

Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday



Sunday, March 29, 2026
10:00 AM

Welcome to Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Wakefield, MA
Belong, Be Loved, Flourish!

We are thrilled that you are here to worship with us today! Indeed, we welcome every person without exception in the name of Jesus Christ. You ***belong*** here and are an essential part of our family. We celebrate that you are ***beloved by God***. We strive to “love God and love our neighbor,” affirming that God created us for a relationship that leads to all creation ***flourishing***. We pray you are drawn to healing and joy by being here today.

If this is your first time with us or your first time back in a while, please fill out the visitor’s card in the pew or the Narthex (the entrance hall). We are a friendly family, so please introduce yourself to everyone, especially our rector, Reverend Brett.

A Note about Communion

The most important thing to know is that *you are welcome*. God invites you to be fed. All are welcome at the altar rail. Please let an usher know if you cannot come forward, and we will come to you.

The options for receiving wine include the chalice, intinction (dipping cup, a separate cup), and the non-alcohol alternative; simply let the clergy know. If you would not like to receive, we encourage you to come forward, cross your arms across your chest, and allow the clergy to bless you. Our Altar Bread is Gluten Free.

Remember: this is God’s table and you are welcome to meet God here!

A Note about Children

We *love* all our children. This morning, we have childcare for the littlest ones in their special place off the Parish Hall. We encourage your children to gather with their peers there, guided by our team of leaders. Once a month, usually the first Sunday, our children join us in the sanctuary to lead us as ushers and readers and assist Rev. Brett at the altar during Communion.

All children are welcome in the sanctuary! We ask that their big people help to teach them that this is a sacred space for quiet play and quiet voices. This helps ensure we honor those who need to worship in quiet.

*As we prepare our hearts for worship, we kindly ask that you
please silence your cell phones. Thank you.*

*The people gather in the Parish Hall for the distribution of the palms,
The Liturgy of the Palms and the Procession.*

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

Celebrant: Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.

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

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. **Amen.**

CHORAL ANTIPHON: *Pueri Hebraeorum*

The children of the Hebrews, bearing palms and olive branches,

Went out to meet the Lord, crying and saying,

“Hosanna in the highest.”

Lift up your head, O gates; lift them high,

O everlasting doors, and the king of glory shall come in.

“Who is he, the King of glory?”

The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

THE PALM GOSPEL: MATTHEW 21:1-11

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."

Celebrant: The Lord be with you
People: **And also 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 on their way.

(Here the people raise their palm branches.)

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. **Amen.**

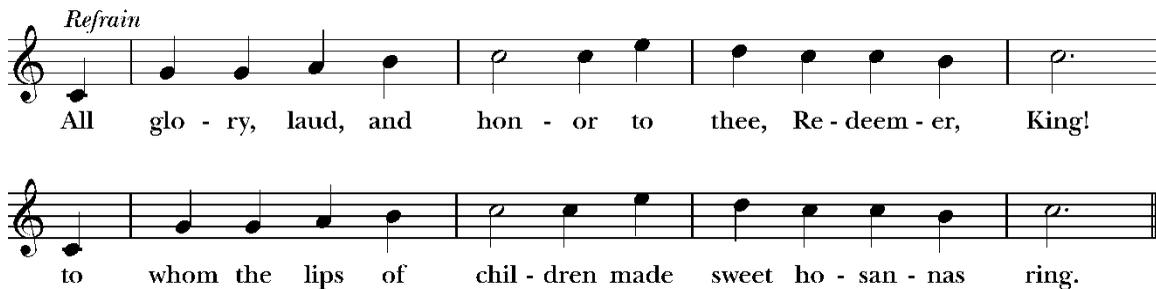
Celebrant: Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
People: **Hosanna in the highest.**

