



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF
St. Paul & St. James

Holy Eucharist

March 24, 2024 | 10:30 a.m.

Palm Sunday

WELCOME TO ST PJs!

If you're visiting St. PJs for the first time, or for the first time in a while, we extend a special welcome to you. Whether you are joining us in the building or via Facebook, we're so fortunate to be together. Know that whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on life's journey, and whatever questions dwell in your heart, you are welcome here. Whatever your race, class, sexuality, beliefs, or talents, we hope that you join us in the radical hospitality of God's table.

If you are worshipping with children today, welcome! And please don't worry – crying, laughter, and wandering little feet don't bother us!

INTRODUCTION

The People gather at the front steps of the church.

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

Celebrant: Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.**

Celebrant: 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 People raise their palms as the Celebrant continues

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 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.**

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

People: **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.**

THE PROCESSION

Celebrant: Let us go forth in peace.

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

The procession begins with the cross and the clergy followed by musicians and the People. All move down Olive Street away from the church. The procession makes a right onto Court Street, a right at Wooster Square Park, and then right on Chapel Street, returning to the church.

ARRIVAL AT THE CHURCH

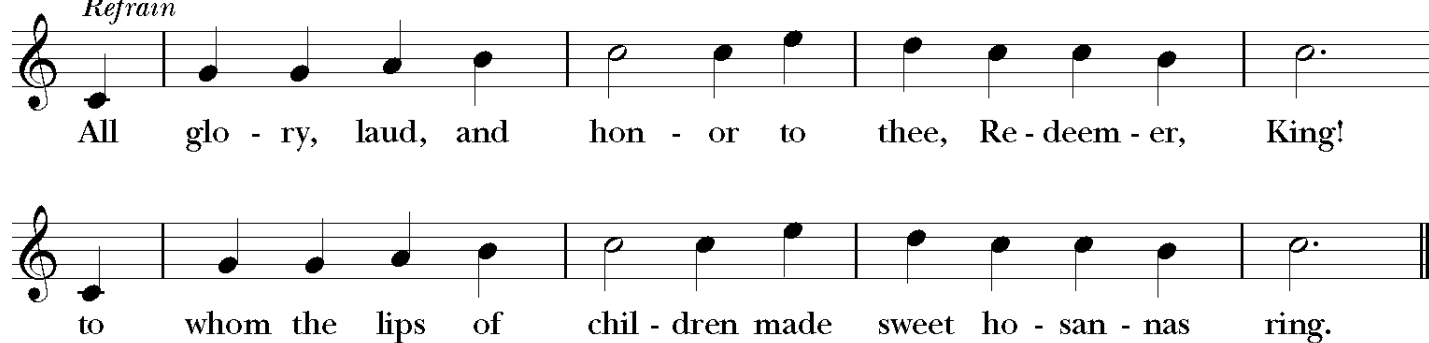
Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: 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 Celebrant knocks on the church doors, and the procession enters.

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Ride on, King Jesus

Ride on, King Je - sus, No one can a hin-der me.

Ride on, King Je-sus ride on, no one can a hin-der me. In that

great get-tin' up morn - in' fare thee well, fare thee well. In that

great get-tin' up morn - in' fare thee well, fare the well. In that

Please be seated for the Lessons.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:4-9a

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 awakens—awakens 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?

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; *

my eye is consumed with sorrow,

and also my throat and my belly.

For my life is wasted with grief,

and my years with sighing; *

my strength fails me because of affliction,

and my bones are consumed.

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.

I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; *

I am as useless as a broken pot.

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.

But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. *

I have said, “You are my God.

My times are in your hand; *

rescue me from the hand of my enemies,

and from those who persecute me.

Make your face to shine upon your servant, *

and in your loving-kindness save me.”

SECOND READING

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.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Please rise in body or spirit.

GOSPEL HYMN

I have decided to follow Jesus (v. 1)

1. I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus,

I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus,

I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus,

No turn - ing back, no turn - ing back!

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 11:1–11

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples and said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.’” They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

“Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

The Rev. Nathan Empsall

JAZZ RESPONSE

A musical response to the sermon

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

from A New Zealand Prayer Book

Holy God, pour your love into our hearts, that with open minds we may accept all peoples of the world as sisters and brothers, and serve them in humility.

That we may live at peace, one family.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you; we pray especially for the Episcopal Church in Connecticut: St Michael's, Litchfield; St Andrew's, Madison; and St Andrew's, Marbledale. In the worldwide Anglican Communion, we pray for The Church of the Province of West Africa.

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons, especially the Rev. Nathan Empsall, our Seasonal Supply Priest.

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

We give thanks for those who celebrate birthdays this week, especially Sally, Judy H., Nancy, Lynne, and Daniel, as they begin another year.

Surround them with your love and life-giving Spirit.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble: those on our prayer list and others whom we name, silently or aloud...

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Celebrant: Lord Jesus, acclaimed as king, crucified as a criminal, teach us to accept our sufferings and triumphs for your glory alone. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant: La paz del Señor sea siempre con ustedes. **People:** **Y con tu espíritu.**

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you. **People:** **And also with you.**

Please greet one another with a sign of God's peace and then be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Celebrant offers a passage from Scripture.

PRESENTATION HYMN

Ubi Caritas

Please rise in body or spirit.

U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,

u - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i - bi est.

Live in charity and steadfast love.

Live in charity; God will dwell with you.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven 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.

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.

