



Palm-Passion Sunday

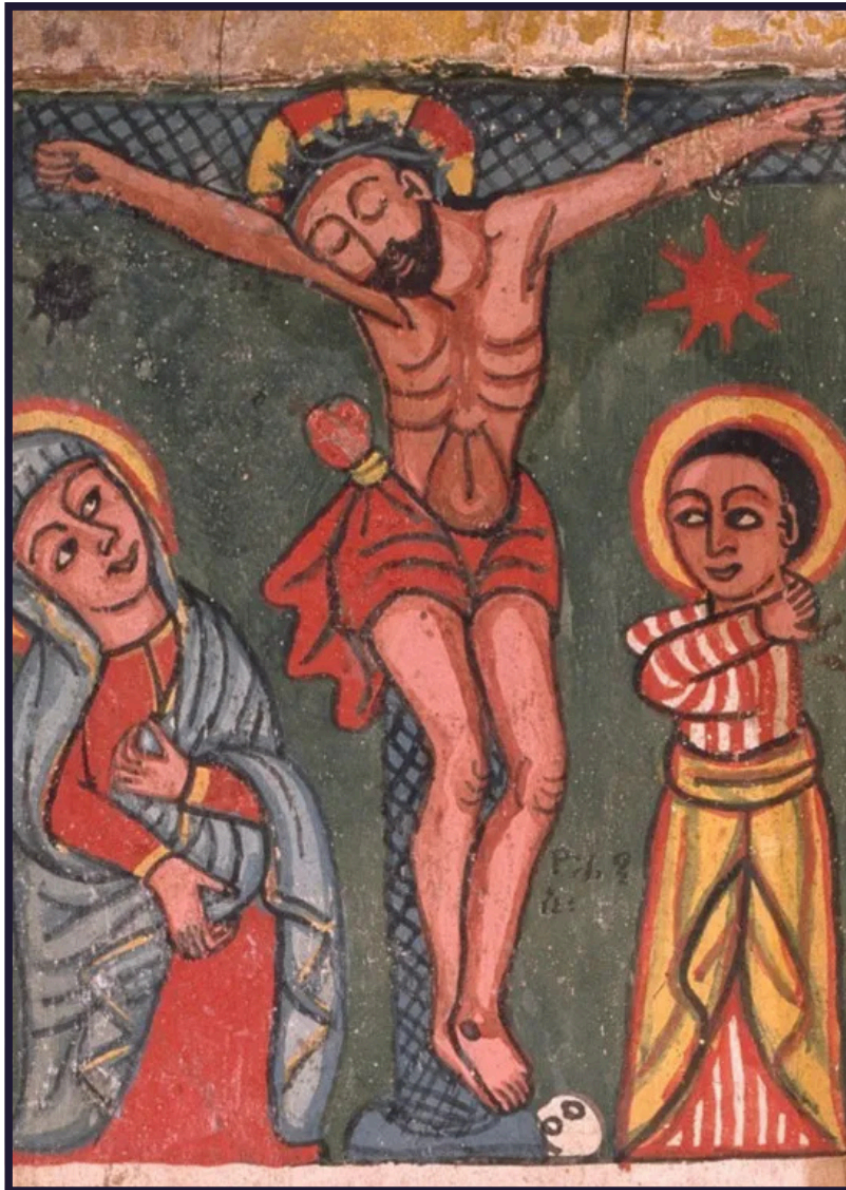
April 13, 2025 | 10:30am

Gathering in the FBCH Sanctuary

Prayer candles are available in the north transept if you would like to light one as part of your prayer this morning.
For more information about the life of FBCH, visit our website: fbchalifax.ca or like us on social media.

*Stand as you are able

Wifi Password for FBCH Guest: youareloved



God is Crucified
Ethiopian Orthodox, c. 1800

Palm Sunday

There is miracle in belonging to a God who rejects the image of a glorified hero and instead comes to us on a donkey, centering the plight of those who suffer.

- Cole Arthur Riley

Prelude

Lynette Wahlstrom

Welcome

Luke Dowding

If joining on Facebook Live or YouTube we invite you to say hello to everyone by posting a comment to the live stream.

