April 13, 2025
The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday
10:30 AM

BREAD OF LIFE

Bread for the Road
Liturgy of the Palms &
Holy Eucharist

The 10:30am Service begins on Page 6
Parish Notes begin on Page 20

PALM SUNDAY REFLECTIONS

TODAY'S LITURGY IS DRAMATIC in predictable and unpredictable ways. We follow the same pattern year after year, making our palm procession while singing songs of praise, bearing news of Christ's saving grace to our town through this commemoration of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. As the liturgy continues, the mood shifts dramatically; like the crowd in Jerusalem, we switch from exalting Jesus to condemning him. As we act out the terrible drama of Jesus' abandonment, torture and death, we are cast in a role: We are among those who contribute to his condemnation. Because we are implicated, the drama has the power to impact us differently year by year, for our lives are constantly in transition. None of us is quite the same person as we were last year, while the sufferings and horrors of the world around us bear new faces.

YOU ARE WELCOME to worship with us any Sunday.

Our regular service times are 8:00 and 10:30 AM, during the academic year.

WELCOME

WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE, and we invite you to enter fully into worship today, and to receive Communion or a blessing at the chancel rail. We encourage you to ask questions, explore, and to make yourself known to those around you. Please pick up a welcome bag, newsletter, and any other information about the parish located on the bookshelf in the back of the church. Tell us more about yourself by filling out one of the cards located in each pew. Help us make this a place where God's grace is freely shared by all.

CHILDREN

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME AT ALL SERVICES. There are changing stations in both rest rooms at the Paterson Street entrance; you can get there through the side door of the church. Children's activity bags are available in the back of the church for use during services (please return at the end of the service). There is also a nursery with a video link to the church located near the Parish offices.

FREE PARKING VOUCHERS are available for the Lower Church Street parking deck next to the church grounds. Please see an usher for a voucher and instructions.

INTERCESSIONS

AT EVERY CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST prayer is offered with intercession for the Universal Church, the nation, the welfare of the world, the concerns of this community, those who suffer and those in any trouble, and the departed. Please feel free to add your own petitions during the prayers, either silently or aloud. If you would like to add a name to the prayer list, you may also fill out the form in the Prayers of the People book in the back of the Church.

WEEKLY INTERCESSIONS

We remember in today's prayers:

The Sick and Others in Need— *Arnold, Barb, Brianna, Dennis, Doreen, Edith, Erica, Florence, Georgia, Hansford, Jean, Jeannine, Jefferson, Jim, Julia, Kristen, Margaret, Pam, Pat, Robert, Stanford, Steve, Thalia, Theayer, Timothy, Tisha, Vivian, Yvonne*

Anglican Cycle *– The Church of England*

Diocesan Cycle *– The Rev. Dcns: Gail L. Bennett, Louise Cressman, W. Keith McCoy, Frederick R. Pray, Mary Jo Smith, Susan B. Taylor*

Christ Church Ministry *– Choice Food and Resource at Unity Square Community Center*

Birthdays this week *– Leticia Egekeze, Claude Guy, Sr., Lee Jensen, Morgan Jones, Fernanda Perrone, Ayoyemi Pratt-Davies, Matthew Pullaro, William Warren*

Greens at the lectern *are given by the Stanton Family in memory of Virginia Rose L. Watson, Sally and Don Edwards in memory of Charlotte Barnard, Jeanette Barnard and Martha Edwards*

PASTORAL CARE

If you are in crisis, having surgery, are in the hospital and are in need of pastoral counseling from a clergy person, please do not hesitate to contact The Rev. Joanna Hollis—732.307.7244

If you would like to schedule home communion, please contact Rev. Joanna and she will arrange for either herself, or a Lay Eucharistic Visitor to bring communion to you.

Please do not hesitate to contact either Rev. Hollis or Rev. Roberts if you know of someone who is in need of care or counseling.

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The Vestry

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Carlos Garcia, *Sexton*




Worshipping God Serving God's People
Christ Church New Brunswick

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS &

April 13, 2025
10:30 a.m.

HOLY EUCHARIST

PRELUDE *Trumpet Tune* M. McCabe

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS & PROCESSION

When the weather permits, please gather outside the Tower Door so that all who are able may go in procession. (Cold or rain will shift us into the Sanctuary.) Palm branches will be distributed to everyone before the service and held up during the blessing over the branches.

