

PALM SUNDAY ONLINE AT ST. PAUL'S ON THE GREEN

WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S!

St. Paul's on the Green offers a radical welcome to all. No matter who you are or where you are on your own faith journey, you are welcome here.

Worship with us throughout all of Holy Week. Visit stpaulsnorwalk.org/holyweek for a schedule.

HOW WE WILL WORSHIP TOGETHER

This year's Palm Sunday service will be held over Zoom, which is videoconferencing technology available free of charge online. Zoom allows us to see one another throughout the service. To prevent background noise, you will be put on "mute" for the majority of the service, although we will "unmute" the entire congregation at times. Even when we can't hear you, you are invited and encouraged to sing loudly and participate fully!

In the Palm Sunday leaflet, you will periodically see boxes like the one below with instructions on how to remain engaged throughout the service. Be sure to read carefully, and let us know if you need assistance.

PREPARING FOR OUR ONLINE WORSHIP

1. Visit zoom.us/download to find the Zoom app for desktop, laptop, or smartphone.
2. For desktop computer users, make sure your webcam is plugged in.
3. To practice, join a test meeting: visit zoom.us/test and click "join." Practice setting your view to "Gallery" mode.
4. Be sure to bring a branch, twig, or flower to worship as your "palm"!

TROUBLESHOOTING

Having trouble? Contact Marsha Dunn: admin@stpaulsnorwalk.org.

If you're not able to use a smartphone or computer, you can also **call in** via any regular phone.

THE MORNING OF PALM SUNDAY

Take an early morning walk outdoors alone or with your family, on your own schedule. Pick a live branch or flower or sprout from the backyard or sidewalk or woods. Whatever catches your attention. Walk with that branch, envisioning yourself in the procession with Jesus coming into Jerusalem. What are your hopes right now? What are your doubts? Walk with all of that.

PALM SUNDAY

Sunday, April 5, 2020

The Liturgy of Palms and Eucharist at 11:00 AM

St. Paul's on the Green, Norwalk, Connecticut

60 East Avenue, Norwalk, CT 06851

stpaulsnorwalk.org

info@stpaulsnorwalk.org

JOINING WORSHIP ONLINE

Smartphone and computer users should click this **updated** link to join:

<https://zoom.us/j/3476019612?pwd=NEhqdxo4RjhVVDh4KzVXSE9vcUhEUT09>

Important step: set your view to "Gallery" mode,
so that you can see everyone who has logged in!

JOINING WORSHIP BY PHONE

Non-smartphone numbers should call **(415) 762-9988**.

You will be prompted to enter a meeting ID, which is **347 601 9612**.

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant: † Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord:

People: **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.**

THE COLLECT OF PREPARATION

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

USING ZOOM

Most participants will be "muted" on Zoom throughout this service,
except at select points that will be announced.

Though we can't hear you, we encourage you to
sing exuberantly and participate jubilantly.

As we begin the Blessing of Palms,
please wave your branches with the crowd!

THE BLESSING OF PALMS

Celebrant *People*
 The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

Celebrant *People*
 A-men.

PSALM 118:18-24

sung by all

Cantor: The children of the Hebrews bearing branches of olives, went out to meet the Lord, crying out and saying: "Hosanna in the highest."

All: **The children of the Hebrews bearing branches of olives, went out to meet the Lord, crying out and saying: "Hosanna in the highest."**

Cantor: 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.

All: **The children of the Hebrews bearing branches of olives, went out to meet the Lord, crying out and saying: "Hosanna in the highest."**

Cantor: 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.

All: **The children of the Hebrews bearing branches of olives, went out to meet the Lord, crying out and saying: "Hosanna in the highest."**

Grab your branch and join in the "procession," around the room, in place, or however you like.

ACCLAMATION AT THE PROCESSION

Celebrant: Let us go forth in peace.

People: In the name of Christ. Amen.

HYMN IN PROCESSION

Refrain



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re - deem - er, King!



to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



1 Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,
5 Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Repeat Refrain



1 who in the Lord's Name com - est, the King and Bless - ed One.
5 who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King.

words: Theodulph of Orleans (d. 821); tr. John Mason Neale (1818–1866), alt.
music: *Valet will ich dir geben*, melody Melchior Teschner (1584–1635), alt.; harm. William Henry Monk (1823–1889)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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.

All: Amen.