THE PROCESSION

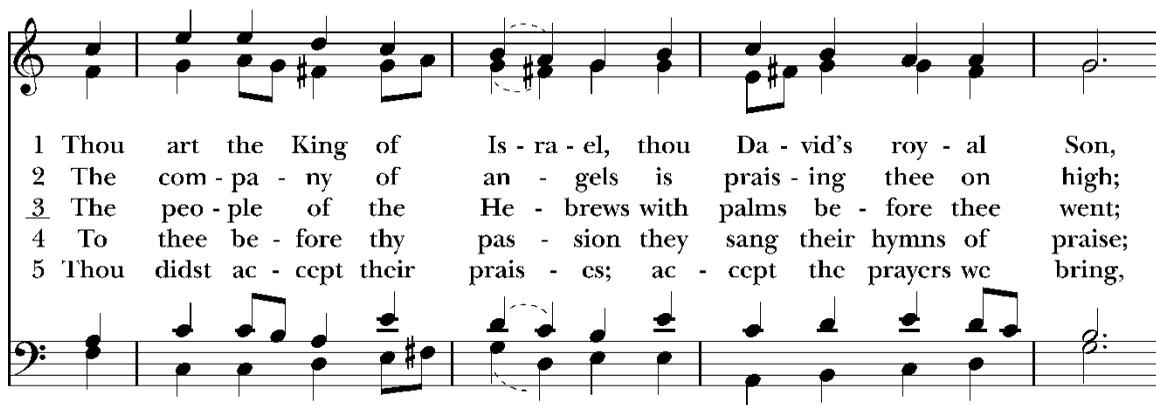
Seminarian: Let us go forth in peace.
People: **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: #154 *All glory, laud, and honor* (Repeat verses as necessary)

Refrain

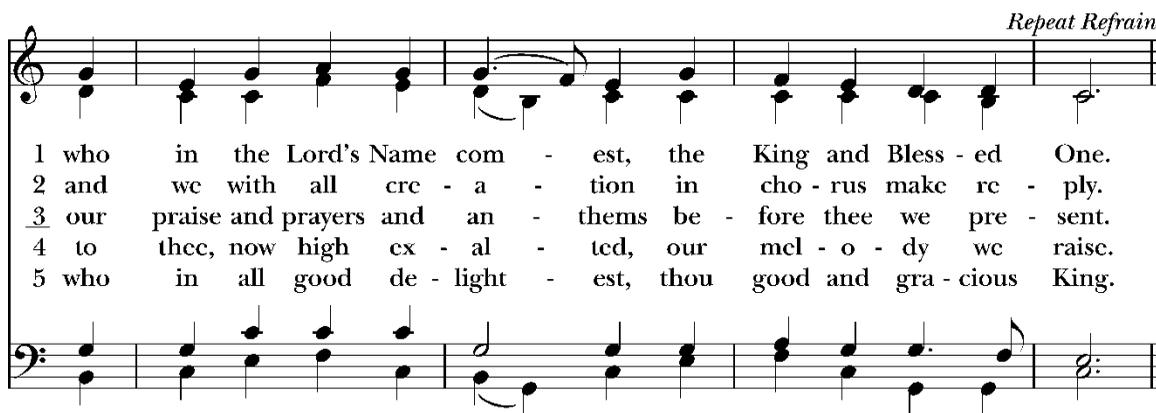


All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re - deem - er, King!
to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



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.

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).

CONCLUDING COLLECT

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CHORAL ANTHEM *Hosanna to the Son of David* Tomas Luis de Victoria (1548-1611)

*Hosanna to the Son of David.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Amen.*

SERMON THE REV. BRETT R. JOHNSON

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray together.

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.

FIRST LESSON: 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?

The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 31:9-16

The Psalm will be sung by the choir.

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

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

11 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.

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

13 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.

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

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

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

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.

The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

adapted from St. Mark's Episcopal Church, <https://stmarksbr.org>

Officiant Christ, we pray that you would hear our prayers, and graft in our minds the same mind that is in you, that we might be vessels of your humility and grace.