Processions are mentioned throughout the Bible, from the procession of Joshua and the Israelites around Jericho (Joshua 6) to Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem recalled in today's liturgy. Liturgical processions are in themselves acts of worship. We join in procession today to mark the beginning of this, the holiest week of the Christian year, and to recall God's mighty acts of redemption.

When all have gathered the Presider begins the liturgy with these words

Presider Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord:
People **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.**
Presider 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 Christ our Lord.
People **Amen.**

An account of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem is read from Luke 19:28-40

Deacon A reading from Luke. After he had said this, he 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."

Silence is kept for a space

Reader The word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

THE BLESSING OF THE PALMS

The Presider then says the following blessing over the branches

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**
Presider 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 Savior. 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. (*Please raise your palm branches high in the air.*) 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 with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.
People **Amen**

All are encouraged to join the procession.

A vigil will be kept in the church, with hymns and an anthem, for those who are not able to join the procession.

In the event of rain, we will process in the church. The "vigil during the procession" will not be kept.

THE PROCESSION

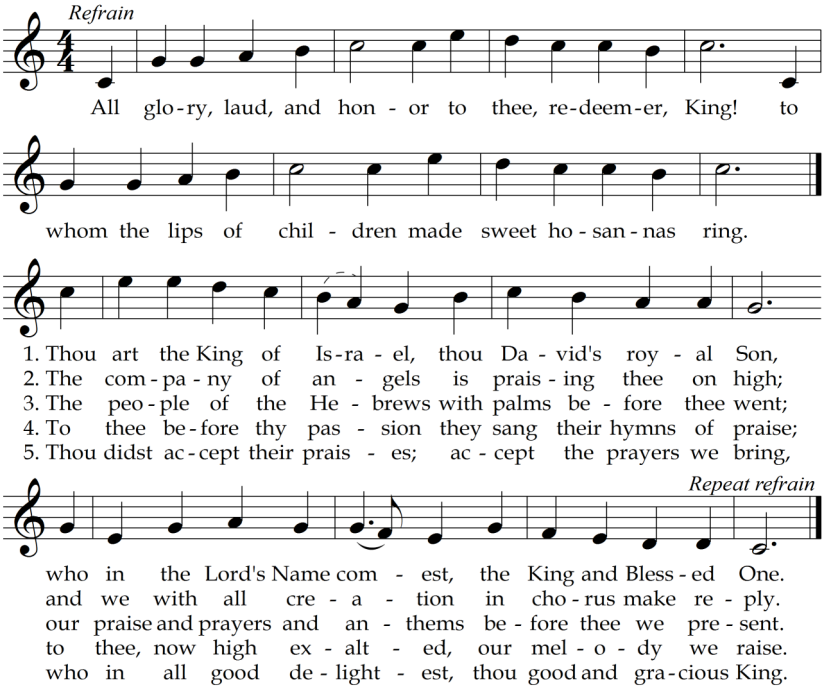
Deacon Let us go forth in peace.

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

Please sing "All Glory Laud and Honor" until the procession arrives at Kilmer Park.