THE LESSON

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Lector: A reading from the book of the prophet 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 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?

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 31:9-16

sung by the choir

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble; *
my eye is consumed with sorrow,
and also my throat and my belly.

For my life is wasted with grief,
and my years with sighing; *
my strength fails me because of affliction,
and my bones are consumed.

I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors,
a dismay to those of my acquaintance; *
when they see me in the street they avoid me.

I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; *
I am as useless as a broken pot.

For I have heard the whispering of the crowd;
fear is all around; *
they put their heads together against me;
they plot to take my life.

But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord. *
I have said, "You are my God.

My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.

Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me."

setting: plainsong

THE EPISTLE

Philippians 2:5-11

Lector: A reading from the letter of Paul 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 the people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

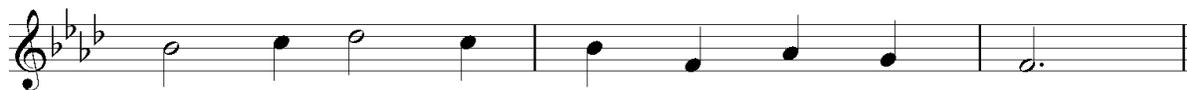
HYMN



1 Ride on! ride on in ma - jes - ty! Hark! all the
5 Ride on! ride on in ma - jes - ty! In low - ly



1 tribes ho - san - na cry; thy hum - ble beast pur - sues his
5 pomp ride on to die; bow thy meek head to mor - tal



1 road with palms and scat - tered gar - ments strowed.
5 pain, then take, O God, thy power, and reign.

words: Henry Hart Milman (1791–1868); alt.
music: *The King's Majesty*, Graham George (1912–1993)
music © 1941 Alfred Publishing.
OneLicense.net License #A-709109

It is customary to make the sign of the cross † with the thumb on one's forehead, lips, and heart as the Gospel is announced. This action symbolizes our asking God's Word to rest in our mind, in our words, and in our heart.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 21:1-11

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

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Deacon: 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Right Reverend Laura Ahrens
Bishop Suffragan of Connecticut

We keep a moment of silence for reflection after the sermon.

The Celebrant invites us to pray together.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon: God of glory, Humble One, before whom every knee shall bow: hear the prayers we empty to you who emptied yourself for us.

Intercessor: Defender of the weak, you took the form of a slave. Protect all who lack sufficient power, and turn the hearts of those who exploit what they have.

Deacon: God of glory, Humble One,

People: Save and help us, we pray.

Intercessor: Triumphant yet lowly King, you entered the city not with trumpets or army but on the back of a donkey. Teach us to act without pretense, and bring about your peace throughout the world.

Deacon: God of glory, Humble One,

People: Save and help us, we pray.

Intercessor: Example of Faith, you did what was required, even when it was difficult. Grant us the courage to confess the truth always, come whence it may, cost what it will.

Deacon: God of glory, Humble One,

People: Save and help us, we pray.

Intercessor: Suffering Victim, you experienced pain and cried out in despair. Heal all pain, and hear the cries of the suffering and despairing, including those on our Prayer List and those we now name.

The people may add their own petitions, either silently or aloud.

Deacon: God of glory, Humble One,

People: Save and help us, we pray.

Intercessor: Source of Compassion and Life, you know the agony of grief and death. Embrace the dead and dying, and console those who mourn.

The people may add their own petitions, either silently or aloud.

Deacon: God of glory, Humble One,

People: Save and help us, we pray.

Celebrant: God of glory, Humble One, in the cross and passion of Jesus you have redeemed us; save us and help us, we pray you, O God.

All: Amen.

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

USING ZOOM

Your computer microphone will be unmuted for the Passing of the Peace.
Greet one another with the raucous energy of a joyful procession!

The people share a sign of peace with one another and listen to the announcements. Be sure to visit stpaulsnorwalk.org/holyweek for information about all of the online services this week at St. Paul's.

During the announcements, an offering in support of the church is gathered.

GIVING TO ST. PAUL'S

Giving to St. Paul's is still possible, even from afar! During this difficult time, the church's expenses continue, and so we humbly ask that you continue your financial support of St. Paul's. Mail is regularly collected and deposits are being made, even while our doors are closed.

