



OLD DONATION
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, MARCH 29: PALM SUNDAY

8:00AM HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I - CHURCH
10:30AM COMBINED HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II
& FACEBOOK LIVE
5:00PM SUNDAYS@5 - CHURCH

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1

12:00PM NOON PRAYERS - FACEBOOK LIVE
7:00PM TENEBRAE

THURSDAY, APRIL 2: MAUNDY THURSDAY

7:00PM HE & WASHING OF THE FEET
FACEBOOK LIVE
⊕ OVERNIGHT VIGIL ⊕

FRIDAY, APRIL 3: GOOD FRIDAY

7:00AM MORNING PRAYER
12:00PM STATIONS OF THE CROSS
7:00PM GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY



SATURDAY, APRIL 4: EASTER VIGIL

7:00PM HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II
& FACEBOOK LIVE

SUNDAY, APRIL 5: EASTER DAY

⊕ BRING FLOWERS FOR THE OUTSIDE CROSS ⊕
8:00AM EASTER HE, RITE I CHURCH
9:15AM EASTER HE, RITE II GREAT HALL
10:30AM EASTER EGG HUNT GRAVEYARD
11:00AM EASTER HE, RITE II CHURCH
& FACEBOOK LIVE
5:00PM EASTER HE, RITE II CHURCH

Old Donation Episcopal Church



Baby BELL RINGER

March 2025



EASTER WORSHIP

Saturday Easter Vigil

7:00PM GREAT HALL & CHURCH
(LIVESTREAMED)

Easter Day

8:00AM CHURCH
9:15AM GREAT HALL
10:30AM EASTER EGG HUNT
11:00AM CHURCH (LIVESTREAMED)
5:00PM CHURCH

Old Donation Episcopal Church



Old Donation Episcopal Church is a family: Welcoming All ⊕ Growing in God's love ⊕
Joyfully worshipping Jesus Christ ⊕ Serving in the power of the Spirit

From our Rector

Beloveds,

As we move toward Holy Week, I want to offer a gentle, open invitation to you. From Palm Sunday through Easter morning, we will walk the story of Jesus together. We will move from celebration, to the quiet intimacy of the table, to the Cross, and into the surprising, life giving hope of the resurrection. This is the story of God's love meeting us where we are, again and again, through Jesus and by the power of the Holy Spirit.



Whether you have been here every Sunday, or it has been a while, or you are not even sure what you believe right now, you are welcome. Truly. Come and see. Come as you are. There is room for your whole self in this story.

And if you are someone who joins us on Christmas and Easter, please hear this clearly: we are so glad you come. There is no guilt here, no pressure, just genuine joy at the chance to welcome you home. Holy Week offers a number of ways to enter into this sacred time, each one meaningful in its own way, and I hope you might find something that meets you where you are. We are looking forward to being together, to worship, to pray, and to celebrate the good news that in Jesus, love is stronger than death. You belong here, and it would be a gift to share this Holy Week with you.

Nelson+

Baptisms

If you or someone in your family is desiring baptism, the Easter Vigil (Saturday night at 7:00pm, before Easter morning) is the perfect service and the most traditional in Christian history. In many places in the early church Christians were prepared during the 40 days of Lent for baptism. The service the night before was the first proclamation of the Resurrection, since we only know that sometime that night Jesus was raised from death to life. People were baptized, "into Christ's death and raised into Christ's resurrection" and received their first Holy Communion, modeling the symbolic meaning of St. Paul's writings.

Every Sunday in Easter season is another perfect time for baptisms, particularly Pentecost Sunday, 24 May. Contact Father Nelson if you're interested!

Holy Week WORSHIP

Tenebrae

This ancient service is an extended meditation on the Passion, using Old Testament prophecies and canticles. The name comes from the tradition of gradually extinguishing candles and lights as the service progresses, ending in darkness and silence. The last light is snuffed after reading Psalm 51. A loud noise is made near the end, symbolizing the earthquake at the time of the crucifixion. The congregation leaves in silence or remains in the Church for prayer and contemplation.