Ringing of the Trinity

We Gather in the presence of God - Creator, Christ, and Spirit

LITURGY OF THE PALMS

Palm Sunday Call to Worship: Luke 19:29-40

Dahrl Whitney

New Revised Standard Version

^{19:29} When Jesus had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰saying, ‘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. ³¹If anyone asks you, “Why are you untying it?” just say this: “The Lord needs it.”’ ³²So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, ‘Why are you untying the colt?’ ³⁴They said, ‘The Lord needs it.’ ³⁵Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷As 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, ³⁸saying, ‘Blessed is the king

who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven,

and glory in the highest heaven!’

³⁹Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, ‘Teacher, order your disciples to stop.’ ⁴⁰He answered, ‘I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.’

***Palm Processional and Opening Hymn (next page)**

All Glory, Laud, and Honor 196

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 peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;
 3 To thee, be - fore thy pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;
 4 Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

who in the Lord's name com - est, the King and bless - ed One.
 our praise and prayers and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent.
 to thee, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
 who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra-cious King!

These stanzas for Palm Sunday have been selected and translated from a much longer Latin poem written by a bishop who was the leading theologian in Charlemagne's court. They are sung to a 17th-century German chorale, as adapted for these words in the mid-19th century.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

*Responsive Psalm 118:1-2, 25-29

Dahl Whitney

The Inclusive Bible

Hal H. Hopson

Refrain



Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord. Praise the name of the Lord.

© 1988 Hope Publishing Company

I thank you, O LORD, for your goodness! Your love is everlasting!

Let us say it: "Your love is everlasting!"

Please, O LORD, please save us! Please, O LORD, give us prosperity now!

Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the LORD! We bless you from the house of the LORD! R

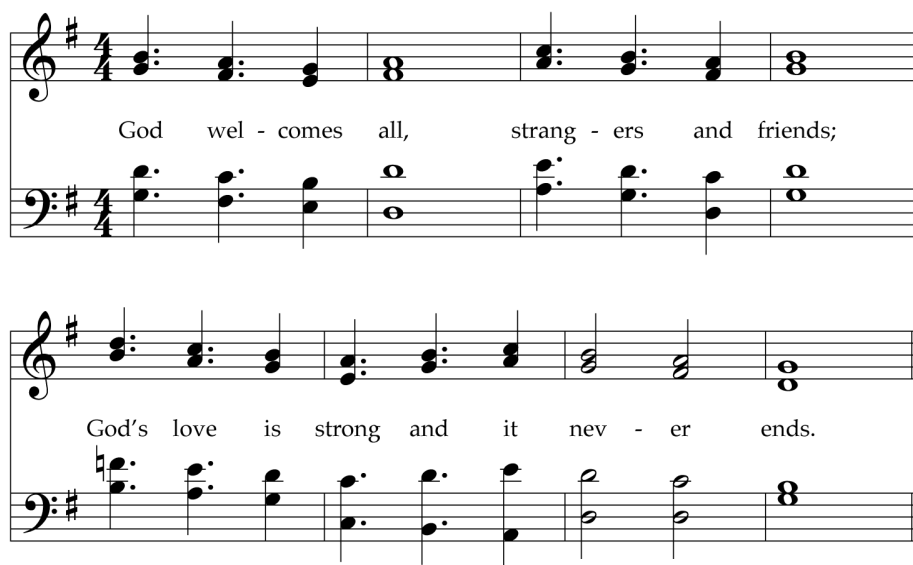
The LORD is God and God has enlightened us. Join the festal procession! With palm fronds in hand, go up to the horn of the altar!

You are my God, and I thank you; you are my God, and I exalt you. Thank you for hearing me, for saving me. Thank you, O LORD, for your goodness! Your love is everlasting! R

Children's Hymn

God Welcomes All

399



God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;

God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.

This "short song," as the Iona Community calls it, can be especially effective as a means of setting a welcoming tone for a service (especially an ecumenical one). Like most such songs, it needs to be sung several times, adding and improvising harmony with each repetition.

TEXT: John L. Bell, 2008

MUSIC: South African song; transcr. John L. Bell, 2008

Text and Music Transcr. © 2008 WGRC, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

THEMBA AMEN

4.4.9

Children's Story



THE WOMEN WHO CAME CLOSE TO JESUS:

Girl Raised & Widow Who Gave



*Blessing of the Children

Beloved children of our church family: may God's Spirit be with you as you enter into the stories of our faith; may your imaginations be opened to encounter God's love for you and all the world; and may you be formed to care for others as you discover the Way of Jesus. Amen.

Children going into Primary-Grade 6 are dismissed to go to Godly Play.

