Gloria, laus, et honor*

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 - rael, 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 Word of God

✠ The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 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 People sit

✠ The Old Testament reading

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?

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

✠ The Psalm (*Together*)

Psalms 31:9-16

- ⁹ **Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble;
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.**
- ¹⁰ **For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing;
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.**
- ¹¹ **I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors,
a dismay to those of my acquaintance;
when they see me in the street they avoid me.**
- ¹² **I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind;
I am as useless as a broken pot.**
- ¹³ **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.**
- ¹⁴ **But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord.
I have said, “You are my God.**
- ¹⁵ **My times are in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

**16 Make your face to shine upon your servant,
and in your loving-kindness save me.”**

✝ The New Testament reading

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.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

✝ The Hymn at the Gospel

The People stand, as able

What Wondrous love is this

Tune: *Wondrous Love*



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to
3 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and



Won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won - drous love is this that
God and to the Lamb, I will sing. To God and to the Lamb who
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free I'll



caused the Lord of bliss to lay a - side his crown for my
is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
sing and joy - ful be, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to lay a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme I will sing.
on, I'll sing on, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

The People sit. Some take their places as directed by the Presider.

✝ **The Passion Gospel**

Matthew 22:14-23:56

NARRATOR The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

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

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

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

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

NARRATOR Jesus said,

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

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

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

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

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

DISCIPLES Surely not I, Lord?

NARRATOR He answered,

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

NARRATOR Judas, who betrayed him, said,

JUDAS Surely not I, Rabbi?

NARRATOR He replied,

JESUS You have said so.

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

JESUS Take, eat; this is my body.

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

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

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

JESUS You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written, "I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered." But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.

NARRATOR Peter said to him,

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

NARRATOR Jesus said to him,

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

NARRATOR Peter said to him,

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

NARRATOR And so said all the disciples.

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

JESUS Sit here while I go over there and pray.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NARRATOR At once he came up to Jesus and said,

JUDAS Greetings, Rabbi!

NARRATOR and kissed him. Jesus said to him,

JESUS Friend, do what you are here to do.

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

JESUS Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?

NARRATOR: At that hour Jesus said to the crowds,

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

NARRATOR Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

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

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

NARRATOR The high priest stood up and said,

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

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

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

NARRATOR Jesus said to him,

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

NARRATOR Then the high priest tore his clothes and said,

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

NARRATOR: They answered,

***CONGREGATION** He deserves death.

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

***CONGREGATION** Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?

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

SERVANT 1 You also were with Jesus the Galilean.

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

PETER I do not know what you are talking about.

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

SERVANT 2 This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.

NARRATOR Again he denied it with an oath,

PETER I do not know the man.

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

BYSTANDER 1 Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you.

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

PETER I do not know the man!

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

JESUS “Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.”

NARRATOR And he went out and wept bitterly.

When morning came, the priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor. When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. He said,

JUDAS I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.

NARRATOR But they said,

PRIESTS What is that to us? See to it yourself.

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

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

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

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

PILATE Are you the King of the Jews?

NARRATOR Jesus said,

JESUS You say so.

NARRATOR But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him,

PILATE Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?

NARRATOR But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them,

PILATE Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?

NARRATOR For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him,

PILATE'S WIFE Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him."

NARRATOR Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them,

PILATE Which of the two do you want me to release for you?

NARRATOR And they said,

***CONGREGATION: Barabbas!**

NARRATOR Pilate said to them,

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

NARRATOR All of them said,

***CONGREGATION Crucify him!**

NARRATOR Then Pilate asked,

PILATE Why, what evil has he done?

NARRATOR But they shouted all the more,

***CONGREGATION Crucify him!**

NARRATOR So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying,

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

NARRATOR Then the people as a whole answered,

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

NARRATOR So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying,

SOLDIERS Hail, King of the Jews!

NARRATOR They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

(The congregation stands, as able, and remains standing for the remainder of the reading.)

NARRATOR As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews."

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

BYSTANDER 1 You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself!

BYSTANDER 2 If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.

NARRATOR In the same way the priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying,

PRIEST 1 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.