Maunder Thursday

At the close of the day, Christ initiates the Eucharist for a small gathering of his immediate companions in a rented upper room. In the liturgy, gather in spirit with the disciples to receive from Jesus. At this Last Supper, when Jesus gave us the Sacrament of his love, he stated, "I stand in the midst of you as one who serves" and enacted his words by washing his disciples' feet. We are given a graphic picture of servanthood, with the mandate: "A new commandment I give you, that you love one another as I have loved you." We use that gospel account and re-enact the washing of the feet.

Worship concludes with stripping of the altar. The altar (a symbol of Christ) is stripped of its adornment - recalling to us how Jesus was stripped of his garments during the Passion. A vigil is conducted in the Church all through the night with people taking one hour shifts, recalling Jesus' words from Gethsemane, "Could you not stay awake with me for one hour?"

Good Friday

This is a day of probing recollection and prayerful contemplation of the cross on which the Redeemer of the world hung. The sorrow of Good Friday is not bereavement for a dead Christ. According to his own words from the cross, we are not to weep for him, but for ourselves. The sorrow of repentance that leads to newness of life is the sorrow of Good Friday.

The fact that this is the only day in the year that the Western Church does not celebrate the Holy Eucharist intensifies the atmosphere of desolation. We depart to ponder anew our Lord's final words from the cross, "It is finished."

Easter Vigil

The "most holy night of the year" begins in the darkness that descends from Good Friday's events. From the darkness that covers all, a spark leaps forth. In the courtyard, the newly kindled fire (which symbolizes Christ's resurrection from the tomb) visually announces the rising of Christ from the dead. With the lighting of the Paschal Candle, we begin the Great Vigil of Easter. We move from the Courtyard to the Great Hall and finally to the Church.

The climax of the service and of all Holy Week is the Holy Eucharist - the sacramental reenactment of Christ's Pasch (Passage or Passover) from death to life for the salvation of the world. Our response to the tremendous mystery is a resounding "Alleluia"

Easter Day

We bring flowers from our gardens and yards to decorate the wooden cross that stood in front of the church for all of Lent. The Festival Liturgy is characterized by triumph and joy.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ is Risen! The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!



EASTER WORSHIP

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(LIVESTREAMED)

Easter Day
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Passion of Matthew

On Palm Sunday we read aloud the Passion of Matthew. Please sign up to be part of this moving tradition.

Sitting Vigil

After the Maundy Thursday service on 2 April, we sit vigil overnight in the Church. Two people are needed for each hour-long time slot. The vigil ends with Morning Prayer at 7:00am on Good Friday. Click to sign up!

PALM SUNDAY & MAUNDY THURSDAY SIGNUPS

[Passion Reader Signup](#)

[Overnight Vigil Signup](#)



Order Easter Flowers!

Click the Graphic to order OR email Janet with your order. Each potted spring flower costs \$15. You may pay in the Parish Office.

Your 2026 Vestry

Bill Waide, Senior Warden
Chris Chandler, People's Warden & Parish Life
Mike Ginder, Day School
Dan Ries, Christian Formation
Charlotte Zito, Welcoming & Belonging
Tony Richardson, Becoming Beloved Community
Eric Spence, Historic Traditions
Beth Steinbruck-Phillips, Congregational Care
David Beach, Stewardship
Leslie Brunick, Outreach
Tom DeMayo, Buildings & Grounds
Frankie Ring, Welcoming & Belonging
Noah Larsen, Youth Representative



Old Donation Episcopal Church

Jesus Christ, Head of the Church
The Rt. Rev. Susan B. Haynes, Bishop
The Rev. Nelson Mendoza, Rector
Gretchen Hood, Director of Administration
Bethanny Sammons, Youth & Family Minister
Sarah Wilson & Jody Baker, Day School

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