HYMN "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

BLUE HYMNAL 1982 #154



At Kilmer Park, the procession stops and the following is said

Presider Send out your light and your truth, O God:
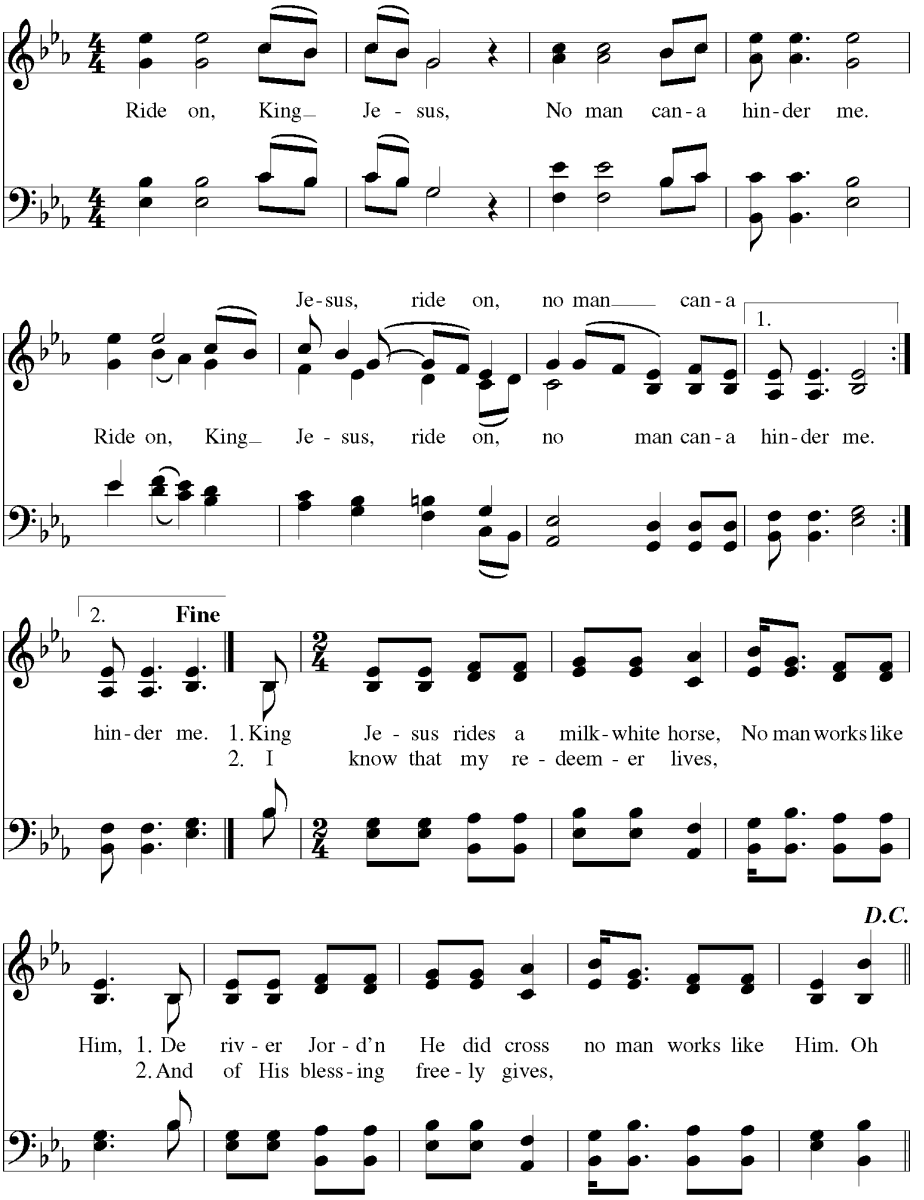
People **And bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.**

Presider Let us pray. Holy God, your Son Jesus wept over the city of Jerusalem before his passion. In your great love behold and visit, we pray, the cities of this earth, and especially this city of New Brunswick. Enable us to eliminate poverty, prejudice, and oppression so that peace may prevail with righteousness, and justice with order, and that women and men from different cultures and with differing talents may find with one another the fulfillment of their humanity; through Christ our Savior.

People **Amen.**

Please sing "Ride On, Jesus, Ride" until the procession arrives back at the church bell tower.

"Ride On, Jesus, Ride" RED LEVAS *HYMNAL* # 97



At the entrance to the tower the procession stops and the following is said

Presider Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord:

People **Hosanna in the highest.**

Presider Let us pray. Lord Jesus, acclaimed as king, crucified as criminal, when you rode into Jerusalem the people waved palms with shouts of acclamation. Grant that when the shouting dies we may not forsake you, but may walk in your footsteps, even to a cross, knowing that you will never forsake us. Teach us to accept our sufferings and triumphs for your glory alone; for your tender mercy's sake.

