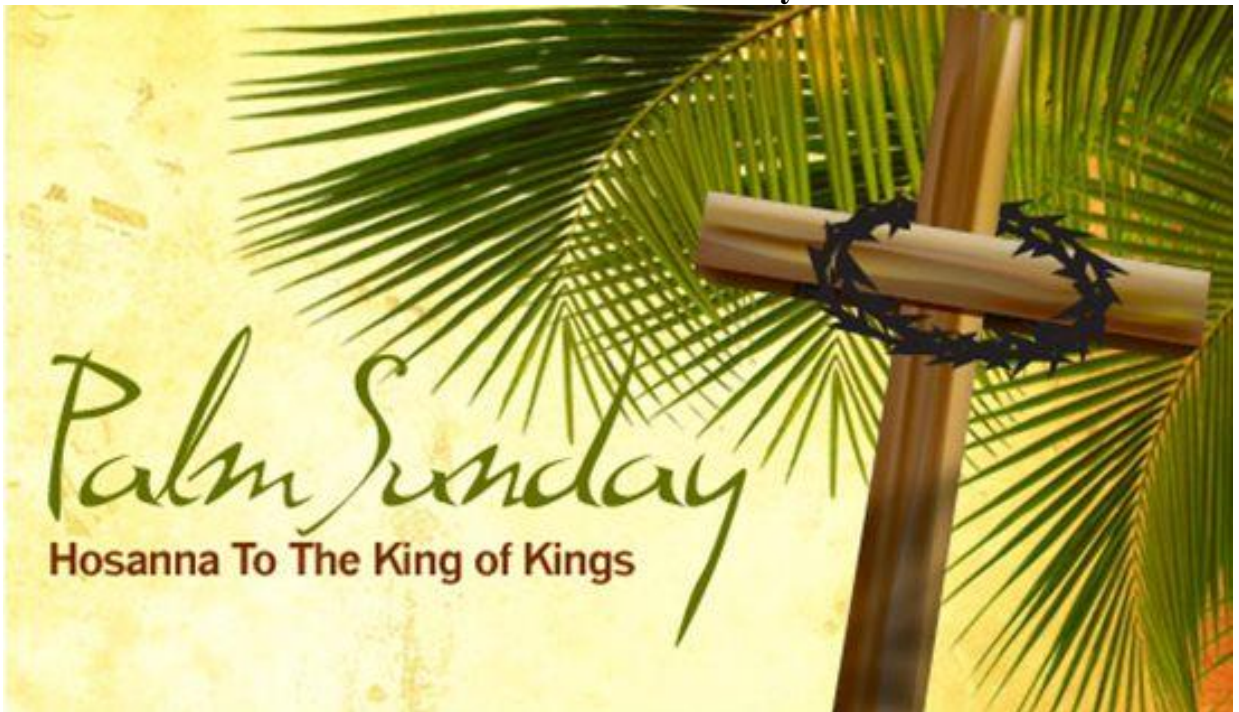


Saint Stephen's welcomes everyone who wishes to follow Christ, worship together, grow in faith and share God's love through service to others.

PALM SUNDAY

Commemoration of the Lord's Entry into Jerusalem



Saturday 5pm—April 1 and Sunday 11am April 2, 2023

Prelude: "In Highest Majesty", by Lani Smith

Welcome and Announcements

Rev Allison Cornell

(People gather in the Parish Hall. Please stand as you are able)

Presider Behold your king comes to you, O Zion, meek and lowly, sitting upon an donkey. 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 scepter of your kingdom is a righteous scepter. You have loved righteousness and hated evil: therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your fellows.

People **Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

Presider The Lord be with you

People **And also with you**

Presider Dear friends in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing - by works of love and self-examination - 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 savior, to suffer, to die, and to rise again. Let us go with him in faith and love so that we may share in his risen life.

(The people hold up their palm fronds while the following prayer is said)

Presider God our Savior, whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah only days later to suffer and to die, 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 lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit now and forever. **AMEN.**

Palm Procession Lesson: A reading from the Gospel of Matthew (21:1-11)

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,

People: "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,

People: "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

Palm Procession—*"Ride On, Jesus Ride"* Gather #424 (*Insert*)
(*People follow the Crucifer into the church singing and waving palms and take their seats*)

Presider: Let us pray. (*Please remain standing for the prayer*)

All: 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.

(Please be seated for the lessons)

The Psalm: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 (in unison)

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

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

**19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; *
I will enter them;
I will offer thanks to the Lord.**

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

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

- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected *
has become the chief cornerstone.**
- 23 This is the Lord's doing, *
and it is marvelous in our eyes.**
- 24 On this day the Lord has acted; *
we will rejoice and be glad in it.**
- 25 Hosannah, Lord, hosannah! *
Lord, send us now success.**
- 26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; *
we bless you from the house of the Lord.**
- 27 God is the Lord; he has shined upon us; *
form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.**
- 28 "You are my God, and I will thank you; *
you are my God, and I will exalt you."**
- 29 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; *
his mercy endures for ever.**

**New Testament Lesson: A reading from Paul's letter to the 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: The Word of the Lord People: Thanks be to God

Gospel Lesson:*(Please stand)*

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to

Matthew 26: 1-2, 14-16, 3-5, 17-19**People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When Jesus had finished saying all these things, he said to his disciples, “You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified.”

Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, “What will you give me if I betray him to you?” They paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the courtyard of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas, and they conspired to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. But they said, “Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.”

On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?” He said, “Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, ‘The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.’” So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord

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

Prayers of the People

Leader: We stand with Christ in his way, his life, and his truth. For forgiveness for the many times we have betrayed Jesus, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For the Grace to acknowledge those habits of sin which mean spiritual injury and soul woundedness, and by prayer and dedication to overcome them, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For all people suffering disunity, separation, and discord, may there grow a rich union in acceptance, togetherness, and love, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For those who make laws, interpret them, and administer them, that our common life may be ordered in justice and mercy, let us pray to the Lord

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For those who still make differences in religious practice, worship, and belief a battleground, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For those who have courage and honesty to work openly for non-violent justice and peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For those in darkness and agony of isolation, that they may find support, encouragement, and wholeness, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For those who, weighed down with hardships, failures, or sorrows, or who feel that God is far from them, that they may overcome their adversities and find the comfort of God around them, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For those who are tempted to give up the way, the life, and the truth of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: That we, with those who have died in the faith, may find rest and peace for our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

All Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

Presider Christ is our peace. We meet in his name and share in his peace.
The peace of the Lord always be with you

All And also with you.

(The people exchange signs of peace, namaste, hand shakes, fist bumps or virtual hugs)

Offertory:

Presider Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us as an Offering and sacrifice to God.

Offertory Music: "All that We Have"

Gather#597

The Holy Eucharist

Presider The Lord be with you

People And also with you

Presider Lift up your hearts

People We lift them up to the Lord

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

People It is right to give him thanks and praise

Presider continues:

Holy God, we give you thanks and praise through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word through whom you have created all things: Who was sent by you, in your great goodness, to be our Savior; by the power of the Holy Spirit, he took flesh and, as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin, was seen on earth and went about among us;

He opened wide his arms for us on the cross; he put an end to death by dying for us and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life; so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

And now we give you thanks because 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, became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, forever praising you and saying:

**Sanctus: S-128: 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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will,(+), these your gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

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.”

Wherefore, we believe and affirm:

Lord, by your cross and resurrection, you have set us free.

You are the Savior of the world.

And so, Gracious God, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the world, rejoicing at his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

We thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. We bring before you this bread and this cup (+).

We pray you to accept this our offering and service, a spiritual sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us (+), your people, and gather us into one in your kingdom, all who share this bread and cup, so that we in the company of all your saints may praise and glorify you forever, through him from whom all good things come, Jesus Christ our Lord.

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

Leader: And now as Jesus 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, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread:

(Presider breaks the bread. A period of silence follows)

Presider: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us

People: Therefore let us keep the feast

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God.

(All are welcome to receive communion in this church. The bread is gluten free. You may either eat the bread and take a sip from the cup of wine, or you may dip/instinct your bread into the cup of wine. If you prefer not to have the wine, that is also acceptable. If you are not ready to receive communion with us, you may come forward and cross you arms over your chest to receive a blessing instead).

Communion music: *“Let us break bread together on our knees”*

#325

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Healing Prayers, Travelers, and Gratitudes

Post Communion Prayer:

Presider: Let us pray:

All 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.

Benediction:

Presider: *The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.* AMEN.

Closing Song *“Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley”*

G#406

Dismissal:

Deacon: People of St. Stephen's, what does God call us to do?

People: **We are called to love and serve.**

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

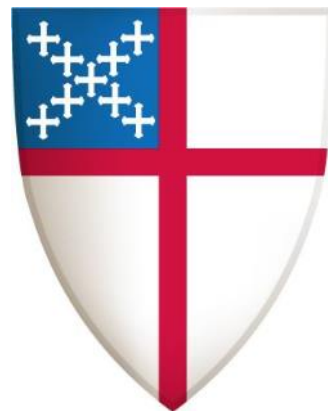
Postlude: *"Great God of Might and glory"*, by Lani Smith



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Welcome Visitor!!!

Please leave your name and contact info below. If you'd like to speak with someone, please check here

Or you can also use the QRC here to fill this out online.



Info Update Giving Envelopes Mail News Letter

Name _____ (first) _____ (Mid.) _____ (Last)

Hm: _____ Cell _____

Email: _____ Anv. Date _____

Adrs: _____ BrthDay _____

City, St., Zip: _____, _____, _____