PRIEST 2 He trusts God; let God deliver him, if he wants to; 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,

***CONGREGATION** He's 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,

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

NARRATOR Then Jesus cried 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,

CENTURION Truly this man was God's Son!

NARRATOR Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had provided for him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; Pilate ordered it to be given to him. Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said,

PRIEST 1 Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, "After three days I will rise again."

PRIEST 2 Therefore command the tomb to be made secure until the third day or his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, “He has been raised from the dead,” and the last deception would be worse than the first.

NARRATOR Pilate said to them,

PILATE You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can.

NARRATOR So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

All sit

✝ **The Sermon**

The Right Reverend Marty Stebbins

✝ **The Prayers of the People**

The People may stand or kneel

Deacon Our Lord comes to us humbly, riding a donkey and proclaiming a message of peace. Let us pray, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.

That Christians hear and share the word of God as true disciples, we pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That all the ends of the earth receive the words of the king of peace, we pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That all leaders of church and state prefer humble service over empty power; we pray for Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury; Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Marty, our Bishop; for the Togendowagan Society, Darcy and Dan, their Elders; for this congregation and Kendra, our Dean; for our elected leaders: President, Governor, and Congress members; for our local Mayors; for the Supreme Court, judicial system, and all governmental entities, we pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That those who see the cross starkly revealed in their own lives may draw strength from the name above every other name, we pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That those who have requested our prayers for comfort, healing and hope; John Board’s family; David; Dick and Billie; Hannah and family; Hayden; Jane; Janet; Jim; Joyce; Joyce T.; Kathy J.; Kevin; Matthew; Noelle; Sarah; Scott L.; Stephanie; and Tammy. For Charles; David; Kenneth; Parker; and Shane, currently in the service of our country, we pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

That we who hope to greet Jesus when he comes again be ready and joyful, we pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

The Presider adds a concluding Collect.

The People stand, as able

✚ The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The Ministers and People may share with one another a sign of Christ's peace

The Holy Communion

✚ The Offertory

Offertory Hymn

When I survey the wondrous cross

Tune: *Rockingham*

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross where the young
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were an

Prince of Glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 cross of Christ, my God: all the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
 off - 'ring far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

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

✚ The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.
Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.
By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.
Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.
By his blood, he reconciled us.
By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:



O ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God, O God of time and space. All



earth and sea and sky a - bove bear wit - ness to your grace. Ho -



san - na in the high - est heav'n, cre - a - tion sings your praise. And



bless-ed is the one who comes, and bless God's ho - ly name.

The people stand or kneel, as able

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, 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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

✠ The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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 Breaking of the Bread

Silence

✠ The Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.

Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.

Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.

Grant us your peace.

The invitation to communion

The people may sit before and after receiving communion

Christ welcomes all to the table for Communion or a blessing. ■ If you prefer a blessing, cross your hands over your chest. ■ Tell the minister if you require gluten-free bread or alcohol-free wine. ■ Receive the bread in open and outstretched hands and sip the wine, helping the minister guide the chalice to your lips. ■ If you do not want to sip the wine, it is also perfectly appropriate to receive the bread only. ■ You may respond to communion by saying “Amen.” ■ If you prefer a blessing, cross your hands over your chest. ■ In the Episcopal Church Baptism generally precedes communion and is offered several times a year; please speak to a member of the clergy to learn more. ■

✠ Music at communion

At the name of Jesus

Tune: *King’s Weston*



1 At the Name of Je - sus ev - ery knee shall bow,
2 Hum - bled for a sea - son, to re - ceive a Name
3 bore it up tri - um - phant, with its hu - man light,
4 Name him, Chris-tians, name him, with love strong as death,
5 In your hearts en - throne him; there let him sub - due
6 Chris - tians, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain,



1 ev - ery tongue con - fess him King of glo - ry now;
2 from the lips of sin - ners, un - to whom he came,
3 through all ranks of crea - tures, to the cen - tral height,
4 name with awe and won - der and with bat - ed breath;
5 all that is not ho - ly, all that is not true;
6 with his Fa - ther’s glo - ry o’er the earth to reign;



1 'tis the Fa - ther's plea - sure we should call him Lord
 2 faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last,
 3 to the throne of God - head, to the Fa - ther's breast;
 4 he is God the Sa - vior, he is Christ the Lord,
 5 crown him as your Cap - tain in temp - ta - tion's hour;
 6 for all wreaths of em - pire meet up - on his brow,



1 who from the be - gin - ning was the might - y Word.
 2 brought it back vic - to - rious, when from death he passed;
 3 filled it with the glo - ry of that per - fect rest.
 4 ev - er to be wor - shiped, trust - ed, and a - dored.
 5 let his will en - fold you in its light and power.
 6 and our hearts con - fess him King of glo - ry now.

