

Palm Sunday



March 29, 2026 - 11 AM

CHRIST CHURCH CHRISTIANA HUNDRED

WELCOME!

We are glad you are with us today as we worship God and receive Christ's presence given to us in the sacrament of bread and wine. This service is offered by livestream for those who cannot assemble with us. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here.

HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

WE GATHER IN THE LORD'S NAME

Voluntary *Passacaglia in D minor*

Dieterich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

Welcome and Announcements

Please turn to face the center of the nave as the Rector welcomes all to worship, concluding

Each year Christians gather in worship to remember the days when Jesus came to Jerusalem just before his death on the cross and his resurrection to new life. Our worship today unfolds the story of that awesome and awful week. We welcome you to enter into our worship as if you were there. Imagine the hills around Jerusalem and all the roads leading up to the Holy City crowded with pilgrims coming for the feast of the Passover. His triumphant entry was a fulfillment of Zechariah's ancient prophecy.

Please stand, as able, for

The Opening Acclamation

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

The People joyously reply

And also with you.

The Prophet Zechariah Foretells the Triumphant Entry

Zechariah 9:9-10

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the warhorse from Jerusalem; and the battle-bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

The Blessing of the Palms

Celebrant Since the fourth century, Christians have been remembering the day Jesus rode into Jerusalem to shouts of joyful praise. The palm branch was a sign that you had made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, and to honor this day, people cut branches from their yards to join in a triumphant procession, even when they lived far away or in a different age. In the ninth century, a Christian wrote a song, which we sing to this day. We bless these branches of palm and raise them high to show that Jesus is our King, as we sing, "All glory, laud, and honor."

The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People *It is right to give God thanks and praise!*

Celebrant 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 the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

People ***Hosanna in the highest!***

As the procession surrounds the People, wave the branches of palm and sing

Hymn 154 *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

(blue) Hymnal 1982

WE LISTEN AND RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

Collect of the Day

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.*

Please be seated for

The 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 wakens—wakens 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?

At the conclusion the People respond, "Thanks be to God."

The Choir sings

Psalm 118:1-2, 25-29 *Confitemini Domino*

Chant: Sir George Thalben-Ball (1896-1987)

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

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

Hosanna, Lord, hosanna! 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.

The 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.

At the conclusion the People respond, "Thanks be to God."

Please stand and sing

Gradual Hymn 156 *Ride on! Ride on in Majesty!*

Hymnal 1982

The Gospel is carried to the congregation so that we remember it is out Good News to hear and to share.

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 21:1-11

Priest 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."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Once the Book of Gospels has returned to its place of honor, the People may be seated at the invitation of the preacher.

The Homily

The Rt. Rev. Kevin S. Brown

Please stand for

The Apostles' Creed

Celebrant Let us affirm the creed of baptism, saying

People ***I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.***

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

*He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

A member of the parish leads

The Prayers of the People

We pray for the Church, the world, and all in need.

Holy God, we pray for the church throughout the world. Assist us that we may boldly proclaim Christ as Savior and follow him as the Lord of life. In your mercy,

Lord, hear our prayer.

Mighty God, we pray for our president, Donald, and all those in positions of power throughout the world. Guide them to right choices for the sake of all who are weak and lead all nations into the way of compassion and peace. In your mercy,

Lord, hear our prayer.

Merciful God, we pray for all who are broken in body, mind, and spirit, for those in any need or trouble. In this moment we remember them before you and ask your healing love. *[In the silence, offer prayers to God for those in need or trouble.]* Open our hearts that we may minister to them in the name of Christ. In your mercy,

Lord, hear our prayer.

Everlasting God, we pray for those who have died in war or terror, in poverty or disease. We remember loved ones departed this life. *[In the silence, offer prayers to God for loved ones departed.]* Bring them to the joy of heaven and keep us in the way that leads to eternal life. In your mercy,

Lord, hear our prayer.

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Please kneel, as able, for

The Confession of Sin and Absolution

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

People *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 neighbors 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.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

Please stand for

The Peace

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory and Preparation of the Table

Being seated, we begin with a time of offering. Giving money is a sign that our life serves God's purposes and expresses our gratitude for God's many blessings. The ushers will receive the offering and present it on our behalf. Also, you may give online using Apple or Google Pay, PayPal, Venmo, a credit/debit card, ACH, or text a contribution to (302) 244-5368. For those who give electronically, a card is available in the pews to participate in the act of offering. Newcomers and guests may place the welcome card in the offering plate.

