

St. James' Anglican Church

Palm Sunday

Sunday March 29th, 2026

Holy Eucharist - 10 a.m.

Celebrant & Homilist: Rev. Carol Hardie

Director of Music - Mr. Jeff Campbell

Piano Prelude Jean Kemp, pianist

Liturgy of the Palms

If able please stand and face the back of the Church, holding up your palms as we say:

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

People **Hosanna in the highest!**

Choral Introit: "The Simplest and the Best" *arr. Alfred Fedak*

The St. James' Choir

Celebrant Dear friends in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing for the celebration of our Lord's paschal mystery. On this day our Lord Jesus Christ entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph. The people welcomed him with palms and shouts of praise, but the path before him led to self-giving, suffering and death. Today we greet him as our king, although we know his crown is thorns and his throne a cross. We follow him this week from the glory of the palms to the glory of the resurrection by way of the dark road of suffering and death. United with him in his suffering on the cross, may we share his resurrection and new life.

Let us pray.

Assist us mercifully with your help, Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy into the celebration of those mighty acts whereby you give us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing of the Palms

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 our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant 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. The Hebrews acclaimed Jesus as messiah and King, with palm branches in their hands, crying, Hosanna in the highest. May we also, carrying these emblems, go forth to meet Christ 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.**

Palm Sunday Procession

Celebrant Let us go forth in peace.

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

Processional Hymn #181 "All Glory, Laud, and Honour"

St. Theodulph

Welcome

Almighty and ever living God, in tender love for all our human race you sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take our flesh and suffer death upon a cruel cross. May we follow the example of his great humility, and share in the glory of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Proclamation of the Word

Psalm 118: 19-29

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord.

The Lord is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures for ever.

Holy and mighty God, your Son's triumph over sin and death has opened to us the gate of eternal life. Purify our hearts that we may follow where he has gone and share in the radiance of his glory We ask this for the sake of our risen Lord.

First Reading Philippians 2:5-11 (pg. 1139)

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

All **Thanks be to God.**

The Palm Sunday Gospel

Before the Gospel "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna!" *Ellacombe*
Verse 1

Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang; through pillard court and temple the joyful anthem rang. To Jesus, who had held them close folded to his breast; the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

Gospeler The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

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 fulfil 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.' (Matthew 21:1-11)

Gospeler The Gospel of Christ.

People **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

After the Gospel "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna!" *Ellacombe*
Verse 3

Hosanna in the highest that ancient song we sing, for Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven our King. Oh may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice, and in God's joyful presence eternally rejoice!

Homily Rev. Carol Hardie

Anthem "Lift High the Palms of Praise" *arr. Victor C. Johnson*
The St James' Choir

Prayers of the People Mae Cox, Lay Reader

The Litany of the Passion

Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." In the name of Jesus, we pray:

All: Lord, help us to take up our cross and follow you.

You stood before Pilate, your life condemned, your word rejected, your innocence ignored:

All: Keep us from rejecting your word of truth and salvation.

You carried your cross on the wounded stripes of your back, for love of us and for all the world.

All: Help us to bear our cross, for love of you and for love of others.

The weight of your cross was the weight of our sins which make us stumble and fall.

All: In our weakness, we turn to you for strength.

Although you suffered, you still reached out to care for your mother.

All: May our cross-bearing never keep us from caring for our families.

As you struggled to bear your cross to Calvary, a passerby was drafted to help you.

All: Make us as willing as Simon to bear the burdens of those in need.

Others also took risks to comfort you.

All: Strengthen our faith to take loving risks for our needy brothers and sisters.

Sin weighed heavily upon you as you stumbled along the way.

All: Forgive us, Lord, for the sins which make us fall.

Your suffering under the cross caused the women of Jerusalem to weep.

All: Make our suffering in life a share in your suffering.

The full burden of our sin crushed you mightily to the earth.

All: Do not forsake us in our falling but bring us to repentance and faith.

Stripped and jeered, you endured humiliation without complaint.

All: Humble us in our work and daily lives.

