

**SUNDAY OF THE PASSION:  
PALM SUNDAY  
MARCH 29, 2026**

**HOLY WEEK  
BEGINS TODAY**



**HOLY COMMUNION at 10:30 am**

according to *The Book of Alternative Services* adapted

**Scripture Sentence**

He humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.

# THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

## Welcome, Introduction, and Scripture Sentence

### COMMEMORATION OF THE LORD'S ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

#### Opening Anthem

*ALL STAND, AS ABLE.*

Hosanna to the Son of David.

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

Behold your king comes to you, O Zion,  
meek and lowly, sitting upon a colt.  
Ride on in the cause of truth  
and for the sake of justice.

Your throne is the throne of God, it endures forever;  
and the sceptre of your kingdom  
is a righteous sceptre.

You have loved righteousness and hated evil:  
therefore God, your God, has anointed you  
with the oil of gladness above your fellows.

**Hosanna to the Son of David.**

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

#### The Greeting

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you all.

**And also with you.**

#### Invitation to the Journey

Dear friends in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing by works of love and self-sacrifice for the celebration of our Lord's death and resurrection. Today we come together to

begin this solemn celebration in union with the Church throughout the world. Christ enters his own city to complete his work as our Saviour, to suffer, to die, and to rise again. Let us go with him in faith and love, so that, united with him in his sufferings, we may share his risen life.

**Hymn** “*All glory laud and honour*” **CP 181**

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

1        Thou are the King of Israel,  
thou, David’s royal Son,  
who in the Lord’s name comest,  
the King and blessèd one. *Refrain*

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

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

4        To thee before thy Passion  
they sang their hymns of praise;  
to thee now high exalted  
our melody we raise. *Refrain*

5        Thou didst accept their praises;  
accept the prayers we bring,  
who in all good delightest,  
thou good and gracious King. *Refrain*

*Text* Theodulph of Orleans (750?-821)

*Tune* ST. THEODULPH, Melchior Teschner (1584-1635)

**Collect of Christ’s Entry with Blessing of the Palms**

Please all raise our palms for this prayer of blessing.  
While still standing, let us pray.

God our Saviour,  
whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah  
to suffer and to die;  
bless these palms we carry, O Lord,  
to your honour and praise.  
Let these palms 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 is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **The Gospel of the Palms** Matthew 21:1-11

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Matthew.

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

<sup>1</sup> Now when they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup> telling them, “Go to the village ahead of you. Right away you will find a donkey tied there, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. <sup>3</sup> If anyone says anything to you, you are to say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.” <sup>4</sup> This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet:

<sup>5</sup> **“Tell the people of Zion,  
‘Look, your king is coming to you,  
unassuming and seated on a donkey,  
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’”**

<sup>6</sup> So the disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. <sup>7</sup> They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. <sup>8</sup> A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road. Others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup> The crowds that went ahead of him and those following kept shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! **Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!**” <sup>10</sup> As he entered Jerusalem the whole city was thrown into an uproar, saying, “Who is this?” <sup>11</sup> And

the crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth in Galilee.” *[New English Translation]*

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

**HYMN “Ride On, Ride on in Majesty” CP 182**

- 1 Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
Hark! All tribes “Hosanna” cry.  
O Saviour meek, pursue thy road  
with palms and scattered garments strowed.
- 2 Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
In lowly pomp, ride on to die;  
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin  
o’er captive death and conquered sin.
- 3 Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
The angel-squadrons of the sky  
look down with sad and wondering eyes  
to see the approaching sacrifice.
- 4 Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh;  
the Father on his sapphire throne  
expects his own anointed Son.
- 5 Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
In lowly pomp, ride on to die;  
bow thy meek head to mortal pain;  
then take, O God, thy power, and reign.



*Text* Henry Hart Milman (1791-1868)  
*Tune* WINCHESTER NEW, harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

## **THE LITURGY OF THE PASSION**

### **The Collect of the Day**

In this journey of Holy Week, let us pray for a closer union with Christ in his suffering and in his glory. I invite you to kneel or sit for prayer.

