



**The Sunday of the Passion
Palm Sunday**

April 13, 2025 | 5:00 PM

**Saint Luke's Parish
Darien, Connecticut**

Welcome!

Whoever you are and wherever you may be on your spiritual journey, we are so glad you have joined us for worship today. May you know the presence of the living God who welcomes you here. Everything you need to participate in today's service is included in this leaflet. Ushers are available to answer any questions or direct you as needed. If this is your first time with us, we invite you to complete and return a welcome card so we can be in touch. May God bless you now and always.

About Today's Service

Today's liturgy marks the beginning of Holy Week. In this Palm Sunday service we journey with Jesus as he is welcomed in triumph upon entering Jerusalem and then utterly rejected and crucified at Golgotha outside the gates of the city. Today's reading of Christ's passion sets forth the central act of God's love for humankind. We are not just observers but are part of the passion of Christ and through it we come to know the reality of God's saving action in our lives. Holy Week will culminate in the celebration of the Triduum—the Sacred Three Days of Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection.

Palm Sunday: The Sunday of the Passion

Come As You Are Liturgy of the Palms

& Holy Eucharist

Prelude

Rector's Welcome

Opening Acclamation

Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

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.**

The Gospel of the Triumphant Entry | Luke 19:28-40

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After telling a parable to the crowd at Jericho, 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Blessing of the Palms

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The people raise their palms as the Celebrant then says the following blessing.

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

Welcome to visitors and members alike. Our church's motto is: "The Episcopal Church Welcomes You" and we hope you find this a most hospitable place to worship, to grow, and to be.

The order for our service is from the **Book of Common Prayer**. The order is called the liturgy, which means "work of the people." It is responsive and participatory because your contribution to worship is what truly makes us a worshiping community.

Palm Sunday is the beginning of Holy Week. On this Sunday we enter into a week of remembering and reenacting Jesus' final days, from his triumphal entry into Jerusalem, through the last supper in the upstairs room, to the foot of the cross, all before we arrive again at the joy of the empty tomb on Easter morning.

The service starts with the **Liturgy of the Palms**. In it we wave palm fronds to join with the first century followers of Jesus as we proclaim with them across time and space that Jesus is our king and Messiah, the one we have all been waiting and hoping for.

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.**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

“All Glory, Laud and Honor”

“All Glory, Laud and Honor” © Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain CCLI License # 11394986

Refrain:

All glory, laud, and honor, to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's name comest, the King and Blessed One.

Refrain

The company of angels are praising thee on high,
and we with all creation in chorus make reply.

Refrain

The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;
our prayer and praise and anthems before thee we present.

Refrain

Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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 Word of God

The First Lesson | Philippians 2:5-11

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Lectionary: The choice of readings comes from the Revised Common Lectionary, a three-year cycle of readings covering the whole Bible that we share with other major Christian denominations.

“Hosanna”

I see the King of glory
Coming on the clouds with fire
The whole earth shakes
The whole earth shakes
Yeah

I see His love and mercy
Washing over all our sin
The people sing
The people sing

Chorus:

Hosanna
Hosanna
Hosanna in the highest (x2)

I see a generation
Rising up to take their place
With selfless faith
With selfless faith

I see a near revival
Stirring as we pray and seek
We're on our knees
We're on our knees

[Chorus]

Heal my heart and make it clean
Open up my eyes to the things unseen
Show me how to love like You have loved me

Break my heart for what breaks Yours
Everything I am for Your kingdom's cause
As I walk from earth into eternity

[Chorus x2]

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke

Please stand upon hearing, “the place that is called The Skull.”

Musical Meditation

The Prayers of the People

The Celebrant begins

As we journey this week with Christ and celebrate the Paschal Mystery of his death and resurrection, let us pray to God for ourselves and for the world.