Lord Jesus, you emptied yourself, trading in the form of God for the form of a slave; we pray for the Church, and all her people and ministers. Form us into a Church that empties itself for others, and for you. We especially lift to you the Most Rev. and Rt. Hon. Dame Sarah Mullally, installed as the 106th archbishop of Canterbury. Merciful God, in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for the following churches of the Churches of the Cape & Islands Deanery: Church of St. Mary of the Harbor, Provincetown; St. John's Church, Sandwich; and Ministries with Older Adults.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We also ask for ourselves that you strengthen our resolve to counter the sins of racism, anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, and misogyny, as well as thoughts and actions against women and members of immigrant and LGBTQ+ communities, eliminate the proliferation of assault weapons, and provide healing and support for those experiencing loneliness and mental health challenges in our nation.

Lord in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, you were born in human likeness, and found in human form; we pray for the whole human family, for the nations of the earth, and for all who live in the midst of disaster, famine, or terror.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; merciful God, our hearts cry out to you for all those in the path of political violence, both here and across the globe. We pray especially for those in fierce war zones and for those on all sides experiencing conflict. Intercede, we pray and show us a path toward peace for all people.

Lord in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

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. Today we pray for Ruth's Way for Women, our coffee hour recipient this month.

Lord in your mercy; **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, even after humbling yourself in your incarnation, you humbled yourself even to the point of death; we pray for our nation, our leaders, and all the people who live within these borders. Bless us with your humility.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus your humility and your love for us was so broad and deep, it cost you your life. We pray for those who we love who have died, and as you were highly exalted, may they rest with you in glory.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In your exaltation, O Lord, you were given the name that is above every name; we pray in your name for those who are poor, those who are hungry, and those who are hurting in any way. Give them your grace.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We also pray, in your name O Lord, for those on our parish prayer list; give them the gift of healing, strength, and life.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

And we pray for those who are serving our country at home or abroad.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Officiant You humbled yourself in the manger, and you humbled yourself on the cross; and to you O Lord we bend our knee with those above and those below, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The community shares a sign of peace.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERTORY

BCP p. 376

Walk in Love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *Christus Factus Est*

Johann Ernst Eberlin (1702-1762)

*Christus factus est pro nobis obediens usque ad mortem, mortem autem crucis.
Propter quod et Deus exaltavit illum et dedit illi nomen, quod est super omne nomen.*

Christ became obedient for us unto death, even death upon the cross.
Therefore God exalted Him and gave Him a name which is above all names.

DOXOLOGY #143 vs.5 *The glory of these forty days* (all singing)

* 5 O Fa - ther, Son, and Spi - rit blest, to
5 thee be ev - ery prayer ad - dressed, who art in three - fold
5 Name a - dored, from æge to æge, the on - ly Lord.

Words: Latin, 6th cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell (1862-1947), alt. By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: *Erhalt uns, Herr*, melody from *Geistliche Leiden*, 1543; harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING - EUCHARISTIC PRAYER C

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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.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to

fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.
By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS: *Missa Deus Genitor Alme*



Hó-ly, * Hó-ly, Hó-ly Lórd Gód of hósts. Héaven and éarth are
fáll of thy gló-ry. Glóry be to thée, O Lórd most hígh. Bléssed is hó
that cómeth in the Náme of the Lórd. Ho-sán - na in the hígh-est.

Please stand or kneel as able

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; Lord God of our Mothers: God of Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **Amen**

