us go and prepare for you to eat the Passover?" [13]And he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him, [14]and wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says, Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' [15]And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there prepare for us." [16]And the disciples set out and went to the city and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover. [17]And when it was evening, he came with the twelve. [18]And as they were reclining at table and eating, Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." [19]They began to be sorrowful and to say to him one after another, "Is it I?" [20]He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the dish with me. [21]For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born." [22]And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." [23]And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. [24]And he said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. [25]Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God." [26]And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. [27]And Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away, for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.' [28]But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." [29]Peter said to him, "Even though they all fall away, I will not." [30]And Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times." [31]But he said emphatically, "If I must die with you, I will not deny you." And they all said the same. [32]And they went to a place called Gethsemane. And he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray."

Lessons for Next Week:

Easter Sunrise: Exodus 15:1-11; Psalm 118:15-29; 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8; John 20:1-18
Easter Day: Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 16; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Mark 16:1-8

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The Word of God

Palm Sunday (Sunday of the Passion) ***March 21, 2027***

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, you have sent your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross, that all of humanity should follow the example of his great humility. Mercifully grant that we may both follow the example of his patience and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Processional Gospel: John 12:12-19

[12]The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. [13]So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" [14]And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, [15]"Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" [16]His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. [17]The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. [18]The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. [19]So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him."

First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12

9Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of
Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and
having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a
colt, the foal of a donkey. 10I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be
cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall
be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.
11As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. 12Return to
your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will
restore to you double.

Psalm 118:19-29

19Open 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."
21I will give thanks to you, for you | answered me*
and have become | my salvation.
22The same stone which the build- | ers rejected*
has become the chief | cornerstone.
23This is | the LORD's doing,*
and it is marvelous | in our eyes.
24On this day the | LORD has acted;*
we will rejoice and be | glad in it.
25Hosannah, | LORD, hosannah!*
LORD, send us | now success.
26Blessed is he who comes in the name | of the LORD;*
we bless you from the house | of the LORD.
27God 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."
29Give thanks to the LORD, for | he is good;*
his mercy en- | dures forever.

Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11

5Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ
Jesus, 6who, though he was in the form of God, did not count
equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7but emptied himself,
by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of
men. 8And being found in human form, he humbled himself by
becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.
9Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him
the name that is above every name, 10so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the
earth, 11and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the
glory of God the Father.

Gospel: Mark 14:1-15:47 (14:33-15:47 omitted here due to space constraints)

1It was now two days before the Passover and the Feast of
Unleavened Bread. And the chief priests and the scribes were
seeking how to arrest {Jesus} by stealth and kill him, 2for they
said, "Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar from the
people." 3And while he was at Bethany in the house of Simon
the leper, as he was reclining at table, a woman came with an
alabaster flask of ointment of pure nard, very costly, and she
broke the flask and poured it over his head. 4There were some
who said to themselves indignantly, "Why was the ointment
wasted like that? 5For this ointment could have been sold for
more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor." And
they scolded her. 6But Jesus said, "Leave her alone. Why do
you trouble her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. 7For you
always have the poor with you, and whenever you want, you
can do good for them. But you will not always have me. 8She
has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand
for burial. 9And truly, I say to you, wherever the gospel is
proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told
in memory of her." 10Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the
twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them.
11And when they heard it, they were glad and promised to give
him money. And he sought an opportunity to betray him. 12And
on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the
Passover lamb, his disciples said to him, "Where will you have