

**CHRIST CHURCH PARISH  
EPISCOPAL**

5:00 PM

Palm Saturday

April 12, 2025



***WELCOME***

Christ Church is an Episcopal Parish in the Diocese of Massachusetts. We welcome and honor the God-given gifts that make us unique as individuals and strong as community. You and your family are welcome regardless of age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, marital status or prior religious affiliation.

## A Note to Parents and Caregivers with Children in Church

Thank you for bringing your children to church. We are so glad you are here!

We know it can be difficult at times to manage little ones during the service.

For that reason, we have provided some resources which we hope will make it easier for you and your family to enjoy worship together.

You will find books and coloring pages at the back of the Mary Chapel. Please feel free to utilize these at any point during the service.

We have installed a TV in the nursery! You are welcome to visit the nursery with your child during any portion of our service and join us via our livestream.

It is okay to take breaks. If you need to step out with your child, our parish grounds are a great place to get the wiggles out.

Above all, please remember: You and your family are very welcome here!

Though your children may be squirming, talking, or making noise, they are also observing, copying, and learning. Children are a gift and an important part of our community; we are grateful to have them worship with us.

# The Liturgy of the Palms

## OPENING ANTHEM

*As you enter, please take a palm branch, and all who wish, please gather at the back of the church. When the ministers join you, please stand as you are able and gather around them.*

*Celebrant:*      Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.

*People:*            **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.**

*Celebrant:*      Let us pray.

Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## GOSPEL READING:

**Luke 19:28-40**

Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’” So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” They said, “The Lord needs it.” Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!” Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

## BLESSING OF THE PALMS

*Please raise your palm branches as The Celebrant then says the following blessing*

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.

*People*      **And also with you.**

*Celebrant*      Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*      **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right to praise you, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was proclaimed as King of kings by those who spread their garments and branches of palm along his way. Let these branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE PROCESSION

*Celebrant*      Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

*People*      **Hosanna in the highest.**

*Deacon/Celebrant*      Let us go forth in peace.

*People*      **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

## PROCESSION HYMN

***All glory, laud, and honor***

**1982 Hymnal 155**

*The congregation processes to their seats, singing, and holding and waving their palm branches. All remain standing, as able.*

## The Word of God

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.

*People*      **And also with you.**

*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

**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.**

## **The Lessons**

### **FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

### **Psalm 31:9-16**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>9</sup>Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; \*  
my eye is consumed with sorrow,  
and also my throat and my belly.

<sup>10</sup>For my life is wasted with grief,  
and my years with sighing; \*  
my strength fails me because of affliction,  
and my bones are consumed.

<sup>11</sup>I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors,  
a dismay to those of my acquaintance; \*

when they see me in the street they avoid me.

<sup>12</sup>I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; \*

I am as useless as a broken pot.

<sup>13</sup>For I have heard the whispering of the crowd;  
fear is all around; \*

they put their heads together against me;

they plot to take my life.

<sup>14</sup>But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. \*

I have said, "You are my God.

<sup>15</sup>My times are in your hand; \*

rescue me from the hand of my enemies,

and from those who persecute me.

<sup>16</sup>Make your face to shine upon your servant, \*

and in your loving-kindness save me."

## **SECOND READING:**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Philippi.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

## **Philippians 2:5-11**

## **REFLECTION**

**The Rev. Melissa Howell**

## THE PASSION GOSPEL:

**Luke 22:14–23:56**

*The congregation remaining seated, the Passion Gospel is read in parts, led by a narrator who begins by saying:*

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.

NARRATOR: When the hour for the Passover meal came, Jesus took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. He said to them,

JESUS: "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God."

NARRATOR: Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said,

JESUS: "Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."

NARRATOR: Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying,

JESUS: "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

NARRATOR: And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying,

JESUS: "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the table. For the Son of Man is going as it has been determined, but woe to that one by whom he is betrayed!"

NARRATOR: Then they began to ask one another, which one of them it could be who would do this.

A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. But he said to them,

JESUS: "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

"You are those who have stood by me in my trials; and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

"Simon, Simon, listen! Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned back, strengthen your brothers."

NARRATOR: And he said to him,

PETER: "Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death!"

NARRATOR: Jesus said,

JESUS: "I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day, until you have denied three times that you know me."

