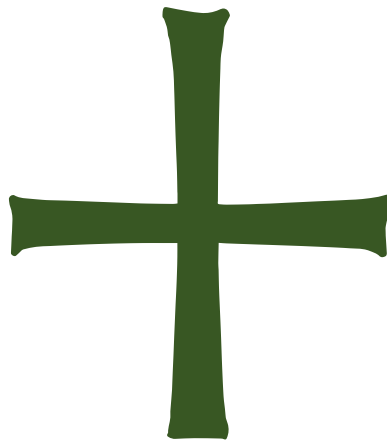


SAINT ELIZABETH ORTHODOX CHURCH



Sunday Bulletin

April 28, 2024— Palm Sunday



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Welcome to St. Elizabeth

WELCOME VISITORS! We are delighted you are here. It is our sincere desire that your participation today in the Divine Liturgy will draw you closer to Christ and His Church. Please join us after the service for coffee and refreshments in our fellowship hall. If you have questions about any facet of Orthodox worship, our priest—Father John Strickland—would be very happy to meet and assist you in any way possible.

If you are not familiar with the Orthodox Church, you may see some things that are new to you—icons and incense, the sign of the cross, veneration of the saints, and a lot of standing. These elements have been part of traditional Christian worship from ancient times. They reflect the heavenly nature of the Church.

If you would like to learn more about Orthodoxy, we have a small bookstore where Orthodox publications may be purchased and a lending library where many Orthodox books and periodicals can be borrowed. If you would like to learn more about our parish, please visit our website at <https://stelizabethorthodox.org>. There, you can find a link to our parish YouTube page where you can view Father John's Sunday homilies.

Please note that Orthodox priests may serve Communion only to baptized and chrismated members of the Orthodox Church. The Eucharist is the paramount expression of unity among Christians; but the reality today is that many Christians are not united in matters of doctrine and practice. While some Christians are content to agree to disagree, we believe true unity will occur only when modern Christians are reconciled to the ancient Church, with its faith and life delivered “once, and for all.” In light of this, we respectfully request that rather than partaking of the Eucharistic Chalice, our non-Orthodox guests join us in receiving the *antidoron*—or blessed bread—served at the end of the Divine Liturgy.

Please feel free to contact Fr. John any time at (360) 598-9700 or rector@stelizabethorthodox.org.

—Thank you for joining us today. Glory to Jesus Christ!

Bulletin News

- ✦ May Charity Sunday & Bremerton Prayer Walk—We will be moving May's Charity Sunday to the second Sunday of May—Thomas Sunday on May 12th. We also will be donating our collection that day to the Bremerton Prayer Walk. Donations will be put toward the purchase of backpacks, collapsible wagons, and fanny packs for the homeless.

During our walks with the Bremerton Prayer Walk, we learned that for many people, having a way to carry items is greatly needed, but these items are costly. Also, many backpacks, wagons, and fanny packs are needed, as handing out only a few can lead to conflicts. Accordingly, our goal is to raise \$2,500 for this cause, which we calculate will buy 35 or more items to hand out. Please consider giving to this cause next month. Your donations are needed and greatly appreciated!

- ✦ Cleaners Needed!—If you would like to take part in this anonymous but very vital ministry of the parish, please contact Nancy at nancyjuno@gmail.com.

Holy Week at St. Elizabeth

April 28th—(Palm Sunday,
Today)
6:00pm Bridegroom Matins

April 29th—Holy Monday
6:30pm Bridegroom Matins

April 30th—Holy Tuesday
6:30pm Bridegroom Matins

May 1st—Holy Wednesday
6:30pm Matins for Holy
Thursday

May 2nd—Holy Thursday
11:00am Vespertal Divine
Liturgy
6:30pm Matins with Twelve
Passion Gospels

May 3rd—Holy Friday
9:30am Royal Hours
2:00pm Vespers with Deposition
in the Tomb
3:30pm Life Confessions of
Catechumens
6:30pm Matins with
Lamentations and Procession
11:30pm All-Night Psalm Vigil at
Tomb

May 4th—Holy Saturday
11:00am Vespertal Divine Liturgy
2:00pm Baptism of Catechumens
11:30pm Paschal Vigil

✦✦✦ May 5th—Pascha Sunday
3:00am Paschal Meal
2:00pm Paschal Vespers
3:00pm Paschal Picnic

Today's Hymns

Palm Sunday

Tone 1 Troparion *(Palm Sunday)*

By raising Lazarus from the dead before Thy Passion,
Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection, O Christ God.
Like the children with the palms of victory,
we cry out to Thee, O Vanquisher of Death:
“Hosanna in the highest!//
 Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord.”

Glory . . .

Tone 4 2nd Troparion *(Palm Sunday)*

When we were buried with Thee in baptism, O Christ God,
we were made worthy of eternal life by Thy Resurrection.
Now we praise Thee and sing:
“Hosanna in the highest!//
 Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord!”

