March 29, 2026
The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday
9:30 AM



LITURGY OF THE PALMS & HOLY EUCHARIST

THE 9:30AM 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.

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.

YOU ARE INVITED to worship with us any Sunday.
Our regular service time is 9:30 AM.

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— *Carlitos, Emily, Jeannine, Lizette, Michael, Milton, Pat, Patricia, Sarah, Suzanne, Timothy, Vincent*
Anglican Cycle*— we pray for The Anglican Church of Melanesia*
Diocesan Cycle*— Members and Ministry of Diocesan Council*
Christ Church Ministry*—Discipleship and Adult Formation*
Birthdays this week*—Nayla Caruso, Zara Jarrett, Margaret Robbins, Sylvia Aubee, David Briggs, Shannon Caldwell, Jean Houvener, Rozanne Jhamb*
Memorial Flowers—*are given by 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 Rev. Scott Russell– 732.545.6262 ext. 1 or Rev. Daphne P. Roberts—732.545.6262 ext. 3

If you would like to schedule home communion, please contact Rev. Roberts and she will arrange for either herself, or a Lay Eucharistic Visitor to bring communion to you. Please do not hesitate to contact Rev. Russell 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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PARISH STAFF

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Worshipping God Serving God's People
Christ Church New Brunswick

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS &

March 29, 2026
9:30 a.m.

HOLY EUCHARIST

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 Matthew 21:1-11

Deacon A reading from Matthew. When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, "Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey." The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were

shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

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

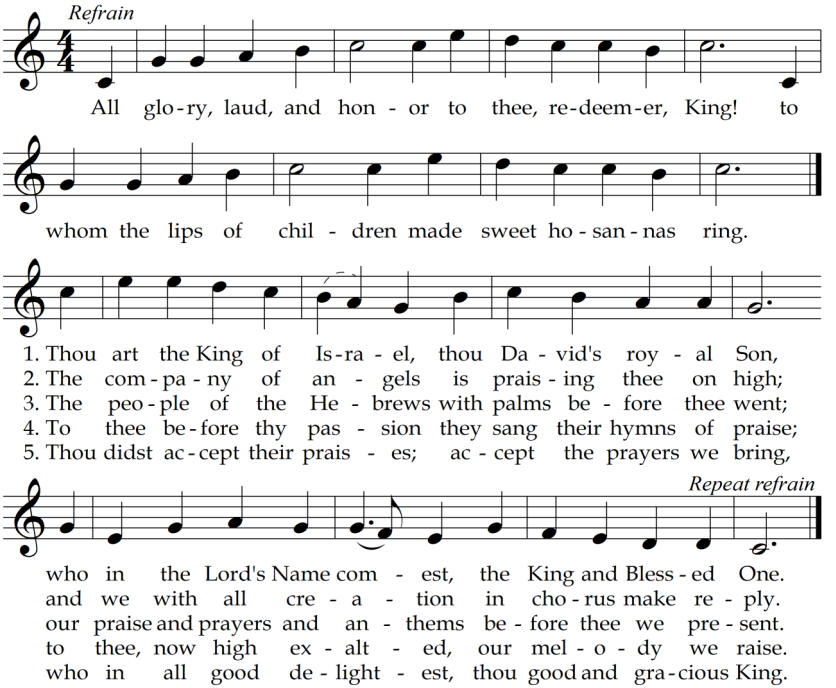
Deacon Let us go forth in peace.