Prayerfully consider any of the following methods of giving:

- * **Mailing a check** made payable to St. Paul's Episcopal Church: 60 East Avenue, Norwalk, CT 06851
 - * Mailing a check in your **pledge envelope** (for those who use them)
- * **Electronic payment** via your bank's online banking feature, as a one-time or recurring donation; your bank will mail a check to St. Paul's on your behalf
- * **Electronic giving** by credit card or ACH withdrawal directly from your bank account, as a one-time gift or regular pledge; visit <http://www.stpaulsnorwalk.org/donate>
 - * **Text-to-Give:** a simple and secure way to give from your phone.
Begin by texting the amount of your donation to **855-934-1074**
and follow the subsequent text prompts to complete your donation.

During this challenging time, the need to support each other is more present than ever, and we know that many are experiencing financial difficulties, job loss, and other hardships. Please don't hesitate to share these struggles with us, as there may be resources we can point you toward.

As a community, we will get through this. On the journey, St. Paul's is here.

Your Wardens,

Terri Polley (polley@stpaulsnorwalk.org) and Anne Watkins (watkins@stpaulsnorwalk.org)

USING ZOOM

During the time to follow, your microphone will be muted.
Change your settings from “Gallery” view to “Speaker” view,
so that your screen is displaying only one image at a time.

ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY

sung by the soloist

A stable lamp is lighted
whose glow shall wake the sky
the stars shall bend their voices
and every stone shall cry.
And every stone shall cry
and straw like gold will shine
a barn shall harbor heaven
a stall become a shrine.

This child through David’s city
will ride in triumph by
the palm shall strew its branches
and every stone shall cry.
And every stone shall cry
though heavy, dull and dumb
and lie within the roadway
to pave the Kingdom come.

Yet he shall be forsaken
and yielded up to die
the sky shall groan and darken
and every stone shall cry.
And every stone shall cry
for stony hearts of men
God’s blood upon the spearhead
God’s love refused again.

But now as at the ending
the low is lifted high
the stars shall bend their voices
and every stone shall cry.
And every stone shall cry
in praises of the child
by whose descent among us
the worlds are reconciled.

words: Richard Wilbur (1921-2017)
music: *Andújar*, David Hurd (b. 1950)

Celebrant: Hosanna is our cry, Blessed One. Your Son comes on a donkey in your name. As he entered Jerusalem to bear our sorrows and suffer our sins, enter our hearts and call us to follow you today. Send your Holy Spirit upon us, that we may be your Son's crucified and risen body. Send your Spirit upon this bread that it may be living bread, and on this wine that it may be the cup of salvation, that together they may be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ; who, at supper with his disciples took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying, "Take eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup. Again, he gave you thanks and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Drink this: all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith:

All: **Christ is died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Celebrant: God of humility, your Son did not exploit his status but emptied himself. Pour out your spirit on all who are exploited, on all who are humiliated, on all who are emptied of hope, faith, or love. As you have highly exalted your Son, exalt your children who suffer for righteousness. Fill the earth with your justice and peace, until every heart shall sing and every tongue confess that you are the joy of their desiring.

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 forever.

All: **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant
As our Sa - vior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Celebrant and People
Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.
Save us from the time of tri - al, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.
For the king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours,
now and for ev - er. A - men.

setting: Ambrosian Chant, adapt. Mason Martens (b. 1933)

© 1985 Church Publishing, Inc.

OneLicense.net License #A-709109

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

A brief silence is kept.

Celebrant: Be present, be present, O Jesus our great high priest, as you were present with your disciples, and be known to us in the breaking of bread.

THE FRACTION ANTHEM

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

setting: David Hurd (b. 1950)

© 1985 Church Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

OneLicense.net License #A-709109

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God: Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The people sit.

THE COMMUNION

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: Merciful God, your strength and courage sustain the witness of your faithful people: Awaken in us the humility to serve wherever creation is broken and needy, that we may follow in the way of our brother Jesus, die as he did to all that separates us from you, and be raised, as he was, to new life. Amen.

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO SAINT MATTHEW

Matthew 27:11-54

The Celebrant invites us to hear the story of the Passion.

THE PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Celebrant: Bow down before the Lord.

The people bow.

Bishop: 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.

All: **Amen.**

All leave the space without further announcement. We have now entered the sacred time of our Holy Week, walking with Jesus his way of the cross and tomb, toward the Resurrection of Easter.