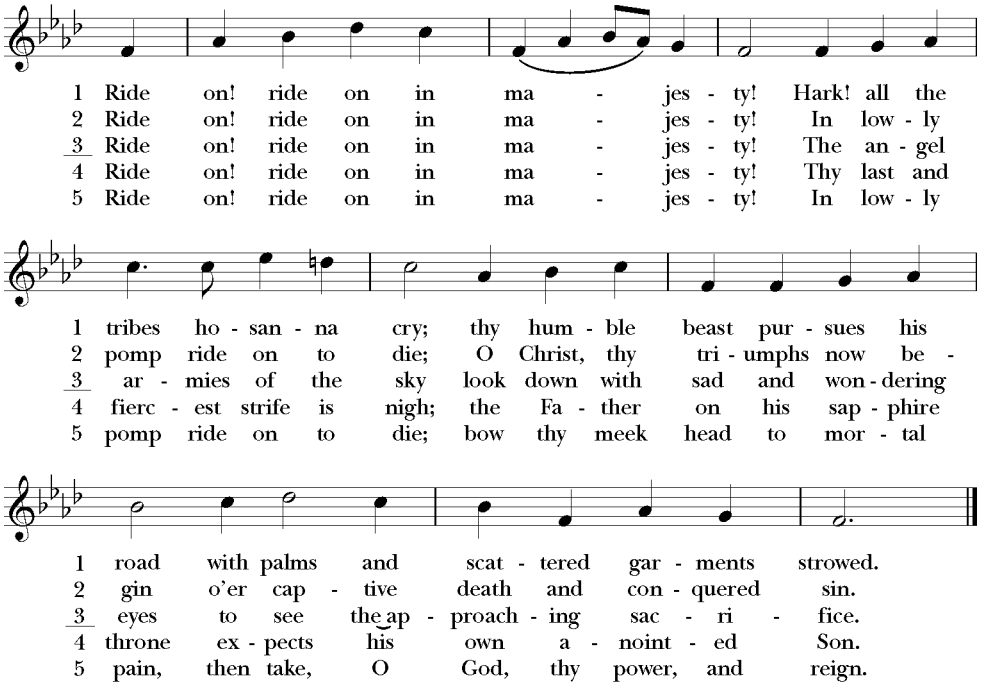
People **Amen.**

The congregation enters the sanctuary following the choir in procession as all join in singing this hymn

ENTRANCE HYMN "Ride on! Ride on in Majesty" THE KING'S MAJESTY

Blue Hymnal 1982 #156

Text: Henry Hart Milman, 1827, alt;
Tune: Graham George, 1940



Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray. Holy God, we gather on this Palm Sunday
and find ourselves in solidarity with the crowds who shouted for salvation.
We know our needs, both individually and collectively.
Our hunger for righteousness and justice compels us to proclaim,
"Hosanna! Save us!" two thousand years later.
As we begin this journey toward the cross, from admiration to despair,
we know we are well-nourished for the path ahead.
You have prepared us, fed us with love and truth,
and refreshed our spirits throughout the Lenten season.
Let us carry the spirit of Hosanna in our hearts, ready to serve and love,
knowing the journey continues toward resurrection and renewal.
May the bread we break, both physical and spiritual,
remind us of your presence in every step.
Guide us on this path and sustain us for the work ahead.

People **Amen.**

Please be seated

THE LESSONS

FIRST LESSON *Isaiah 50:4-9a*

Reader *A reading from 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?
Silence is kept for a space

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 31:9-16

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

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

11 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.

12 I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; *
I am as useless as a broken pot.

13 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.

14 But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. *
I have said, "You are my God.

15 My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.

16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me."

SECOND LESSON *Philippians 2:5-11*

Reader *A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians*: 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.

Silence is kept for a space

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All who are able please stand

GRADUAL HYMN "Ah, holy Jesu, how hast thou offended" BLUE HYMNAL 1982 #158

INVITATION INTO THE PASSION *The Reverend Joanna Hollis*

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST *Luke 23:1-49*

Please follow the Passion reading inserts found in your pew. The customary responses are omitted. Please be seated for the first part of the Passion, then all who are able please stand and kneel where indicated in your Passion insert.

A period of silence follows the reading of the Passion.

NICENE CREED

ALL **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon Let us pray for the church and for the world.

The Leader requests the prayers of the People of God for the world, the mission of the Church, and for those individuals who have asked for or need our prayers. If you would like to add a name to the prayer list, please fill out the form in the Prayers of the People book in the back of the Church. After the last petition, the Presider adds a concluding Collect.

People **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Please kneel or stand as you are able. Silence is kept for a space.

People **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

People **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM:

"HOSANNA, LOUD, HOSSANA" *arr.* J. Leavitt

Sung by the Christ Church Choir

Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang:
Through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast.
The children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

Sing Hosanna, Hosanna to the King.
Sing Hosanna, Hosanna to the King.
Blessed is He who comes in the name. Hosanna to the King.
Blessed is He who comes in the name. Hosanna to the King.
Hosanna to the King.

Blessed is He.
Blessed is He.
Hosanna in excelsis.
Hosanna in excelsis.

Hosanna in the highest!
That ancient song we sang:
For Christ is our Redeemer,
The Lord of heav'n our King.

Oh, may we ever praise Him
With heart and life and voice.
And in His blissful presence eternally rejoice! (continues below)
Sing Hosanna, Hosanna to the King!