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.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray, in the language of our hearts,

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

**Padre nuestro que estás en los cielos
santificado sea tu Nombre
venga tu reino
hágase tu voluntad
en la tierra como en el cielo
Danos hoy el pan de este día y
Perdona nuestras deudas
como nosotros perdonamos
nuestros deudores
y no nos dejes caer en al tentación
sino que líbranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino,
tuyo es el poder, y tuya es la gloria,
ahora y por siempre. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for you, the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*All baptized Christians (you don't have to be Episcopalian)
are welcome to receive Holy Communion here at St. PJ's.
We have a gluten-free option for those that need it.*

*In order to protect the health of our community, we are refraining
from intinction (dipping the Bread into the Wine) at this time. You are welcome to
drink from the chalice or to receive only the Bread if you prefer.*

COMMUNION MUSIC

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please rise, in body or in spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: **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.**

SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Celebrant: Bow down before the Lord.

The People kneel or bow in a posture of solemnity and prayer.

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.**

THE PASSION NARRATIVE

Celebrant: The Passion of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" He answered him, "You say so." Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again, "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you." But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" They shouted back, "**Crucify him!**" Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "**Crucify him!**" So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him. And they compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus.

All stand, as able.

Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!" In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "Listen, he is calling for Elijah." And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

Silence

And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

The service concludes with all departing the church in silence.



GRACE NOTES



— YOU ARE WELCOME HERE —

Sunday Worship | 10:30 a.m.

In person and livestreamed

Wednesday Noonday Prayer | 12:30 p.m.

In person in the Chapel

Office Hours

Tue, Fri (8 a.m.–11 a.m.) | Thu, Fri (6 p.m.–8:30p.m.)

SERVING TODAY

Palm Sunday

March 24, 2024

Celebrant:

The Rev. Nathan Empsall

Preacher:

The Rev. Nathan Empsall

Worship Leaders:

Beverly Lett

Tudy Hill

Liturgical Assistant:

David Rivera

Musicians:

Will Cleary

Alec Pedersen

Dylan Rowland

OUR STAFF

The Rev. Nathan Empsall
Seasonal Supply Priest

William Cleary, Director of Music
Dylan Rowland, Assoc. Music Dir.

Monifa Atkinson
Program Assistant
office@stpaulstjames.org
203-562-2143 (office)

Samuel Rodriguez, Sexton
The Rev. Steve Crowson, Priest Associate
Andrew Stump, Seminary Intern

OUR VESTRY

Co-Wardens: Bill Evans and
Vanessa Gonzalez-Rivera
Treasurer: David Hill
Clerk: Maggie King

Marilyn Bergen
Isaac Mukwaya
Roni Holcomb
Pam Sayre
Maurice Harris
George Moore

We acknowledge the Quinnipiac, Paugussett, and Wappinger people, the traditional custodians of the land on which St. PJs is located. We pay respect to their elders, past and present. We respect their people and traditions as a continued call to live out the ministry of reconciliation to which we are called.

— ANNOUNCEMENTS —

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Week is upon us! Join us here at St. PJs for Maundy Thursday on March 28 at 7:30 PM and on Easter Sunday at 10:30 AM. We encourage you to worship with our friends around New Haven on Friday and Saturday:

Maundy Thursday: St. Paul and St. James, 7:30 PM

Good Friday: Christ Episcopal Church, 12:00 PM, 5:30 PM
St. John's Episcopal, 7:00 PM
Trinity on the Green, 7:30 PM

Saturday Easter Vigil: St. Thomas's Episcopal, 7:00 PM
Trinity on the Green, 7:30 PM
Christ Episcopal Church, 8:00 PM

Easter Sunday: St. Paul and St. James, 10:30 AM

Columbarium and Memorial Wall

If you are interested in reserving a place in the St. PJs columbarium or in purchasing a plaque for the memorial wall (both located at the back of the nave), please contact the office for more information. All proceeds go to the PJs general fund.

2024 Stewardship Pledge Cards Now Available

Our 2024 Stewardship Campaign, in which we are invited to prayerfully consider how we will pledge our support of God's mission at St. PJs in the next year, is ongoing. Pledge cards are available. You can place completed cards in the offering plate or send them to the office via the mail.

PRAYER LIST

Charles	Marcia
Edd	Mary Jane
Ron	Tiras
Charles	Pete
Andy	Ralph
Michael	Jean
Cynthia	Matt
Theresa	Edwina
Gary & Family	John
Herman	Alyce
Anne	Martha
Gwen	Julie
Isaiah	Andrew, Anastasia
Greta	& Katherine
Simone	Gwen
Judi	Misha
Dwayne	Michael
Nanci	Al
Patricia	Sal & Family
Leota	Peter & Family
Enid	Tony
Brenda & Juhani	Patty and Bill
Lwebuga-Mukasa	Janie and Family
Family	Paul and Family
Kohl Family	Laurel
John	Vanetta
Alexei	

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Sally Fleming (Mar. 25)
Judy Hopkins (Mar. 26)
Nancy Noyes (Mar. 26)
Lynne Severance (Mar. 26)
Daniel Armando Santana-Gonzalez (Mar. 29)

FAITHFUL DEPARTED

— THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY —

St. PJs is a "mask-friendly" environment. Please respect everyone's personal decisions whether or not to wear a mask. In addition, please be aware that by attending church, you are participating in our live stream, which means you may appear in a video which is streamed and archived on our YouTube or Facebook page.

Give to St. PJs
Online



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF
St. Paul & St. James

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