

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II — 10:15 A.M.
SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 2025

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS (On the Town Green)

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 mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Holy Gospel Luke 19:28-40

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

After telling a parable to the crowd at Jericho, Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

"Blessed is the king
who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest heaven!"

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please hold up your palm branches during the prayer of blessing.

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Presider It is right to praise you, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was proclaimed as King of kings by those

who spread their garments and branches of palm along his way. Let these branches be for us signs of his victory, and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

People **Hosanna in the highest.**

Presider Let us go forth in peace.


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

The Crucifer leads the procession to the church. The choir and congregation falls in behind the cross. All wave branches over their heads as they process. The hymn will begin as the congregation enters the church. Once in the pews, please remain standing, as able.


Hymn 154 All glory, laud, and honor

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

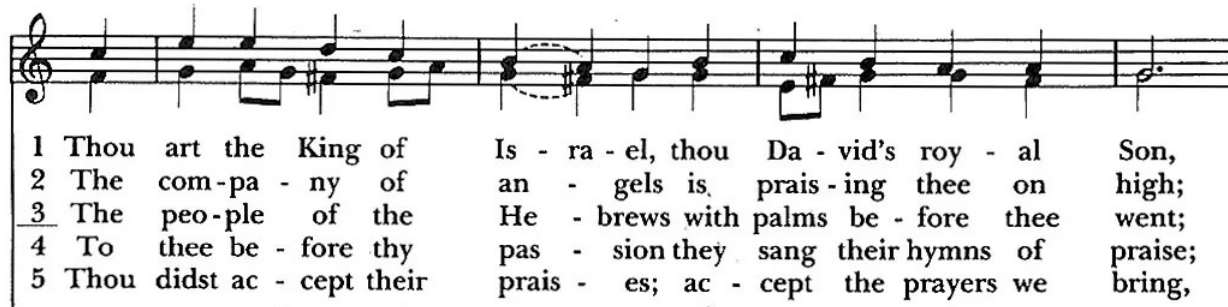
Refrain



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 - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
 5 who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Collect of the Day Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

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**

You may be seated.

The 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?

Lector The Word of the Lord.

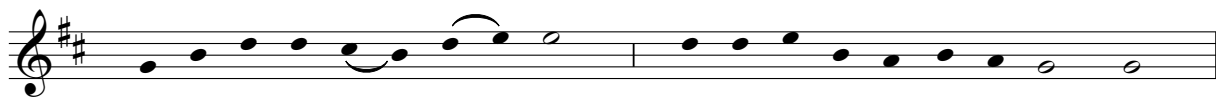
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 31:9-16

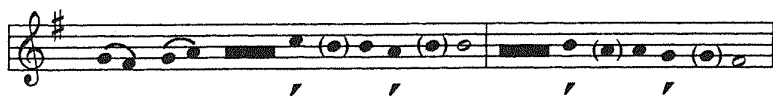
In te, Domine, speravi

Plainchant Tone VII.3

A cantor sings the antiphon at the beginning, then the congregation and choir immediately repeat it, singing it again where indicated; a cantor sings the verses to plainchant.



God is our ref - uge and strength, a ver - y pre-sent help in trou - ble.



9 Have mercy on me, O LORD, for **Í** am in tróuble; *
my eye is consumed with sorrow,
and also my thróat and my bélly.

10 For my life is wasted with grief,
and my yéars with síghing; *
my strength fails me because of affliction,
and my bónes are cónsumed.



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.

Antiphon

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.

Antiphon

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."

Antiphon

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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 168, standing **O sacred head, sore wounded**
(Verses 1-3)

PASSION CHORALE

The Sermon *Irrational Humbug? I Hope Not!*
A quiet time for reflection follows the sermon.

The Rev. Wilbert "Wilk" Miller

Pray for the World and the Church, standing

In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

Intercessor: I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Sean, our Presiding Bishop, Jeff and Laura our bishops, Wilk our interim pastor, Elaine our newly called rector; and for this gathering and all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

Silence

Intercessor: I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

Intercessor: I ask your prayers for those who are poor, sick, hungry, or oppressed, and for those who are in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble, especially, Jinny Buracchi, Max Bowers, Brandon, Connie Cliffe, Tony Custodio, Roger Deakin, Sherley Furgueson, Jeff Going, Raymond Guarino, Nancy Gould, Erna Jensen, Ken Kezer, Ann Parkinson, Astrid Pensa, Gianna Porcelli, Marguerite Quigley, Dorothy Rider, Jimmy Savoie, Janet Schuman-Andrew, Kathe Woodside, and those we now name either silently or aloud.

