

St. John's Announcements

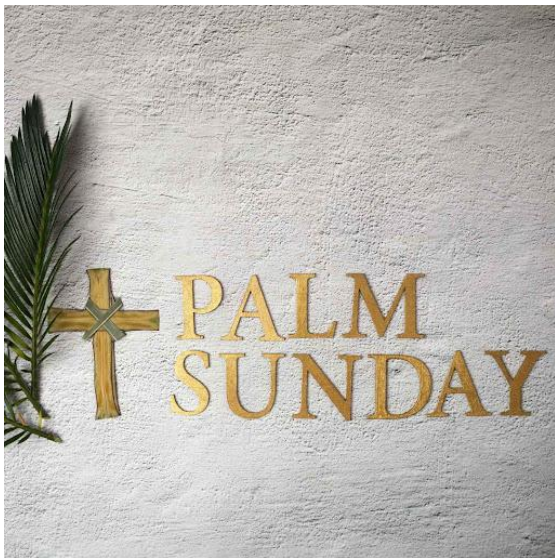
April 13, 2025

Palm Sunday



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Holy Week contains two liturgies that have stark contrasts in tone. Palm Sunday, is the most well-known. The Palm Sunday liturgy has two distinct parts. The first is the "Liturgy of the Palms". It marks the occasion of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The liturgy contains a recounting of the event from scripture, a blessing of palms, and a joyful procession. The liturgy, historically, also contained the singing of anthems and psalms. After we announce the procession in the traditional way, "Let us go forth in peace. In the name of Christ. Amen", we will sing the ninth century hymn "All Glory, Laud, and Honor". This is the only hymn that is specifically assigned by the Book of Common Prayer.

The second part of our liturgy focuses on our Lord's passion. The reading is very long and is thought to speak for itself. A sermon is not traditionally preached at this worship service. Today's gospel reading will be broken into parts. I thank everyone who has offered to read this morning. The gospel reading is typically reserved for ordained clergy, but, by long tradition, an exception is made for the passion reading. Though it is a difficult and sad reading, hearing the different voices retell this important event in our life of faith makes it my favorite church reading of the year. We conclude the reading with a lengthy period of silence.

Blessings, *Marc*

UPCOMING EVENTS:

4/14 – Online
Compline @ 7:30pm

4/15 – Holy Tuesday
Evening Prayer @ 3pm

Sun, Apr 20 Easter Holy Eucharist (Rite II) 10:30 am (Note: later time than usual)

Parish Prayer Group - Parish prayer teams are an effective way for a large group of people to pray about the concerns of the parish. Mary Wilson administered a group of people who prayed for each other and their deepest concerns. We would like to continue this effort and enlarge it to include others who are interested in prayer. This group would be invited to meet in person, on occasion, but prayer concerns would primarily be spread through email. This group is welcome to include people who are homebound and/or not connected to the internet. I am fully aware that there are prayer groups that exist at St. John's. This is **not** an effort to push them all together. There are good reasons to have different groups praying for different things, but I want to make sure that everyone feels invited to participate in the prayer life of the church that goes beyond Sunday and Wednesday morning. If you have an interest in helping administer such a group by sending emails with prayer requests, please let me know. If you have an interest in serving on a prayer team (which means no more than promising to pray for the requests as part of your personal prayer life), please contact Christina cmorin@stjohnsvernonct.org or call the church office.