NARRATOR: He said to them,

JESUS: "When I sent you out without a purse, bag, or sandals, did you lack anything?"

NARRATOR: They said,

DISCIPLES: "No, not a thing."

NARRATOR: He said to them,

JESUS: "But now, the one who has a purse must take it, and likewise a bag. And the one who has no sword must sell his cloak and buy one. For I tell you, this scripture must be fulfilled in me, 'And he was counted among the lawless'; and indeed what is written about me is being fulfilled."

NARRATOR: They said,

DISCIPLES: "Lord, look, here are two swords."

NARRATOR: He replied,

JESUS: "It is enough."

NARRATOR: He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them,

JESUS: "Pray that you may not come into the time of trial."

NARRATOR: Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed,

JESUS: "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done."

NARRATOR: Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground. When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, and he said to them,

JESUS: "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial."

NARRATOR: While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said to him,

JESUS: "Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?"

NARRATOR: When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked,

DISCIPLES: "Lord, should we strike with the sword?"

NARRATOR: Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said,

JESUS: "No more of this!"

NARRATOR: And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him,

JESUS: "Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!"

NARRATOR: Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said,

SERVANT GIRL: "This man also was with him."

NARRATOR: But he denied it, saying,

PETER: "Woman, I do not know him."

NARRATOR: A little later someone else, on seeing him, said,

ACCUSER 1: "You also are one of them."

NARRATOR: But Peter said,

PETER: "Man, I am not!"

NARRATOR: Then about an hour later still another kept insisting,

ACCUSER 2: "Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean."

NARRATOR: But Peter said,

PETER: "Man, I do not know what you are talking about!"

NARRATOR: At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

Now the men who were holding Jesus began to mock him and beat him; they also blindfolded him and kept asking him,

SOLDIERS: "Prophesy! Who is it that struck you?"

NARRATOR: They kept heaping many other insults on him.

When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought him to their council. They said,

**ASSEMBLY: "If you are the Messiah, tell us."**

NARRATOR: He replied,

JESUS: "If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I question you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God."

NARRATOR: All of them asked,

CHIEF PRIESTS: "Are you, then, the Son of God?"

NARRATOR: He said to them,

JESUS: "You say that I am."

NARRATOR: Then they said,

CHIEF PRIESTS: "What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!"

NARRATOR: Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying,

CHIEF PRIESTS: "We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king."

NARRATOR: Then Pilate asked him,

PILATE: "Are you the king of the Judeans?"

NARRATOR: He answered,

JESUS: "You say so."

NARRATOR: Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds,

PILATE: "I find no basis for an accusation against this man."

NARRATOR: But they were insistent and said,

CHIEF PRIESTS: "He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place."

NARRATOR: When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer.

The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies.

Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them,

**PILATE:** "You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him."

**NARRATOR:** Then they all shouted out together,

**ASSEMBLY:** "Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!"

**NARRATOR:** (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting,

**ASSEMBLY:** "Crucify, crucify him!"

**NARRATOR:** A third time he said to them,

**PILATE:** "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him."

**NARRATOR:** But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said,

**JESUS:** "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

**NARRATOR:** Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him.

*All stand.*

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said,

JESUS: "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."

NARRATOR: And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying,

**ASSEMBLY: "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!"**

NARRATOR: The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying,

SOLDIERS: "If you are the King of the Judeans, save yourself!"

NARRATOR: There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Judeans"

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying,

CRIMINAL 1: "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"

NARRATOR: But the other rebuked him, saying,

CRIMINAL 2: "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong."

NARRATOR: Then he said,

CRIMINAL 2: "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

NARRATOR: He replied,

JESUS: "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

NARRATOR: It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said,

JESUS: "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."

NARRATOR: Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said,

CENTURION: "Certainly this man was innocent."

NARRATOR: And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was beginning. The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments.

On the sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

*Silence is held for a time*

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*All remain standing.*

*Deacon or Celebrant:* Let us bring before God our prayers, through Christ who gave himself for the life of the world.