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
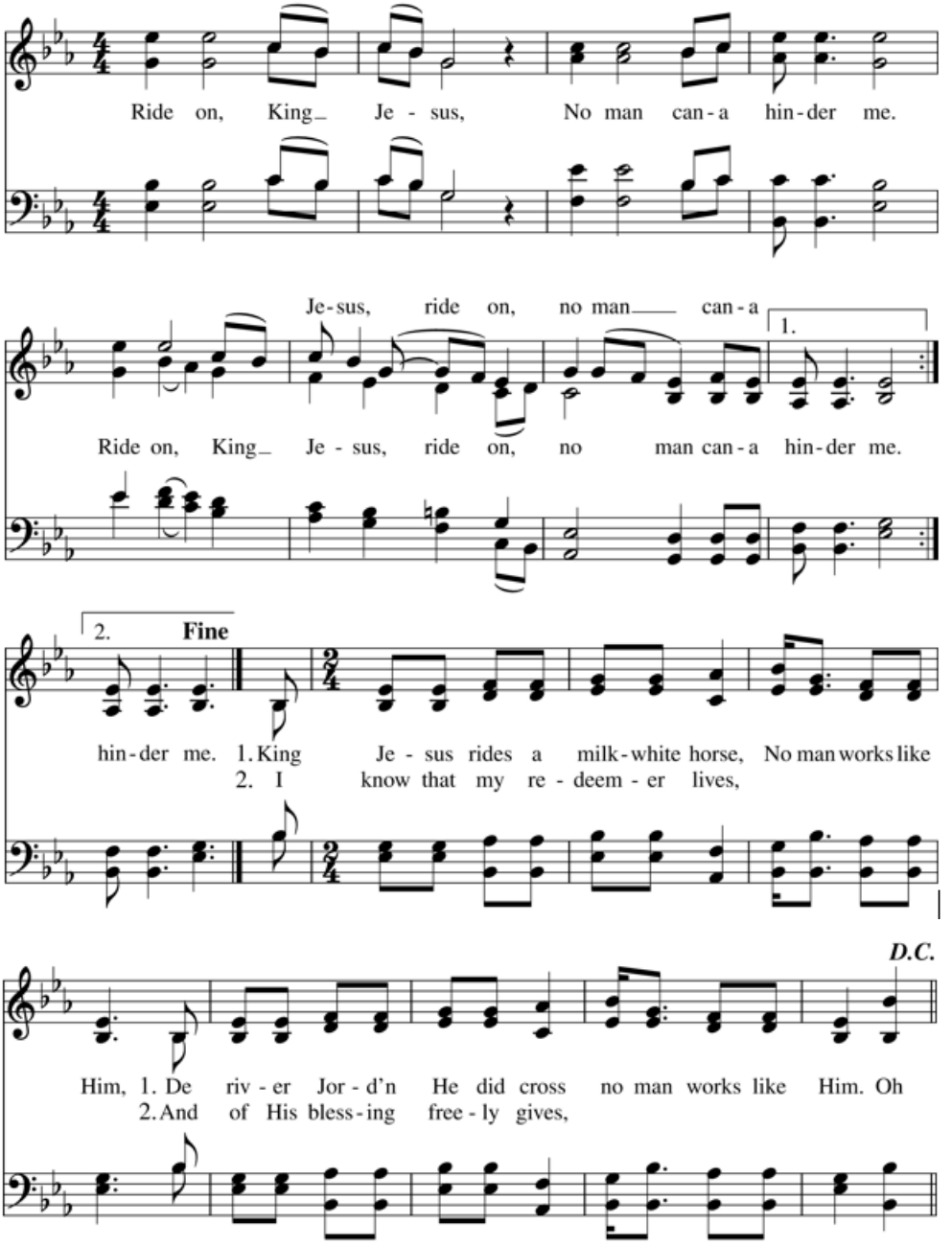


At Kilmer Park, the procession stops and the following is said

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.**


Ride on, King_ Je - sus, No man can - a hin - der me.
Je - sus, ride on, no man_ can - a
1.
Ride on, King_ Je - sus, ride on, no man can - a hin - der me.
2.
Fine
hin - der me. 1. King Je - sus rides a milk - white horse, No man works like
2. I know that my re - deem - er lives,
D.C.
Him, 1. De riv - er Jor - d'n He did cross no man works like Him. Oh
2. And of His bless - ing free - ly gives,

