

**Christ Episcopal Church**  
Sparta, NC

*A Home to All  
Sharing God's Unconditional Love*



**Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday**  
*March 25, 2018 - 10:30 AM*

The Rt. Rev José McLoughlin  
Bishop of Western North Carolina

The Rev. Stephanie E. Parker  
Rector

# Welcome to Christ Episcopal Church

We are delighted God has brought you to this special place. Our tradition is to invite newcomers to introduce themselves during the announcements, if they would like. Following the service, the ushers have guest cards which we hope you will fill out, so we can personally welcome you to the church community. Everyone is invited for refreshments and fellowship in the parish hall afterwards.

**What do you need to know about worship?** Everything you need for your worship today is in the booklet you are holding. Our service is based on the Book of Common Prayer, using music from sources including the Hymnal 1982 and Taizé.

**Are you worshipping with us for the first time?** We would love to get to know you! Please fill out one of the pew cards tucked into the pew in front of you. Let us know if we can call you, answer questions, or pray for you. And know that wherever you are on your journey of faith, there is a place for you at Christ Church.

**Home communion visits:** Do you know someone who isn't able to get to church, but would like a home communion visit? Please call the church office at 336.372.7983 to arrange a visit.

**Please wear a name tag.** No permanent one? Please use the temporary adhesive name tags found in the church entryway. We're happy to make you a new nametag, a replacement, or simply a spare. For permanent name tags, sign up on the clipboard in the entryway.

**Newsletter:** Sign up today to receive our electronic newsletter, the weekly Good News & Notes. Email the church office at [ccepiscopal@skybest.com](mailto:ccepiscopal@skybest.com).

**Sermons Available** Recent sermons available at [www.christchurchallegghany.com](http://www.christchurchallegghany.com).

**Adult Formation** at Christ Church includes an Adult Forum series Sunday mornings at 9:15 am in the fellowship hall downstairs.

**We extend special thanks today to the following people:**

**Laura Davis**, for serving as musician and for being so generous with her talents,  
**the Altar Guild**, for providing the arrangement that graces the altar, and  
**Cynthia Grant & Marybeth Lentz**, for providing refreshments for our fellowship gathering.

## Liturgy of the Palms

*All gather in the Memorial Garden for the Liturgy of the Palms, and the procession into the church.*

### Blessing over the Branches

BCP 270

*Presider* Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord:

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

*Presider* 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 might acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Presider* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark.

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

### Mark 11: 1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna!

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

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

*Presider* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## The 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.**

*All hold up their palms for the blessing.*

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 for ever. **Amen.**

## The Procession

All              **Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Presider        Let us go forth in peace.  
People         **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*During the procession, all hold branches in their hands.*

*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,  
 2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels is prais - ing thee on high;  
 3 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;  
 4 To thee be - fore thy pas - sion they sang their hymns of praise;  
 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.  
 2 and we with all cre - a - tion in cho - rus make re - ply.  
 3 our praise and prayers and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent.  
 4 to thee, now high ex - al - ted, our mel - o - dy we raise.  
 5 who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King.

*The stanzas may be sung by choir alone or alternately by contrasted groups; all sing the refrain.*

*All go to the pews as normal as we enter the church. Remain standing, as able.*

### The Collect

Presider The Lord be with you.  
 People **And also with you.**  
 Presider 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.**

*All are seated.*

## Liturgy of the Word

### 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?

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
People **Thanks be to God.**

## The Response

### Psalm 31: 9-16

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."

## The Second Lesson

### 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.

Reader            Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
People            **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as able, for the reading of the Gospel.*

Presider            The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark.  
People             Glory to you, Lord Christ

## The Gospel

Mark 14: 1-15:47

It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; for they said, **“Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.”**

While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. But some were there who said to one another in anger, **“Why was the ointment wasted in this way? For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor.”** And they scolded her. But Jesus said, “Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.”

Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. When they heard it, they were greatly pleased, and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to him, **“Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?”** So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, “Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, ‘The Teacher asks, Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.” So the disciples set out and went to the city, and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

When it was evening, he came with the twelve. And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me.” They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another, **“Surely, not I!”** He said to them, “It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.”

While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, “Take; this is my body.” Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them, “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.”

When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. And Jesus said to them, “You will all become deserters; for it is written,

‘I will strike the shepherd,  
and the sheep will be scattered.’

But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.” Peter said to him, “Even though all become deserters, I will not.” Jesus said to him, “Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.” But he said vehemently, “Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.” And all of them said the same.

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.” He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them, “I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.” And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, “Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.” He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, “Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. He came a third time and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.”

Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard.” So when he came, he went up to him at once and said, “Rabbi!” and kissed him. Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to them, “Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled.” All of them deserted him and fled.

A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.

They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying, **“We heard him say, ‘I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.’”** But even on this point their testimony did not agree. Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, **“Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against**

you?” But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him, “**Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?**” Jesus said, “I am; and

‘you will see the Son of Man  
seated at the right hand of the Power,’  
and ‘coming with the clouds of heaven.’”

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, “**Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?**” All of them condemned him as deserving death. Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him, “Prophesy!” The guards also took him over and beat him.

While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said, “You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth.” But he denied it, saying, “I do not know or understand what you are talking about.” And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed. And the servant-girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders, “This man is one of them.” But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, “**Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean.**” But he began to curse, and he swore an oath, “I do not know this man you are talking about.” At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, “Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.” And he broke down and wept.

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” He answered him, “You say so.” Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again, “Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.” But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them, “Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?” For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again, “Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?” They shouted back, “**Crucify him!**” Pilate asked them, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “**Crucify him!**” So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor’s headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him, “**Hail, King of the Jews!**” They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus.

*All stand.*

Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "**Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!**" In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "**He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.**" Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "**Listen, he is calling for Elijah.**" And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, "**Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.**" Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where the body was laid.

*All are seated.*

**The Sermon**

The Rev. Stephanie E. Parker

*A time of silence following the sermon.*

*Please stand or kneel, as able*

## **Prayers of the People**

*Form IV, BCP (Adapted)*

- Intercessor      Let us pray for the Church and for the world.
- Intercessor      Create in us a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right Spirit within us. Remind us of the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your love and grace.
- Intercessor      God of Forgiveness and Compassion,  
**People**            **Thank you for your mercy.**
- Intercessor      Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation, especially ...
- Intercessor      God of Forgiveness and Compassion,  
**People**            **Thank you for your mercy.**
- Intercessor      Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and all people, friend and enemy, and serve the common good. We pray especially for the health of the global family and for all people who are suffering the pain of poverty, war and violence.
- Intercessor      God of Forgiveness and Compassion,  
**People**            **Thank you for your mercy.**
- Intercessor      We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom, especially ...
- Intercessor      God of Forgiveness and Compassion,  
**People**            **Thank you for your mercy.**
- Intercessor      Open our eyes to see the destruction we cause by our careless consumption; open our ears to hear the groaning of all creation and the cries of your creatures without voice; open our hearts to feel remorse for our unfaithful care of your creation; inspire us to a greater love and wonder for the care of your natural world.
- Intercessor      God of forgiveness and compassion,  
**People**            **Thank you for your mercy.**
- Intercessor      Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us, especially...
- Intercessor      God of Forgiveness and Compassion,  
**People**            **Thank you for your mercy.**
- Intercessor      We thank you for all the blessings of this life, especially ...
- Intercessor      God of Forgiveness and Compassion,  
**People**            **Thank you for your mercy.**

Presider O God, mercifully hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; grant that we may both see and know the things we need to do and that we may also have the grace and courage to do them faithfully, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### The Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

*Please greet one another in a way that is comfortable as a sign of our participation in Christ's reconciling work in the world.*

The Offertory

Laura Davis

Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost*

### The Great Thanksgiving

*Standing, as able.*

Eucharistic Prayer B, BCP 367

Presider The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Presider Through Jesus Christ our Lord. By 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, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

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

*Hosanna in the highest.*

Remain standing or kneel for the Prayer of Consecration.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith,

**Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.**

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

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

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.

Fraction: S164 (*sung by all*)

*Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.*  
*Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.*  
*Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:*  
*give us your peace, give us your peace.*

## The Invitation to Communion

Presider            The gifts of God for the People of God...

*All who seek God and are drawn to Christ are welcome at the Lord's Table.*

*If you are gluten allergic, please ask for a rice wafer at the distribution.*

Communion Music (*sung by all*)

Stay with me

*Stay with me, remain here with me,*  
*Watch and pray, watch and pray. (Repeat)*

Taizé 8

Bless the Lord

*Bless the Lord, my soul,*  
*And bless God's holy name.*  
*Bless the Lord, my soul,*  
*Who leads me into life.*

Taizé 9

Surely the Presence of the Lord

*Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,  
I can feel His mighty power and His grace,  
I can hear the brush of angels' wings,  
I see glory on each face.  
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.*

Stand or kneel, as able.

### Post Communion Prayer

BCP 366

Presider Let us pray  
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.

Presider Open your hearts and minds to God.

Presider Look with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that, rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know your more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Stand, as able

Recessional Hymn #448

*O love, how deep (vs. 1-3, 6)*

### The Dismissal

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
People Thanks be to God.