*Leader:* For forgiveness for the many times we have denied Jesus, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For grace to seek out those habits of sin which mean spiritual death, and by prayer and self-discipline to overcome them, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For Christian people, that through the suffering of disunity there may grow a rich union in Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who make laws, interpret them, and administer them, that our common life may be ordered in justice and mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who would still make Jerusalem and the places of your holy earth a battleground, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who have the courage and honesty to speak and work openly for justice and peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those in the agony of isolation, that they may find support and encouragement, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who are suffering hardship, sickness, sorrow, or any kind of trouble, that they may feel upheld by the presence of Christ. We pray especially for those on our parish prayer list, and for those we name now, either silently or aloud.

*Silence is held for a time as people share their intercessions.*

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who are tempted to give up the way of the cross, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who have died, that we, with them, may find mercy in the day of Christ. We pray especially for those we remember now, either silently or aloud.

*Silence is held for a time as people share their intercessions.*

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*The Celebrant prays a concluding collect:*

Jesus, when you rode into Jerusalem, the people waved palms with shouts of acclamation. Grant that when the shouting dies we may still walk beside you even to a cross; for the glory of your holy name. **Amen.**

## **THE PEACE**

*All stand.*

*Celebrant*      The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*            **And also with you.**

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# The Holy Communion

## OFFERTORY SENTENCE

### OFFERTORY HYMN

*O sacred head, sore wounded*

1982 Hymnal 168

## The Great Thanksgiving

*The People remain standing.*

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.

*People*            **And also with you.**

*Celebrant*      Lift up your hearts.

*People*            **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant*      Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*            **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. For our sins he was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; and, by his suffering and death, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Celebrant and People*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The People stand or kneel.*

*The Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

*People and Celebrant*

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
    hallowed be thy Name,  
    thy kingdom come,  
    thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
    as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
    but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
    and the power, and the glory,  
    forever and ever. Amen.**

## The Breaking of the Bread

### FRACTION ANTHEM

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
    have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
    have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
    grant us peace.**

### INVITATION

*The Presider invites the people to Communion with these or similar words:*

Wherever you are on your journey, you are welcome at God's table.

*Celebrant: Behold what we are.*

**All: May we become what we receive.**

*Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.*

*To receive the Sacrament, come forward and hold out your hands. The minister will place the bread in your palm. You may then receive the wine by drinking from the larger cup or intincting (dipping) the bread in the smaller cup. If you do not wish to receive the wine, cross your arms as you pass by the cup bearers to return to your seat.*

*If you would prefer a blessing, come forward, cross your arms across your chest, and the minister will bless you.*

## COMMUNION HYMN *At the name of Jesus* Voices Found 135

### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*If Lay Eucharistic Visitors are being sent out to bring the Sacrament to those who cannot be with us in-person, the following is said as the Visitors are handed the bread and wine:*

Celebrant: In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's body and blood.

People: **We who are many are one body, for we all share one bread and one cup.**

## **SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE**

*The Deacon or Celebrant says,*

Let us bow down before the Lord.

*The People bow or kneel. The Celebrant says*

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **DISMISSAL**

*The Deacon or Celebrant dismisses the people*

*The People respond: Thanks be to God*

*All depart in silence. Before leaving, the congregation is invited to come forward to place their palms at the foot of either the main or chapel altar as a solemn and prayerful sign of our entrance into Holy Week. The palms will be burned next year on or close to Shrove Tuesday to make ashes for Ash Wednesday. You may also choose to keep your palm. Additional blessed palms will be available at the exits for those who wish to both leave a palm and take a palm.*

# Announcements

**Please keep the following people in your prayers during the coming week.**  
**Any names added this week are in bold.**

Barbara Hulme; Donna Eby; Greta Couter; **Jack Willett**; Jane Murphy; **Jim Kelly**; Katharine LiBretto; Laurie Ghelfi Smith; Linda Garrone; Nancy Boulanger; Norm Zinger; Sharon Steadman; Skip Nielsen; Steve Blanchard; Suzanne and Dave Salois; Valerie B. Pflock; William Underhill

**We ask your prayers for those serving in the military and their families:**  
Aidan McKinney, Andrew Barton, Austin Vico, Harry Morini, Joel Carveiro, Josh Zabin

## From the Office

**In order** to have your announcements included in the weekly bulletin and *Keeping Connected*, please send them to the office by 12 Noon on Wednesday. They should include date, time, place, description of event and contact information and should be written exactly the way you want them to appear.