*Silence is kept for a time.*

Almighty and everliving 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 forever. **Amen.**

**PLEASE BE SEATED.**

## **THE WORD IS READ AND PROCLAIMED**

**The First Reading** Isaiah 50:4-9a

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> The Lord God has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious,  
I did not turn backwards.

<sup>6</sup> 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.

<sup>7</sup> 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;

<sup>8</sup> he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries?

Let them confront me.

9<sup>a</sup> It is the Lord God who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty? [NRSV-A]

Hear God's word for God's people.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**The Psalm**                      *Psalm 31:9-16*

- 9        Have mercy upon 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  
          neighbours, 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."**

**The Second Reading**    *Philippians 2:5-11*

A reading from Philippians.

- <sup>5</sup> Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,  
<sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God,  
          did not regard equality with God  
          as something to be exploited,  
<sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,  
          being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,  
<sup>8</sup> he humbled himself  
 and became obedient to the point of death—  
 even death on a cross.  
<sup>9</sup> Therefore God also highly exalted him  
 and gave him the name that is above every name,  
<sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,  
 in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
<sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
 to the glory of God the Father. [NRSV-A]

Hear God's word for God's people.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL HYMN** “*Was Ever Love Like This*”

1 Let Christ be worshipped, praised, adored  
 As King of Heaven and God's dear Son.  
 Who, by atoning sacrifice,  
 Redeemed us unto God.

*Refrain*      *Was ever love like this?*  
                   *Let us with joy recall*  
                   *His loving ways, cherished in praise.*  
                   *Let Christ be worshipped, praised, adored.*

2 Out from His palace long ago  
 Christ, rich in love, for you and me.  
 Took on Himself our mortal dress-  
 One true Humanity. *Refrain*

3 Vast was the compass of His grace,  
 Rich was the giving of His life,  
 Himself, He gave to save mankind-  
 One perfect sacrifice. *Refrain*

4 In three short days He cast aside.  
 The heavy chains of Death and Hell  
 And rose in triumph, gloriously-  
 Lift up your voice and sing! *Refrain*

*Text* David Mitchell  
*Music* MORNA, David Mitchell

**PLEASE BE SEATED.**

**The Passion Gospel** Matthew 26:14-27:66 [NRSV]

+ please see the separate booklet for this reading

**The Prayers of the People**

As we come with our prayers to the Father through his Son who suffered on the cross for the world's redemption, I invite you to kneel or be seated.

*Silence is held for a time.*

Fill with your Spirit, O God, Christ's broken body, the Church. Give to Christian people everywhere a deep longing to take up the cross and to understand its mysterious glory.

By the Saviour's cross and passion,  
**Lord, save us and help us.**

Bless those who lead the Church's worship at this solemn time, remembering especially our bishop, David, and Chris our incumbent. In the preaching of the word and the celebration of the sacraments draw your people close to you.

By the Saviour's cross and passion,  
**Lord, save us and help us.**

Strengthen those among us who are young, together with their teachers, helpers, and families. Teach them what it means to die and rise with Christ and prepare them to receive the breath of his Spirit.

By the Saviour's cross and passion,  
**Lord, save us and help us.**

Look in your mercy upon the world you loved so much that you sent your Son to suffer and to die. Strengthen those who work to share the reconciliation won at such a cost upon the cross.

By the Saviour's cross and passion,  
**Lord, save us and help us.**

Bring healing by the wounds of Christ to all who are weighed down by pain, injustice, or illness, remembering especially ..... and

others we would name, in our hearts or aloud [*pause*], help the lonely and the betrayed, the suffering and the dying, to find strength in the companionship of Jesus, and in his passion to know their salvation.

