



Paul Gauguin 1889

WHY?

GRACE CHURCH

29 March 2026

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I
Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

Welcome to Grace!

The Liturgy of the Palms

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.

Matthew 21:1-11

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.

The Blessing of the Palms

The Procession

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

People Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant Let us go forth in peace.

People In the name of Christ. Amen.

Processional Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29 (*read in unison*)

1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; *

his mercy endures for ever.

2 Let Israel now proclaim, *

"His mercy endures for ever."

19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; *

I will enter them;

I will offer thanks to the LORD.

20 "This is the gate of the LORD; *

he who is righteous may enter."

21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me *

and have become my salvation.

22 The same stone which the builders rejected *

has become the chief cornerstone.

23 This is the LORD's doing, *

and it is marvelous in our eyes.

24 On this day the LORD has acted; *

we will rejoice and be glad in it.

25 Hosannah, LORD, hosannah! *

LORD, send us now success.

26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; *

we bless you from the house of the LORD.

- 27 God is the LORD; he has shined upon us; *
 form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.
- 28 "You are my God, and I will thank you; *
 you are my God, and I will exalt you."
- 29 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; *
 his mercy endures for ever.

The Word of God

The Collect

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 Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Saint Matthew

(The customary responses before and after the Gospel are omitted. Remain seated for the first part of the Passion)

Mathew 26:14-27: 66

Narrator (NA): One of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests.

Judas (JD): What will you give me if I betray him to you?

NA: 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.

Disciple (DI): Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat Passover?

Jesus (JC): 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.”

NA: So the disciples did as Jesus directed them and prepared the Passover meal. -When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve, (while eating)

JC: Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.

NA: They became greatly distressed and began to ask him

DI: Surely not I, Lord?

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

JD: Surely not I, Rabbi?

JC: You have said so.

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

JC: Take, eat; this is my body.

NA: Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them.

JC: 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 the day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.

NA: When they had sung a hymn they went out to the Mount of Olives.

JC: You will all become deserters 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.

Peter (PT): Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.

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

PT: Even though I must die with you, I will never deny you.

NA: Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane.

JC: Sit here while I go over there and pray.

NA: He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated.

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

NA: Going a little further, he threw himself on the ground and prayed.

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

NA: Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping.

JC: 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 is indeed willing, but the flesh is weak.

NA: He went away for the second time.

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

NA: Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them he went and prayed for a third time. Then he came back to the disciples.

JC: 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 the sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.

NA: 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.

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

NA: At once he came up to Jesus.

JD: Greetings, Rabbi! (and kissed him)

JC: Friend, do what you are here to do.

NA: Then they 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.

JC: Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you not think I can 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 that it must happen in this way? (Turning to the crowd) 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.

NA: 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 elders had gathered. Peter followed at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards to see how this would end. 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.

Witness WI: This fellow said, "I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days."

High Priest (HP): Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?

NA: Jesus was silent.

HP: I put you under oath before the living God; tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.

JC: 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.

NA: (Tearing his clothes)

HP: He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy? What

is your verdict?

Crowd (CD): Kill him.

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

WI: Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?

NA: Meanwhile Peter was sitting in the courtyard. A Servant girl saw him.

Servant Girl (SG): You also were with Jesus the Galilean.

PT: I do not know what you are talking about.

NA: When he went out to the porch, another servant girl saw him.

SG: This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.

PT: (swearing) I do not know the man.

NA: After a little while a bystander came up.

Bystander (BY): Certainly you are one of them, for your accent betrays you.

PT: (swearing profusely) I do not know the man.

NA: At that moment the cock crowed and Peter remembered.

JC: Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.

NA: 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.

JD: I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.

HP: What is that to us? See to it yourself.

NA: Throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple he went and hanged himself.

HP: (Taking the pieces of silver) it is not lawful to put this into the treasury, since it is blood money.

NA: After conferring together, they used it 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. Thus was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah.

Jeremiah (JM): They took the thirty pieces of silver, the price set on a man's head, according to Israelite tradition, and gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me.

NA: Jesus stood before the governor, Pilate.

Pilate (PL): Are you the King of Jews?

JC: You say so.

NA: The chief priests and elders accused him, but he did not answer.

PL: Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?

NA: But he gave him no answer, 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.

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

NA: For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgement seat, his wife sent him word.

Pilate's Wife (PW): Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.

NA: Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus Killed.

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

CD: Barabbas

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

CD: Crucify him!

PL: Why, what evil has he done?

CD: Crucify him!

NA: 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.

PL: I am innocent of this man's blood, this is your doing.

HP: Let his blood be on us and our children.

NA: Pilate released Barabbas for them, and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. The soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters and gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him after twisting some thorns into a crown, put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him.

CD: Hail, King of the Jews!

NA: 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. –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.

All Stand

NA: 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. When they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots. They sat down and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him: "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." Two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads.

BY: You, who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! --If you are the Son of God, come down from that cross!

NA: The chief priests, scribes and elders also mocked him.

HP: 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! He trusts in God; let God deliver him, if he wants to; for he said, 'I am God's Son'.

NA: 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. About three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice.

JC: Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?

NA: Which means, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' Some of the bystanders heard it.