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.**

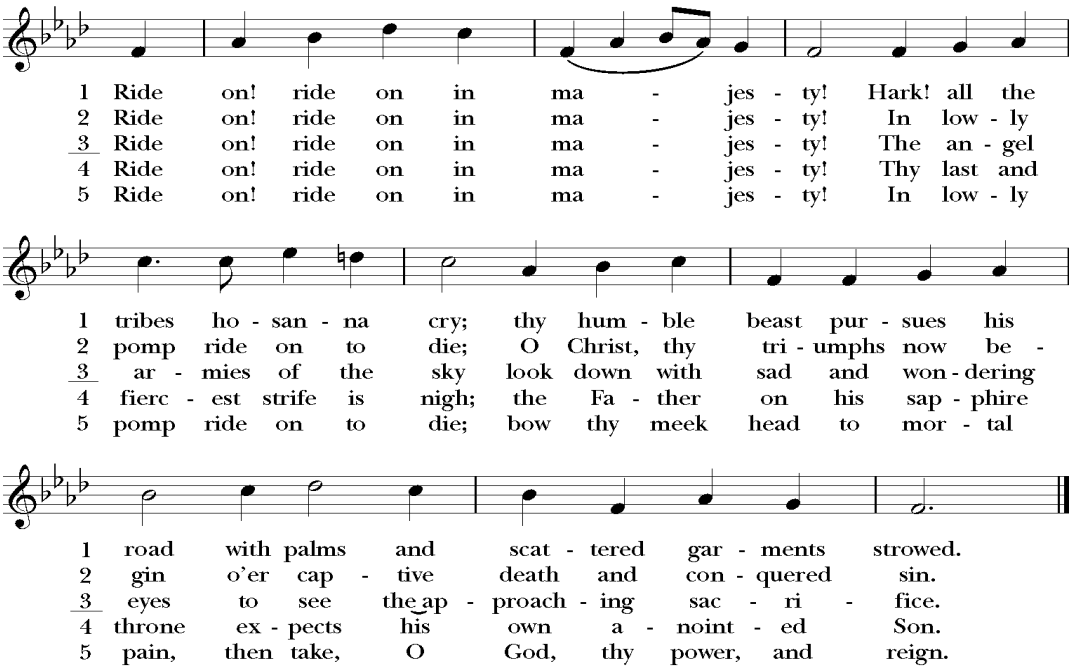
Presider Let us pray. Lord Jesus, acclaimed as king, crucified as criminal, when you rode into Jerusalem the people waved palms with shouts of acclamation. Grant that when the shouting dies we may not forsake you, but may walk in your footsteps, even to a cross, knowing that you will never forsake us. 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

INVITATION INTO THE PASSION

The Reverend Scott Russell

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Matthew 21:1-11

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 or 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

Intercessor 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.**

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 HYMN: "My song is love unknown" BLUE HYMNAL 1982 #458