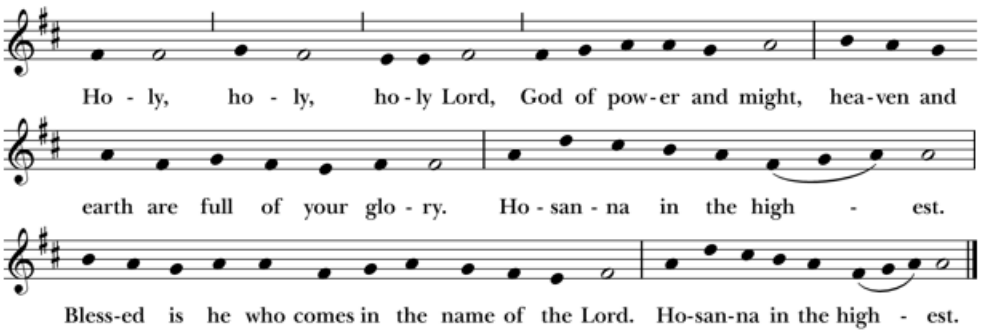
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

BCP, *Eucharistic Prayer A, p. 361*

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**
Presider 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:

SANCTUS *The Blue Hymnal 1982, S*, **#124**
David Hurd

ALL



Presider 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:

People **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**
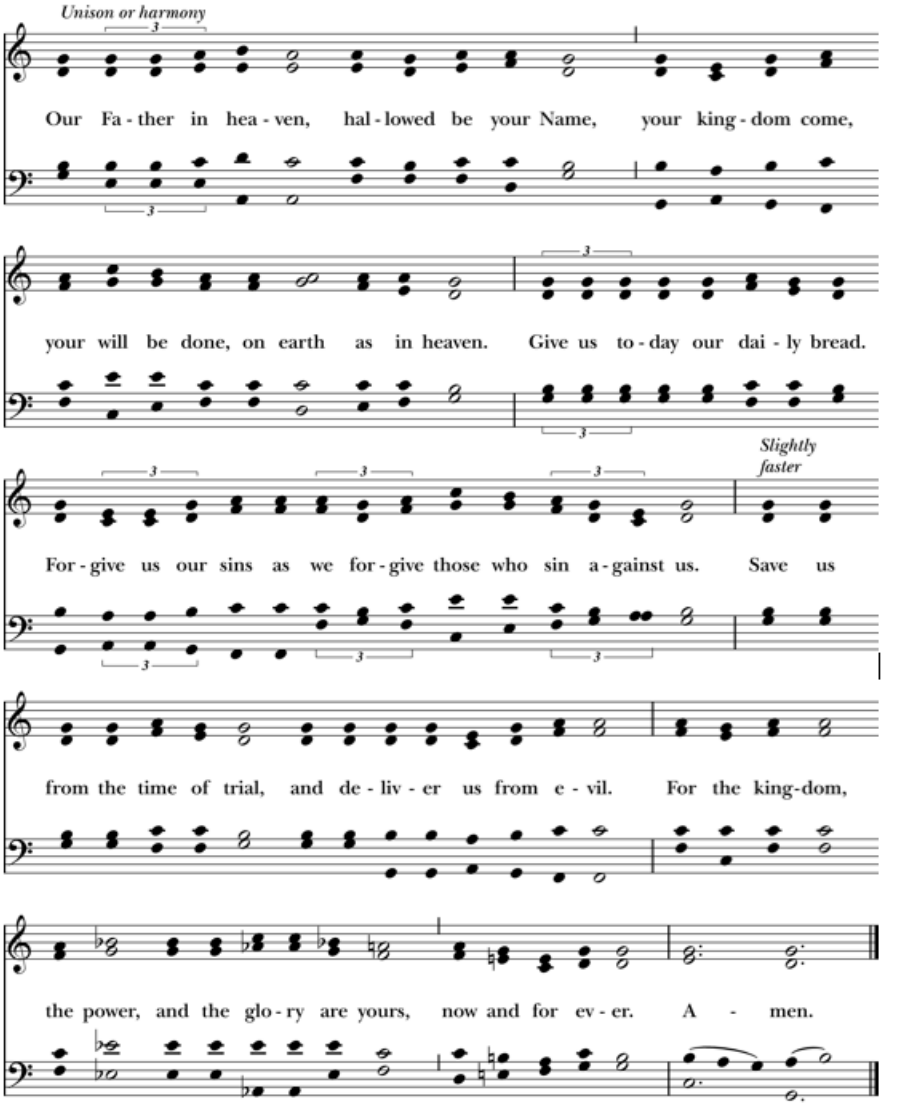
Presider We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of 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.