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

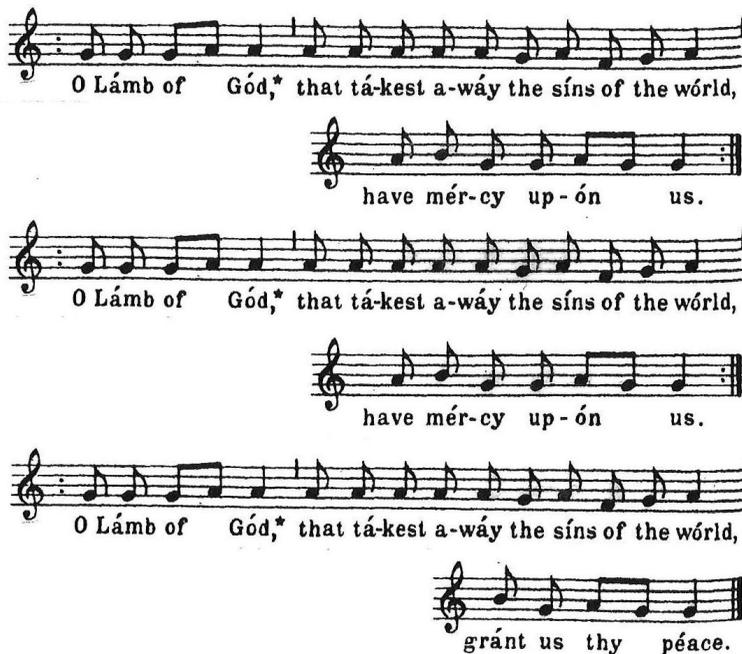
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

AGNUS Missa Deus Genitor Alme



O Lámb of Gód,* that tá-kest a-wáy the síns of the wórlđ,
have mér-cy up-ón us.

O Lámb of Gód,* that tá-kest a-wáy the síns of the wórlđ,
have mér-cy up-ón us.

O Lámb of Gód,* that tá-kest a-wáy the síns of the wórlđ,
gránt us thy péace.

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

COMMUNION

All are invited to come forward to receive communion or a blessing.

Our altar bread is gluten free.

Prayers for healing are also offered.

Choir members will receive communion first.

*Please stay seated until you are invited forward by the usher,
beginning from the back of the church.*

COMMUNION HYMN, #158 Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended

1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed, that man to
 2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my
 3 Lo, the Good Shep - herd for the sheep is of - fered; the slave hath
 4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thy in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal
 5 There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -

1 judge thee hath in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,
 2 trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,
 3 sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for our a - tone - ment,
 4 sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish
 5 dore thee, and will ev - er pray thee, think on thy pi - ty

1 by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.
 2 I it was de - nied thee: I cru - ci - fied thee.
 3 while we noth - ing heed - ed, God in - ter - ced - ed.
 4 and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.
 5 and thy love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.

Words: Johann Heermann (1585-1647); tr. Robert Seymour Bridges (1844-1930), alt. Music: *Hertzliebster Jesu*, Johann Crüger (1598-1662), alt.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People:

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

Merciful God, as we enter Holy week, turn our hearts again to Jerusalem, and to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Stir up within us the gift of faith that we may not only praise him with our lips, but may follow him in the way of the cross. And may the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, be with you, and those you love, this day and always. Amen.

Congregation please be seated

The congregation will read the lines for the Congregation.

THE PASSION GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 27:11-54

NARRATOR: The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew.
NARRATOR: Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him,
PILATE: "Are you the King of the Jews?"
NARRATOR: Jesus said,
JESUS: "That is what you say."
NARRATOR: But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him,
PILATE: "Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?"

NARRATOR: But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed. Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them,

PILATE: "Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?"

NARRATOR: For he knew that the leaders of the people had handed him over because of jealousy. While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him,

PILATE'S WIFE: "Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him."

NARRATOR: Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them,

PILATE: "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?"

NARRATOR: And they said,

CONGREGATION: **"Barabbas."**

NARRATOR: Pilate said to them,

PILATE: "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?"

NARRATOR: All of them said,

CONGREGATION: **"Let him be crucified!"**

NARRATOR: Then he asked,

PILATE: "Why, what evil has he done?"

NARRATOR: But they shouted all the more,

CONGREGATION: **"Let him be crucified!"**

NARRATOR: So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying,

PILATE: "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves."