My song is love unknown

Tune: *Love unknown*



1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to me, love to the love - less
 2 He came from his blest throne sal - va - tion to be - stow, but men made strange, and
 3 Some - times they strew his way and his strong prais - es sing, re - sound - ing all the
 4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite? He made the lame to
 5 They rise, and needs will have my dear Lord made a - way; a mur - der - er they



1 shown that they might love - ly be. O who am I that
 2 none the longed - for Christ would know. But O my friend, my
 3 day ho - san - nas to their King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is
 4 run, he gave the blind their sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet
 5 save, the Prince of Life they slay. Yet stead - fast he to



1 for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh, and die?
 2 friend in - deed, who at my need his life did spend.
 3 all their breath, and for his death they thirst and cry.
 4 they at these them - selves dis - please, and 'gainst him rise.
 5 suf - fering goes, that he his foes from thence might free.

On behalf of those participating remotely, the Presider inserts a prayer for Spiritual Communion.

Then the Presider says

Let us pray.

✠ The Post Communion Prayer

The people may stand or kneel.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

✠ The Children's Moment

The Right Reverend Marty Stebbins

✠ The Prayer for birthdays

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

✠ The Prayer for anniversaries

We thank you, O God, for consecrating the marriage of *N.* and *N.* in Christ's Name and presence. Lead them in companionship with each other and with you. Give them grace to live together in love and fidelity. Strengthen them all their days, and bring them to that holy table where, with those we love, we will feast for ever in our heavenly home; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

✠ The Doxology

Tune: *Old 100th*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

The Announcements

✠ The Solemn Prayer over the People

Bow down before the Lord.

The people may bow or kneel.

Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people who kneel before you; and grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The People stand, as able

‡ The Final Hymn Ride on! Ride on in majesty!

Tune: Winchester New



- 1 Ride on! ride on in ma - jes - ty! Hark! all the tribes ho - san - na cry;
- 2 Ride on! ride on in ma - jes - ty! In low - ly pomp ride on to die
- 3 Ride on! ride on in ma - jes - ty! The an - gel ar - mies of the sky
- 4 Ride on! ride on in ma - jes - ty! Thy last and fierc - est strife is nigh;
- 5 Ride on! ride on in ma - jes - ty! In low - ly pomp ride on to die



- 1 thy hum - ble beast pur - sues his road with palms and scat - tered gar - ments strowed.
- 2 O Christ, thy tri - umphs now be - gin o'er cap - tive death and con - quered sin.
- 3 look down with sad and won - dering eyes to see the ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.
- 4 the Fa - ther on his sap - phire throne ex - pects his own a - noint - ed Son.
- 5 bow thy meek head to mor - tal pain, then take, O God, thy power, and reign.

‡ The Dismissal

Postlude Prelude and Fugue in F Major

Vincent Lübeck (c. 1654-1740)

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Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Resurrection!

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 2: 6 PM Holy Eucharist with optional foot-washing (and choir). Three significant events are acknowledged in this liturgy. First, we celebrate the gift of the Holy Eucharist which Jesus gives at the last supper, and his command “do this in remembrance of me.” We also acknowledge the humility represented in Jesus’ foot-washing of his disciples’ feet—the Evangelist John’s “alternative” to the elements of bread and wine as Jesus’ act of self-giving at the last supper. And, finally, we acknowledge Jesus’ betrayal and abandonment before his passion and death.