Now and Ever . . .

Tone 6 Kontakion *(Palm Sunday)*

Sitting on Thy throne in Heaven,
carried on a foal on earth, O Christ God,
accept the praise of angels and the songs of children, who sing://
 “Blessed is He Who comes to recall Adam!”

(Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing:)

God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us!
Celebrate the feast and come with gladness!
Let us magnify Christ with palms and branches,
singing: "Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord, our
Savior!"

Today's Scripture Readings

*Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord. God is the Lord and has
revealed Himself to us. (Ps. 117:26b, 27b)*

Epistle Reading—Philippians 4:4–9

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy – meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

Gospel Reading—John 12:1–18

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Laz'arus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made him a supper; Martha served, and Laz'arus was one of those at table with him. Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was to betray him), said, "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not that he cared

for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box he used to take what was put into it. Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of my burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me."

When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came, not only on account of Jesus but also to see Laz'arus, whom he had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Laz'arus also to death, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.

The next day a great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young ass and sat upon it; as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on an ass's colt!" His disciples did not understand this at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of him and had been done to him. The crowd that had been with him when he called Laz'arus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign.

Today's Commemorations

Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem—Palm Sunday

"I should indeed be uncertain of the significance of the broken branches, which were surely wont to entangle the feet of walkers, if that good Husbandman had not taught, 'And even now the axe is laid at the root of the trees.' The axe, at the coming of the lord, cuts away the barren. It lays low the vainglory of the infertile Gentiles, which is to be trampled by the feet of the faithful, so that the nations in newness of mind, like shoots of new trees, may sprout from the old stumps."

—St. Ambrose of Milan, *Exposition*, Bk. IX, §12

(from The Orthodox New Testament, Holy Apostles Convent)

The Holy Apostles Jason and Sosipater, and the Virgin Cercyra

The first two were of the Seventy Apostles and the latter was the daughter of a king from the island of Corfu. Jason and Sosipater are mentioned by St. Paul and he calls them his kinsmen (Romans 16:21). Jason was born in Tarsus, as was the Apostle Paul, and Sosipater was born in Achaea. The first was appointed bishop of Tarsus by the apostle and the other was appointed Bishop of Iconium. Traveling about and preaching the Gospel, these two apostles arrived on the island of Corfu, where they succeeded in building a church to the honor of St. Stephen the Protomartyr and in winning over some heathens to the Church. The king of the island threw them both into prison, where seven thieves were also imprisoned. Their names were Saturnius, Jakischolus, Faustianus, Januarius, Marsalius, Euphrasius and Mammius. The apostles converted these seven to the Christian Faith, turning these wolves into lambs. Upon hearing this, the king ordered that these seven be put to death in boiling pitch. Thus they received wreaths of martyrdom. Later, while the king was torturing the apostles, his daughter, the virgin Cercyra, watched the suffering of these men of God from the window. Learning for what reason they were being tortured, she declared herself a Christian and distributed all of her jewels to the poor. The king became enraged at his daughter and shut her in a special prison. Since he was unable to dissuade her from Christ by this imprisonment, he ordered that the prison be burned. The prison burned, but the virgin remained alive. Upon seeing this miracle, many people were baptized. The infuriated king then ordered his daughter to be tied to a tree and slain with arrows. Those who believed in Christ fled from the terrible king to the nearest island and hid themselves. The king pursued them by boat in order to apprehend them, but the boat sank into the sea, and thus the unrighteous one perished as once did pharaoh. The new king embraced the Christian Faith and was baptized, receiving the name Sebastian. Jason and Sosipater freely preached the Gospel and strengthened the Church of God in Corfu unto deep old age. There they ended their earthly lives and took up their habitation in the mansions of the Lord.

—Prologue of Ohrid

The Nicene Creed: the Symbol of Faith (sung together)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Only-begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages: Light of Light, true God of true God; begotten, not made; of one essence with the Father; by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man; and He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered, and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead; Whose Kingdom shall have no end.

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; Who spoke by the prophets.

In one Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Pre-Communion Prayers (said together)

I believe, O Lord, and I confess that Thou art truly the Christ, the Son of the Living God, Who camest into the world to save sinners, of whom I am first. I believe also that this is truly Thine own pure Body, and that this is truly Thine own precious Blood. Therefore I pray Thee: have mercy upon me and forgive my transgressions both voluntary and involuntary, of word and of deed, of knowledge and of ignorance. And make me worthy to partake without condemnation of Thy most pure Mysteries, for the remission of my sins, and unto life everlasting. Amen.

Of Thy Mystical Supper, O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant; for I will not speak of Thy Mystery to Thine enemies, neither like Judas will I give Thee a kiss; but like the thief will I confess Thee: Remember me, O Lord in Thy Kingdom.

May the communion of Thy Holy Mysteries be neither to my judgment, nor to my condemnation, O Lord, but to the healing of soul and body. Amen.