Nailed to the cross, you took your place among the condemned.

All: Take your place beside us sinners and bring us through faith to the Paradise of God.

When your sacrifice was complete, you handed your life to the Father, and he did not forsake you.

All: Keep us close to your cross and death, now and at the hour of our death.

Faithful friends and loving women took loving care of your lifeless body.

All: Turn the darkness of death into the brightness of day for those we love.

In the tomb you were laid, but from the tomb you arose.

All: Be the Lord of the resurrection for us and for all the baptized.

Loving Jesus, for the sake of your cross and passion, we are justified in faith, washed cleaned of our sins by baptism and repentance, and made one with God. We thank you for your cross and for the depths of your love for us. Help us to bear our cross in the world and follow you until you bring us into your heavenly kingdom; where you reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence may be kept.

Celebrant Most merciful God,

People **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 neighbours 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.**

The Peace

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

(We greet one another.)

Offertory Hymn #182 (CP) "Ride On, Ride On in Majesty"

Winchester New

Prayer Over the Gifts

Gracious God, the suffering and death of Jesus, your only Son, makes us pleasing in your sight. Alone we can do nothing, but through his sacrifice, may we receive your love and mercy. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer # 3 (BAS pg. 198)

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 our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who for our sins was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself. By this suffering and death, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him. Therefore with all the host of heaven we gather around your throne and the Lamb, we raise our voices in to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus 732 (CP)

Community Mass/R. Proulx

All

**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.**

Celebrant We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him you have delivered us from evil and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, 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, Father, according to his command,

All **we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your children, through
Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread,

Communion in Christ's body once broken.

Let your Church be the wheat which bears its fruit in dying.

If we died with him, we shall live with him, if we hold firm, we shall reign with him.

Invitation to the Table

So, come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more. You who have been to this sacrament often, and you who have not been for a long time. You who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed. Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

The Communion

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Lamb of God #747 (CP)

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

The Communion

All are welcome to receive communion. If you do not wish communion but a blessing, please cross your arms and the priest will bless you. In the Anglican tradition wine is administered from a chalice or common cup. If you do not wish to receive from the chalice you can cross your arms, and the words of institution will be said. We do not practice intinction or dipping the bread in the cup.

Music During Communion

Hymn “The Flaming Banners of our King” *Gonfalon Royal*

V1

The flaming banners of our King advance through his self-offering. He lived to rob death of its sting; he died eternal life to bring. Amen

V2

A Roman soldier drew a spear to mix his blood with water clear. That blood retains its living power: the water cleanses to this hour. Amen

V3

The crowd would have been satisfied to see a prophet crucified. They stumbled on a mystery: Messiah reigning from a tree. Amen

V4

With what strange light the rough trunk shone, its purple limbs a royal throne, its load a royal treasury: the ransom of a world set free. Amen

V5

The best are shamed before that wood; the worst gain power to be good. Oh grant, most blessed Trinity, that all may share the victory. Amen

Solo “The Palms” *arr. Jean Baptiste Faure*

Alexandra Teske, soloist.

Prayer After Communion

God our help and strength, you have satisfied our hunger with this Eucharistic food. Strengthen our faith, that through the death and resurrection of your Son, we may be led to salvation, for he is Lord now and for ever. **Amen.**

Celebrant Glory to God,
All **whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing

Announcements

Recessional Hymn # 184 (CP) "My Song is Love Unknown"

Love Unknown

Dismissal

We are followers of Jesus, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and serving the world God loves. **Thanks be to God.**

Piano Postlude Jean Kemp, pianist

Palm and Passion Sunday

This Sunday before Easter is the last Sunday in Lent. The day commemorates Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem with a blessing of palms and a procession in which the whole congregation carries palms. The day may be marked by reading the story of Jesus' passion (the word used to describe Jesus' death comes from "suffering," which is one old meaning of passion). At St. James' we commemorate the Passion on Good Friday. Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week as we walk with Jesus through the last week of his life, from the triumphant entry to the cross and finally to the empty tomb.

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