## Prayer List

**Intercessions:** Ben, Ed & Jean, Ellen, Felbert T., Gina D., Jess & Linda, Jon, Julie O., Laura, Leia B., Sue, and the family of Ed Adams

**Departed:** Jack Hanley (March 15)

**Birthdays:** Bruce Smith (March 30), Frank Hazard (March 31)

**Wedding Anniversaries:**

<h3>Coming Lessons</h3> <p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 12:1-14 Psalm 149 Romans 13:8-14 Matthew 18:15-20</p>
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### The Following People are Assisting with the Services

Role	This Sunday	Maundy Thursday, March 29
Altar Guild	Bruce Smith	Bruce Smith
Chalicerist I	Ann Hazard	
Chalicerist II	Nancy Wilson	
Crucifer	Kimberly Jones	
Lector I	Jann Boggs	Jann Boggs
Lector II	Brenda Weems	Cynthia Grant
Voice I		Sheila Pfaender
Voice II		Nancy Wilson
Prayers of the People	Shelley Jones	
Oblations Bearers	Shelley & Geoff Jones	
Greeters/Ushers	Joe & Judy Ritchie	
Book Bearer	Nancy Wilson	
Sanctus Bell	Kimberly Jones	

# HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

**Sunday, March 25 – Palm Sunday**

9:15 am – Adult Forum

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist

**Wednesday, March 28**

10:00 am – Holy Eucharist

**Thursday, March 29 – Maundy Thursday/Agape Meal**

6:00 pm – Maundy Thursday service

**Friday, March 30 – Good Friday**

12:00 pm – Good Friday service

**Saturday, March 31 – Easter Vigil**

6:30 pm – Easter Vigil service

**Sunday, April 1 – Easter**

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist

## Announcements

**Adult Forum TODAY: A Special Forum about the services of Holy Week.**

### Altar of Repose

The custom of spending an hour with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament at the Altar of Repose is a response to the sorrowful question Jesus asked his disciples in Gethsemane, "Could you not watch with me one hour?" Following our time together on Maundy Thursday, breaking bread together and stripping the altar, the Altar of Repose will be set up at the front, right area of our sanctuary. In this place you will have the opportunity to participate silently in a Devotion for The Keeping Of A "Holy Hour".

Devotional material will be available. Our vigil with Jesus will continue throughout the night and conclude just prior to the Good Friday service. A sign-up sheet is available on the Information table or you can contact the church office to reserve a time. For those time slots during the night the devotion can be observed in your home.

### Food & Fellowship Person of the Month Announcement

Please refer to the Good News & Notes for details about the Food & Fellowship Person of the Month. The **Food & Fellowship Person of the Month for April** is **Marybeth Lentz**. She can be reached at [mlentz@skybest.com](mailto:mlentz@skybest.com) or 336-657-7088.

### Bible Study of the Gospel of John

A study of the Gospel of John will continue every other week at 6:00 pm at the Seckel Barn, 404 Vestal Road, Sparta. The study will be led by the Rev. Martha Honaker. Our next gathering will be Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup>. Please join us!

**Vestry Person of the month for March** is: Jann Boggs, [jaspalding@juno.com](mailto:jaspalding@juno.com)

You may reach Rev. Stephanie at: [revsteph@skybest.com](mailto:revsteph@skybest.com)

**For any building or property issues, please contact:** Phil Donaldson with your concerns.

## The Journey is How We Know: Holy Week at Christ Church

At our Vestry meeting on Tuesday we watched a TED talk that spoke of religious routine-ism. How after years and years of exposure, we lose our hunger and thirst for the beautiful liturgies that used to enthrall us and we fall away from their observance. Holy Week has, for many, suffered under this challenge.

One of the Holiest week's in Christendom, it contains the full journey of Jesus in the last week of his life. Each service, beginning with Palm Sunday, marks a crucial point in how we understand how we too are to follow Jesus as he has asked us to do.

The journey of triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the last supper with his disciples, the day of his death, the long night of Vigil that then bursts forth with new life from the Empty Tomb—each and every step on this journey guides us more fully into what it means to serve Christ still. But we cannot fully apprehend the joy and ultimate victory of God's love without the entire journey—the journey really is how we know.

We have created for all of you a Pilgrim's Passport; a written guide that offers the time and dates as well as what to expect as we worship through all of these Holy Days. Even if you can't attend all of the services we hope you will make every effort to join us as we travel this pilgrim's journey together. Pick up your passport, mark your calendars and experience Easter as you never have before—Holy Week is anything but routine!

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Office hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-1:30 pm

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*Prayers of the People adapted from Intercession for God's People. Gail Runshaw*