By the Saviour's cross and passion,  
**Lord, save us and help us.**

Welcome into paradise all who have left this world in your friendship, remembering those we would mention silently or aloud [*pause*]. According to your promises, bring them with all your saints to share in all the benefits of Christ's death and resurrection.

By the Saviour's cross and passion,  
**Lord, save us and help us.**

Holy God, **these and all our prayers we offer to you, in the name of him who entered Jerusalem to suffer and die for the sake of the world, and yet who now intercedes before you on our behalf, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*ALL STAND, AS YOU'RE ABLE.*

## **The Peace**

Once we were far off,  
but now in union with Christ Jesus, we have been brought near through the shedding of Christ's blood,  
for he is our peace.

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

Let us express to one another a sign of Christ's peace.

*The gathered worshipers exchange a sign of Christ's peace.*

## **THE EUCHARIST IS CELEBRATED**

### **The Preparation of the Gifts**

**OFFERTORY HYMN "Meekness and Majesty" MP 465**

1 Meekness and majesty,  
manhood and deity,  
in perfect harmony,  
the man who is God:  
Lord of eternity  
dwells in humanity,  
kneels in humility  
and washes our feet.

*Refrain*      *Oh what a mystery,  
meekness and majesty:  
bow down and worship,  
for this is your God,  
this is your God!*

2 Father's pure radiance,  
perfect in innocence,  
yet learns obedience  
to death on a cross:  
suffering to give us life,  
conquering through sacrifice;  
and, as they crucify,  
prays, 'Father, forgive.' *Refrain*

3 Wisdom unsearchable,  
God the invisible,  
love indestructible  
in frailty appears.  
Lord of infinity,  
stooping so tenderly,  
lifts our humanity  
to the heights of His throne. *Refrain*

*"Meekness and Majesty"*  
Words and Music Graham Kendrick  
© 1986 Kingsway's Thankyou Music  
CCLI Licence # 2319023

## **The Prayer over the Gifts**

As we remain standing, let us pray.

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**

The Lord is here.

**The Spirit of God is with us.**

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.**

Father, almighty and everliving God,  
at all times and in all places  
it is right to give you thanks and praise:  
because, for our salvation,  
he was obedient even to death on the cross.  
The tree of shame was made the tree of glory;  
and where life was lost, there life has been restored.

And so, with all your people,  
with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and singing:

**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.**

**PLEASE KNEEL OR BE SEATED**

Blessed are you, Father, the creator and sustainer of all things; you made us in your own image, male and female you created us; even when we turned away from you, you never ceased to care for us, but in your love and mercy

you freed us from the slavery of sin,  
giving your only begotten Son to become man  
and suffer death on the cross to redeem us;  
he made there the one complete  
and all-sufficient sacrifice  
for the sins of the whole world:  
he instituted, and in his holy Gospel  
commanded us to continue,  
a perpetual memory of his precious death  
until he comes again:

On the night that he was betrayed he took bread;  
and when he had given thanks to you, 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 when he had given thanks to you,  
he gave it to them, saying, Drink this, all of you,  
for 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, Father, with this bread and this cup  
we do as Christ your Son commanded:  
**we remember his passion and death,**  
**we celebrate his resurrection and ascension,**  
**and we look for the coming of his kingdom.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving;  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts,  
grant by the power of the life-giving Spirit  
that we may be made one in your holy Church  
and partakers of the body and blood of your Son,  
that he may dwell in us and we in him:

Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,  
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

all honour and glory are yours, Almighty Father,  
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

And now, as Jesus has taught his disciples,  
we dare now to pray, saying,  
**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.**

*Silence is held for a time.*

## **The 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 have died with him,  
we shall live with him;  
if we hold firm,  
we shall reign with him.**

## **THE COMMUNION**

**Invitation** to receive communion

Draw near with faith.  
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ

which he gave for you,  
and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts by faith  
with thanksgiving.