Anthem

Tomás Luis da Victoria (1548-1611)

*Pueri Hebraeorum vestimenta
prosternebant in via,
et clamabant dicentes:
Hosanna filio David:
benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini.*

The Hebrew children
spread their garments in the way,
and cried out, saying:
Hosanna to the Son of David:
blessed is He that cometh
in the Name of the Lord.

Please stand and sing

Presentation Hymn 585 *Morning Glory, Starlit Sky*

Hymnal 1982

The Great Thanksgiving

(red) Book of Common Prayer 361

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 God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant 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.

Please stand or kneel as the Celebrant continues the prayer, inviting our acclamation of Christ's sacrificial death and triumphant resurrection,

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues the prayer, concluding

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.***

The Celebrant invites the People to say the prayer Jesus taught his first disciples.

The Lord's Prayer

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 the Bread

The Choir sings the anthem at the breaking of the bread, which is Christ's Body, broken for us. Be seated after the sacrament is presented.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:

miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:

miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:

dona nobis pacem.

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.

All are welcome to receive the sacrament of Christ or a blessing. Come up the center aisle and take your place along the altar rail, kneeling or standing. If you desire a blessing, cross your arms over your chest to indicate your intent. Receive the host in open hands. Gluten-free host is available; let the clergy know your need when they approach you. When you are presented with the cup, drink from it or dip the bread carefully into the cup and consume in both kinds together. If you do not wish to receive the cup, please cross your arms to indicate your intent, but wait for the minister to pass you before you leave the rail. Please use the side aisle to return to your pew. If you are unable to come forward, ask an usher to let the clergy know, and communion will be brought to you.

Communion Anthem

Richard Proulx (1937-2010)

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,
because by your Cross you have redeemed the world.

We glory in your Cross, O Lord God;
we praise and glorify your holy resurrection;
by virtue of your Cross joy has come.

O Savior, by your holy Cross, save us and help us, O Lord.
By your holy Cross, you have redeemed us all.

Please stand for

The Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant In thanksgiving, let us pray.

People ***Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.***

Please be seated for the telling of the Passion, until you are invited to stand.

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ

based on Matthew 26:20—27:54

At the conclusion of the reading, the Choir sings the first two verses of the hymn, and the congregation joins in for verses 3 and 4.

Hymn 104 *A Stable Lamp is Lighted*

Hymnal 1982

We ask that you leave the church quietly. You are welcome to take palms home and bring them back for Shrove Tuesday 2027. Please take your bulletin with you or return it to the table in the narthex as you leave.

Our prayer is that today's worship has encouraged you in love and strengthened you for your journey. We look forward to your presence again in the worship of Holy Week and Easter and in our ministry of care and service to others.

Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, Christ Church welcomes you into a loving and joyful community that serves others and seeks to grow deeper in relationship with God through Jesus Christ.



NEW HERE? Scan the QR code to let us know or complete the card in the pews and place it in the offering plate.

PARISH CLERGY

The Rev. Ruth Beresford, *Rector*
The Rev. Thomas Word Peters, *Associate Rector*
The Very Rev. William Lane, *Pastoral Associate*

LAY MINISTRY STAFF

Sheila Abio, *Head of School*
Bruce Barber, *Director of Music*
Mason Cruz, *Minister for Children & Youth*
Jason Keller, *Saturday Worship Leader*
Cameron Kuzepski, *Assistant Director of Music/Director of Choristers*

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Sherry Lawton-Fasic, *Parish Administrator*
Terri Carpe, *Finance Manager*
Jennifer Fordham, *School Administrator*
Deb Piper, *Philanthropy/Stewardship Associate*
Jane Rubini, *Administrative Associate*
Nigel Sanderson, *Livestream Technician*
Michael Sayer, *Facilities Manager*
Deborah Webb, *Communications Associate/Graphic Designer*
Leroy Folks, Andy Marine, Charles Parfitt-Simpson, *Sextons*

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Ran Barton, *Senior Warden*; Alexia Wolf, '26, *Junior Warden*
Mark Parsells, *Treasurer*; Bob Reardon, *Assistant Treasurer*
Jennifer O'Connor, *Clerk*; MJ O'Connor, *Youth Representative*
Chuck Arensberg, '26; Cindi Cozza, '27; Barbara King, '27
Shelley Kinsella, '28; Kendall Meldrum, '28; Thorpe Moeckel, '27; Scott Nickle, '26
John Olsen, '28; Jamie Poston, '27; Wil Stith, '28; Jaqueline Whalen, '26

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