



ST. PAUL'S

Est 1855

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Worship, Love, Live the Message

WORSHIP BULLETIN:
MARCH 29, 2026 **8:45 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

(H 154) All Glory, Laud, and Honor

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.

Please refer to your hymnal

(H 436) Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

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 SOLO:**How do Get to Easter?**

Composed by: John Partridge

Vocals by: Sophia Ferar

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 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 ANTHEM:**

The following is sung by the choir

Psalm 121

Composed by: Robert J. Powell

Psalm 121 - choral Words and Music - ©1985 Augsburg Fortress PublishersContributors: Robert J Powell Reprinted / Podcast / Streamed with permission under OneLicense #AF20220088 All rights reserved.

OFFERTORY HYMN:

The following is sung

(H 474) When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

EUCHARISTIC 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

Please refer to your hymnal

(S 129) Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of Power and Might

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:

The following is sung.

Please refer to your hymnal

(S 161) Lamb of God

COMMUNION SOLO:

Instrumental

O Sacred Head, Sore Wounded

Composed by: Hans Leo Hassler

Arranged by: John Partridge

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COMMUNION HYMN:

The following is sung.

(H 343) Shepherd of Souls, Refresh and Bless

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!



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(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	
	8:45 AM	11:00 AM
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