Silence

Intercessor: I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God. Pray that they may find and be found by God.

Silence

Intercessor: I ask your prayers for the departed, especially Margot Calder. Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Intercessor: At this time, you may offer your own intercessions and thanksgivings.

Silence

Intercessor: O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Peace, standing

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the ministers and people may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome and Announcements, you may be seated

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory Sentence

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

The congregation's offering for the mission and ministry of the church is received. Please be seated.

Anthem Daughters of Zion

M. Boyle

Daughters of Zion weep for yourselves, and your children. For surely, surely the days are coming, when they shall exclaim to the mountains fall down on us and to the hills hide us, hide us. Daughters of Zion weep for yourselves and your children.

Presentation, standing

The congregation's gifts of bread, wine, and money are presented and placed on the Holy Table. Weekly donations to the Shoreline Pantry are placed before the Altar.

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer C

BCP p. 369

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

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

People **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Presider 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.

People **By your will they were created and have their being.**

Presider 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.

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

Presider 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.

People **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

Presider 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 S-124

D. Hurd

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav - en and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people stand or kneel, as the Presider continues

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

Lord God of our Ancestors: God of Abraham, Sarah, and Hagar, Isaac and Rebecca, and Jacob, Leah, Rachel, Bilhah, and Zilpah; 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.

People: 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.**

The Lord's Prayer

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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

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.

The Invitation to Communion

Presider 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.

All seeking God are welcome at Christ's Table to receive Holy Communion or a blessing.

For a blessing, cross your hands over your chest. Gluten-free bread is available for those requiring it. Please indicate this by holding one arm across your chest. If you are unable to come forward, ask an usher or someone nearby to request that communion be brought to you.

Hymn 458 My song is love unknown

LOVE UNKNOWN

Postcommunion Prayer, standing

Presider Let us pray.

**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.**

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO LUKE

*The congregation is seated for the Passion of Christ.
The congregation reads the parts indicated for them.*

- NARRATOR** Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying,
- PEOPLE** **"We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king."**
- NARRATOR** Then Pilate asked him,
- PEOPLE** **"Are you the king of the Jews?"**
- NARRATOR** He answered,
- JESUS** "You say so."
- NARRATOR** Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds,
- PEOPLE** **"I find no basis for an accusation against this man."**
- NARRATOR** But they were insistent and said,
- PEOPLE** **"He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place."**
- NARRATOR** When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies.
- Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them,
- PEOPLE** **"You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him."**
- NARRATOR** Then they all shouted out together,
- PEOPLE** **"Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!"**

NARRATOR (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting,

PEOPLE **"Crucify, crucify him!"**

NARRATOR A third time he said to them,

PEOPLE **"Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him."**

NARRATOR But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said,

JESUS "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

(At the mention of the place called the Skull, all should stand, as able.)

NARRATOR Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said,

JESUS "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."

NARRATOR And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying,

PEOPLE **"He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!"**

NARRATOR The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying,

PEOPLE **"If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"**

NARRATOR There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying,

PEOPLE "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"

NARRATOR But the other rebuked him, saying,

PEOPLE "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong."

NARRATOR Then he said,

PEOPLE "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

NARRATOR He replied,

JESUS "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

NARRATOR It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said,

JESUS "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."

NARRATOR Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said,

PEOPLE "Certainly this man was innocent."

NARRATOR And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was beginning. The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments.

On the sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

A profound silence is observed.

The Blessing, *standing*

Presider 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. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the anthem.

Anthem Jesus, So Lowly

H. Friedell

*Jesus, so lowly, child of the earth: christen me wholly, bring me new birth. Jesus, so lonely, weary and sad;
teach me that only love maketh glad. Jesus, so broken, silent and pale; be this the token,
love will not fail. Jesus, victorious, mighty and free; teach me how glorious death is to be.*

As the Altar Party processes out, please stand as you are able.

Invitation to Holy Week

Presider I invite you to depart in silence. Holy Week has begun.

The people depart in silence.

