



**ST. PAUL'S**

Est 1855

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

Worship, Love, Live the Message

**WORSHIP BULLETIN:**  
**MARCH 29, 2026** **11:00 AM**  
Holy Eucharist Rite II Prayer B

***Palm Sunday***

**THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS:**

Presider: People Beloved in Christ, for these forty days we have journeyed with Jesus from the wilderness up to the gates of Jerusalem. As we join with all the faithful and celebrate his entry in both triumph and humility, let us welcome him with cries of "Hosanna," and may his praise be on our lips even as we walk with him toward the cross and the grave, confident in God's power to save.

Let us pray:

Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that as we greet our Savior with joy at his entry into Jerusalem, we may follow him in humility and contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Presider: Hosanna to the Son of David.

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

**READING: Zechariah 9:9, Psalm 45:4, 45:7-8**

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. 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.

Presider: Hosanna to the Son of David.

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

**BLESSING OF THE PALMS:**

Presider: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Presider: 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 forever.

**People: Amen.**

Presider: Hosanna to the Son of David.

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

Presider: Let us go forth in peace.

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

**ENTRANCE HYMN:**

***The People Process into the church, singing and waving Palms***

**Palm Sunday Parade**

Music by: Cameron DePalma

**Verse:**

Hosanna! Make way for the King of Kings!  
Hosanna! Make way for the Lord!  
Hosanna! Make way for Jesus!  
Hosanna! Make way for the Lord!

**COLLECT OF THE DAY: BCP p. 357**

Presider: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose Son entered the gates of Jerusalem to acclamations of reverence and homage from those who recognized him; grant that the eyes of your people may remain opened, that we too may see, believe, and worship him, through Christ our Sovereign and Redeemer. **Amen.**

**FIRST READING: Zechariah 9:9-10**

*The people sit.*

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!  
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!  
Behold, your king is coming to you;  
righteous and having salvation is he,  
humble and mounted on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.  
I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim  
and the war horse from Jerusalem;  
and the battle bow shall be cut off,  
and he shall speak peace to the nations;  
his rule shall be from sea to sea,  
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 118:19-29**

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 marvelous 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.**

**SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-7**

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Silence may follow.*

**GOSPEL HYMN:**

*The following is sung.*

**(A3 63) Holy Spirit Come**

Holy Spirit come  
 Let this be Your home  
 Come and dwell among all of us who sing this  
 song  
 Come into this place  
 Shine on ev'ry face  
 Fill us with Your love and grace  
 Holy Spirit come

**THE GOSPEL:****Matthew 21:1-11**

*All stand.*

Presider: 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."

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord

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

**POST-GOSPEL MUSIC:**

*Please refer to Gospel Hymn for lyrics*

**(A3 63) Holy Spirit Come****THE SERMON:****The Rev. Annie Mertz****THE CREED:****BCP p. 358**

*All stand.*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:**

*All remain standing*

**THE PEACE:****BCP p. 360***All stand.*

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

**People: And also with you.**

*Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Overnight Prayer Vigil -The sign-up sheet is in the Parish Hall – must sign up today.

- Weds. April 1 - Eucharist & Bible Study have been cancelled because of Holy Week, but we'll be back on April 8.

- Today's Liturgy

**BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & TRANSITIONS:**

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

**OFFERTORY SENTENCE:****BCP p. 376****OFFERTORY HYMN:***The following is sung***Jesus Built a Bridge to Heaven**

Composed by: Rhonda Vincent

**Chorus:**

Jesus built a bridge to Heaven.  
A mighty, mighty bridge to Heaven.  
Jesus built a bridge to Heaven,  
With three nails, and two cross-ties.

**Verse 1:**

Took His people by the hand.  
Led them 'cross that barren land.  
Pharaoh chased them night and day,  
But the angel of the Lord kept him away.  
**(Chorus)**

**Verse 2:**

A humble carpenter by trade.  
You'll know him by the works he made.  
No towers of stone, nor works of steel,  
But a wooden cross on a wind swept hill.  
**(Chorus)**

**Verse 3:**

No boulevard, no avenue.  
Not a road by man can carry you.  
A highway built by hands unseen,  
To that city of gold for eternity.  
**(Chorus x 3)**

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B:****BCP p. 367***The People remain standing.*

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.**

**PROPER PREFACE:****BCP p. 367***Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds.*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,  
always and everywhere to give thanks to  
you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and  
earth. . . 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.

## SANCTUS:

*Celebrant and people*

### Americana Hosanna

Composed by: Cameron DePalma

#### Chorus:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of your praises.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of  
the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Hosanna in the highest.

## BCP p. 368

*The Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the  
goodness and love which you have made  
known to us in creation...  
...Whenever you drink it, do this for the  
remembrance of me." Therefore, according  
to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER: BCP p. 363

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us,  
we are bold to say,

*People and Celebrant*

**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

## FRACTION ANTHEM:

*Celebrant and People*

### We Break This Bread

Composed by: Cameron DePalma

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.  
We who are many are now of one body,  
for here we all share in the one bread.

