

# Episcopal Church of the Incarnation

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## The Processional Hymn

[H] 439

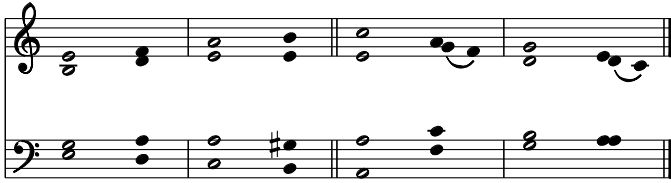
## The Collect

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## The First Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

“The days are surely coming,” says the Lord, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband,” says the Lord. “But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days,” says the Lord: “I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” says the Lord; “for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.”



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- 1 Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your loving- | kindness; \*  
in your great compassion blot out my of- | fenses.
- 2 Wash me through and through from my | wickedness \*  
and cleanse me from my | sin.
- 3 For I know my trans- | gressions, \*  
and my sin is ever be- | fore me.
- 4 Against you only have I | sinned \*  
and done what is evil in your | sight.
- 5 And so you are justified when you | speak \*  
and upright in your | judgment.
- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my | birth, \*  
a sinner from my mother's | womb.
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep with- | in me, \*  
and will make me understand wisdom | secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be | pure; \*  
wash me, and I shall be clean in- | deed.
- 9 Make me hear of joy and | gladness, \*  
that the body you have broken may re- | joice.
- 10 Hide your face from my | sins \*  
and blot out all my in- | iquities.
- 11 Create in me a clean heart, O | God, \*  
and renew a right spirit with- | in me.

- 12 Cast me not away from your | presence \*  
and take not your holy Spirit | from me.
- 13 Give me the joy of your saving help a- | gain \*  
and sustain me with your bountiful | Spirit.

### **The Second Reading**

**Hebrews 5:5-10**

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son, today I have begotten you”; as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.”

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

### **The Gradual Hymn**

**[H] 474, stanzas 1-2**

### **The Gospel Reading**

**John 12:20-33**

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever

serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

**The Sermon Hymn**

**[H] 474, stanzas 3-4**

**The Sermon**

**The Rev. Debbie Apoldo**

**The Offertory Anthem**

**“To Mock Your Reign, O Dearest Lord”**

1 To mock your reign, O dearest Lord,  
they made a crown of thorns;  
set you with taunts along that road  
from which no one returns.

They did not know, as we do now,  
that glorious is your crown;  
that thorns would flower upon your brow,  
your sorrows heal our own.

2 In mock acclaim, O gracious Lord,  
they snatched a purple cloak,  
your passion turned, for all they cared,  
into a soldier's joke.

They did not know, as we do now,  
that though we merit blame  
you will your robe of mercy throw  
around our naked shame.

3 A sceptered reed, O patient Lord,  
 they thrust into your hand,  
 and acted out their grim charade  
 to its appointed end.  
 They did not know, as we do now,  
 though empires rise and fall,  
 your Kingdom shall not cease to grow  
 till love embraces all.

Music: Thomas Tallis (1505?-1585); ed. John Wilson (1905-1992). Words: F. Pratt Green, b. 1903, alt. Copyright 1973 by Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Used by Hymnal 1982 by permission.

**Communion Hymns**

**Communion Hymn 7**

**Communion Hymn 4**

*(Printed in your service booklet beginning on page 17)*

**The Processional Hymn**

**[H] 473**

**CALENDAR**

Sunday, March 17	8:30 Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:30 Episcopalians 101 10:30 Holy Eucharist Rite I 11:45 Vestry Meeting
Monday, March 18	8:00 Livestreamed Morning Prayer
Tuesday, March 19	8:00 Livestreamed Morning Prayer 11:00 Episcopalians 201
Wednesday, March 20	8:00 Livestreamed Morning Prayer 6:00 Supper 6:30 Holy Eucharist
Thursday, March 21	8:00 Livestreamed Morning Prayer
Friday, March 22	8:00 Pre-recorded Morning Prayer

Sunday, March 24 Palm Sunday

8:30 Holy Eucharist Rite I

10:30 Holy Eucharist Rite I

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **Episcopalians 101**

This class continues today for those interested in being Confirmed as well as for those who want to learn more about the Episcopal Church. Today we'll discuss the mysteries of the Eucharist. We won't meet the next two weeks for Palm Sunday and Easter.

#### **Lent Wednesdays**

We gather Wednesday evenings for supper at 6:00pm followed by a casual worship service at 6:30. To help provide all or part of a week's meal, sign up on the bulletin board in the hallway. This week we'll discuss "Deliver us from evil" and make a sunny reminder of God's protection.

#### **Palm Sunday, March 24**

We'll begin our services this day with an outdoor Liturgy of the Palms as we remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. We'll also hear the entire passion gospel and celebrate the Eucharist. Begin Holy Week with us at 8:30 and 10:30.

#### **Maundy Thursday, March 28**

At 6:00 we'll gather in the parish hall for an Agape meal. Bring olives, bread, cheese, or fruit as well as wine or grape juice to share as we feast together. At 6:30 we'll move into the church for a Footwashing service and Eucharist. We'll end by stripping the altar for Good Friday.

#### **Good Friday, March 29**

At 6:00 we'll reflect on Jesus' death in the Good Friday Liturgy and make our own devotions at the cross.

## Easter Sunday, March 31

We'll start with a Covered-Dish Breakfast together at 9:00. Sign up on the bulletin board in the hallway to bring something sweet, something savory, breads and muffins, or fruit. After breakfast we'll worship in one big, glorious service at 10:00.

## Easter Baskets

This year we want to give filled Easter baskets to our young people rather than having an egg hunt. Want to help? Either purchase a pre-filled basket or fill one yourself and drop it in the church office any time between now and March 24. Thank you!

## Easter Flowers

This year we'll have beautiful shrubs adorning the altar for Easter. After services, they'll be planted around our grounds as living memorials. Sign up on the bulletin board in the hallway to contribute to the purchase of shrubs in memory or thanksgiving for someone special.

## Next Week's Readings:

Jeremiah 31:31-34, Psalm 51:1-13, Hebrews 5:5-10, John 12:20-33

## Donations

To make an online contribution to Incarnation, go to our web site [www.Incarnation-Gaffney.org](http://www.Incarnation-Gaffney.org) and go to "Giving" under the "About" tab. Or scan the following QR code:



You can also text "Give" to (833)537-0569 to donate by text message. To cover the fees associated with any of these ways of giving, check the "cover fees" box. And thank you!

## THOSE WHO SERVE

	March 17 5 <sup>th</sup> Lent 10:30	March 24 Palm Sunday 10:30
Altar Guild	Dawn Bridges Jennie Hamrick	Becky Vassy Cathy Roberts Nancy Fowler
Coffee Hour	Robin Childers	Joette Johnson
Greeters	Carla Winter Ellie Bird	Miles Gettys Charlie Zinko
Digital Greeter	Angharad Torres	Niccie Dearing
Camera	Angharad Torres	Angharad Torres
Nursery	Cathy Roberts	Becky Zinko
Euch. Min.	Robin Childers	David Cornmesser
Acolytes	Noah Lindemann	Angharad Torres Lainey McAllister Cora Torres
1 <sup>st</sup> Lector	Gena Poovey	Amanda McAllister
2 <sup>nd</sup> Lector	David Cornmesser	Bobbi Alberts
Intercessor	John Gelok	Cynthia Glidden
Flowers	None	None
Counters	Robin Childers Cynthia Glidden	Scott Glidden Niccie Dearing
Pews	Angharad Torres	Asher Torres