



# St. Jude's Episcopal Church

*Seeking and Worshipping God, Reaching out to Others*

March 29, 2026

**Palm Sunday: The Sunday of the Passion**  
10:30 am, beginning in Vandenberg Hall

**--- Everyone is WELCOME here, for everyone is beloved by GOD ---**

**It is Holy Week:** the last week of Jesus' earthly ministry before his crucifixion and resurrection. The Gospels report that he entered Jerusalem from Bethany, where he and the disciples had been visiting the siblings Mary, Martha and Lazarus (last Sunday's Gospel). The city was full of pilgrims for the Passover celebration later in the week. Jesus' fame preceded him, and a crowd welcomed him with palm branches and high hopes – would this Jesus of Nazareth begin the revolution to overthrow Roman rule? We join their songs of praise, before hearing their shouts turn to “Crucify him!” only a few days later.

**New to our church?** We'd love to get better acquainted. Please leave your name and email or phone number in one of our guestbooks, located at both entrances of the worship space; or by filling out one of the Welcome cards in the pew.

**All persons who desire to receive Holy Communion are served here,** no questions asked. The bread is home-baked and does contain gluten. Rice wafers are also available, simply ask the priest. The bread or wafer may be dipped into the small bowl of wine; or, consume your bread and sip wine from the chalice that follows. Or neither: just cross your arms over your chest. You may also ask a blessing from the priest.

**Hymn #** These hymns are located in the blue Hymnal 1982 in your pew.

**WLP #** These hymns are located in the green hymnal books that will be handed out.

## ***Gathering of the Community in the Parish Hall***

*Those who want to process with palms into the sanctuary begin in Vandenberg hall.*

## *The Liturgy of the Palms*

Welcome and some instructions \_\_\_\_\_

The Palm Sunday Liturgy \_\_\_\_\_

*Presider* Blessed is the King 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 Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Gospel Reading \_\_\_\_\_

*Matthew 21:1-11*

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

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

When Jesus and his disciples 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."

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

## Blessing of the Palm Branches

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*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 our 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 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.

*All hold up their branches*

Let these branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen!**

## Procession with Palms

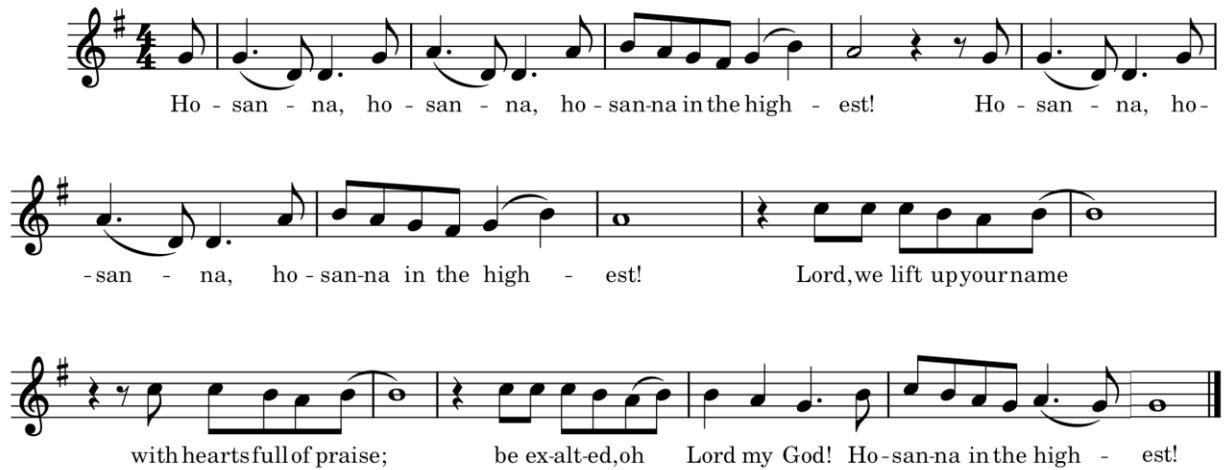
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*We gather behind the cross and choir, to process into the sanctuary.*

*Deacon* Let us go forth in peace.

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

*We sing in procession to the sanctuary:*



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est! Ho - san - na, ho -  
- san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est! Lord, we lift up your name  
with hearts full of praise; be ex-alt-ed, oh Lord my God! Ho-san-na in the high - est!

