

Grace Episcopal Church

Grace is a Christ-centered Community devoted to Servant Ministry and Spiritual Growth.

The Sunday of the Passion

PALM SUNDAY



March 29, 2026

9:30 AM

Holy Eucharist



GRACE

EPISCOPAL CHURCH + SHEFFIELD, ALABAMA

Holy Week

The seven days leading up to Easter Sunday are called “Holy Week.” In this period of intense worship, reflection, and prayer, we journey step-by-step with Jesus as he rides into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday), shares a final meal with his friends (Maundy Thursday), experiences rejection and death (Good Friday), and rests in the tomb (Holy Saturday).

For those who are new to or visiting Grace, we are so grateful to spend this sacred week with you. If anything about the Scripture readings or the worship services raises questions for you, please don’t hesitate to contact our Rector.

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

The service will begin outdoors at the Pavilion.

Celebrant Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord:
People *Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.*

Celebrant 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.*

Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

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

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.*

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.*

The Procession

Celebrant Let us go forth in peace;
People *In the name of Christ. Amen.*

The congregation now processes from the Pavilion to the church.

Music during the Procession

Nancy Bolte

Once all have entered their pews, the Priest and servers will pause at the church door for the Processional hymn.

Processional Hymn 154

All glory, laud, and honor

*Refrain: All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring*

Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son
who in the Lord's Name comest, the King and Blessed One
Refrain

The company of angels is praising thee on high
And we with all creation in chorus make reply
Refrain

The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went
Our praise and prayers and anthems before thee we present
Refrain

To thee before thy passion they sang their hymns of praise
To thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise
Refrain

Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring
Who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King
Refrain

THE WORD OF GOD

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People *And also with you.*
Celebrant Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

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

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.
People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 31:9-16

In te, Domine, speravi

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."

Sequence Hymn 171

Go to dark Gethsemane

Go to dark Gethsemane, ye that feel the tempter's power
Your Redeemer's conflict see, watch with him one bitter hour
Turn not from his griefs away, learn of Jesus Christ to pray

Follow to the judgement hall; view the Lord of life arraigned
O the wormwood and the gall! O the pangs his soul sustained
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss; learn of him to bear the cross

Calvary's mournful mountain climb; there, adoring at his feet
Mark the miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete
"It is finished!" hear him cry; learn of Jesus Christ to die

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

Matthew 26:14-27:66

One of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, "What will you give me if I betray him to you?" They paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" He said, "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.'" So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, "Surely not I, Lord?" He answered, "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." Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" He replied, "You have said so."

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "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."

When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, "You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written,

'I will strike the shepherd,
the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'

But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee." Peter said to him, "Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you." Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." Peter said to him, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And so said all the disciples.

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me." And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want." Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "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." Again he went away for the second time and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." 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, "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."

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, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him." At once he came up to Jesus and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him. Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you are here to do." 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, "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?" At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, "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." 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, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.'" The high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?" But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, "I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God." Jesus said to him, "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."

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?" They answered, "He deserves death." Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, saying, "Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?"

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said, “You also were with Jesus the Galilean.” But he denied it before all of them, saying, “I do not know what you are talking about.” When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, “This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.” Again he denied it with an oath, “I do not know the man.” After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, “Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you.” Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, “I do not know the man!” At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: “Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.” And he went out and wept bitterly.

When morning came, all the chief 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, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.” But they said, “What is that to us? See to it yourself.” 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, “It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money.” 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, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said, “You say so.” But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?” 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, “Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?” 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, “Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.” 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, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said,

Congregation: “Barabbas.”

Pilate said to them, “Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?” All of them said,

Congregation: “Let him be crucified!”

Then he asked, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more,

Congregation: “Let him be crucified!”

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, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." Then the people as a whole answered,

Congregation: "His blood be on us and on our children!"

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, "Hail, King of the Jews!" 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), (*The Congregation stands*) 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, "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." In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, "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.'" The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way. A period of silence follows the Passion.

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?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." 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, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." 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, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

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; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So 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, “Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, ‘After three days I will rise again.’ Therefore command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise 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.” Pilate said to them, “You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can.” So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone

A period of silence follows the Passion.