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sins of the world.  
Happy are those who are called to his supper.  
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

The gifts of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **Communion Music**

***“Lamb of God”*** (*Agnus Dei*)

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

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

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

***“Jesus, the joy of loving hearts”*** CP 70

### **Quiet instrumental music**

## **AFTER COMMUNION**

### **Prayer after Communion**

**PLEASE KNEEL OR BE SEATED.**

Let us pray.

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  
and to proclaim you as Lord and King,  
to the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

**Faithful God, may we who share this banquet  
glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
our salvation, life and hope,  
who reigns as Lord, now and forever. Amen.**

## **Blessing**

God the Father surround you,  
God the Son embrace you,  
God the Spirit overshadow you,  
as you enter the passion of our Lord,  
and pick up your cross to follow him,  
today and everyday.  
And the blessing, mercy and joy of God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
rest upon you now, and forevermore. **Amen.**

## **THE CHURCH DEPARTS INTO THE JOURNEY OF HOLY WEEK**

## **Dismissal**

Go in the peace of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **Final Hymn “My Song is Love Unknown” CP 184**

- 1 My song is love unknown, my Saviour's love to me;  
love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be.  
Oh who am I, that for my sake  
my Lord should take frail flesh and die?
  
- 2 He came from his blest throne, salvation to bestow;  
but all made strange, and none the longed-for Christ would  
know:  
But O my friend, my friend indeed,  
who at my need, his life did spend!

- 3 Sometimes they strew his way, and his sweet praises sing,  
resounding all the day hosannas to their King;  
then "Crucify!" is all their breath,  
and for his death they thirst and cry.
- 4 Why, what has my Lord done? What makes this rage and  
spite?  
He made the lame to run, he gave the blind their sight.  
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these  
themselves displease, and 'gainst him rise.
- 5 They rise and needs will have my dear Lord made away;  
a murderer they save, the Prince of Life they slay.  
Yet cheerful he to suffering goes,  
that he his foes from thence might free.
- 6 Here might I stay and sing, no story so divine;  
never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine!  
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise  
I all my days could gladly spend.

*Text* Samuel Crossman (1624?-1683)  
*Tune* LOVE UNKNOWN, John N. Ireland (1879-1962)

**No formal Recessional nor Postlude as we *depart in quiet reflection* on the Passion of our Lord and enter into the glorious solemnity of our Holy Week journey.**

---



---

**Those serving for this church's worship and learning today:**

<i>Bulletin preparation</i>	Lori Maker (Parish Office)
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Joyce Mitchell & Ann Stone
<i>Sunday School</i>	Laura Janes
<i>Sound system</i>	Chris Titus
<i>Greeter</i>	Lori McGovern & Carol Patterson
<i>Layreader &amp; First Reader</i>	Heather Masson
<i>Second Reader</i>	Patti Skidmore
<i>Prayer Leader</i>	Layreader
<i>Organist &amp; Choir Director</i>	David Mitchell
<i>Presider</i>	Keith Joyce

---

Counters

Terry Ricketts & Janet Brown

Building care

Susan Jack

---

### Those serving in our outreach this week:

<b>Sun, March 29, 11:45 am</b> HVHS Lunch Programme preparation (Large Hall kitchen)	Sharon Titus Chris Titus Brian Burpee Carol Patterson
<b>Mon, March 30, 11:30 am</b> HVHS Lunch Programme delivery (from Large Hall)	Ken Lewell Linda Lewell

*Who's serving next week is on the Narthex bulletin board.*

### THIS WEEK

- Mon, March 30, 6:30 pm** Tintinnabula Hand Bell Choir (Small Hall) For more info contact Lynn Adams at 506 635-8474
- Wed, April 01, 10:00 am** Saint John and District Senior's Shuffleboard (Large Hall) For more info contact Pauline Wilson at 506 738-8677
- Wed, April 01, 7:00 pm** Choir practice (Small Hall) For more info contact David Mitchell at 506 738-2798

### FOR OUR WORSHIP and LEARNING

#### Notes on Today's Scripture Readings

##### *Reading for the Palm Liturgy*

Matthew 21:1-11 Jesus has started his journey to Jerusalem in Galilee. He has travelled south to Jericho, where he has healed two men who were blind. Not only are they now able to see, they have become followers of Jesus. He and his disciples have then turned west, towards Jerusalem, where Jesus has an extraordinary entry into that city.

