

Vespers for The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

Opening Sentence

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." *John 8:12*

The Invitatory and Psalter

V: O God, make speed to save us.

R: O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

O Gracious Light *Phos hilaron*

O gracious Light,
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
and our eyes behold the vesper light,
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of life,
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

The Psalm or Psalms Appointed

Psalm 113 *Laudate, pueri*

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, he emptied himself.

¹ Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD; *
praise the Name of the LORD.

² Let the Name of the LORD be blessed, *
from this time forth for evermore.

³ From the rising of the sun to its going down *
let the Name of the LORD be praised.

⁴ The LORD is high above all nations, *
and his glory above the heavens.

⁵ Who is like the LORD our God, who sits enthroned on high, *
but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?

⁶ He takes up the weak out of the dust *
and lifts up the poor from the ashes.
⁷ He sets them with the princes, *
with the princes of his people.
⁸ He makes the woman of a childless house *
to be a joyful mother of children.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, he emptied himself.

Psalm 114 *In exitu Israel*

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

¹ Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
² Judah became God's sanctuary *
and Israel his dominion.
³ The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back.
⁴ The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep.
⁵ What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
O Jordan, that you turned back?
⁶ You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
you little hills like young sheep?
⁷ Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob,
⁸ Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Psalm 115 *Non nobis, Domine*

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

¹ Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your Name give glory; *
because of your love and because of your faithfulness.
² Why should the heathen say, *
"Where then is their God?"
³ Our God is in heaven; *
whatever he wills to do he does.

⁴ Their idols are silver and gold, *
the work of human hands.
⁵ They have mouths, but they cannot speak; *
eyes have they, but they cannot see;
⁶ They have ears but they cannot hear; *
noses, but they cannot smell;
⁷ They have hands, but they cannot feel; feet, but they cannot walk; *
they make no sound with their throat.
⁸ Those who make them are like them, *
and so are all who put their trust in them.
⁹ O Israel, trust in the LORD; *
he is their help and their shield.
¹⁰ O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD; *
he is their help and their shield.
¹¹ You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD; *
he is their help and their shield.
¹² The LORD has been mindful of us, and he will bless us; *
he will bless the house of Israel; he will bless the house of Aaron;
¹³ He will bless those who fear the LORD, *
both small and great together.
¹⁴ May the LORD increase you more and more, *
you and your children after you.
¹⁵ May you be blessed by the LORD, *
the maker of heaven and earth.
¹⁶ The heaven of heavens is the LORD'S, *
but he entrusted the earth to its peoples.
¹⁷ The dead do not praise the LORD, *
nor all those who go down into silence;
¹⁸ But we will bless the LORD, *
from this time forth for evermore. Hallelujah!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

The Lessons

A reading from Luke 19:41-48 (NRSV)

As he came near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, "If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. Indeed, the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up ramparts around you and surround you, and hem you in on every side. They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another; because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God." Then he entered the temple and began to drive out those who were selling things there; and he said, "It is written, 'My house shall be a house of prayer'; but you have made it a den of robbers." Every day he was teaching in the temple. The chief priests, the scribes, and the leaders of the people kept looking for a way to kill him; but they did not find anything they could do, for all the people were spellbound by what they heard.

Here ends the Reading.

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.

The Song of Mary Magnificat
Luke 1:46-55

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

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.

The Prayers

V: The Lord be with you.

R: *And also with you.*

Let us pray.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time
of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Suffrages A

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. And grant us your salvation.

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. Let your people sing with joy.

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. For only in you can we live in safety.

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. Your saving health among all nations.
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

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.

A Collect for the Presence of Christ

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. *Amen.*

The General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving kindness to us and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

[\[Include authorized intercessions or thanksgivings--opens new window\]](#)

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. *Amen. Ephesians 3:20*

The Angelus

The Angel of the Lord announced to Mary
And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Behold the handmaid of the Lord
Be it unto me according to your word

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus

*Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*

And the Word was made flesh.
And dwelled among us.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

V: Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R: *That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.*

Let us pray:

Pour your grace into our hearts, O Lord, that we who have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ, announced by an angel to the Virgin Mary, may by his cross and passion be brought to the glory of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*