NARRATOR: Then the people as a whole answered,

CONGREGATION: **"His blood be on us and on our children!"**

NARRATOR: So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying,

SOLDIERS: "Hail, King of the Jews!"

NARRATOR: They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

(The congregation stands as able for the remainder of the reading.)

NARRATOR: As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, (*nails pounded into wood*) they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. (*pause*) Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying,

BYSTANDERS: "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross."

NARRATOR: In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying,

CHIEF PRIESTS: "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, `I am God's Son.'"

NARRATOR: The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way. From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice,

JESUS: "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani? (My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?)"

NARRATOR: When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

BYSTANDERS: "This man is calling for Elijah."

NARRATOR: At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said,

BYSTANDERS: "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him."

NARRATOR: Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. (pause) At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said,

CENTURION: "Truly this man was God's Son!"

NARRATOR: Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had provided for him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee. When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a

disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said,

CHIEF PRIESTS: "Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' Therefore, command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, 'He has been raised from the dead,' and the last deception would be worse than the first."

NARRATOR: Pilate said to them,

PILATE: "You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can."

NARRATOR: So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

*After the reading of the Passion Gospel, please exit the church in silence.
You are also welcome to sit in silent prayer.*

**Please join us after the service for coffee hour in the parish hall
hosted by Laura Vela.**

*This month's coffee hour recipient is
Ruth's Way for Women*

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The cover art can be found at: <https://fineartamerica.com/featured/palm-sunday-jen-norton.html>



PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Celebrant:	The Rev. Brett R. Johnson
Organist & Music Director	Luca Cantone
Seminarian Intern:	Karen Aalto
Lector:	Chris Healy
Litanist:	Elizabeth Downs
Eucharistic Minister:	Dawn Jackson and Amy Walsh
Usher:	Eddie Parsons
Altar Guild:	Jen Miles and Nicole Russo De Souza
Vestry Greeter:	Beth Martin
Streaming Coordinators:	Dave McSweeney and Jen Miles
YouTube Editor:	Kim Collins
YouTube Scheduler:	Denise Mallen

PASSION GOSPEL READERS:

Narrator:	Jen Miles
Jesus:	Chrissie Hoag
Pilate:	Chris Healy
Pilates Wife:	Amy Walsh
Soldiers:	Dawn Jackson & Nicole Russo De Souza
Centurion & Bystanders:	Darryl Abbey
Chief Priests:	Rev. Brett Johnson
Congregation:	Congregation

*The Palms are given to the glory of God
and in honor of the faithful witness of this parish.*



HEALING PRAYER OFFERED TODAY

The Prayer Team is available as a healing prayer resource at a prayer station to the left of the main altar during communion and after the service.

EMMANUEL PRAYER LIST

John Aalto, Donna Boudreau, Debbie Bourne, Evelyn Bourne, Peter Brown, Lydia Cedrone, Wallie Cook, Patrick Joseph Crowe, Jacob DeCarlen-Bumiller, John and Richard DeNatale, Peggy Downs, Matthew Dyer, David Fieldhouse, Michael Flynn, Connor Gallagher, Mary Gasson, Kristen Goddard, Louise Haldeman, Heidi, Karen Dodd Howard, JD, CJ, Jack Jephson, Ted Jobe, Ginny Johnson, Tim Kelsey, Kevin, Ken Leach, Linda, Kevin MacKenzie, Keith Manville, Mark Martino, Don McCarter, Sara Murphy, Neil, Gayle Gammon Nelson, Steve Newman, Judith Oder, Jim O'Reilly, Joe, Jane Pennacchia, Muriel Peters, Dustin Pollard, JP Quinn, Rebecca, Linda Russo, Trudy, Amy Walsh, Bill & Jan, Vicky Wegweiser, Kelly, and Alan Wright.



Kids Korner

Important Dates:

Sunday April 4th: Easter Sunday Service

Saturday April 11th: Brightview visit!