BY: This man is calling for Elijah.

NA: 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.

BY: Let us wait and see whether Elijah will come to save him.

NA: 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 rocks were split. Tombs 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. When the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified.

Centurion: Truly this man was God's Son!

NA: 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 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.

HP: Sir we remember what that imposter 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.

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

NA: They went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

Kneeling in silence for a time

The Great Litany - page 148

The Supplication - page 154

The Peace

Announcements (We will be fasting from spoken announcements during the season of Lent, unless in Haiku or similar format. We call your attention to the announcements printed in the bulletin.) 😊

The Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer II - page 340

Post Communion Prayer - page 339

The Sending Forth - page 339

Those who serve

Vestry-in-Charge: Cyndi Daughtery

Second Counter: JoCarol Titmas

Intercessor: Kathe Harris

Chalice: Kathe Harris

Chalice 2: Jackie Lenhart

Church Opener: Jim Harris

Those with birthdays Baptismal Newbirth

this week

Day

Arne Troelstra

01 February

Charles Knisley

Lang Foster Jr.

20 July

Expectant Parents

Brent and Kirri Kinley

Donovan and Erin Colman

Lent Madness is happening now! Vote for your favorite saints to see who will win the Golden Halo here: <https://www.lentmadness.org/#Bracket>

Those with Baptismal Newbirth Days this week

Masters Campbell

29 March

Bill Harris

02 April

Howard Tallent

29 March

James Clark

03 April

Nathan Cox

30 March

Suzanne Curlis

04 April

Levi Bilbrey

31 March

Baylis Maxwell

04 April

Grace Notes

- **Welcome Visitors:** Please take a moment to fill out the visitor card located in the pew and place it in the offering plate. We are glad you chose to worship with us today.
- **WWW** invites you to join us on **Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m.** in the parlor as we discuss *I Guess I Haven't Learned That Yet* by Shauna Niequist. Together, we'll explore themes of growth, faith, and learning to live differently when the old ways no longer fit. All are welcome! Come as you are and join the Conversation.
- **EYC IS CURRENTLY COLLECTING** individually wrapped candy or small toys (erasers, stickers, etc.) for the Easter Egg Hunt on **April 5th at 9:30a.m.** Please drop off any donations in the marked bin outside the parish hall.
- **WWW** is asking for YOUR help in our efforts to collect diapers, wipes, and feminine hygiene products support the Anderson County Diaper Bank. Donations may be placed in the cloister. We are grateful to **Louise Knisley** for coordinating collection and delivery on our behalf.
- **BRIDGE CARD GROUP FORMING** – If you are interested in playing (either learning or playing) please contact Debbie Hand at 316-617-2409 or via email at handrab@yahoo.com.
- **THE GRACE CODE**



- **Save The Date:** Grace will have a Whitsunday Ale on Pentecost Sunday, **May 24th**, at the home of Brett and Rebecca Dixon, 389 Graham Rd, Anderson SC 29625.
- **SAVE THE DATE:** Grace Annual BBQ is **October 10, 2026**.



- Our **Easter Breakfast** is on **April 5th from 9-10 a.m.** We need sweet and savory dishes. We also need people for set-up and clean up. There are sign up sheets in the cloister and on the bulletin board by

the office.

- **Newcomers Meet & Mingle:** **April 11th from 9 - 11 a.m.** Enjoy light refreshments, meet members of our church family, and learn more about Grace Church. We look forward to welcoming you.
- **AV System Volunteers Needed:** We are in need of someone to run the AV system and streaming on Sunday mornings. If you are interested contact the Church office or Bill Scott at scottwn2003@yahoo.com or (864) 314-9712.
- **IMPORTANT – KEY ENTRY TO THE BUILDING WILL NO LONGER BE AVAILABLE.** The Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina has mandated Safe Church training and compliance measures to enhance Safety and help prevent abuse. As a result, we will be implementing keypad access and issuing controlled access codes as part of this requirement effective **April 13, 2026**. In order to gain access to the building after April 13th, you will need to complete the required Safe Church Training modules and receive a keypad access code. Please contact the office for further information if you need regular access to the building after business hours.
- We are hosting a baby sprinkle for Parker and Caroline Bates welcoming their new baby girl, Eloise, and for Brent and Kirri Kinley, who are soon to welcome their baby girl. The sprinkle will be **Sunday, April 12th**, at the coffee hour immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service. Both families can use Pampers (sizes 1-3) and Pampers sensitive skin water wipes. Please join us in congratulating and welcoming our new church family members.



Scan or tap to visit:

- New to Grace
- Outreach giving
- Facebook page

Stewardship Report

As of 2/28/2026

YTD 2026 Revenue \$81,478

YTD 2026 Expenses \$78,214

YTD 2026 Surplus \$3,264

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday: Sunday, March 29th

Maundy Thursday Liturgy: Thursday April 2nd at 6 p.m.

Stations of the Cross: Friday, April 3rd at 11 a.m.

Good Friday Liturgy: Friday, April 3rd at Noon

Easter Moring Sunday, April 5th

Rite I Liturgy 8 a.m.

Festive Breakfast 9-10 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt 9:30 a.m.

Rite II Liturgy 10:30 a.m.