The Intercessor continues

Fill the Church, Christ's broken body, with your Spirit. Give to Christian people everywhere a deep longing to take up the cross and follow you. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

“Hosanna”
By Brooke Ligertwood
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There is always a **Gospel** reading and it is proclaimed by the deacon or priest from among the people. The gospel is the story of Jesus Christ among us, but it is also our story, the good news of our faith.

The **Prayers of the People** are always responsive. They are “of the people” because everyone gives voice to the supplications. It is part of our liturgy where it is most evident that we would be noticeably less without the contribution of each person present.

Bless those who lead the Church's worship at this solemn time. In the proclamation of the Word and celebration of the Sacraments, draw your people close to you. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Strengthen those among us who are preparing for baptism and confirmation this Easter. Teach them what it means to die and rise with Christ, and prepare them to receive the gift of your Spirit. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Look in mercy upon the world you made, and for which your Son came to live and die as one of us. Strengthen those who work to continue his ministry of reconciliation, peace, justice, and love. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Bring healing to all who are weighed down by pain and injustice. Help the lonely and the betrayed, the sick, the suffering and the dying, to find strength in the companionship of Jesus, and in his passion to know their salvation. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Welcome into paradise all who have left this world in your friendship. According to your promises, bring them with all your saints to share in your eternal life. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant concludes

Lord Jesus Christ, you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation: give us the mind to follow you all our days, and to proclaim you as Lord and King, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

Please stand.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Welcome & Announcements

The Holy Communion

At the Offertory, we gratefully offer back to God a portion of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, and in the money we give. To make an electronic gift today, please either visit www.saintlukesdarien.org/give or scan the QR code below with your phone. Thank you for your generosity.



Offertory Words

“How Deep the Father’s Love For Us”

The Great Thanksgiving | Eucharistic Prayer A

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

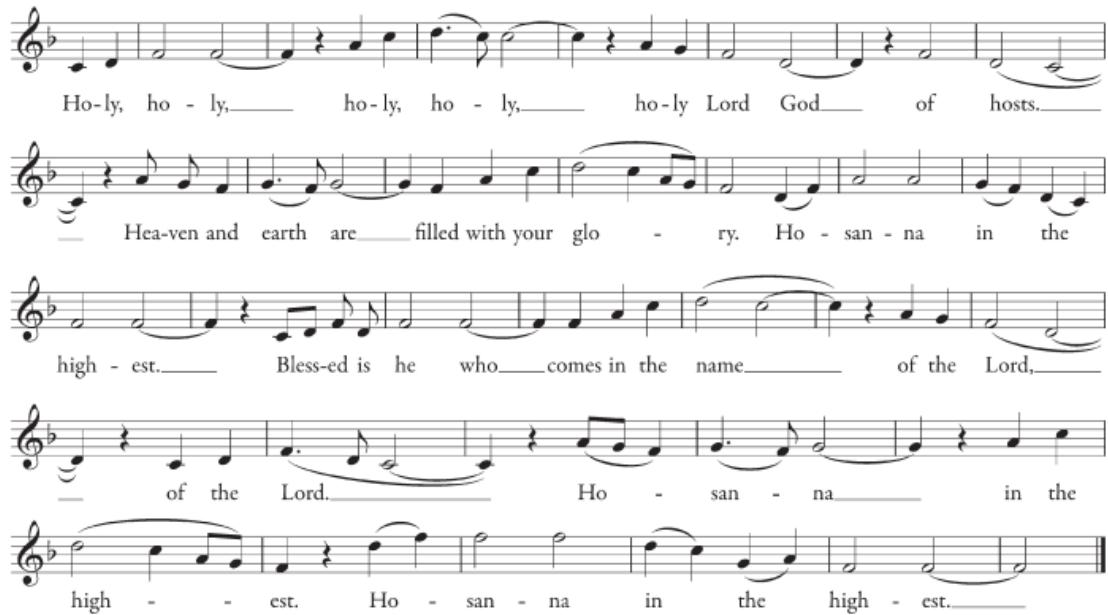
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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 & Benedictus

Sung by all.