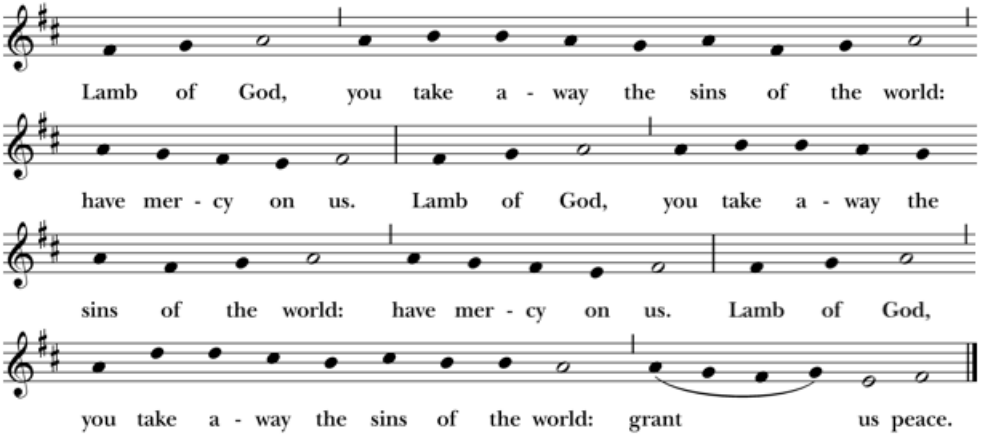
People **AMEN.**

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

ALL *The Blue Hymnal 1982, Service Music*, **#150**
David Hurd



BREAKING THE BREAD *The Blue Hymnal 1982, S* **#161**
David Hurd



INVITATION

Presider The gifts of God for the People of God.

The congregation may kneel or sit following the Invitation. All are most welcome to receive Communion. If you do not wish to receive communion this morning, you are cordially invited to come forward with your arms crossed to receive a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are available; please speak to the member of the clergy who is serving the bread.

The Bread and Cup are given to the Communicants with these words

Minister The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.
Recipient **Amen.**
Minister The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.
Recipient **Amen.**

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER FOR THOSE JOINING US ONLINE:

Gracious God, our sustainer and source of all good things in the universe. As we gather in community this day, we are mindful of those who through circumstance or conscience are unable to partake of the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation at this time. You are the source of the food and water which nourishes and sustains us. As we are the product of all we have partaken, we know that we are infused with your life-giving food and drink and that are never separated from you. Though we are many, we are joined in Christ. We are one Body, one Cup in the name of the One God. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN "My song is Love Unknown" BLUE HYMNAL 1982 #458

Presider Let us pray.

People **Lord, we have celebrated the memorial of your Son's eternal sacrifice. By his passion guard and defend us; By his wounds heal us; By his blood wash us from sin; By his resurrection bring us to everlasting life and glory; For in him is the fulfillment of our hope, now and for ever. Amen.**

FINAL HYMN "At the name of Jesus" BLUE HYMNAL 1982 #435

LENTEN CHARGE, DISMISSAL AND SILENT PROCESSION

Presider Go now into the world brimming with love for God and others.
May you share the bread of life, offering not only what sustains the body but what nourishes the soul.
Live your lives serving in the way of Jesus,
extending compassion to the weary,
offering hope to the despairing,
and providing bread to the hungry.

People **Amen.**

The Deacon dismisses the People.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please hand your Passion narrative to an usher as you leave the church. Thank you.

READERS OF THE PASSION GOSPEL

10:30 A.M.

Evangelist	*Paul Ambos*
Jesus	*Artie Phills*
Peter	*Jonathan Gloster*
Servant Girl	*Catherine Ambos*
First Challenger	

Second Challenger	*Penny Gordon*
Pilate	*Gordon Arsenoff*
First Criminal	*Stephen Greenwood*
Second Criminal	*Joanna Greenwood*
Centurion	

Parish Notes for April 13, 2025

Schedule for April 13, 2025

Today marks the beginning of Holy Week

Sunday	**8:00 a.m.**	**Holy Eucharist, Sanctuary**
	9:30 a.m.	Open Choir + Rehearsal, Sanctuary
	9:30 a.m.	Church School, Ross Room
	10:30 a.m.	**Holy Eucharist, Sanctuary**
Tuesday	12:00 p.m.	Tuesdayers Book Group, Zoom
Wednesday	**12:00 p.m.**	**Noonday Prayer via Zoom**
	7:30 p.m.	Women Spirit, Zoom
Thursday	**6:30 p.m.**	**Maundy Thursday Service, Nicholas Room**
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal (directly after the service)
Friday	**10:00 a.m.**	**Walk for Peace beginning at Emanuel Lutheran**
	7:00 p.m.	**Good Friday Service at St. Alban's**
Saturday	**8:00 p.m.**	**The Great Vigil of Easter, Sanctuary***

Easter Sunday: The Sunday of the Resurrection

8:00 a.m. **Holy Eucharist, Rite I, Sanctuary**

10:30 a.m. **Festal Holy Eucharist, Rite II, Sanctuary***

An Easter Egg Hunt will be held after the 10:30 a.m. service!