##### *Readings for the Passion Liturgy*

Isaiah 50:4-9a Our passage is one of four servant songs found in Isaiah. The first begins “Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen ...”. In late Judaism, the servant was seen as the perfect Israelite, one of supreme holiness, a messiah. In the gospels, Jesus identifies himself as the servant (or slave), the one who frees all people.

Philippians 2:5-11 Paul has just urged the Christians at Philippi, through “encouragement in Christ”, and moved by God’s love for them, to “be of the same mind[set], having the same love, being in full accord ...” They are to “regard others as better than ... [themselves]”, freely adopting a lowly, unassertive stance before others, replacing self-interest with concern for others. This is supremely seen in Jesus who humbled himself even to the level of a slave.

Matthew 26:14-27:66 Jesus has shared the Last Supper with his disciples. He has very humanly asked the Father to allow him to simply die, but has decided to be obedient to the Father’s will, to God’s plan. Judas has betrayed him to the religious authorities, and Jesus has been arrested, tried by the Sanhedrin, found guilty of a capital offence and handed over to Pilate, the Roman prefect, for trial under Roman law.

© 1996-2025 Chris Haslam

**Next Sunday – April 5 *The Sunday of The Resurrection: EASTER DAY*** Scripture readings Acts 10:34-43; *Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24*; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-8



## **On Holy Week, and Easter Day**

**HOLY WEEK begins today, Sunday, March 29 – THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION: PALM SUNDAY.** It begins with celebrating the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem yet, with the scripture readings and especially The Passion

Gospel, the journey of Holy Week, of Christ's passion, begins. It always has these dual, contrasting themes of joy and of great solemnity as we anticipate the marking of Christ's passion and death in the days ahead.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY** on **Thursday, April 2** is a special service of Holy Communion in the evening, at **7:00 pm**. Like The Sunday of the Passion, it has a movement from joy to solemnity as we mark Jesus' institution of the Eucharist and the giving of the "new commandment." The word "maundy" is an old English word from the Latin "*mandatus*", or command, recalling the Lord's giving the disciples the "new commandment." We come with thankfulness for this great gift of God, of the sacrament of holy communion. As the service progresses, we begin to prepare for Christ's betrayal. The Altar is "stripped" as a reminder of how Jesus was stripped of all his friends and supporters after he was arrested this night so long ago. The Altar now bare, and with the service ending in darkness, we go silently into our preparation for the that all-important day, Good Friday.

To go with Jesus on this night of his betrayal into a **PRAYER WATCH** is held here at Good Shepherd. **It starts immediately upon the conclusion of the Eucharist and continues to 9:30 pm when the church building is closed.** One can stay after the service or come back anytime up to 9:30 pm and spend time in prayer, meditation, and reflection. This helps us mark our Lord's request of his disciples to pray with him in the hours before his arrest.

**GOOD FRIDAY**, that most powerful of days, so shocking from the human perspective, so victorious from the view of heaven, so disastrous to the purposes of hell, so full of the grandeur of God in face of the rancid evil of sin, celebrates God's loving intention for His world. At **12:00 noon on Friday, April 3** we worship in ***The Celebration of the Lord's Passion***, with great solemnity, yet with deep and humble joy in our hearts, and ponder Christ's majestic work

of salvation and healing. And let us remember – ***there is no Easter without Good Friday.***

**Holy Saturday, April 4, the Eve of Easter Day**, when, in the evening, we have that climactic service, the **Easter Vigil at 8:00 pm**. This brings Holy Week to a close. That seeming forgotten, silent day reminds us that Jesus did lie dead and abandoned in the cold tomb after his death on the cross. And so, in the evening, we look ahead, through scripture reading and reflection, to the joy of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus as we celebrate the first Eucharist of Easter.

