

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS & HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday April 10, 2022: 10:00 a.m. St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Welcome! What a joy it is to be worshipping with you both in person and virtually. During this time of transition, our community is discerning "What's next? Where is the Spirit guiding us?" not only in finding a new rector but also envisioning what ministry will look like in what we pray will soon be post-COVID time. Change can make us apprehensive or impatient, but it can also be exciting! St. Andrew's has creative and dedicated leadership in your vestry and a newly formed transition team, but it doesn't stop there: if you have ideas, please share them! The good news is that we don't do it alone; we dream and listen and work together with God and with each other, remembering always that grace abounds!

Denise+

Welcome and Announcements



THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

The congregation gathers in the courtyard of St. Andrew's School.

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.**

A Reading

Luke 19:28-40

NRSV

After telling a parable to the crowd at Jericho, Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

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 God thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is right to praise you, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was proclaimed as King of kings by those who spread their garments and branches of palm along his way. Let these branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant that we who bear them in his

name may ever hail him as our King, and way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

- People Hosanna in the highest.
- *Deacon* Let us go forth in peace.

People In the Name of Christ. Amen.

While singing, the people follow in procession behind the celebrant.

Hymn



The procession halts as the Celebrant says a collect.

Celebrant Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Following the collect, the procession continues singing.

Please sit.

THE WORD OF GOD

Les Rameaux

The Collect of the Day

Please stand as you are able as the Celebrant says the collect.

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

Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Isaiah 50:4-9

The First Lesson

Please sit.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

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?

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

9.

The Response

Psalm 31:9-16

Psalter for the Christian People

Tone II.1

Sung by all. Please stand as you are able.

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 ac-/quaintance; *

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.

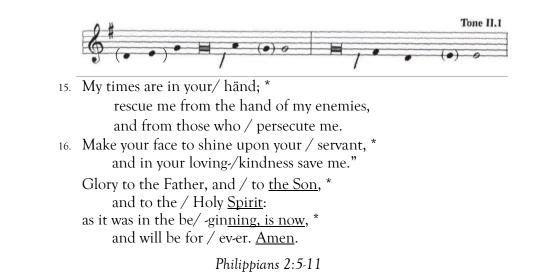
14. But as for me, I have trusted in you, O / LÖRD. *

I have said, / "You are my God.

BCP, p. 219

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NRSV



The Epistle Please sit.

A reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Reader	The Word of the Lord.
People	Thanks be to God.

The Passion Gospel

Luke 22:39–23:49

NRSV

NRSV

with verses from My Song is Love Unknown

Pleas sit. Congregational responses and hymn verses appear in bold text. The congregation remains seated until verse 5 of the hymn.

Hymn Verse 1: My song is love unknown, My Savior's love to me, Love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be. Oh, who am I that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die!

First Reader: The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Jesus came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them, "Pray that you may not come into the time of trial." Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done." Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground. When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, and he said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial." While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said to him, "Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?" When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked,

Congregation: Lord, should we strike with the sword?

First Reader: Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him, "Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!"

Hymn Verse 2: He came from his blest throne salvation to bestow; the world that was his own would not its Savior know. But, oh, my friend, my friend indeed, who at my need his life did spend!

Second Reader: Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, "This man also was with him." But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!" Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, "Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean." But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about!" At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, 'Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times.' And he went out and wept bitterly. Now the men who were holding Jesus began to mock him and beat him; they also blindfolded him and kept asking him,

Congregation: Prophesy! Who is it that struck you?

Second Reader: They kept heaping many other insults on him. When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought him to their council. They said,

Congregation: If you are the Messiah, tell us.

Second Reader: Jesus replied, "If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I question you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God." All of them asked,

Congregation: Are you, then, the Son of God?

Second Reader: He said to them, "You say that I am." Then they said,

Congregation: What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!

Hymn Verse 3: Sometimes we strew his way and his sweet praises sing, resounding all the day hosannas to our king. Then "Crucify!" is all our breath, and for his death we thirst and cry.

- *Third Reader:* Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying,
- *Congregation:* 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.
- *Third Reader:* Then Pilate asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews? He answered, "You say so." Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no basis for an accusation against this man." But they were insistent and said,

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

Third Reader: 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 the 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, "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." Then they all shouted out together,

Congregation: Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!

Third Reader: 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,

Congregation: Crucify, crucify him!

Hymn Verse 4: We cry out; we will have our dear Lord made away, a murderer to save, the Prince of Life to slay. Yet cheerful he to suff'ring goes that he his foes from thence might free.

Fourth Reader: A third time he said to them, "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." 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?" Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him.

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn Verse 5: 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? Heav'n was his home but mine the tomb wherin he lay.

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

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

Deacon: The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying,

Congregation: If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!

Deacon: 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, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "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." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise." 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." Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent." 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.

Hymn Verse 6: 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!