Palm Sunday — Sunday of the Passion

Hot Cross Buns and Coffee and Tea

Directly following the service, all are invited to attend coffee hour with hot cross buns in the Parish Hall.

**Introducing The New Rector
The Rev. Dr. Elaine Ellis Thomas**

The Vestry of St. John's Episcopal Church, Essex, has called The Rev. Dr. Elaine Ellis Thomas to be the congregation's next full-time rector, effective July 1, 2025.

The Rev. Dr. Elaine Ellis Thomas has been the rector of All Saints, Hoboken, in the Diocese of Newark, NJ, since 2018. A passionate preacher and follower of Jesus, she brings extensive experience in parish ministry in a variety of settings. She is also skilled in organization management, conflict mediation, and global reconciliation ministries, and is excited about partnering with the people of St. John's as we move into the future together.

Elaine served at St. Paul's Memorial Church in Charlottesville, Virginia and was an organizing figure in the clergy response to the white supremacist events in the summer of 2017. She attended Berkeley Divinity School at Yale and was ordained in the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania, prior to which she was the director of Human Resources for Episcopal Community Services in Philadelphia, managing roughly half of the \$10-million budget and serving as a member of the strategic leadership team. She was also an accomplished organist and choirmaster.

As a public theologian, Elaine convenes the Hoboken Clergy Coalition, is chaplain of the Hoboken Fire Department, and a member of the boards of the Hoboken Shelter and the Jubilee Center. She has served as president of the Standing Committee, attended the 80th & 81st General Conventions of the Episcopal Church, and was a member of the Presiding Officers' Working Group on Truth-Telling, Reckoning, and Healing which led to the creation of several churchwide bodies exploring how the Church heals the wounds of our history.

Elaine and Tim, a leadership consultant, have been married for almost 26 years. Their daughter Rachel lives in the Philadelphia suburbs, and Seth, their son, died by suicide in 2009. She and Tim share their household with their 140-pound Great Pyrenees, Ella, and both enjoy baseball, traveling, and going on adventures together.

Maundy Thursday: Watchnight Vigil
Thursday, April 17

St. John's parishioners are still able to sign up for one hour of prayer between 9:00 p.m. on Maundy Thursday, April 17, and 9:00 a.m. on Good Friday, at Watchnight Vigil. The church will be locked throughout the night, with a designated St. John's member outside to provide assistance and ensure safety.

To reserve your spot, sign up in the narthex or contact Chris McGarry at 831-252-0268.

A Lenten Disciple of Giving

Bill's Blessing

This Lent, consider practicing generosity by supporting Bill's Blessings, a ministry that provides essential hygiene and household items to those in need. Everyday necessities—like soap, toothpaste, deodorant, and laundry detergent—can be purchased affordably at local dollar stores, Walmart, or Walgreens, where special deals make giving even easier. Larger items, such as paper towels and toilet paper, can be ordered in bulk from Costco or Amazon and shipped directly to St. John's. Your contributions throughout Lent will bring comfort and dignity to those facing hardship.

Donations for Bill's Blessings can be placed downstairs in the Undercroft for distribution to Soup Kitchen guests. For questions, please contact the office or speak with an Usher or connect with Mary Bowers. Thank you for your generosity!

Shoreline Soup Kitchen and Pantries: Westbrook Food Pantry

Each week, St. John's delivers your generous donations to the local Westbrook pantry. Let's keep the momentum going by contributing to the Shoreline Soup Kitchen and Pantries' current wish list.

They are in need of non-perishable food items like cereal, juice, soup, peanut butter, tuna, canned fruit, canned corn, pasta, pasta sauce, oatmeal, white rice, dried beans, protein bars, and breakfast items. Your generosity makes a difference. Donations for the Westbrook Food Pantry can be placed in the Cross Street hallway where the offices are located. For questions, please contact the office or speak with an Usher at the back of the church. Thank you for your support!

Easter Candy & Eggs

In preparation for our beloved annual Easter egg hunt on Easter Sunday (April 20) in the amphitheater, we are once again seeking donations of both filled and empty Easter eggs, along with candy (please no nuts). The general guideline is one dozen eggs per child attending. Donations can be dropped off in the church office. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. For any questions, please contact Meghan at meghan@stjohnsessex.org or call the church office.