**THE SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION: EASTER DAY, on Sunday, April 5** marks the great joyfulness of new life for all who put their trust in Christ. At **10:30 am** we celebrate the truth and mystery of the empty tomb; Jesus has physically risen from the dead! It is with inexpressible gladness that we, as church, come together to worship our Lord in hymns and songs of praise, and in word and sacrament. ***Jesus lives – now and always!!***  
**Easter Day is also the first day of EASTER WEEK and the First Day of the Great Fifty Days of Easter.**

## NOTICES

### Food Bank

Please remember the **West Side Food Bank** with a toonie or a loonie in the can in the Narthex, or a donation in a special envelope marked with your name or number. We aim to support the Food Bank by at least \$ 200/month!

### Easter Memorials

**Please have your Easter Memorials** into the office no later than **Tuesday Mar 31<sup>st</sup>**, so that they will be in the bulletin in time for Easter. Thank you!

***Happy Birthday this Week to:***



Lina Toole, April 1  
Virgina Higgins, April 3  
Patti Skidmore, April 3

***“Remember you are a Child of God through Baptism”***

**PRAYER**

**Prayer for folks in nursing or special care homes**

GINNY ABBOTT, DIANE CORMIER, FRANCES FINLEY, ANN HOBEN, RUTH NORTHEAST, ELIZABETH PARKS, ARLENE TRASK

**Prayer for those in hospital or sick at home**

ANDREW AALUND, DIANE BASQUE, MARGARET BOYER, EDITH CHILTON, SHELLY CLARK COLLINS, LINDA CUNNINGHAM, JO-ANN DIAMOND, BONNIE DEAN, WENDY DEWITT, ERNEST ELLINGWOOD, BARB ELLIS, DEBBIE GREEN, KAYE MALLORY, PAM MELANSON, MICHAEL PENCHOFF, SUSAN PENCHOFF, CAROL PRICE, MARGARET ANN REID, LOIS SHAW, BOB SHERWOOD, MYKAYLA SPINNEY, NORM TOOLE, DENNIS TOTTON, JOE TOTTON, ROBBIE WONG.

**Parish Cycle of Prayer**

**Week of March 29-April 4, 2026**

***Let us pray for ourselves as a parish that we may enter fully into the powerful truths of what we celebrate in our worship this Holy Week!***

**Saint John Mission to Seafarers Prayer Cycle:**

In March, we pray for the families of seafarers who are facing the adventures and perils of life alone.

### **OUR PARISH PRAYER TREE**

A team of volunteers is available upon request, to pray for you or your loved one (with their permission) daily, for two weeks. These prayers will be treated with the strictest confidence. Prayer-requests should be short and to the point and will be passed on verbatim. The Lord knows best what we need! A follow-up of thanks or an update encourages our intercessors in their ministry.

**To initiate the prayer-tree ministry please call your request to our “Captain”, Ngaire Nelson 672-8666**

## **THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

**PARISH OF LANCASTER**

*Diocese of Fredericton*

*Anglican Church of Canada*

---

*Bishop*

Archbishop David Edwards

*Incumbent*

The Rev'd Christopher Ketch

*Church Wardens*

Paul Desjardins & Chris Titus

*Parish Administrator*

Lori Maker

*Organist & Choir Director*

David Mitchell

*Sexton*

Larry Totton

---

668 Manawagonish Rd.,

Saint John, NB E2M 3W5

telephone (506) 635-8145

e-mail [goodshep@nb.sympatico.ca](mailto:goodshep@nb.sympatico.ca)

web site [www.goodshepherdsj.ca](http://www.goodshepherdsj.ca)



We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) and Mi'kmaq Peoples.

**A blessed and  
powerful  
HOLY WEEK  
to all!**