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.**

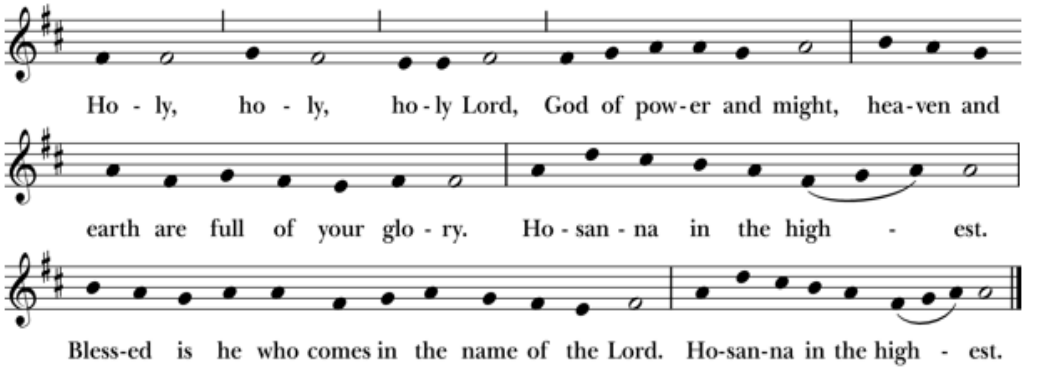
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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:
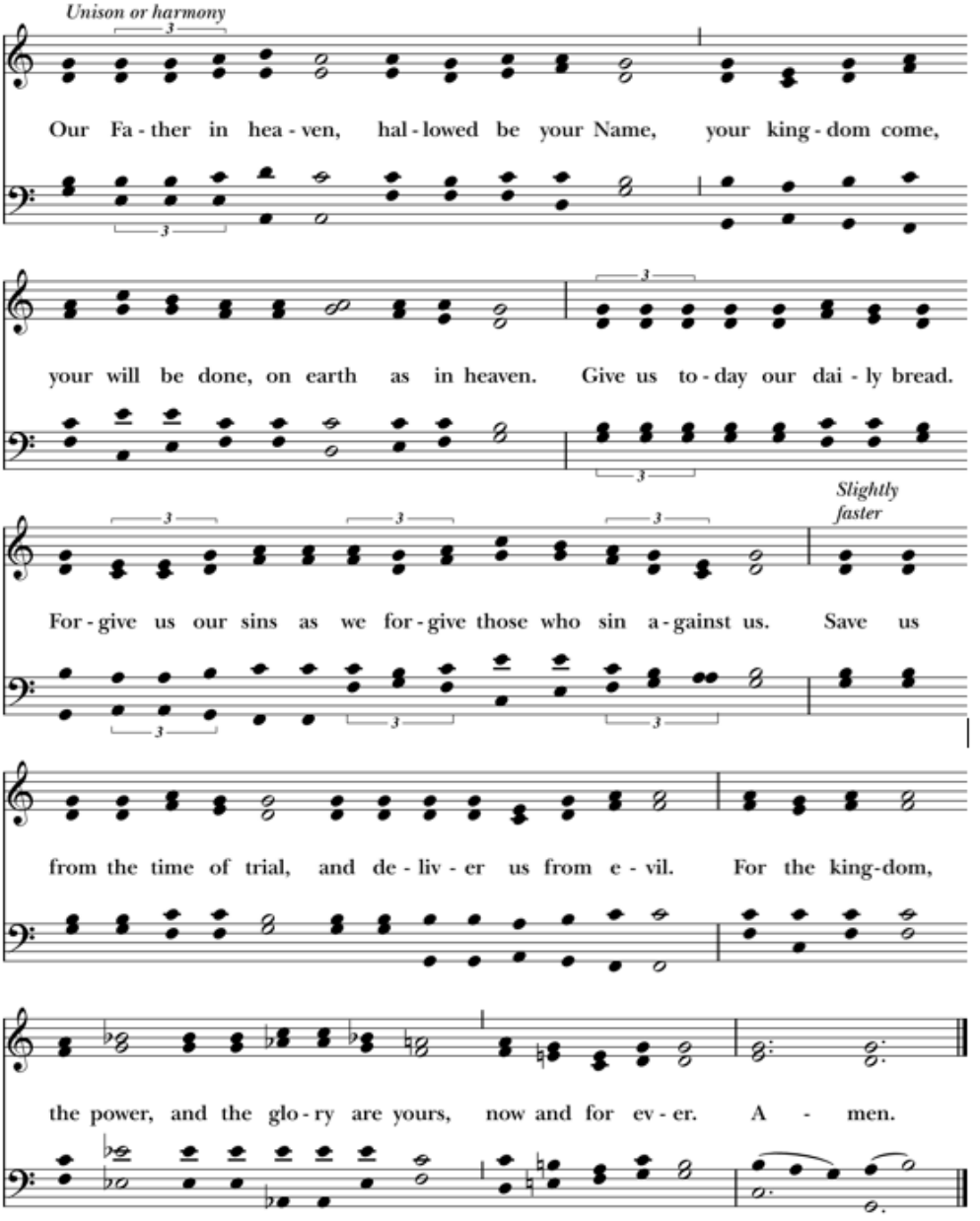
People **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