**Resources for Families in Church:** Just a reminder that there are activities for kids, including a small table and chairs, in the back of the church. We are also providing special bulletins for kids that are aligned with the week's lessons at the front and back entrances. These bulletins have a variety of coloring, brain teasers, puzzles, and other fun activities. For students in grades PreK-1, Su will be available in the nursery to monitor young students who need a separate space during the church service. We hope that these resources will support family attendance at the 10 am service. Please let us know if you have any other ideas for ways to welcome children and families at Christ Church: [education@christchurchplymouth.org](mailto:education@christchurchplymouth.org)

**Easter Flowers and Musicians** - If you wish to remember or honor a loved one or give in thanksgiving, you may do so by sponsoring the flowers and guest musicians for our Easter services. The form will be included at the end of the service bulletins. In order to have your memorial listed in the Easter bulletins, please return the form to the church office by Monday, April 14.

**Christ Church Food Pantry** – All are welcome to the Christ Church Food Pantry! We are open by appointment: Tuesday 4:00-5:15, Thursday 12:00-1:15 and 4:00-5:15, and Saturday 10:00-11:15. Call the pantry message line: 508-746-4959, ext 6, BY 1 PM THE DAY BEFORE YOU WISH TO PICK UP YOUR ORDER. Our volunteers check messages and return your call from their homes to ask you what you need.

If you wish to volunteer, contact Eileen Paris at [eileenpca@aol.com](mailto:eileenpca@aol.com)  
For more information, please contact Barbara Wojtkiewicz at 617-291-4634, or by email at [barbara.wojtkiewicz@gmail.com](mailto:barbara.wojtkiewicz@gmail.com)

**Christ Church Thrift Shoppe** - It is with gratitude that we report the Q1 proceeds for 2025 exceeded \$20k, thus allowing for the following volunteer recommended and Vestry approved designations;

- Christ Church- in-reach \$10k
- Amazing Grace- a faith-based summer camp program in Sandwich. This organization's mission is to break the cycle of incarceration by supporting healthy relationships and experiences for children of past or presently incarcerated parents. \$2500
- Salvation Army Plymouth- funds will support summer camp sponsorships for children with financial need from Plymouth, Kingston, and Carver. \$2500
- Rev Melissa's discretionary account \$2500
- Christ Church Food Pantry \$2500

The Thrift Shoppe leaders again thank our committed volunteers, shoppers, donors, and Vestry members for their ongoing support in making outreach possible.

Shoppe Hours:

Thursday and Friday 10-4

Saturday 10-1

**Looking Ahead to Holy Week...** We will need readers for the following...

Tenebrae

For the 7 PM service on Wednesday, April 16.

Please let Connie know if you are willing and for which service(s) you are available – [conmel@aol.com](mailto:conmel@aol.com) / 508.746.3805

We will also need folks, including families, to participate in the Gethsemane Watch (Prayer Vigil), beginning on Thursday, April 17 after the Maundy Thursday service. More than one person can sign up for a slot. Families are invited to participate. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway by the St. Francis door.

# **Christ Church 2025 Holy Week Schedule: All are welcome to join us for these sacred days.**



## **Eve of Palm Sunday - Saturday, April 12**

5:00 PM – Liturgy of the Palms, Passion Gospel, and Holy Eucharist

## **Palm Sunday - April 13**

8:00 AM – Liturgy of the Palms, Passion Gospel, and Holy Eucharist

10:00 AM – Liturgy of the Palms, Passion Gospel, and Holy Eucharist –  
all are invited to gather outside before 10AM for the Liturgy of the Palms

## **Tenebrae - Wednesday, April 16**

7:00 PM – A service of candlelight, Psalms, Lamentations, silence, and simple responsory chant  
in the style of Taizé

## **Maundy Thursday - April 17**

5:00 PM – Church School Family Activities

7:00 PM – Maundy Thursday Liturgy with Footwashing and Holy Eucharist

Overnight – Gethsemane Watch in the Mary Chapel (advance sign-up required)

## **Good Friday - April 18**

11:00 AM – Noon – Church School Family Activities

Noon – Stations of the Cross for all ages - please dress appropriately for the weather, as we will walk  
and pray the Stations, rain or shine

7:00 PM – Good Friday Liturgy with Communion from the reserve Sacrament

## **Holy Saturday and Easter Vigil - April 19**

10:00 AM – Quiet and meditative Holy Saturday liturgy outside in the St. Francis Garden  
(or in the Mary Chapel in the case of inclement weather)

8:00 PM – Optional prayerful gathering outside (weather permitting) for the lighting of the New Fire,  
with music and luminaria-making

8:30 PM – The Great Vigil of Easter (bring bells!)

