

st. peter's chelsea



Palm Sunday: A Public Call To Love

March 24, 2025

11 am to 12 pm

Union Square, South Plaza

WELCOME AND GATHERING SONG

The Rev. Christine Lee, Priest-in-Charge
St. Peter's Chelsea

Holy Spirit Come

Ho-ly Spi-rit come, Ho-ly Spi-rit dwell here—
Fill your world with joy o-ver-flow-ing and peace
o-ver-flow-ing and love o-ver-flow-ing in all
of Your glo-ry Come— Ho-ly Spi-rit

WORDS/MUSIC: Rita Springer

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

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

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

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **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.**

SCRIPTURE READING | Luke 19:28-40

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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

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

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

All **Hosanna in the highest.**

SONG

Hosanna

Ho - san - na in the high - - est; Let our King be lift - ed up,
ho - san - - na.

LYRICS: *Israel Houghton and Sidney Mobede*

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

All

And also with you.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

All

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.*

SCRIPTURE | Isaiah 50:4-9a

Reader

The word of the Lord.

All

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE READING | Philippians 2:5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

**Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God
something to be used to his own advantage;**

Rather, he made himself nothing
by taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.

**He humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death—
even death on a cross!**

Therefore God 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.**

SONG

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone, my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

LYRICS: *Stuart Townend* MUSIC: *Keith Getty*

REFLECTION

The Rev. Lisha Epperson, Assistant Priest
St. Peter's Chelsea

TESTIMONY

Karen Ortiz, Administrative Judge
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God, you have done great things for us and your faithful love surrounds us. You fill our hearts with laughter. In the midst of chaos you sprinkle joy. We give thanks for these pools of refreshment in the wilderness - the hope that gathering like this brings us.

We, the people, lift our voices. ***We, the people, give thanks.***

We give thanks for your church, the communities that even today, lift up the sweet fragrance of worship before you. May our public reverence and service be a witness and may that witness impact your world for good.

We, the people, are your witnesses. ***We, the people, will stand.***

This world is yours and we are your children. Help us to re-establish that sense of right relationship where we are governed not by kings but by faithful and humble leaders who with humility look to the way of Jesus as the only way forward.

You are the only true king! ***There is none like you!***

Lord, help us in the turning of our hearts toward you. To with courage face the challenges of our time, to accept nothing less than your truth and justice. May we be known by our love for each other, and united in our seeking of the common good.

History has its eyes on us. ***History has its eyes on us.***

We pray for healing and wholeness for those who suffer in mind, body or spirit. For those who experience the psychic pain of the perpetually oppressed. For them, for us be the God of restoration - the God of lasting peace.

Let us be whole. ***Dear Lord, make us whole.***

May those who have died, returning at last to the love from whence they came - know your eternal rest. May those who mourn understand that the circle of life begins and ends with you. May they be comforted.

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

Celebrant As we approach Holy Week, give us, O Lord, an awareness of our failings and the courage to keep trying; to remember and to hold on. We present to you today, born of our tears and longings, our struggles and frustrations, our collective prayers and our deepest gratitude. We ask that your will be done in our lives and in the world you have made. We ask in the strong name of the Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

Celebrant The Peace of Christ be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING

Today's offering will be dedicated to the Abli Arab Hospital in Gaza, an Anglican hospital in our sister diocese, the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem which serves churches in Israel, Palestine, Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria.

Fill out an information card or share a prayer request by using the QR code:



You can give in the offering box near the doors, through our website or by using the QR code:



SPECIAL SONG "Your Great Name"

By Anna Laura Page and Jean Anne Shafferman

Sung by Noreen Crayton

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

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

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant

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

All

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

Celebrant

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All

Therefore let us keep the feast.

Celebrant

The Gifts of God for the People of God.


Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,

and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.


All are welcome. Gluten-free wafers are available by request. Please ask the priest when you approach.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Let Us Break Bread Together



1. Let us break bread to-gether on our knees,
2. Let us drink the cup to-gether on our knees,
3. Let us praise God to-gether on our knees,



Let us break bread to-gether on our knees;
Let us drink the cup to-gether on our knees;
Let us praise God to-gether on our knees;




When I fall on my knees, With my face to the ris-ing



sun, O Lord, have mer-cy on me.

LYRICS: *African American Spiritual*


Amazing Grace



1 A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound, that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
*5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



1 saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
2 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
4 have al - rea - dy come; 'tis grace that brought me
5 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



1 now am found, was blind but now I see.
2 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
4 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
5 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

WORDS: John Newton MUSIC: William Walker

Celebrant

Let us pray.

All

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.

FINAL BLESSING

CLOSING SONG *We Shall Overcome/This Little Light of Mine*

We shall overcome
We shall overcome
We shall overcome, someday
Oh, deep in my heart
I do believe
That we shall overcome, someday

We'll walk hand in hand...
We shall live in peace...
We are not afraid...

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine (3x)
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

Everywhere I go...
Jesus gave it to me...
We've got the light of freedom...

DISMISSAL

All **Thanks be to God.**