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.**

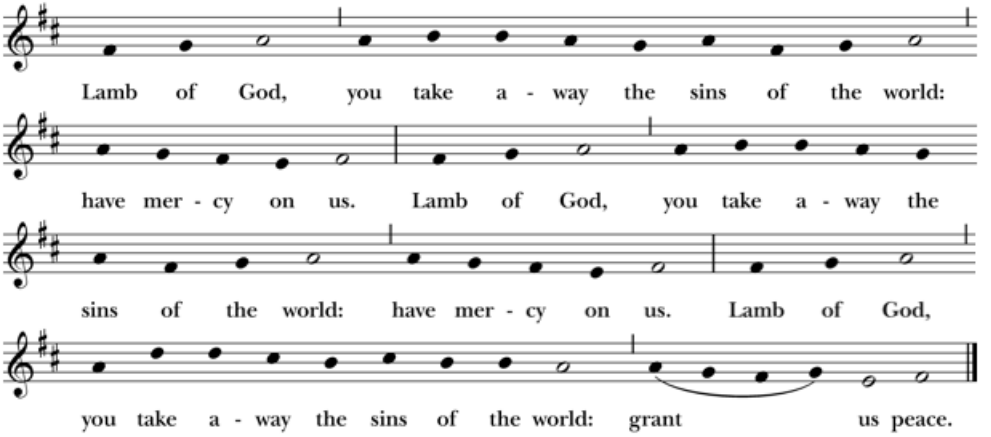
Presider As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

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 "Sing my tongue" BLUE HYMNAL 1982 #166

AFTER COMMUNION

All who are able please stand

Presider Let us pray.

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.**

FINAL HYMN "Alone thou goest forth" BLUE HYMNAL 1982 #164

LENTEN CHARGE, DISMISSAL AND SILENT PROCESSION

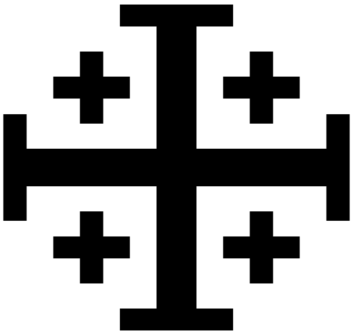
Presider Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

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

9:30 A.M.

Evangelist	*Paul Ambos*
Jesus	*Artie Phills*
Judas	*Mark McMahon*
First Servant Girl	*Catherine Ambos*
Second Servant Girl	
Caiaphas	*Mel Gaeber*
Pilate	*Jonathan Gloster*

Parish Notes for March 29, 2026

Schedule for March 29, 2026

Today marks the beginning of Holy Week

Sunday **9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Sanctuary**
Tuesday 12:00 p.m. Tuesdayers Book Group, Zoom
Wednesday **12:00 p.m. Noonday Prayer via Zoom**
6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
7:30 p.m. Women Spirit, Zoom
Thursday **6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service, Nicholas Room**
Friday **12:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross, Christ Church**
7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service, Christ Church
Saturday **8:00 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter, Sanctuary***

Easter Sunday: The Sunday of the Resurrection

9:30 a.m. Festal Holy Eucharist, Rite I, Sanctuary*

An Easter Egg Hunt will be held after the 9:30 a.m. service!
**Hypoallergenic incense will be used*



Flower Memorials & Music Memorials

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



Lenten Loot for the Lord

Don't let your coins sit lonely at home.
Bring them to Christ Church!
From now until Easter Sunday we will collect loose change. Look for the jar in the back of the church. All proceeds go to the Rector's Discretionary fund.



Do you have books gathering dust on your shelf? Ready to make room for new books?

Christ Church is holding a Book Sale on **April 25 (Rutgers Day) from 9:00 am -3:00 pm.**

To help us, please bring books in **GOOD** condition (no mold, no water damage, no missing pages or broken bindings), to Christ Church starting this Sunday, March 15. We will be collecting books through April 18.
We are also collecting bags for the shoppers to use.