The Homily

Josh Vacik, MD

The Prayers of the People

Lord Jesus, you emptied yourself, trading the form of God for the form of a servant. We pray for the Church and all her people and ministers. May we be a congregation that empties itself for others, and for you.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, you were born in human likeness and found in human form. We pray for the whole human family; for the nations of the earth and those who lead them, especially our president, our governor, our mayors, and those who serve alongside them. We pray for all who live in situations of disaster, conflict, and want.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, you humbled yourself in your incarnation and you humbled yourself in death. We pray for those who have died, that they may rest with you in glory.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, you were given the name that is above every name. We pray in your name for those who suffer in any way and for all who have asked our prayers, especially *Charlan, Everett, David, Lily, Michael, Bennie, Robin, Sean, Tim, Carolyn, Karen, Jim, Wayne, Ron, Tommy B, LaVera, Peter, Doug, Mark, Courtney, Bruce, Frances, Etelka, Jerry, June, David, Betty, Dan, & Ro.*

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We pray for all whose work puts them in harm's way and for members of the armed forces, remembering *Taylor, Jonathan, Ben, Conner, John Gage, Nathan, Henry, Jacob, Kadin, Dustin, Rebekah, Bryan, & William.*

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We thank you for all the blessings of this life. We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries: Josh Davis, & Sybil Hudson Malone.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

Lord, hear our prayers, and graft in our minds the same mind that is in your Christ, that we may live in humility, by your grace. *Amen.*

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People *And also with you.*

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Anthem

O Love

Grace Choir

O Love, O Love, O Love that will not let me go
O Love, I rest my weary soul in Thee
I give Thee back the life I owe
That in Thy ocean depths its flow may richer fuller be

O Joy, O Joy, O Joy that seeks me through the pain
O Joy, I cannot close my heart to Thee
I trace the rainbow through the rain
And feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be

Doxology Hymn 158 vss 1, 3, & 5 Ah, holy Jesus

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended,
That man to judge thee hath in hate pretended
By foes derided, by thine own rejected, O most afflicted

Lo, the Good Shepherd for the sheep is offered
The slave hath sinned, and the Son hath suffered
For our atonement, while we nothing heeded, God interceded

Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee
I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee
Think on thy pity and thy love unswerving, not my deserving

Instructions for receiving Communion are found at the end of this prayer.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People *And also with you.*
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People *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.*

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. For our sins he was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; and, by his suffering and death, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever say this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

The Celebrant and People say together

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

The People stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he 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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

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

People and Celebrant

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

Celebrant Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
People *have mercy on us.*

Celebrant Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
People *have mercy on us.*

Celebrant Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
People *grant us peace.*

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Communion

Please come to the altar rail to receive Communion. You may kneel or stand. Receive a wafer from the Priest by holding out your hands. To receive the wine, please dip the wafer in the chalice or drink from the chalice. If you do not wish to receive Communion. Cross your arms over your chest and the Priest will offer you a Blessing.

Communion Hymn 458

My song is love unknown

My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me
Love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be
O who am I that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh, and die

He came from his blest throne salvation to bestow
But men made strange, and none the longed-for Christ would know
But O my friend, my friend indeed, who at my need his life did spend

Sometimes they strew his way, and his strong praises sing
Resounding all the day hosannas to their King
Then "Crucify!" is all their breath, and for his death they thirst and cry

Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite
He made the lame to run, he gave the blind their sight
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these themselves displease, and 'gainst him rise

They rise, and needs will have my dear Lord made away
A murderer they save, the Prince of Life they slay
Yet steadfast he to suffering goes, that he his foes from thence might free

In life no house, no home my Lord on earth might have
In death no friendly tomb but what a stranger gave
What may I say? Heaven was his home; but mine the tomb wherein he lay

Here might I stay and sing, no story so divine
Never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could gladly spend

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant and People

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.

Solemn Prayer for Holy Week

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.*

Recessional Hymn 156

Ride on! ride on in majesty! (Tune: Winchester New)

Ride on! ride on in majesty! Hark! all the tribes hosanna cry
Thy humble beast pursues his road with palms and scattered garments strowed

Ride on! ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin o'er captive death and conquered sin

Ride on! ride in majesty! The angel armies of the sky
Look down with sad and wondering eyes to see the approaching sacrifice

Ride on! ride on in majesty! Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh
The Father on his sapphire throne expects his own anointed Son

Ride on! ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die
Bow thy meek head to mortal pain, then take, O God, thy power, and reign

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us bless the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

***Our walk with Jesus through Holy Week continues
with the Maundy Thursday liturgy, April 2, at 6:00 PM.***

Servants Today - Palm Sunday - March 29

VOD: Lisa Gardner

Usher: Heidi Vacik

Reader: Troy Youngblood

Chalice: Kelley Williams & Luci Vacik

Cross: David Springer

Altar Guild: Mary Holland Black, Jan Bennett, Annie Laurie Gray,
Rita Kelly, & Jessie Wilson

Fellowship: Lisa Gardner & Team

Safety: Troy Youngblood

Greeter: Mary Ann & Bob Allan

Acolytes: Dennis Cole & Luci Vacik

Server: Dennis Cole

Gospel: Jash Vacik

Rev. Danielle would love to hear from you!