## **Easter Sunday - April 20**

8:00 AM – Easter Sunday Holy Eucharist Rite I

10:00 AM – Easter Sunday Festival Eucharist Rite II with Choir

11:30 AM – Easter Egg Hunt & Coffee Hour

Christ Church Parish, Episcopal \* 149 Court Street, Plymouth

## Week At - A - Glance \* April 13, 2025 – April 20, 2025

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b> 9:00 AM <b>10:00 AM</b> 11:15 AM	<b>Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday</b> Church School (Adults and Grades Pre-K – 5) <b>Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday</b> Coffee Hour
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b> 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	<b>Morning Prayer</b> – Facebook Live Fore & Aft
<b>TUESDAY</b>	10:30 AM – 11:30 AM 4:00 PM – 5:15 PM 6:00 PM	Fore & Aft Food Pantry Episcopal Church 101
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b> 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM <b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b> – Facebook Live Fore & Aft <b>Tenebrae</b>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	10:00 AM 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM 12:00 PM – 1:15 PM 1:00 PM 4:00 PM – 5:15 PM 5:00 PM <b>7:00 PM</b> Overnight	Bible Study Thrift Shoppe Fore & Aft Food Pantry Book Study Food Pantry Church School Family Activities <b>Maundy Thursday</b> Gethsemane Watch
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b> 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM 11:00 AM <b>12:00 PM</b> <b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b> – Facebook Live Thrift Shoppe Church School Family Activities <b>Stations of the Cross</b> <b>Good Friday</b>
<b>SATURDAY</b>	10:00 AM – 11:15 AM 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM <b>10:00 AM</b> 8:00 PM <b>8:30 PM</b>	Food Pantry Thrift Shoppe <b>Holy Saturday</b> Gather at the New Fire <b>The Great Vigil of Easter</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> 11:30 AM 11:30 AM	<b>Holy Eucharist Rite I – Easter Sunday</b> <b>Holy Eucharist Rite II – Easter Sunday</b> Easter Egg Hunt Coffee Hour

**Christ Church Parish**  
Seeking Christ in Ourselves \* Serving Christ in the World

**JESUS CHRIST IS THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH**

**MINISTERS**

All the people of Christ Church Parish

**Staff**

The Rev. Melissa Howell, Rector  
The Rev. Deacons James & Natalie Thomas  
David Tyler, Parish Administrator  
Lea Tyler, Choir Director  
Su D'Ambrosio, Sunday School Coordinator

**Officers and Vestry Representatives**

Robb Pflock, Senior Warden  
John Steele, Junior Warden  
Ray Rogers, Treasurer  
Amanda Peterson, Clerk

Wil Bernard, David Greene, Don Hill, Barb Hurney, Kat LiBretto,  
Judy Lutz, Makenzie Manchester, Melissa Pechey, and Nancy Ricks

149 Court Street, Plymouth, MA 02360  
Phone: 508-746-4959  
E-mail: [office.christchurchplymouth@gmail.com](mailto:office.christchurchplymouth@gmail.com)

**Scan here to visit our website:** <https://www.christchurchplymouth.org/>



**Office Hours**

Monday - Friday 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM



*In order to have your memorial included in the Easter bulletins, please return this form to the parish office no later than*

**Monday April 14, 2025**

Easter Instrumentalists

**Given by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In Loving Memory of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**As a Thank Offering:** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Amount Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Envelope Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**To honor your request appropriately and in keeping with standard accounting practices, checks must be made out for each fund with a notation in the memo line with the fund's name, i.e, Flowers, Music. Thank you.**



*In order to have your memorial included in the Easter bulletins, please return this form to the parish office no later than*

**Monday April 14, 2025**

Easter Flowers

**Given by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In Loving Memory of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**As a Thank Offering:** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Amount Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Envelope Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**To honor your request appropriately and in keeping with standard accounting practices, checks must be made out for each fund with a notation in the memo line with the fund's name, i.e, Flowers, Music. Thank you.**