We would greatly appreciate volunteers to help with the book sale on April 25. The sale will take place in the garden. If you have a large tent that we could use, please let us know.
Proceed go to Rector's Discretionary fund.

Refreshments may be for sale in the Nicholas Room.
If you have any questions, please contact Sheila Cooper or Mark McMahon.

RaiseRight™
Formerly ShopWithScrip

It is time for the Christ Church April RaiseRight Order!

Paul Ambos, will be placing a new card order on the morning of **Monday, April 6.** Please place your orders accordingly. If you plan to mail him an order with a check, mail it by **Wednesday, April 1.** Please advise him by email when you mail it of what your order is so he can place it on time despite possible Post Office delays. If you place your own order directly on the RaiseRight website or app, he will be able to see it there when he orders the monthly batch.

Don't want to write a check? No problem! Use the RaiseRight payment options through your checking account or credit card (checking costs a 29 cent charge per order; credit cards charge a percentage that is usually more). If you want physical cards delivered directly to your home, you can arrange delivery through the app. There is a charge for delivery. If you order for delivery through Paul, the church covers the delivery charge. RaiseRight website is **https://www.raiseright.com/shop.**

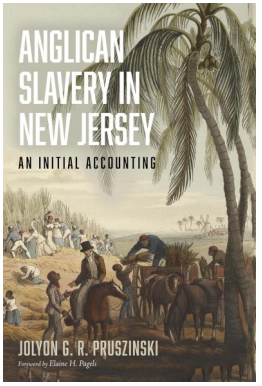
Thank you for your support of this parish program.



Friends, please join us as we gather on the first Monday of each month for a prayerful way to end our day.

Creation Care Compline, a collaboration of the Green Caucus and the Creation Care Mission of The Episcopal Church
Easter Monday, April 6, 2026, 8:00pm ET

Join Zoom Meeting
https://zoom.us/j/94872138409?pwd=OOeir2CuRtx91P9l37LKglaD64Prob.1
Meeting ID: 948 7213 8409
Passcode: 657479



The Tuesdayers' Next Book: "Anglican Slavery in New Jersey:
An Initial Accounting"

Author Jolyon G. R. Pruszinski is the historian for the Diocese of NJ Reparations Commission. His book reveals the church's significant and often troubling role in supporting and sustaining slavery in New Jersey. It traces how White Anglicans and Episcopalians participated in and defended the institution, while Black Episcopalians faced marginalization and injustice within the church. Pruszinski invites us into a process of honest reckoning, calling the church toward repentance and meaningful repair today. The Tuesdayers invite you to join our discussions beginning April 7. We meet on Tuesdays (except the second Tuesday of each month) from 7:00–8:30 pm via Zoom. For more information, contact Jonathan Clark at im4canoes@yahoo.com. An alternative is to discuss the book with the author on Thursdays, starting April 16. For more on this option go to dionj-racialjusticereview.blogspot.com.



Holy Week & Easter 2026

March 29 ~ The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday
9:30 a.m. Rite II

April 2 ~ Maundy Thursday
6:30 p.m., Agape Meal, Holy Eucharist, and Foot Washing

April 3 ~ Good Friday
12:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross (Christ Church)
7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service (Christ Church)

April 4 ~ Holy Saturday
8:00 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter (Christ Church) *

April 5 ~ Easter Sunday: The Sunday of the Resurrection
9:30 a.m. Festal Holy Eucharist *

** Incense will be used at these services*

MARCH 29, 2026
PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

taking faith home

Jesus' death shows the depth of God's love.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	**Matthew 21:1-11**	**Jesus enters Jerusalem**
Monday	**Matthew 26:14—27:66**	**Jesus' trial and crucifixion**
Tuesday	**Isaiah 50:4-9a**	**The servant's humiliation**
Wednesday	**Philippians 2:5-11**	**Christ shows us true humility**
Thursday	**John 13:1-35**	**Jesus washes disciples' feet**
Friday	**John 18:1—19:42**	**Jesus suffers and dies**
Saturday	**Psalm 31:9-16**	**Prayer for protection**
Sunday	**Matthew 28:1-10**	**Christ's resurrection**

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

[B]ut [Jesus Christ] 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. **Philippians 2:7-8 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:
Merciful God, free us to trust that the humiliation Jesus experienced from the cross is the path to hope for the world and the source of real power, faith, and love. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:
Dear God, we thank you for the gift of each day and for this food. May we enjoy the day with courage, faith, and love. Amen.