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 3: (no music)

- **7 AM** The Good Friday Liturgy and Holy Communion (from the reserved sacrament)
- **12 PM** The Good Friday Liturgy and Veneration of the Cross
- **6 PM** The Good Friday Liturgy, Veneration of the Cross, and Holy Communion (from the gifts of the pre-sanctified)

This day is marked by solemnity, devotion, and prayer, acknowledging the “wondrous Love” Jesus shares in giving his life for us. As we have this day for centuries, we hear the passion gospel and share prayers for the church and the world (“solemn collects”). We offer Veneration of the Cross (a Good Friday rite for more than a millennia) bringing our focus to the humanity of Jesus’ death, and the power of the divinity of his sacrifice for us. We don’t celebrate Eucharist on the day we observe Jesus’ crucifixion and death, but we find solace and strength in Communion from the gifts consecrated on Maundy Thursday.

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 4: NOON. The Holy Saturday Liturgy (in the Chapel) (approx. 10 min.) When Jesus’ body is at rest in the tomb, we offer short readings and prayers.

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 4: 8 PM. THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER (with choir)

The first Easter Mass begins at sundown, the liturgical beginning of Easter Day itself. In quiet, we kindle new fire (“The Light of Christ!”), and by candlelight we recount the story of salvation, proclaiming that the God revealed in Hebrew scriptures as the life-giver, ruler, and liberator of all creation is the same God disclosed to us in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus the Messiah. In the Eucharistic feast, we welcome the resurrected Jesus back into our lives—the lights are switched on, bells are rung, drums beaten, the organ trumpets, and we proclaim the good news: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

EASTER DAY, APRIL 5: 10 AM FESTAL EUCHARIST (with choir and brass)

We proclaim the triumphant song of resurrection in our Easter celebration with resounding brass and exuberant singing. We bedeck a cross in colorful flowers: a sign of our hope and faith in the gift of new life, as we celebrate Eucharist with our risen Lord! After worship, with our guests from the YWCA, the children gather in a traditional egg hunt. Easter joy lasts for 50 days—longer than Lent. The Great Fifty Days conclude with the gift of the powerful Holy Spirit on Pentecost, May 24.

Happenings for St. Peter's Cathedral

SPC: St. Peter's Cathedral Sanctuary
DH: Diocesan House
G: Guild Room
MR: Music Room
N: Nursery

UC: Undercroft
V: Virtual
WH: Wilson Hall
FCC: First Christian Church
T: Touchmark

Events in () are listed for
facility planning reference
only.

for the week of March 29

Calendar

Sunday, March 29

Palm Sunday

8:15 am - Choir Rehearsal, choir stalls
9:00 am - Holy Eucharist, SPC
9:00 am - Sunday School, begins in Cathedral
10:00 am - Fellowship, UC

Monday, March 30

8:30 am - Morning Prayer, V
10:15 am - Lectionary Study Group, WH
(6:00 pm - Gamblers Anon, WH)

Tuesday, March 31

7:00 am - Men's Fellowship, V
8:30 am - Morning Prayer, V
12:05 pm - Holy Eucharist - The Rt. Rev.
Marty Stebbins officiating, DH
(6:30 pm - Women's AA, G)

Wednesday, April 1

8:30 am - Morning Prayer, V
12:00 pm - Happenings Deadline
4:30 pm - Serve dinner at God's Love
(533 N Last Chance Gulch)
5:00 pm - Spiritual Social, Headwaters
Crafthouse, 2125 N Last Chance

Thursday, April 2 - Maundy Thursday

8:30 am - Morning Prayer, V
5:15 pm - Heart of Helena Committee, WH
6:00 pm - Maundy Thursday Worship, SPC
7:00 pm - Vigil of Repose, Chapel of St.
Michael and All Angels

Friday, April 3 - Good Friday

Office Closed

7:00 am - Good Friday liturgy with
Communion, Chapel of St. Michael and All
Angels
8:30 am - Morning Prayer, V
12:00 pm - Good Friday liturgy, SPC
2:00 pm - Art Center Board, WH
6:00 pm - Good Friday liturgy with
Communion, SPC

Saturday, April 4 - Holy Saturday

8:30 am - Morning prayer
12:00 pm - Art Center Fellowship, UC
12:00 pm - Holy Saturday Liturgy, Chapel of
St. Michael and All Angels
8:00 pm - Great Vigil of Easter