As we reach the Sanctuary, we stop to pray:

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our song changes to

Hymn #154, vss 1-3 \_\_\_\_\_ All glory, laud and honor

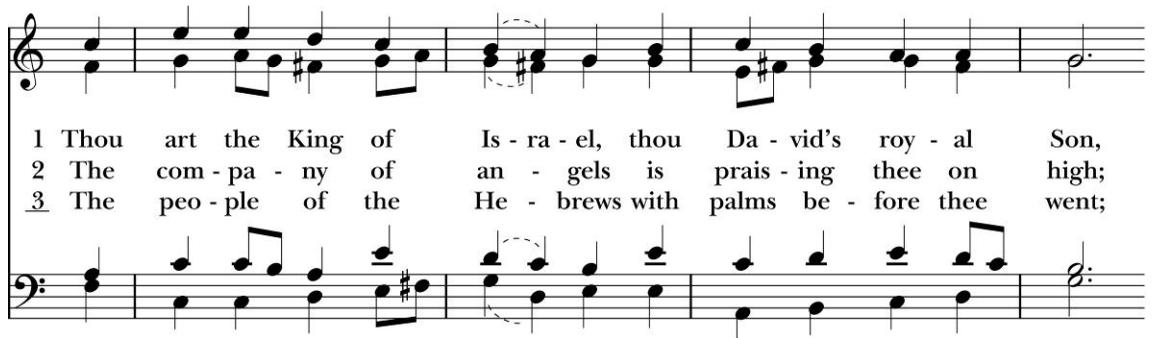
*Refrain*



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re - deem - er, King!

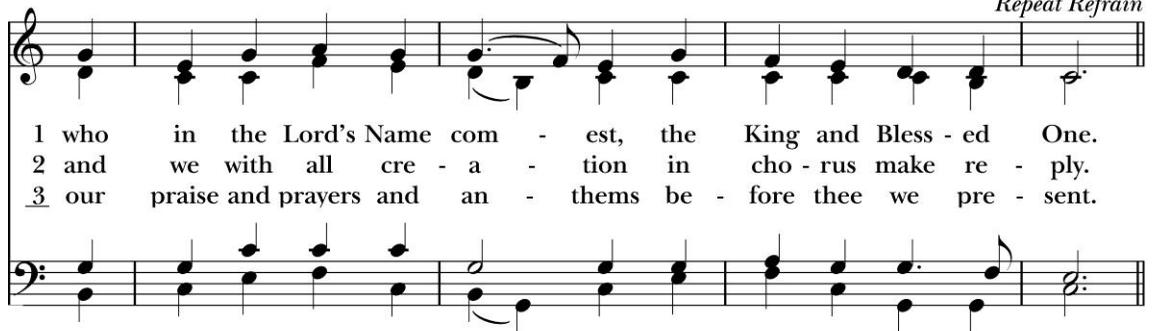


to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



1 Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,  
2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels is prais - ing thee on high;  
3 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;

*Repeat Refrain*



1 who in the Lord's Name com - est, the King and Bless - ed One.  
2 and we with all cre - a - tion in cho - rus make re - ply.  
3 our praise and prayers and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent.

## Collect of the Day \_\_\_\_\_

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

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

*Presider* Let us pray together.

**Almighty and ever living 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 Proclamation of the Word*

*Please be seated.*

## **The First Reading** \_\_\_\_\_ *Philippians 2:5-11*

*Reader* A reading from Paul's Letter 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

## The Psalter

Psalm 31:9-16

*Antiphon,  
sung twice by all*

Be with me, Lord, when I am in  
trou-ble, be with me, Lord, I pray.—

*The choir*

*chants the*

*Psalm.*

- 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. *ANTIPHON*
- 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." *ANTIPHON*

## The Sermon

*Rev. Susan Anslow Williams*

**Hymn #480** \_\_\_\_\_ *When Jesus left his Father's throne*  
*Verse 1 is sung by the choir; all join in singing verses 2-3.*

**The Passion Gospel** \_\_\_\_\_ *Matthew 26:30 – 27:56*  
*The reading is found in the lavender booklet. The congregation may be seated. Please join in saying the portions in **Bold**.*

*A time of silence follows the Passion reading. The Creed is omitted today.*

**The Prayers: A Litany for Holy Week** \_\_\_\_\_  
*Deacon: Lord Jesus Christ, hear our prayers and walk with us throughout this Holy Week.*

*Intercessor and People pray responsively:*

Like Judas, **We betray you.**

Like Peter, **We deny you.**

Like the High Priest, **We fail to acknowledge you as Lord.**

Like Pontius Pilate, **We try to please the crowd.**

Like the bystanders and onlookers, **We ignore you.**

Like the soldiers, **We wound you.**

Like the disciples, **We withdraw ourselves from you.**

Deliver us from the power of our sins, O Lord. **Restore us to communion with each other and with you.**