THE WORSHIP IS OVER. THE SERVICE BEGINS.

HOLY WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Worship continues online every night this week, Monday through Saturday, each day at 7:30pm.

Monday through Wednesday, reflect on this journey over Facebook with the service of Tenebrae.

Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Great Vigil of Easter will be held at 7:30pm online.

Stations of the Cross will be offered via YouTube link at noon on Good Friday.

We will celebrate the coming of Easter, and our community, online on Easter morning.

For a schedule and instructions on accessing our worship, visit stpaulsnorwalk.org/holyweek, or simply read on below in this leaflet for a full schedule.

Holy Week Online at St. Paul's

TENEBRAE, MONDAY-WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6TH-8TH

7:30pm service — via Facebook livestream

This liturgy of readings and chants leads us “into the shadows” (the meaning of the word “*Tenebrae*”). Fr. Daniel will livestream this service from the river after sundown as a meditative way of entering the holy days leading up to Easter Day.

Visit facebook.com/stpaulsnorwalk from Monday through Wednesday at 7:30pm to join in worship.

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 9TH

6pm — Home Agape Meal on your own

Tonight we will set aside time for a meal with loved ones at 6pm, whether it is dinner with family, a cocktail over a phone call, or a snack over Skype. As you share this intentional time together, you may want to consider the following questions:

In addition to whatever fears or anxieties you may be facing, what positive things do you notice happening in you or your family or the culture as a result of this collective adversity? Look for both the obvious and the things hidden in plain sight.

What of the good things you see happening do you hope will be retained or grow stronger in yourself or the St. Paul's community or the culture?

7:30pm — Contemplative Eucharist by the river and guided conversation, via Zoom

At the heart of the Maundy Thursday liturgy is the foot-washing and institution of the Eucharist, when Jesus broke bread with his friends and commanded them to “love one another.” We will gather together at 7:30pm via Zoom to share our experiences, to offer one another a sign of mutual service, and to break bread together as we step deeper into the story of the Cross and its beyond.

You can find the Zoom link by visiting stpaulsnorwalk.org/holyweek on Maundy Thursday.

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 10TH

12pm — Stations of the Cross, via YouTube link

As we observe the stations of the cross at noon on Good Friday, we walk in solidarity with Jesus, as he walks the way of love to the very end. We will reflect this year through a video presentation of our St. Paul's stations, with music, and John Peterson's litany of prayer from St. George's College in Jerusalem.

A YouTube link to the service will be sent via email just before noon and will be available on our website: stpaulsnorwalk.org/holyweek.

7:30pm — Solemn Liturgy and recitation of the Passion, via Facebook livestream

Fr. Daniel will lead the solemn liturgy from the church. We will listen to the story of the Passion, venerate the cross, and hear music sung by our Adult Choir.

Visit facebook.com/stpaulsnorwalk at 7:30pm to join in worship.

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 11TH

7:30pm — The kindling of the New Fire, via Facebook livestream

Online, from St. Paul's, we will celebrate the first section of the Great Vigil service, the kindling of the New Fire of Easter. As we sing the Exultet to welcome the coming of the Light, and read of God's deliverance, we herald our collective step with Jesus into the day beyond Death.

Visit facebook.com/stpaulsnorwalk at 7:30pm to join in worship.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 12TH

10am — Easter Day Liturgy at Christ Church Cathedral, Hartford, via livestream

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! We will celebrate the coming of Easter with our wider church family, including our bishops and congregations from around the diocese. Together, we will gather in livestreamed worship online, led from the cathedral in Hartford.

The livestream link will be posted at stpaulsnorwalk.org/holyweek on Easter morning.

11:15 (or immediately following the Cathedral Liturgy) — Festive Coffee Hour, via Zoom

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! Let the feast begin! Come to Zoom immediately after the cathedral liturgy for a festive coffee hour and brunch, and the chance to say hello to your fellow parishioners. Bring special snacks to enjoy but not share! Camp it up and bring your festive best outfits too! (Big hats and bling will get special mention.) We will watch together the Easter video we've created of our sunlit faces and celebrate together the Love stronger than Death.

Whatever our days hold, each one is a gift, and on this day especially we say "*Hallelujah*" (Praise God!). Alleluia! Amen.

Join in the feast on Zoom. The link will be posted at stpaulsnorwalk.org/holyweek on Easter morning.