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

MILESTONES MINISTRY

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MARCH 29, 2026

taking faith home

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!

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:

- What do you do to show someone that you care for them?
- How is Jesus' death on a cross a sign of God's love for you?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Matthew 26:14–27:66.

Many theories have been put forward in the history of the church to state why Jesus had to die to be our Savior. However, one point is clear in the Bible: Jesus' death shows the depth of God's love, a love that is willing to experience a form of slavery, humiliation, and excruciating death, *"even death on a cross"* (Philippians 2:8). Crosses have become forms of jewelry and part of other art forms that point to Jesus' death. However, neither jewelry nor other art forms fully express the pain and humiliation that God in Christ endured to indicate the character of who God is for us. Jesus joins our human existence by making our deepest prayer his prayer: *"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"* (Matthew 27:46). God in Christ Jesus joins our life experience and from the cross stretches out his arms to say, "I love you this much."

Discuss: When you see someone wearing a cross, what does it mean to you?

Pray: **Loving God, you stop at nothing to show us your divine character and the depth of your love. Help us to know and to trust the power of your love for us through Christ. 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 care for someone who has been unfairly treated?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

If you received palms during worship, take them home. As we begin Holy Week, say the **ACTS** prayer of giving praise to God (Adoration), asking God's forgiveness (Confession), giving thanks to God (Thanksgiving), and asking God's help for those in need (Supplication) as you light all six purple candles on the Lenten Candle Cross. After lighting the candles, hold a palm and wave it in your hand as you say, ***"Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"*** (Matthew 21:9b)

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

	March 29 Palm Sunday	April 2 Maundy Thursday	April 3 Good Friday
Presider	Rev. Scott Russell	Rev. Scott Russell	Rev. Scott Russell
Preacher	Rev. Scott Russell	Rev. Scott Russell	Rev. Sal Ros
Deacon	Rev. Daphne Roberts	Rev. Daphne Roberts	Rev. Daphne Roberts
Organist	Janette Gloem (pianist)	N/A	David Citron
	9:30 A.M.	**6:30PM**	**7 PM**
Lector & Intercessor	Meegan Adames		
LEM *LEM will read the Epistle*	Kevin Stansbury		Artie Phills
Acolyte / Server			
Vestry Announce-ments	Jonathan Clark		
Usher		Tisha Abbott	
Production Minister	Jonathan Gloster		
Altar Guild	Nancy Walworth/ Shannon Pullaro	Nancy Walworth	Nancy Walworth
Coffee Hour			

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

	April 4 Holy Saturday Easter Vigil	April 5 Easter Sunday
Presider	Rev. Scott Russell	Rev. Scott Russell
Preacher	Rev. Daphne P. Roberts	Rev. Daphne P. Roberts
Deacon	Rev. Daphne P. Roberts	Rev. Daphne Roberts
Organist	David Citron	Brass Quintet
	8 P.M.	**10:30 A.M.**
Lector & Intercessor		Paul Ambos
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

✠

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT
Christ Episcopal Church is a diverse and inclusive Christian community. We bear witness to the love and justice of Christ through worship, music, and service.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME HERE.

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



The Reverend Daniel Scott Russell, *Interim Rector*
The Reverend Daphne P. Roberts, *Deacon*
Suzanne McDonald, *Director of Music and Organist*
Brittney Girault, *Business Operations Manager*
Elaine Winkler, *Bookkeeper*
Carlos Garcia, *Sexton*

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