Like Simon the Cyrenian, **Let us bear the cross with you.**

Like Peter, **May we learn repentance.**

Like the Centurion, **May we confess our faith in you.**

Like the apostolic church, **May we know your resurrection.**

Lord Jesus Christ, your suffering brings forgiveness and mercy. Into your hands we commend this congregation and all the congregations and ministries of our diocese.  
**Into your hands, O Lord.**

Into your hands we commend all those who are in any need or trouble, especially those on our Prayer List and those we name... We pray: **Into your hands, O Lord.**

Into your hands we commend all those who have died, especially those we name... We pray: **Into your hands, O Lord.**

Into your hands we place ourselves, trusting in your mercy.

**Into your hands, O Lord, we place our sins, our regrets and our hopes. Have compassion upon us, forgive us our sins – things done and left undone, words said in anger and apologies left unspoken. Lead us through this Holy Week in reconciliation and love, and bring us to a joyful Eastertide. In your name we pray. Amen.**

*The Priest pronounces Absolution of Sin*

**The Peace** The Peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

*Let's share a sign of Christ's Peace with one another.*

**Milestones and Announcements** \_\_\_\_\_

**Stump the Priest!** \_\_\_\_\_ *Answering your questions*

**The Offertory** \_\_\_\_\_

*If you wish to give online, point your phone's camera at the QR code to the right and tap the webpage that pops up. It will take you to the St. Jude's online giving page.*



*This is the last day to submit donations and dedications for Easter Sunday flowers. Please use an envelope from the pew, or use the above QR code and choose "Flowers" from the menu of options.*

**Choir Anthem** \_\_\_\_\_ *To Mock your Reign, O Dearest Lord*

**The Doxology** *Please stand & join in singing* \_\_\_\_\_

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### *The Celebration of the Eucharist*

**The Great Thanksgiving** *Please remain standing, as able* \_\_\_\_\_ *source: Church of England*

*Presider* The Lord is 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 our thanks and praise.**

*Presider* It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God our Creator, through Jesus Christ your Son, 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, as we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast with joyful hearts and minds, we bless you for your mercy and join with saints and angels, forever praising you and singing:

**Sanctus #S-124** ----- *setting by D. Hurd*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The congregation may kneel or stand as the priest continues*

Accept our praises, O God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit + these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: 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. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for

all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

*All* **Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life:  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

*Presider* Accept through Christ, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us + by your Spirit, inspire us with your love, and unite us in the body of Christ Jesus.

Through whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, O God, in songs of everlasting praise:

*All* **Blessing and honor and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen!**

*Presider* As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

### The Lords Prayer \_\_\_\_\_

*All* **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 Bread, *silence follows* \_\_\_\_\_

At the Fraction: Agnus Dei \_\_\_\_\_ setting by D. Hurd



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sins of the world: grant \_\_\_\_\_ us peace.

Invitation to Communion \_\_\_\_\_

*Priest* The feast is prepared, a banquet beyond measure or price.  
Christ meets us here in our brokenness so that none may be lost,  
and invites all who hunger for God to stretch out their hands to receive him.

*Deacon* These are the gifts of God for you, the beloved people of God.

The Communion \_\_\_\_\_

*All are welcome but no one is obliged to receive. If you would prefer not to receive Communion, please cross your arms across your chest indicating you would like to receive a blessing instead. The bread is home-baked and does contain gluten. Rice wafers are also available, simply ask the priest. The wine may be sipped from the chalice, or wait to intinct (dip your bread or wafer) into the small bowl of blessed wine. Please do not intinct into the chalice.*

Communion Hymn #458 \_\_\_\_\_ My song is love unknown

**Prayer after Communion** Please stand or kneel \_\_\_\_\_ Source: Church of England

*Presider* Let us pray.

*All* We thank you, loving God,  
that you have fed us in this sacrament, united us with Christ,  
and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet prepared for all people.

**Empower us by your Spirit to witness and to serve,  
and send us out as faithful disciples of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Solemn Prayer**, *in place of the Blessing during Lent* \_\_\_\_\_

*Deacon* Let us bow down before the Lord.

*Silent prayer*

*Priest* 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.**

**Sending Out Hymn #168, vs 1-3** \_\_\_\_\_ *O sacred head, sore-wounded*

**Sending Out** \_\_\_\_\_

*The Deacon dismisses the congregation, after which the people respond:*

**Thanks be to God!**

**Postlude** \_\_\_\_\_

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