The Prayers of the People

Please stand or kneel as you are able. Brothers and sisters, are we not wholly reliant on God's tender love and mercy? So let us cry out to Leader our Lord, saying, Look upon us in mercy; People And with compassion remember us. Leader Have mercy on your Church, O Lord, for the times we have denied you. We have not been humble as you are humble. We are too often quick to speak and slow to love. Look upon us in mercy; People And with compassion remember us. Leader Have mercy on those who hold authority in the nations of the world, O Lord, especially those who are threatened by your message of love and mercy. Forgive us for our silence and complicity. Look upon us in mercy; People And with compassion remember us. Have mercy on those of us who are called to be stewards of your creation, O Lord. We have Leader exploited and mistreated your masterpiece. Teach us to love what you have called good. Look upon us in mercy; People And with compassion remember us. Leader Have mercy on our enemies, O Lord, and on those who persecute them. Teach us the love of Jesus, who from the cross prayed, "Father, forgive them." Look upon us in mercy; People And with compassion remember us. Leader Have mercy on all who are sick and suffering, O Lord. Strengthen the afflicted. Comfort and care for those wasted with grief. Make your face to shine upon your servants. We thank you for Kristin Vasquez, Carl Williams, Julia Finch, and all who celebrate birthdays this week. Look upon us in mercy; People And with compassion remember us. Merciful Lord, you became obedient to death, even death upon a cross. Even as you have shared Leader our mortality, mercifully grant us to share in your resurrection. Look upon us in mercy; People And with compassion remember us. The Celebrant adds a concluding collect. The Confession BCP, p. 352

Please remain kneeling as you are able.

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Celebrant and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen**.

The Peace

Please stand as you are able.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

BCP, p. 360

Sung by all. Please stand as you are able.



THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP, p. 361

Please remain standing as you are able.

Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Lift up your hearts.
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People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

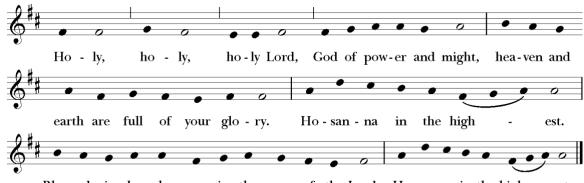
People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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: who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy Lord

Hymnal S-124



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Please remain standing or kneel as you are able.

Holy and gracious God: 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:

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

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, 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 God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

BCP, p. 364

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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

- Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
- *People* Therefore let us keep the feast.

Invitation to the Table

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Welcome to the Lord's Table. The ushers assist people in approaching the altar for Holy Communion. We will be offering communion in both kinds. Those who wish to sip from the cup will drink from the chalice Barbara carries. Those who wish to dip their communion wafer in the wine will dip it into the chalice that Dawn carries. Those who do not receive the Eucharist but would like a blessing may come forward and simply cross their hands over their chests. You may offer silent

prayers in your pew both before and after communion. Some suggestions are found in the BCP, pp. 834 and 337. In order to share the Body of Christ with those who have dietary limitations, we also consecrate rice-flour wafers. When you approach the altar to take Communion, simply tell the Presider that you are wheat- or gluten-free.

Communion Hymn	When I survey the wondrous cross	Hymn # 474
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Postcommunion Prayer

Please stand or kneel as you are able.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

All

Closing Hymn There is a gr Sung by all. Please stand as you are able.

There is a green hill far away

Hymn #167

BCP, p. 366

The Dismissal

Deacon	Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People	Thanks be to God.

Postlude

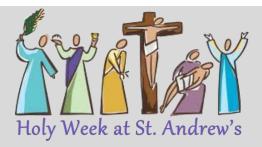
Worship Participants

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Denise Bennett Deacon: The Rev. Deacon Barbara Ambrose Organist & Choirmaster: Demas Boudreaux Crucifer: Paula Harper Lay Reader: Elaine Baur Passion Gospel Lay Readers: John Ambrose, Belinda Brugh, Tim Williams, Britton Trimble Intercessor: Paige Trivett Lead Usher: Wayne Clark

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The Prayers of the People:

- Sarah Bridgewater, Dwayne Briggs, Wayne Clark, Tom Davis, Shirley Dolan, Erik Durbas, Joe Fawley, Cyrus Field, Ellen Field, Carlton Green, Derek Hubbel, Diane Klisavage, Crystal Munnings, Ann Olliff, Jerrie Richardson, Audrey Rowe, Greg Rowe, Lizzy Schrass, Susan Sizer
- Pray for those who live and work and go to school on Oregon Hill and for the ministry of Anna Julia Cooper Middle School.
- Pray for the Spirit of the Resurrection in Metropolitan Richmond: To remove any spirit of contentiousness, prejudice, greed, jealousy, or enjoyment of others' troubles; for a spirit of humility, respecting and appreciating the gifts and contributions of all.
- Pray for those who celebrate birthdays this week: Kristin Vasquez (4/12), Carl Williams (4/15), Julia Finch (4/16).