## COMMUNION HYMN:

*The following is sung.*

### (LEVAS 203) There is a Balm in Gilead

#### Chorus:

There is a balm in Gilead  
To make the wounded whole  
There is a balm in Gilead To heal the sin-sick  
soul

#### Verse 1:

Sometimes I feel discouraged And think my  
work's in vain  
But then the Holy Spirit  
Revives my soul again  
**(Chorus)**

#### Verse 2:

If you cannot preach like Peter If you cannot  
preach like Paul You can tell the love of  
Jesus  
And say He died for all Don't ever be  
discouraged  
For Jesus is your friend  
And if you lack for knowledge  
He'll ne'er refuse to lend  
**(Chorus)**

## COMMUNION HYMN:

*The following is sung.*

### (LEVAS 37) Were You There

#### Verse 1:

Were you there when they crucified my Lord  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord  
O sometimes it causes me to tremble  
tremble tremble  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord

#### Verse 2:

Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree  
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree  
O sometimes it causes me to tremble  
tremble tremble  
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree

#### Verse 3:

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb  
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb  
O sometimes it causes me to tremble  
tremble tremble  
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb

#### Verse 4:

Were you there when He rose up from the grave  
Were you there when He rose up from the grave  
O sometimes it causes me to tremble  
tremble tremble  
Were you there when He rose up from the grave



## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER: BCP p. 365

Presider: Let us pray.

**People: Lord Jesus Christ, you set your example before us as one who came not to be served but to serve: Give us the courage to be your faithful disciples, following your way even to the cross, and proclaiming you as Savior and King. Amen.**

## SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE:

Presider: Bow down before the Lord. Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## READING OF THE PASSION GOSPEL:

*Please refer to the Passion Readings Booklet in your pews and read the parts in bold. **The reading begins on page 7 of the booklet.***

*At the mention of Golgotha, please stand. Members of the altar guild are invited to come forward to strip the altar.*

*At the conclusion of the Gospel, the Altar guild will slam the door to the sacristy, marking the beginning of the solemnity of Holy Week. The choir and altar party will process out. **There is no dismissal.***



*Palm Sunday 2026*

# WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scan or click for our weekly announcements online!



\* Overnight Prayer Vigil -The sign-up sheet is in the Parish Hall - Last day to sign up is Palm Sunday.

\* Wednesday, April 1 - Eucharist & Bible Study have been cancelled because of Holy Week, but we'll be back on Weds., April 8.

\* Holy Week Schedule - Posted online, in the Narthex & Parish Hall.

The deadline for submitting announcements is Wednesday at noon.  
E-mail: admin@stpaulsbenicia.org Phone: (707) 745-0307

## SIGN UP FOR OUR MAILING LIST:



## CONNECT WITH US!



[www.stpaulsbenicia.org](http://www.stpaulsbenicia.org)

[www.facebook.com/stpaulsbenicia/](https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsbenicia/)

[www.instagram.com/stpaulsbenicia/](https://www.instagram.com/stpaulsbenicia/)

[www.youtube.com/@stpaulsbenicia/streams](https://www.youtube.com/@stpaulsbenicia/streams)

(707) 745-0307

120 E J St. Benicia, CA

Please e-mail: admin@stpaulsbenicia.org for updates or additions

## WE PRAY FOR GOD'S HEALING

Mark Park  
Jim Jewell  
Sue Hammond  
Blanche Hilman  
Caroline H.  
Donna Marshall  
R.C. Whitehead  
Jim Turner  
Jude Augustus Emery  
MaryFrances Kelly-Poh  
Ron McGinnis  
Nancy Gigliotti  
Jack Carr  
Vicky Carr  
Dick Bryan

## PRAYERS FOR OUR SISTER IN HOSPICE

Jennifer Deal

## WE PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN OUR ARMED FORCES

**Major Russ Morris**, U.S. Air Force Reserves  
**SFC Mike Moverley**, 1st Battalion 143rd Field Artillery, U.S. Army  
**Warrant Officer Brandon Niemann**, U.S. Army Airman  
**Andrew Severa**, U.S. Air Force  
**SA Michelle Severa**, PA, Air National Guard  
**Staff SGT Jake Sackett**, U.S. Air Force  
**Major Xacasia Evans-Walp**, U.S. Army  
**Airman 1st Class Nevaeh Jarvis**, U.S. Air Force  
**Captain Greg Arnold**, U.S. Navy