Grayson Warren Brown



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:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

For Episcopalians, the Eucharist, rather than the sermon, is the principle act of Christian worship. The Eucharistic prayer always entails a full proclamation of the heart of the Gospel.

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.

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

The Lord's Prayer

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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
Therefore let us keep the feast.

Fraction Anthem *Sung by all.*

Ike Sturm

Je - sus, Lamb of God. You for-give our sins. Have mer cy on us.

Lord, you take a - way our sins. Lord, grant us peace, O

Lamb of God.

Invitation to Communion

The Table is ready. So, come, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have fallen short. Come, because it is Christ who invites you to meet him here.

All baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion, regardless of age or denomination. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. If you require a gluten-free wafer, please request one. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of Communion, please cross your arms over your chest.

Communion Song "Above All "

Postcommunion Prayer

Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Solemn Prayer

Bow down before the Lord.

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

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please depart in silence.

The Eucharist, or **Communion**, is reminiscent of the Passover meal that Jesus shared with his disciples before his death. Now he shares it with us and invites all of us to share symbolically in his life, death, and resurrection, through it. It should remind us that we are Christ's body in our time.

The Postcommunion Prayer concludes the Eucharist. In it we always say "thank you" to God for the gift of Christ, the Spirit, and the community of the Church.

In Lent, in place of a seasonal blessing, a **Solemn Prayer** over the people is used to beseech God to strengthen our faith and aid us in our efforts.

The **Dismissal** is an important part of the service. Having heard the gospel and been served at the table of Christ, we are sent out into the world to proclaim the good news and be Christ's hands and feet on earth.

Participants in Today's Service

Celebrant The Rev. Hannah G. Pommersheim

Deacon The Rev. G. Hartwell Hylton

Assisting The Rev. Ryan C. Fleenor

Lay Reader &

Chalice Bearer Pippa Morgan

Intercessor &

Chalice Bearer Tom Dickson

Greeter Christopher Morgan, Marie Morgan

Altar Guild Kathy Lozier

Musicians Bob Leinbach, Keyboards, Vocals

Anna Jacobson, Vocals, Violin

Tod Baharian, Guitar, Vocals

Tod Hedrick, Bass

Tom Barraco, Percussion

About these Prayers

Saint Luke's is a community committed to prayer. Holding one another's joys, sorrows, and concerns before God in prayer is a spiritual practice at the heart of our life together. We encourage you to pray throughout the week for these members of our parish family.

We invite you to add yourself or others to the Saint Luke's prayer list by submitting a prayer request card or notifying the Parish Office at 203-655-1456 or info@saintlukesdarien.org.

Pastoral Visits

Please notify us if you or a family member is hospitalized and/or in need of a pastoral call or visit. We often have no other way of knowing a visit is needed. Please email a member of the clergy or call the Parish Office.

Sharing Holy Communion

If illness prevents you or a loved one from joining us for services, a priest or a lay eucharistic visitor can share Holy Communion with you at home or in a health care facility. Please contact the Parish Office.

Celebrations

If you would like to ask for prayers for the celebrations in your life or in the life of a loved one, please contact the Parish Office.

Flowers

The Flower Guild adorns the church with flowers and greens thanks to donations given in memory of loved ones or in thanksgiving for special occasions. The names are listed in the service bulletins. If you would like to make a gift of flowers, please contact Lynn Biggart at 203-655-3343 or sevnenbiggs@aol.com.

12 Step Groups

Saint Luke's hosts multiple 12 Step Recovery and Support groups, including AA, AlAnon, Alateen, and Fabulous Women of Wednesday. Call the Parish Office for meeting times, or see our online calendar.

Prayer List

For the Church

In our Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for The Church of England.

In our Diocese, we pray for St. Peter's, Milford; Trinity, Milton; St. Peter's Grace, Monroe and for Hospital chaplains, Stephen Ministers, pastoral care groups, ministries of healing, wellness programs, recovery ministries.

