

Sunday March 24<sup>th</sup> 2024  
Palm Sunday



## **Our Mission**

*To be a diverse ministering community  
making Christ's presence known in the world around us.*

## **Sunday Morning Worship**

9:30 St. George's Church: 1089 Highway 277, Dutch Settlement

11:00 Christ Church: 14 Church St., Lantz

## **Parish Clergy**

Rev'd Dr. Jane Magrath

Rev'd Patty McKenna

# Our Worship Today

*We acknowledge that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq who have been living on these lands since time immemorial. Recognizing this is a small but meaningful step in reconciliation and the continued efforts of building a strong Nation-to-Nation relationship, as we are all Treaty People.*

## **Call to Worship:** (standing)

Who is this who comes, humble and riding on a donkey?

**Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Who is this who comes, free from pride and hubris?

**Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Who is this who comes, celebrated by powerless children?

**Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Hosanna! Come join in the celebration of hope!

Holy God, your love goes beyond all limits. Thank you for giving us your beloved, Jesus, whom we claim as the Christ, to lead us ever closer to your glory and your shalom... your peace that passes understanding. As we worship you this day, give us the desire and the will to follow Jesus, that we may be led into that peace that holds in time of trouble. May your solid peace and your deep love persist in us, in your church, and in our world far beyond today's parade, so we might shout our praise! In the name of Jesus the Christ, **Amen!**

## **Blessing of the Palms**

Bless these parade palms, O God of Celebration.

May they remind us of the simple joys of living.

May we remember the excitement that comes with following Christ.

Bless these protest palms, O God of Justice.

May they remind us that Empire is not a thing of the past.

May they make us bold and brave to stand up against injustice.

Bless these funeral palms, O God of Comfort.

May they remind us of the road that lies ahead.

May they encourage us in times of grief and pain.

We give you thanks for the parade, the protest, the processional.

Guide our steps through this holiest of weeks as we cry out together:

**"Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna!" Amen.**

## **Procession with the Palms: Hosanna, Loud Hosanna**

Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang;

through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang.

To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast,

the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

From Olivet they followed, mid an exultant crowd,  
the victory palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud.  
The Lord of earth and heaven, rode on in lowly state,  
nor scorned that little children should on his bidding wait.

"Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing,  
for Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven, our King.  
O may we ever praise him, with heart and life and voice,  
and in his blissful presence, eternally rejoice.

### ***The Collect:***

Holy and immortal God: as we enter into this holy week turn our hearts to Jerusalem, so that, united with Christ and all the faithful, we may enter the city not made with hands, your promised realm of justice and peace, eternal from age to age. **Amen**

### ***Prayer for Illumination:***

Illuminating God: today, you march into Jerusalem to save us. Guide us, through the wisdom of your Spirit, that we might see what you are calling us to see, to know what you are calling us to know, and to feel what you are calling us to feel, that we may respond to your Gospel call of grace with gladsome hearts and minds. **Amen.**

### ***Proclamation of the Word:***

***The First Reading:*** A Reading from the Book of Isaiah (50:4-9)  
(After the reading)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God.**

***The Psalm:*** 118:1-2, 19-29

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures for ever.

**Let Israel now proclaim, "His mercy endures for ever."**

Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them;

I will offer thanks to the Lord.

**"This is the gate of the Lord; he who is righteous may enter."**

I will give thanks to you, for you answered me and have become my salvation.

**The same stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.**

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

On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

**Hosannah, Lord, hosannah! Lord, send us now success.**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;

**we bless you from the house of the Lord.**

God is the Lord; he has shined upon us;

form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.

**"You are my God, and I will thank you; you are my God, and I will exalt you."**

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

**his mercy endures for ever. Amen**

## **Blessing of Palms** (a Poem by Jan Richardson)

### **The Gospel:**

God be with you. **And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of Jesus the Christ according to Mark (11:1-11):

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

(After the reading)

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

### **Sermon:**

#### **Affirmation of Faith**

We believe in God in whom is power and compassion.

We believe in the Creator who gave birth to the universe,  
set solar systems dancing in space, shaped molecules and mountains,  
and conceived beauty beyond our imagining.

God's power topples tyrants, and brings down walls of separation;  
God's love embodies the tenderness of a perfect parent,  
encouraging and caring for each of us.

We believe in Jesus, born in obscurity in an occupied land;  
a human being, vulnerable to hunger, thirst, persecution and grief.  
He understood the power of love and confronted the powers of evil,  
spoke the truth with courage and clarity,  
forgave his enemies and changed lives.  
In his living, dying and rising again  
he showed love strong enough to save the world.

We believe in the Holy Spirit who sustains, comforts and empowers us,  
opens the scriptures, opens our minds, and illuminates earth's darkness. Amen

### **Prayers of the People:**

*We respond to each petition saying, **Hear our Prayer***

#### **Trisagion (Ortega's Version)**

Holy God, Holy and Mighty; Holy Immortal One; Have mercy, have mercy on us (X3)

### **Call to Confession**

Holy One, who on this day entered the rebellious city that later rejected you:  
we confess that our wills are sometimes as rebellious as Jerusalem's,  
that our faith is often more show than substance, that our hearts are in need of  
cleansing. Have mercy on us, son of David, Savior of our lives.  
Help us to lay at your feet all that we have and all that we are, trusting you to  
forgive what is sinful, to heal what is broken, to welcome our praises, and to  
receive us as your own. **Amen**

## **Confession:**

Most merciful God, 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.