Sunday, April 5 - Easter Sunday

9:15 am - Choir Rehearsal, choir stalls
10:00 am - Holy Eucharist, SPC
11:00 am - Fellowship, UC
11:30 am - Easter Egg Hunt, Cathedral
grounds *weather permitting otherwise inside*

Birthdays

John Moran, March 31
Elena Jaynes, April 2
Ed Mangis, April 3

Maundy Thursday-Good Friday-Resurrection

Thursday, April 2 - Maundy Thursday

6:00 pm - Maundy Thursday Worship, SPC
7:00 pm - Vigil of Repose, Chapel of St.
Michael and All Angels

Friday, April 3 - Good Friday

7:00 am - Good Friday liturgy with
Communion, Chapel of St. Michael and All
Angels
12:00 pm - Good Friday liturgy, SPC
6:00 pm - Good Friday liturgy with
Communion, SPC

Saturday, April 4 - Holy Saturday

12:00 pm - Holy Saturday Liturgy, Chapel of
St. Michael and All Angels
8:00 pm - Great Vigil of Easter

Sunday, April 5 - Easter Sunday

10:00 am - Holy Eucharist, SPC

- **Good Friday and Easter Monday are both holidays** for Cathedral staff and the office will be closed on those days.
- **Our Sunday morning Worship schedule is changing! Starting on Easter Sunday, April 5, we will have worship at 10:00 am** through May. Worship for June-August will begin at 9:00 am. On the third Sunday of every month, we will have a spoken Holy Eucharist at 8:00 am.
- **Heart of Helena Art Show and Auction** tickets are on sale now! The price is \$25 each with proceeds will benefit Project Warmth, Family Promise and Habitat for Humanity, as well as St. Peter's Capital Campaign. Tickets are available on our website www.HeartofHelena.org, or in Wilson Hall Offices from our bookkeeper, Dcn. Roger, Monday - Wednesday, 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. The event is April 9, from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm, at the Helena Civic Center Ballroom.
- St. Peter's is hosting an **Easter egg hunt** on Sunday, April 5 at 11:30 on the Cathedral grounds (weather permitting). This year, in addition to having the egg hunt for St. Peter's kids, our kids have extended an invitation to the kids of the YWCA.
- Scour your toyboxes for any **noisemakers or instruments** to welcome the Alleluia back at Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday. Bells are especially welcome!
- We are being **good stewards of our building**. The recent windstorm caused our shed to lose a portion of its shingling. We have a tarp over the shed temporarily. Does the Undercroft seem brighter? Thanks to our Sexton Bill and Ron Gumbert, old and dimming fixtures were replaced in a day-long project. Our grounds are in need of a good spring cleaning and we welcome you to bring over a rake and tidy up the grounds in time for Easter Sunday. Many thanks!

*Dear St. Peter's Family, I want to offer my heartfelt thank you for your prayers, cards, and phone calls following the loss of our beloved Cortney. Also thank you for the support during my illness. My sincere thank you to all of you.
Blessings to you all, Robin & John Ericksen*

Prayer Requests

The Church: for Sarah, our Archbishop, Sean, our Presiding Bishop; for Marty, our Bishop; for Kendra, our Dean; for the Togendowagan Society, Darcy and Dan, their Elders; and for interim Richard Tardiff of St. Stephen's in Sheridan.

The Government: for Donald, our President; for Greg, our Governor; for Congress, especially Tim, Steve, Ryan and Troy. Also, for Kelly, Vickie, and Emily, our area mayors.

The Community: for the staff, volunteers, and beneficiaries of God's Love, Good Samaritan Ministries, Family Promise, Helena Food Share, Friendship Center, Head Start, and YWCA.

Comfort, Healing & Hope: for Kevin, Janet, Sarah, David, Hannah, Kathy J., Stephanie, Jim, Matthew, Jane, Dick and Billie, Joyce T., Tammy, Hayden, Noelle, Joyce (niece of Darien Scott), Scott L.

Those Serving in our Armed Forces: for David Emineth, Shane Medley, Charles Lewis, Kenneth V Liston, and Parker Jones.