Palm Sunday, April 10

- Christian Formation: directly following the service, chapel or back of the nave (look for Belinda)
- Coffee Hour: directly following the service, chapel
- Maundy Thursday, April 14
- Holy Eucharist Rite II with Footwashing: 7:00 p.m., church and on Facebook Live
- Good Friday, April 15
- Good Friday Liturgy: 12:00 p.m., chapel and on Facebook Live
- Good Friday Liturgy: 7:00 p.m., church and on Facebook Live

Holy Saturday, April 16

• Easter Vigil: 7:00 p.m., begins in the church parking lot, then in the church and on Facebook Live

Easter Sunday, April 17

• Easter Rejoicing Service with Pine St. Baptist: 8:30 a.m., mausoleum area overlooking the river in Hollywood Cemetery

- Easter Breakfast: 9:30 a.m., St. Andrew's House
- Easter Egg Hunt: 10:00 a.m., behind St. Andrew's House (bring a basket)
- Holy Eucharist Rite II: 11:00 a.m., church and on Facebook Live
- Godly Play: 11:00 a.m., undercroft

News and Upcoming Events:

- Mask Update: Our vestry voted to make wearing a mask optional for those who are fully vaccinated at St. Andrew's. We ask that those who are not vaccinated still wear a mask for their own protection and the protection of others.
- Easter Vigil Noisemakers: The congregation is invited to bring noisemakers, like bells and tambourines, to celebrate the Risen Lord and the first Alleluias of the season during the Easter Vigil.
- Easter Breakfast: Please join us at 9:30 a.m. in St. Andrew's House for the return of our beloved Easter breakfast!
- Easter Egg Hunt: Join us at 10:00 a.m. on Easter Sunday, April 17, behind St. Andrew's House for the return of our Easter Egg Hunt! Please bring a basket for each child who will be gathering eggs.
- Please bring fresh flowers for the flowering of the cross on Easter Sunday!
- **Easter Offering:** You are invited to make a special Easter offering for the mission and ministry of St. Andrew's, in gratitude for the gift of God's presence and this community in our lives. Gifts may be made in honor or in memory of loved ones. Envelopes for your offering are available in the narthex.

- Godly Play on Easter Sunday: Children ages 3-10 are invited to gather in the undercroft on Easter Sunday, April 17, at 11:00 a.m. for Godly Play. Drop off begins at 10:50 a.m., and children will be brought back into the church at the Peace so they can join their families for Holy Communion.
- **Christian Formation:** Our series on the Old Testament windows in the church wraps up today. John Ambrose will lead a scavenger hunt in the church. Prizes will be awarded! We will meet in-person at the back of the nave or in the chapel directly after the 10:00 a.m. worship We hope you'll join us!
- Pay Down the Mortgage Campaign: In December, St. Andrew's announced plans for a campaign to pay down our remaining mortgage balance. That seems like a long time ago now, before the announcement of Andrew's departure and the loss of our long-time sexton. Time moves on, and we're ready again to look at making a dent in the mortgage.

We are close to paying off the mortgage; with a big push, we can get it paid off this spring. It is easy to make a donation to this campaign via St. Andrew's website – just navigate to

<u>http://standrewsoregonhill.org/connect/give-now/</u> and click the link to "Give Online." Select the "Fund" for Parish House Mortgage. Checks sent to the church at 236 S. Laurel Street, Richmond VA 23220 with the word "mortgage" in the memo work just as well.

Paying off our mortgage debt sooner rather than later, and saving on interest in the process, is one of the most fiscally responsible things St. Andrew's can do. We'll provide a full status update during today's annual meeting. Thank you for being part of this effort and our resilient community.

- **Parishioner Photo Collage Update:** The photo collage in the narthex is outdated, and we need your help to fill it with recent photos of all of you! If you have a photo you can donate, please email it to Britton Trimble (office@standrewsoregonhill.org) or give it to her at church. Alternatively, just ask Britton to take a quick photo of you right after the 10:00 a.m. service.
- **Prayer List Maintenance:** We are updating our prayer list. Please reach out to Britton in the office at <u>office@standrewsoregonhill.org</u> if you need someone added or removed.
- Transition and Pastoral Care Update from the Senior Warden: The vestry is already working hard to guide us forward into the next chapter in the life of St. Andrew's. As we navigate this transition period, we are blessed and thankful that Denise Bennett is serving as our Interim Rector. If you need her support, please reach out to her at (804) 482-1225 or <u>dbennett@standrewsoregonhill.org</u>. Recognizing that communication is especially vital during the transition, we've established an email address, <u>vestry@standrewsoregonhill.org</u>, so that you can easily reach out to the vestry if needed. Senior Warden Katie Eskridge and Junior Warden Jack McHale are monitoring this email box. We encourage you to keep St. Andrew's in your prayers as we begin the process of searching for our next rector. We will keep you updated!

Katie Eskridge, senior warden