## **Absolution:**

Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus the Christ. **Amen.**

## **Celebrations:**

O God, our times are in your hand: look with favour, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace; and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **Exchanging of the Peace:**

*We share a Covid-safe gesture of love and reconciliation with one another.*  
Peace be with you. **And also with you.**

## **Offertory Hymn: All Glory, Laud & Honor**

All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.  
You are the King of Israel and David's royal Son,  
now in the Lord's name coming, the King and Blessed One.

The company of angels is praising you on high;  
and we with all creation in chorus make reply.  
The people of the Hebrews, with palms before you went;  
our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present.

To you before your passion they sang their hymns of praise;  
to you, now high exalted, our melody we raise.  
As you received their praises, accept the prayers we bring,  
for you delight in goodness, O good and gracious King!

## **Prayer over the Gifts:**

Holy God, sovereign over power and pain, glorious triumph and deep disappointment, we enter this holy week bringing our offerings to your altar and leaving them here in the hope you will send them to make the world a more loving and compassionate place.

**Remind us that your kingdom breaks into the world,  
not as a spectacle for us to witness, but as a parade  
where we are called to make a working contribution.  
We pray in the name of the one who comes not just for the parade,  
but for the cross at the end of it. Amen.**

## ***Eucharistic Prayer for Palm Sunday***

God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Morning by morning, creation's voices join in praising you, God of every goodness. The forests form a festive procession, the heavens reflect your glory's light. Though we were formed by you, we looked around at everything sin and death had to offer, and followed them through the world, thinking they could protect us.

You gave prophets the tongues of teachers, to comfort our weariness and teach us the way back to you, but we turned our back on them. When judgment did not lead to redemption, you sent Jesus to reach out in love, to bring us home to you. So with those who spread cloaks before you, and those who are sustained by your love, we join our voices, 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.**

Holy are you, Sustainer of the weary; and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Love become human. He emptied himself of glory, to be filled with our broken hopes and hearts. He chose the path of suffering love, so that we could run through the streets of the kingdom waving branches of joy. He walked the sin-cold stones into the tomb which could not hold him, so we could join our voices together, 'Hosanna! Hosanna! He is risen!'

One night, after this triumphal entry into Jerusalem, Jesus gathered his friends together. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it and gave it to his friends, saying, "Take and eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave you thanks, and said "Drink this all of you, this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Breathe your Holy Spirit, the wisdom of the universe, upon these gifts that we bring to you: this bread, this cup, ourselves, our souls and bodies, that we may be signs of your love for all the world and ministers of your transforming purpose. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, Creator of all, and we bless your holy name for ever. **Amen.**

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

**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.**  
We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.  
**We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**  
The gifts of God for the People of God **Thanks be to God**

*All are Welcome to partake in the Eucharist as you feel called to do.*

## **Announcements:**

As Jesus calls us as disciples, God sends us out to serve others in the world. Let us share with one another the events of our parish and community this week.

## **Closing Prayers:**

Loving God: Here at the Table graced with creation's gifts,  
we discover the world you intend.

Here where your love enlivens the bread and the cup,  
we are given more than enough of everything we need.

Sharing deeply in the Spirit, we can give hope its wings,  
as it carries us to serve the broken all around us.

Strengthened by the grace with which you feed us,  
we can join together to sustain the weary of the world.

Glory to God **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:**

May the blessing of God

who resides in our hopes and our dreams grant us peace.

May the blessing of the Christ

Who rides to wild acclaim and waving palm branches grant us peace.

May the blessing of the Spirit

Who holds us through our fears and our nightmares grant us peace.....

on this Palm Sunday, through the events of Holy Week,

to the cross of Good Friday and beyond –

to look for the hopes and dreams of the dawning of an Easter Morning. **Amen**

## **Closing Hymn: Give me Oil in my Lamp**

Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning. Give me oil in my lamp, I pray.

Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning.

Keep me burning till the break of day.

*Refrain: Sing hosanna, sing hosanna, sing hosanna to the King of kings!*

*Sing hosanna, sing hosanna, Sing hosanna to the King!*

Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising; Give me joy in my heart I pray;

Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising; Keep me praising 'til the break of day.

(Refrain)

Give me peace in my soul, keep me loving; Give me peace in my soul I pray;

Give me peace in my soul, keep me loving; Keep me loving 'til the break of day.

(Refrain)

## **Dismissal:**

Let us go out with joy and praise; and let us serve God by serving others.

Thanks be to God. Amen

## **Parish Notices and Announcements**

**Weekly Wisdom:** "If you want peace, work for justice." Pope Paul VI

### **Events this Week:**

**Maundy Thursday Service:** Thurs @7:00pm, St. George's

**Good Friday Passion Tenebrae:** Friday @7:00pm, Christ Church

**Holy Saturday Vigil and Holy Baptism:** Saturday @7:00pm, St. George's

**Easter Sunday:** Regular Service Times

### **Prayer Ministry - Prayer Chain**

If you, or someone you know would like to be put on the prayer list, please send information to carolyn.mcnally@ns.sympatico.ca

All information will be kept in confidence.

## **Contact Information**

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