Compassion and Mercy in Caring for Others
Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. — April 15 & 22

St. John's member Dan Evangelisti will help participants create skills to deal with friends and family who are dying. Compassion and mercy are powerful responses to human need and suffering, especially in how we care for others at the time of human dying; they are also important to our spiritual and moral lives, widening our hearts and minds in relationship to God and neighbor.

April 15

A Call to Compassion and Action

April 22

A Call to Be Merciful and Respectful

Tuesday Morning Eucharist in Holy Week
"Keep Watch, Dear Lord"

11:15 a.m. — (Immediately following Bible Study)

One of the most beloved evening prayers in the Book of Common Prayer is:

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night,
and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ;
give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and
all for your love's sake. Amen.

At the 1/2 hour Tuesday morning Eucharist in Lent, we will hear homilies on this prayer.

April 15

(Tuesday in Holy Week) "The Dying"

Holy Week & Easter Schedule

Maundy Thursday — April 17 at 7:00 p.m **Holy Eucharist with Foot-Washing & Stripping of the Altar**

Readings: Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 116:1,10-17; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-17,31b-35

Sermon: *Jesus on the Night Shift*

Anthems: *Drop, Drop Slow Tears* - Richard Shephard;
Peace I leave with You - Amy Beach; *The Mandatum* - Robert Lehman;
Ave Verum Corpus - Geoff Weaver; *The Lamentations* - E. C. Bairstow

Good Friday — April 18 at Noon **Passion of Our Lord Jesus & Adoration of the Cross**

Readings: Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 22; Hebrews 10:16-25; John 18:1-19:42

Music: Portions of Johann Sebastian Bach's *St. Matthews Passion*
Johann Sebastian Bach's Cantata 82: *Ich habe genug*
Soloists: Richard Pittsinger and Patricia Schuman
Sermon: *The Cross* (Preacher: The Rev. Christina Salzer)

Easter Sunrise Service, 6:00 AM at the CT River Museum (weather permitting)

This is a perfect service for welcoming the community and sharing the Easter celebration with our neighbors. It is beautifully timed to enjoy the first Eucharist of Easter Sunday just as the sun is rising over the river. For those attending, please bring your own chairs.

Easter Services, 8:00 AM & 10:15 AM

Readings: Isaiah 65:17-25; Psalm 111:1-2,14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26; Luke 24:1-12

Sermon: *Pull Out the Stops and Let 'er Rip*
Anthems: No. 5, *The Gift of Each Day* - John Rutter;
Exsultate Justi - Lodovico da Viandana

CLERGY & PARISH STAFF

The Rev. Wilbert "Wilk" Miller, *Interim Pastor*
wilk@stjohnsessex.org / 860-767-8095 x.12

Chelsea DiDonato, *Communications Director & Parish Administrator*
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Anthony Pandolfe Jr., *Director of Music & Organist*
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Meghan Wrinn, *Program & Events Coordinator*
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Manuel Matute, *Sexton*
Dayle Larson, *Bookkeeper*

VOLUNTEER MINISTRY LEADERS

Nancy Haslam, *Prayer Shawl Ministry*
Marlene Going, *Weekly Food Collection*
Stephanie Patterson, *Altar Guild*
Peggy Tuttle, *Pastoral Care Card Ministry*
Jennifer Miller, *Meal Ministry*
Ernie Brainard, *Candle Master*
Nat Eddy, *Outreach Committee*
Jan Perruccio, *Newcomers Committee*

VOLUNTEER PROFESSIONALS

Bill Scharfenstein, *Building and Grounds*
Greg Perruccio, *Stewardship Chair*
John Rogers, *Treasurer*
Clio Coles, *Assistant Treasurer*
Shawn Honan, *Investment Oversight Committee*

VESTRY Wesley Henry, *Warden*; Jan Perruccio, *Warden*; Stephanie Patterson, *Vestry Clerk*; John Rogers, *Treasurer*; Lois Blood Bennett, Linda Board, Tony Custodio, Leigh Dorrington, Nat Eddy, Peter Holland, Patti Pickering, Jane Riggio, Kevin Walsh

**WORSHIP**

SUNDAYS | Holy Eucharist — 8:00 & 10:15 a.m.

TUESDAYS | Bible Study — 10:00 a.m.

TUESDAYS | Midweek Holy Eucharist — 11:15 a.m.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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