

## Holy Week Services at Victoria Christ Church Cathedral

- <https://www.christchurchcathedral.bc.ca/news/holy-week-in-2021>

### **Palm Sunday**

#### **4.00 p.m. Music and Readings for Passiontide**

*By now a tradition at the cathedral, this service turns the corner from the adulation of the palms to the dreadful chain of events that follow. It is an opportunity to hear some of the most beautiful music in the liturgical repertoire, and to allow it to colour our reading of Christ's passion.*

#### **Monday, March 29, Tuesday, March 30 and Wednesday, March 31**

#### **5.00 p.m. Evensong**

*The daily office sung by our choral scholars as it might be "in quires and places where they sing." The recitation of the daily offices of matins and vespers mark time, and thereby sanctify it. So too, does this daily offering of Evensong in Holy Week mark Jesus' inexorable progress toward the Cross. A simple service, livestreamed, with choir.*

### **The Solemn Triduum**

#### **April 1 – Maundy Thursday**

#### **7.00 p.m. Compline**

*Maundy Thursday, of course, is the night of Jesus' betrayal by Judas, his agony in the Garden of Gethsemane, his arrest and trial, the denial by Peter, and his conviction of a capital offence. But before all that, Jesus gathered the twelve in an upper room to keep Passover, and to give them the means to fortify themselves forever: Take, eat. Drink this, all of you. And know that I am with you.*

*Sadly, once again this year we are unable to gather on this occasion to eat and drink of the eucharistic sacrament. That time will come soon. Meanwhile, we know that our God is faithful, and is in no way dependent upon, or confined to, our ceremonies in order to be present to us. God is here. Now.*

*Compline is the church's nighttime office – and it carries within its symbolism all those things that go bump in the night: darkness, fears, evil, death, the grave, rest, and – hope. We recite this office with the passion of Christ in our hearts, and the knowledge that he has gone already where all of us must one day go.*

#### **April 2 – Good Friday**

#### **12.00 noon. The Seven Last Words**

*Join us for a livestreamed service featuring Haydn's Seven Last Words played by the Emily Carr String Quartet, introductory chorales sung by our Cathedral choral scholars, and reflections by seven distinguished Canadian preachers.*

More information: <https://www.christchurchcathedral.bc.ca/news/the-seven-last-words>

## **April 4 – Easter Day**

### **4.00 p.m. Evensong**

*We tend to think of Easter Day as a “morning event.” The gospel of John says, “Early on the first day of the week while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb...” However, the bible provides us a rich tradition of evening happenings as well. One of these is the encounter of Cleopas and his unnamed companion with the risen Christ on their way back home to Emmaus from Jerusalem. This is traditionally the focus of Evensong on Easter night.*