**Hypoallergenic incense will be used*



Rock Painting for Easter!

We will be painting rocks to be the "eggs" for the Easter Egg Hunt. Please join in TODAY, Sunday, April 13th, between services to help.
All supplies will be provided.



Flower Memorials & Music Memorials

Today is the LAST day to submit your flower and music memorials. Please complete the form ASAP.

Vestry Key Topics

1. Vestry voted to approve a budget of $5,000 for tree maintenance in 2025. This would include removal of dead trees and critical pruning.

2. There was a continued discussion on identifying candidates to lead this year's Stewardship campaign. The Rector held discernment discussions with potential candidates.

3. 4th Century Task Force kick-off meeting is scheduled for May 3rd . This will include a tour of the church facilities, and brainstorming sessions for the three focus groups (Campus, Community, Congregation (mission).



Experience Holy Week like never before.

From Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday, receive text messages in real time—at dawn, midday, or late at night—so you can follow Jesus step by step through his final days. Each message captures the urgency and wonder of those sacred events, helping you live the Easter story as if it were unfolding right now. Let every text deepen your journey and draw you closer to the heart of Easter.

Simply scan the QR code with your phone.

The Canterbury House celebrates 75+ years of campus ministry at Rutgers University!

Come by The Canterbury House on Rutgers Day – Saturday, April 26th – for an open house from 9 am – 3 pm. We are located at 5 Mine St. in New Brunswick. Tour our student center, reconnect with old friends and make new ones! There will be plenty of food, drinks, and free souvenirs to take with you. We'll even give an award to the alum from the earliest graduating class! We hope to see you then! Christ Church volunteers are welcome to assist throughout the day!
Contact Fr. Scott Russell for more information:
canterbury.house@rutgers.edu | 732-931- 2932.



Liturgical Ministers Needed!

Links are in the weekly email for Holy Week, Easter, and beyond.

PLEASE consider signing up for one or more Sundays



Holy Week & Easter 2025

April 13 ~ The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday
8:00 a.m. Rite I
10:30 a.m. Rite II

April 17 ~ Maundy Thursday
6:30 p.m., Agape Meal, Holy Eucharist, and Foot Washing

April 18 ~ Good Friday
10:00 a.m. Walk for Peace beginning at Emanuel Lutheran
7:00 p.m. Good Friday Joint Services at St. Alban's

April 19 ~ Holy Saturday
8:00 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter (Christ Church) *

April 20 ~ Easter Sunday: The Sunday of the Resurrection
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10:30 a.m. Festal Holy Eucharist *

An Easter Egg Hunt for children of all ages will be held after the 10:30 a.m. service

** Incense will be used at these services*

APRIL 13, 2025
PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

taking faith home

The amazing depth of God's love!

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	**Luke 19:28-40**	**Blessed is the king who comes**
Monday	**Luke 22:14—23:56**	**The Last Supper and crucifixion**
Tuesday	**Isaiah 50:4-9a**	**God's servant must suffer**
Wednesday	**Philippians 2:5-11**	**Christ shows us true humility**
Thursday	**John 13:1-17, 31b-35**	**Jesus washes the disciples' feet**
Friday	**John 18:1—19:42**	**The suffering and death of Jesus**
Saturday	**Psalm 31:9-16**	**A prayer for protection**
Sunday	**Luke 24:1-12**	**The resurrection of Jesus**

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." **Luke 23:34a (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:
Dear God of mercy, thank you for entering our experience of weakness and sin and for sending us out into the world with courage and grace through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:
We thank you for this food, a sign of your steadfast love that protects us through Jesus Christ, your Son, and our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:
May God shine on you with steadfast love. (Psalm 31:16)

MILESTONES MINISTRY

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APRIL 13, 2025

taking faith home

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Bless Now, O God, the Journey

WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Is it easy or hard for you to forgive someone? Explain.
- If you were alive during Jesus' time, what would you have asked him?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 23:1-49.