Sunday April 12th: Intergenerational Service

Sunday April 19th: No Kids Club- Spring Vacation week

Announcements:

We are so excited to have our first community visit on the books! Kids Club members will be visiting Brightview Senior Center at 1:00 on April 11th to engage with residents and spread joy. Please let us know if you would like to join!

WAKEFIELD FOOD PANTRY

The Wakefield Food Pantry most needed item for the month of March is jarred pasta sauce.



HOSTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PFLAG
THURSDAY, APRIL 9TH
DINNER AT 6:00 PM
PROGRAM AT 6:45 PM

From Bystander to Upstander



Learn how to
speak up, stand
with others,
and help create
safer spaces for
LGBTQ+
people.

This interactive workshop is for all ages—whether you're a parent, teen, ally, or simply someone who wants to show up with more courage & compassion.

What You'll Learn

- How to recognize when someone is being treated unfairly for being LGBTQ+
- Why it can feel hard to speak up—and how to move through that
- Simple, safe ways to interrupt harmful behavior
- How to respond to negativity online in a constructive way
- How to help create respectful, inclusive spaces in your community

To attend, please RSVP to Lisa at LVENTURA@EMMANUELWAKEFIELD.ORG

Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex or email the office. If you can contribute something for the dinner – main or side dish, salad, desserts or drinks, please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex or let Lisa in office know. Thank you.

PARISH SCHEDULE WEEK OF MARCH 29, 2026

Sunday, March 29	8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist, Rite I
	9:00 AM	Coffee Hour
	9:00 AM	Choir Rehearsal
	9:45 AM	Kids' Club
	9:45 AM	Nursery Care
	10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
	11:00 AM	Coffee Hour
	11:30 AM	Inquirers' Class
Tuesday, March 31	12 Noon	Choir Rehearsal
	10:15 AM	Renewal of Ordination Vows, Cathedral Church
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday, April 1	7:00 PM	Canterbury Board Meeting
	12 Noon	Church open for self-guided meditation with our Labyrinth and Stations of the Cross until 4:00 PM
Thursday, April 2	6:00 PM	Evening Prayer
	6:00 PM	Agape Supper
Friday, April 3	7:00 PM	Maundy Thursday Service
	9:00 AM	Church open for prayer & meditation until 4:00 PM
Saturday, April 4	7:00 PM	Good Friday Service
	1:00 PM	Rainbow Recovery
Sunday, April 5	7:00 PM	Easter Vigil
		Easter Sunday
	8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist, Rite I
	9:00 AM	Coffee Hour
	9:00 AM	Choir Rehearsal
	9:45 AM	Nursery Care
	10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
11:00 AM	Coffee Hour	
	11:30 AM	Easter Egg Hunt

*If you would like to give to the ministries
of Emmanuel Episcopal Church,
please use this QR code.*



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

March–April 2026



PALM SUNDAY *March 29*

Blessing of Palms and
Reading of The Passion

In person 8:00 a.m.

In person and via YouTube 10:00 a.m.

HOLY WEDNESDAY *April 1*

Evening Prayer via Zoom 6:00 p.m.

MAUNDY THURSDAY *April 2*

Agape Supper 6:00 p.m.

Worship in person and via YouTube 7:00 p.m.

*Stripping of the Altar, Garden of Repose,
and Foot-Washing*

Nikki Nash MacIsaac, *Guest Preacher*

GOOD FRIDAY *April 3*

Trinity Episcopal Church/Melrose 12:00 Noon

St. Paul's Church/Lynnfield 12:00 Noon

Emmanuel Episcopal Church 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday Liturgy in person and via YouTube

Karen Aalto, *Guest Preacher*

Quiet, informal, private prayer at Emmanuel
12:00 Noon–4:00 p.m.

HOLY SATURDAY *April 4*

Great Vigil of Easter 7:00 p.m.

In person and via YouTube

EASTER DAY *April 5*

Rite I Worship with Hymns 8:00 a.m.

Rite II Festive Choral Eucharist 10:00 a.m.