In our parish cycle of prayer, we pray for Caring Connections and their ministries.

Those who have requested our prayers

For members and friends of the parish who are sick, sorrowful, or in any kind of trouble: Charlie, Cody, Lauren, Anne, Foster, Joel, Nathan, Desi, Mary, Chloe, Christian, George, Joleen, Quay, Elizabeth, Jim, Michael, Debbie, Anne, Sophie, Fred, Steven, Tim and his children, Bill, Amanda, Samantha, Kerry and Gillian, Beth, Ellen, Jack, Jim, Ed, Brad, Ed, Ellen, Wendy and Charlotte, John, Kelly, Marshall, Enzo, Jackie, Ronald, Cindy.

In our Outreach cycle of prayer, we pray for Cuba: Santa Cruz del Norte, our partner parish in Cuba, and for the whole Diocese of Cuba.

Those who have died

All who have died in civil and military conflict around the world, especially in the Holy Land, Sudan, and Ukraine

Saint Luke's Parish

A parish in the Episcopal Church in Connecticut,
a member of the world-wide Anglican Communion.

The Most Rev. Sean W. Rowe, Presiding Bishop
The Rt. Rev. Jeffrey W. Mello, Bishop of Connecticut The Rt. Rev. Laura J. Ahrens, Bishop Suffragan

Rector

The Rev. Ryan C. Fleenor

2025-2026 Vestry

Michael Moore, *Senior Warden*

Lisa Baird, *Junior Warden*

Bill Bowman, *Treasurer*

Fred Elliott, *Clerk*

Class of 2026
Al Briganti
Whitney Cruetz
Barbara May

Class of 2027
Eric Bickford
Victoria Bolton
Lida Ward

Class of 2028
Barclay Bowen
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Director of Children's Ministries

The Rev. Hannah G. Pommersheim
Associate Rector

Lyle Foster
Facilities Manager

H. David Pulliam
Director of Music and Organist

Dee Fumega
Office Manager

The Rev. Ansley E. Walker
Associate Rector

The Rev. Charles G. Martin
Seminarian Intern

Kelly Wheeler
Director of Engagement

Oak Martin
Associate Organist

Ron Wilson
Director of Finance

Amy O'Kane
Director of Communications

The Rev. Susan C. Wyper
Pastoral Associate

Priest Associates

The Rev. Dawn Stegelmann

Campus Partners

Elizabeth Hearle
Parish School Director

The Rev. G. Hartwell Hylton

Nancy Coughlin
Director of Person-to-Person

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Saint Luke's Parish

Grow



Love



Serve

Holy Week & Easter

Maundy Thursday | April 17

| | |
|--------|---|
| 8:00AM | Morning Prayer <i>in the Chapel</i> |
| 3:30PM | Children's Service <i>in the AYCC</i> |
| 7:00PM | Solemn Eucharist with Foot Washing & Stripping of the Altar |
| 8:30PM | Vigil at the Altar of Repose <i>in the Chapel</i> |

Good Friday | April 18

| | |
|---------|---|
| 9:30 AM | Ecumenical Cross Walk |
| 12:00PM | Solemn Liturgy for Good Friday with Veneration of the Cross |
| 3:30PM | Children's Service <i>in the AYCC</i> |

Holy Saturday | April 19

| | |
|---------|--|
| 8:30 AM | Liturgy of the Day <i>in the Columbarium</i> |
| 3:30 PM | Children's Easter Vigil <i>in the AYCC</i> |
| 7:00 PM | The Great Vigil and First Eucharist of Easter |

Easter Day | April 20

| | |
|----------|---|
| 7:45 AM | Holy Eucharist with Hymns |
| 9:15 AM | Festal Holy Eucharist |
| 9:15 AM | <i>Come As You Are</i> Eucharist <i>in the AYCC</i> |
| 11:15 AM | Festal Holy Eucharist |