

The Anglican Parish of  
St. Peter and St. Paul  
March 29<sup>th</sup> 2026  
Home Church Connections Service  
Final Sunday of Lent



“Nourishing Faith and Community”

## Words of Welcome

### Gathering of the Community

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

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. The Hebrews acclaimed Jesus as Messiah and King, with palm branches in their hands, crying, Hosanna in the highest. May we also, carrying these emblems in our hearts, go forth to meet Christ 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.**

### The Liturgy of the Palms

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Dear friends in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing for the celebration of our Lord's paschal mystery. On this day our Lord Jesus Christ entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph. The people welcomed him with palms and shouts of praise, but the path before him led to self-giving, suffering, and death. Today we greet him as our King, although we know his crown is thorns and his throne a cross. We follow him this week from the glory of the palms

to the glory of the resurrection by way of the dark road of suffering and death. United with him in his suffering on the cross, may we share his resurrection and new life.

Let us pray.

Assist us mercifully with your help, Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy into the celebration of those mighty acts whereby you give us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### The Readings for Palm Sunday

#### Reading One: Isaiah 50:4-9a

A reading from the book of Isaiah.

*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 backwards. 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? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

**O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever!**

Let Israel say, His steadfast love endures forever.'

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.

**O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever!**

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!

O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!

**O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever!**

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

We bless you from the house of the Lord.

The Lord is God, and he has given us light.

Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.

**O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever!**

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you.

**O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever!**

### Reading Two: Philippians 2:5-11

A reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians.

*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.*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew  
**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

*When Jesus and the 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 fulfil 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.'*

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

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**And also with you.**

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

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. The Hebrews acclaimed Jesus as Messiah and King, with palm branches in their hands, crying, Hosanna in the highest. May we also, carrying these emblems, go forth to meet Christ 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.**

Introductory Words *The Rev. Gail Rodger*

Selected reading from the Passion: *The Rev. Gail Rodger*

Prayer of thanksgiving:  
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, and in receiving we present our offerings this day, in the name of Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has 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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Doxology

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.**

The Blessing

May the Spirit, who strengthens us to suffer with Christ that we may share his glory, set your minds on life and peace. And the blessing of the Holy Trinity; Father, Son and Holy Spirit, hold you and surround you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Let us go forth in peace.

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

(no alleluias in Lent)

**Forgot your Easter offering? No worries!**

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Welcome to all those visiting us at St. Peter and St. Paul.

We welcome saints, seekers and sinners as we live into a life in Christ, learning about and from one another as we worship God together. Christ binds us together in love through our diversity. If you are comfortable, please give us your name and address so we can add you to our weekly prayer list. We are looking forward to getting to know you better.

## Territorial Acknowledgement

We worship on the traditional lands of the Esquimalt, Songhees and other Nations of the Salish and Coast Salish Peoples. We, who came from many lands to join the line of those worshipping here, commit our Church to continue the journey of truth and reconciliation with our First Nations' neighbours.

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