Please do not hesitate to contact her!

931-636-4898

THOMDL80@gmail.com

Grace Church Vestry 2026

Lisa Gardner

Annie Laurie Gray

Jerry Shea - Senior Warden

Dennis Cole

David McKinley - Junior Warden

Janet Port-Treasurer

Darrell Todd- Clerk

Chris Earl

Kris Walls

Troy Youngblood

Grace Episcopal Church

103 Darby Avenue, PO Box 838

Sheffield, AL 35660

Office: 256-383-2014

Text: 256-335-4546

Email: gracesheffieldoffice@gmail.com

Website: graceepiscopalsheffield.dioala.org

Rector: The Reverend Danielle Thompson

Parish Musician: Christa Belue Byrd

Organist: Nancy Hughes Bolte

Bookkeeper: Gayle Ozbirn

Parish Administrator: Lane Hardison Ennis



Announcements

TODAY: HOLY WEEK BEGINS

**THURSDAY
APRIL 2**

6:00 PM
MAUNDY THURSDAY SACRED MEAL & CONMUNION
HOLY EUCHARIST IN THE CONTEXT OF A MEAL, FOLLOWED BY THE STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

**FRIDAY
APRIL 3**

12:00 PM
GOOD FRIDAY
SCRIPTURE, SERMON & PRAYERS

6:00 PM - 6:30 PM
STATIONS OF THE CROSS
WALKING PRAYERS TO REMEMBER JESUS' PASSION & BURIAL

**SATURDAY
APRIL 4**

9:00 AM
HOLY SATURDAY MORNING PRAYER

9:00 PM
HOLY SATURDAY EVENING PRAYER
TWO 20 MIN SESSIONS OF SCRIPTURE & PRAYERS IN THE PAULION

**SUNDAY
APRIL 5**

9:30 AM
EASTER SUNDAY - HE IS RISEN

10:30 AM HOLY EUCHARIST

VOLUNTEERS OR DONATIONS NEEDED FOR FELLOWSHIP - Please consider signing up to provide something simple for fellowship. Check out the sign up sheet in the Parish Hall for available slots. OR, consider donating non-perishable, individually wrapped foods and snacks that can be used on Sundays that no one has signed up for. Just label your donation and leave it in the kitchen!

MAUNDY THURSDAY: SACRED MEAL & PRAYER VIGIL - This year, we will once again celebrate Jesus' Last Supper in the context of a sacred meal, thanks to Rami Awwad and his team of helpers! Additionally, Beth Scott is bringing back to Grace the tradition of a Maundy Thursday prayer vigil. Sign ups for the prayer vigil and an RSVP sheet for the sacred meal will be in the church narthex and the parish hall on March 29.

SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE - No, it's not Christmas! It's time for another "bed-build" for Shoals Area children in need! Sleep in Heavenly Peace will host a community build at Highland Baptist Church on Saturday, April 10, 7 AM - 1 PM, 219 Simpson St. Florence. Questions? Contact Rob Martin: (719)849-7511.

FIRST PRES SHEFFIELD & FLORENCE GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE - Our musical sister church (First Pres Sheffield) and our Soup Kitchen Community Partner (First Pres Florence) will come together this year to remember the cross with music and prayer at 6 PM on Friday, April 3.

UPCOMING:

- Sun, March 29 - Sun, April 5: Holy Week & Easter
- Mon, April 6 - Thurs, April 9: Reduced Office Hours
- Thurs, April 16: 5:30 PM, Josh Vacik's ordination to the Diaconate
- Sat, April 18: 7 AM - 1 PM, Sleep in Heavenly Peace build
- Sun, April 19: Pot-luck Fellowship Sunday! Bring a snack to share!
- Tuesday, May 7: Shoals Chamber Singers spring concert at Grace