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

3/31 Dietrich OQuinn  
4/4 Jeanne Brown

## REPOSE OF THE SOUL

Mike Keefe

## SERVING THIS WEEK:

Celebrant	The Rev. Annie Mertz	
Preacher	The Rev. Annie Mertz	
	<b>8:45 AM</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>
Music	John Partridge	Cameron DePalma
Lector	Christopher Payne-Taylor	Barry Cunningham
Intercessor	Jim Brown	Donna Patey
LEM	Jim Brown & Robyn Wall	Donna Patey & Cathy Cellini
Passion Reader	Jim Brown	Marjorie Lowry
Ushers	Charlie & Dale Kilbourne	Jim & Martha Saldana-Wolf
Altar Guild	Robin Silver	
Flower Guild	Ann Lindsay & Megan Klignensmith	
Verger	Fred Railsback	

## PARISH LEADERSHIP

### CLERGY:

**The Rev. Annie Mertz**, Rector

**The Rev. Dr. Arthur Holder**, Associate Priest

### STAFF:

John Partridge, Traditional Music Director  
Cameron DePalma, Contemporary Music Director  
Eric Foster, Communications Director  
Lisa Lannoy, Parish Administrator  
Tim Markley, Archivist  
Kylie Lazarek, Nursery Staff  
Heather Pritchard, Nursery Staff

### VESTRY:

Ann Lindsay, Senior Warden  
Donna Patey, Treasurer  
Donna Marshall, Gerri MacGregor, Jim Peterson,  
Brandon Bailey, Kathryn Gojack, Richard Padfield,  
Megan Klingensmith, Michelle Fitzgerald

### MISSION:

St. Paul's welcomes all people at any stage of their spiritual journey to worship together, care for the community, and live the message of Jesus Christ.

### VISION:

We strive to be an active, diverse and welcoming community where people come together to worship and deepen their faith.

## VALUES

### COMMUNITY:

We support our neighbors through service & compassion. We are a safe space & a supportive community where members are cared for by one another.

### INCLUSION:

We are an inclusive community where people of all identities, backgrounds & histories are welcome to find & continue their spiritual journey.

### THE MESSAGE OF JESUS CHRIST:

We believe in striving to live the message of Jesus Christ every day. At St. Paul's, we walk the way of love together.

### SPIRITUAL GROWTH:

At any point in a person's spiritual journey, there are opportunities to learn, grow & strengthen one's faith at St. Paul's.

### NOTICE OF FILMING AND PHOTOGRAPHY

When you enter a St. Paul's Episcopal Church service or event, you enter an area where photography, audio, live streaming, and video recording may occur.

# CALENDAR

## Palm Sunday

6:30 am AA Meeting (U)  
 8:45 am +Communion - Meet Outside  
 10 am Coffee Hour (P)  
 10 am Godly Play (Elementary School) (U)  
 10 am Youth Bible Study (Middle & High School) (U)  
 11 am +Communion - Meet Outside  
 12 pm Coffee Hour (P)  
 8 pm AA (P)



### MONDAY: 3/30

7 am AA Meeting (P)  
 9 am +Morning Prayer  
 4:30 pm Community Meal (P)  
 7 pm +GVRD Jazz Band  
 8 pm AA Meeting (P)

### TUESDAY: 3/31

7 am AA Meeting (P)  
 9 am +Morning Prayer  
 1 - 2:30 pm +Organ Practice

### WEDNESDAY: 4/1

7 am AA Meeting (P)  
 9 am +Morning Prayer  
 10 am +Communion - Cancelled  
 11 am Bible Study (L) - Cancelled  
 4:30 pm Community Meal (P)  
 7 pm +GVRD Symph Band

### THURSDAY: 4/2

#### Maundy Thursday

7 am AA Meeting (P)  
 7:30 am Coffee w/ Rev. Annie  
 9 am +Morning Prayer  
 2:30 - 4:30 pm +Bagpipe Practice  
**7 pm Joint Service Hosted by Ascension Episcopal Church - Vallejo**

### FRIDAY: 4/3

#### Good Friday

7 am AA Meeting (P)  
 9 am +Morning Prayer  
 10:30 am Al-Anon Meeting (U)  
**12 pm +Stations of the Cross**  
**7 pm +Proper Liturgy & Begin Overnight Vigil**  
 7- 9 pm NA Meeting (P)

### SATURDAY: 4/4

#### Easter Vigil

7 am AA Meeting (U)  
 7 am Men's Meeting (R)  
**7 am + End Overnight Vigil w/ Morning Prayer Service**  
**5 PM +Intergenerational Eucharist - Joint Service w/ Ascension Episcopal Church Hosted by St. Paul's**

## Easter Sunday

6:30 am AA Meeting (U)  
 8:45 am +Communion  
 10 am Coffee Hour (P)  
 10 am Godly Play (Elementary School) (U)  
 10 am Youth Bible Study (Middle & High School) (U)  
 11 am +Communion  
 12 pm Coffee Hour (P)  
 8 pm AA (P)



### KEY

**+** = CHURCH  
**P** = PARISH HALL  
**U** = UNDERCROFT  
**R** = RECTORY  
**K** = KITCHEN  
**L** = RECTORY LIBRARY