In person and via YouTube

Children's Easter Egg Hunt and Festive

Brunch following the 10:00 a.m. Service

EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH

5 Bryant Street
Wakefield, Mass.

The Rev. Brett R. Johnson
Rector

Luca Cantone
*Organist and
Music Director*

Karen Aalto
Seminarian



HOLY WEDNESDAY

The church will be open from 12:00-4:00 p.m. for self-guided meditation with our Labyrinth located in the Parish Hall and Stations of the Cross featuring the artwork of Janet McKenzie and located in the hallway next to the sanctuary.

AGAPE SUPPER, MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE & GARDEN OF REPOSE

We will once again be holding an Agape Supper before the Maundy Thursday Service on April 2th at 6 pm. This will be a simple supper of soup, bread, cheese, crackers, and fruit. Please let Lisa in the church office know if you can bring something for the supper or sign-up online with the SignUpGenius link that was sent out in the email this week.

Our service after the supper is both in person and livestreamed on YouTube and will include the Stripping of the Altar and the beautiful Garden of Repose created by Kathryn Adams and Margaret Gilligan. Our guest preacher that evening will be our own Nikki Nash-MacIsaac.

GOOD FRIDAY

On Friday, April 3rd, the church sanctuary will be open and the Garden of Repose still set up for quiet, informal prayer and meditation from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

At noon, we have the choice of joining our siblings in two parishes for their noonday prayer book services: Trinity, Melrose (where our beloved Karen Aalto will preach), or St. Paul's, Lynnfield.

There will be a Good Friday Service at 7:00 p.m. that is both in person and livestreamed on YouTube.

THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

On Saturday, April 4th, Emmanuel will celebrate the Great Vigil of Easter at 7:00 p.m., along with parishioners from St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Lynnfield and Trinity Episcopal Church in Melrose and Church of the Good Shepherd in Reading. The Easter Vigil liturgy is rich in symbolism and includes a candlelit procession, psalms, storytelling from scripture, the renewal of baptismal vows, and the first Eucharist of Easter! The Rev. Robert Bacon from St. Paul's, The Rev. Isaac Martinez from Trinity and The Rev. Mary Curlew will be co-officiating at this service with me.

EASTER SUNDAY

Easter morning services will be at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, April 5th. Both services include joyous hymns and an inspiring sermon. Children are invited to participate in the Flowering of the Cross during the liturgy at the 10:00 a.m. service, followed by an Easter Egg Hunt and festive Coffee Hour.





OUR MISSION:

Emmanuel Episcopal Church is a diverse, inclusive, and welcoming community dedicated to spiritual growth through worship and education for adults and children.



OUR VISION:

Emmanuel embodies Christ's light in service to all. Here, through God's love and grace, all are accepted, purpose is found, and together we flourish.



Bishop Diocesan: The Rt. Rev. Julia Whitworth (she/her)

Rector: The Rev. Brett R. Johnson (he/him) 978-206-1788

Seminarian Intern: Karen Aalto (she/her) kpaalto00@gmail.com

Organist and Music Director: Luca Cantone 332-209-8432

Co-Warden: Kim Collins (she/her) 339-224-8455

Co-Warden: Beth Martin (she/her) 781-308-3474

Please be advised that our services are live streamed on our YouTube channel. Your participation in the service serves as your consent to the broadcast of your image and voice and to the broadcast of the image and voice of your participating minor children.

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that Emmanuel sits on the traditional land of the Algonquian-speaking Pawtucket tribe. We are grateful to these caretakers of the land and waters: the elders who lived before, the Indigenous people today, and the generations to come. We are guests on this land and have used it and its people for our betterment, often at their expense. We commit to doing our part to become better stewards of this land, understanding the impact of present and past exploitation, and working toward a more just and equitable future.

Emmanuel Episcopal Church

5 Bryant Street Wakefield MA 01880

www.EmmanuelWakefield.org