The crucifixion of Jesus tells us a lot about ourselves and about our God who defeats human frailty with forgiveness and new beginnings. The crowds praise Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and then within a week say, *"Crucify, crucify him"* (v. 21). Peter promises to be faithful to Jesus but at a crucial moment denies him three times. The people give false witness about Jesus to make him look bad in front of Pilate. The leaders, the crowd, and the soldiers mock Jesus, but their words bear the truth of who he really is. Two criminals are killed along with Jesus. One ridicules Jesus while the other seeks his tender care. Through Jesus, God is willing to enter our world and participate in vulnerability, injustices, betrayal, suffering, and death. It shows the way of Jesus' cross as the way of true peace, true life, and true hope. It is the very example of God's amazing love.

Discuss: Who do you most identify with in the story of Jesus' crucifixion?

Pray: **Merciful God, through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, you endure our lies, our fears, and our sin; we praise you for enduring it all from the cross to bring salvation to us. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you help someone who is suffering?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Prayer is an important spiritual practice for Christians. During this Lenten season, take time to focus on the prayer Jesus taught us to pray, the Lord's Prayer (Luke 11:2-4). The conclusion to the Lord's Prayer is an added doxology, an expression of praise to God, not found in Luke 11. This Palm Sunday we shout Hosanna as Jesus enters Jerusalem. Take time to reflect on the words of the conclusion of the Lord's Prayer: *For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.* Add these words to verses 2a, 2b, 3, 4a and 4b from the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth weeks in Lent by writing them around the outside of the cross drawn on the paper the first week. Take a moment to think or talk about what these words mean to you.

Pray: The Lord's Prayer.

MILESTONES MINISTRY

In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: **www.milestonesministry.org**

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

	April 13 Palm Sunday	April 17 Maundy Thursday	April 18 Good Friday
Presider	Rev. Joanna Hollis	Rev. Joanna Hollis	Rev. Sal Ros
Preacher	Rev. Joanna Hollis	Rev. Joanna Hollis	Rev. Joanna Hollis,
Deacon	Rev. Daphne Roberts	Rev. Daphne Roberts	Rev. Daphne Roberts
Organist	Suzanne McDonald	N/A	Suzanne McDonald
	8 AM		
Lector & Intercessor	Meegan Adames		
LEM *LEM will read the Epistle*	Sheila Cooper		
Vestry Announcements	Meegan Adames		
Acolyte			
Ushers			
	10:30 A.M.		**7 PM**
Lector & Intercessor			
LEM *LEM will read the Epistle*	Jonathan Gloster		
Acolyte / Server			
Vestry Announcements			
Usher			
Production Minister	Steve Caruso		
Altar Guild	Mervis Johnson, Margaret Brown-Stansbury		
Coffee Hour			

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

	April 19 Holy Saturday Easter Vigil	April 20 Easter Sunday
Presider	Rev. Joanna Hollis	Rev. Joanna Hollis
Preacher	Rev. Sal Ros	Rev. Joanna Hollis
Deacon	Rev. Daphne Roberts	Rev. Daphne Roberts
Organist	Suzanne McDonald	Suzanne McDonald
		8 AM
Lector & Intercessor		
LEM *LEM will read the Epistle*		
Vestry Announcements		
Crucifer and Chalice		
Ushers		
	8 P.M.	**10:30 A.M.**
Lector & Intercessor		
LEM *LEM will read the Epistle*		
Acolyte / Server		
Thurifer	Artie Phills	
Vestry Announcements		Meegan Adames
Usher		
Production Minister		Steve Caruso
Altar Guild		Nancy Walworth, Sheila Cooper
Coffee Hour		

CHRIST CHURCH IN THE CITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK
a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey
WORSHIPPING GOD, SERVING GOD'S PEOPLE

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PARISH MISSION STATEMENT
Historic Christ Church is a mutually supportive Christian community worshiping in the living Anglican tradition of beauty in liturgy and music. Christ Church bears witness to the love of Christ in prayer, service and fellowship.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME HERE.

5 Paterson Street ▪ New Brunswick NJ 08901
732.545.6262 ▪ christchurchnewbrunswick.org



The Reverend Joanna P. Hollis, *Rector*
The Reverend Daphne Roberts, *Deacon*
Suzanne McDonald, *Director of Music and Organist*
Brittney Girault, *Parish Administrator*
Elaine Winkler, *Bookkeeper*
Carlos Garcia, *Sexton*