*Doxology - OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Christ, all people here below, Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

Donations

All contributions to FBCH support our mission and ministry and are greatly appreciated. Offering boxes are located at the side doors at the back of the Sanctuary. You can also go to our website fbchalifax.ca and click on the Ways to Give link for information about how to financially support the ministries of FBCH, including e-transfers or setting up recurring donations.

LITURGY OF THE PASSION

Passion Prayer of Approach

Arla Johnson

Prayer by Cole Arthur Riley, *Black Liturgies*

God of the long night,

Thank you for being a God not just of solidarity but of deep and raw emotion. A God who did not endure violence in silence but who spoke and cried as your body was broken on the cross. Help us to understand that our memory of you becomes more whole when we remember you alongside the injustices with which you suffered in solidarity: the hunger, the abuse, the loneliness of the world. Today let us grieve the path of the cross—illness, violence, alienation, the degradation of land, and all pain unspoken. Let us weep and rest. Reveal yourself to us, remind us of a God who knows the weight of oppression, and help us believe that truly you are with us. That your cause is our cause—no less than justice and liberation in life and death. Amen.

Breath Prayer (in silence)

INHALE: This is too much to hold.

EXHALE: I can grieve with God.

Gospel Reading: Luke 23:26-47

New Revised Standard Version

^{23:26} As they led Jesus 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. ²⁷A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. ²⁸But Jesus turned to them and said, 'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹For 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." ³⁰Then they will begin to say to the mountains, "Fall on us"; and to the hills, "Cover us." ³¹For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?'

³² Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³³When 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. [[³⁴Then Jesus said, 'Creator, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.']] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, God's chosen one!' ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.'

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' ⁴²Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' ⁴³Jesus replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

⁴⁴ It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, ⁴⁵while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, 'Creator, into your hands I commend my spirit.' Having said this, he breathed his last. ⁴⁷When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, 'Certainly this man was innocent.'

Spoken Reflection

Rusty Edwards

On the Way: Wailing

Anthem

Senior Choir sopranos & altos

Lift Thine Eyes -Mendelssohn

Holy Week Prayer of Confession: Solemn Reproaches

O my people, O my church, what have I done to you, or in what have I offended you? Testify against me. I led you forth from the land of Egypt and delivered you by the waters of baptism, but you have prepared a cross for your Saviour.

God of Steadfast Love, Have Mercy Upon Us

I led you through the desert forty years, and fed you with manna: I brought you through tribulation, and gave you my body, the bread of heaven, but you have prepared a cross for your Saviour.

God of Steadfast Love, Have Mercy Upon Us

What more could I have done for you that I have not done? I planted you, my chosen and fairest vineyard, I made you the branches of my vine; but when I was thirsty, you gave me vinegar to drink and pierced with a spear the side of your Saviour, and you have prepared a cross for your Saviour.

God of Steadfast Love, Have Mercy Upon Us

I went before you in a pillar of cloud, and you have led me to the judgement hall of Pilate. I rescued you from your enemies and brought you to a land of freedom, but you have scourged, mocked, and beaten me. I gave you the water of salvation from the rock, but you have given me gall and left me to thirst, and you have prepared a cross for your Saviour.

God of Steadfast Love, Have Mercy Upon Us

I bestowed the keys to the kingdom, but you have given me a crown of thorns. I raised you on high with great power, but you have prepared a cross for your Saviour.

God of Steadfast Love, Have Mercy Upon Us

My peace I gave, which the world cannot give, and washed your feet as a sign of my love, but you draw the sword to strike in my name and seek high places in my kingdom. I offered you my body, but you scatter and deny and abandon me, and you have prepared a cross for your Saviour.

God of Steadfast Love, Have Mercy Upon Us

I sent the Spirit of truth to guide you, and you close your hearts to the Counselor. I pray that all may be one in the Creator and me, but you continue to quarrel and divide. I call you to go and bring forth fruit, but you cast lots for my clothing, and you have prepared a cross for your Saviour.

God of Steadfast Love, Have Mercy Upon Us

I came to you as the least of your siblings; I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me, and you have prepared a cross for your Saviour.

God of Steadfast Love, Have Mercy Upon Us

Sung Response

Senior Choir

Kyrie from German Mass - F. Schubert, arr. Proulx

“Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy”

Lord’s Prayer

Our Creator, 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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.

Amen.

***Closing Hymn (next page)**

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross 223

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

Prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 death of Christ my God; all the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down; did e'er such love and
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

This familiar text from the beginning of the 18th century grew out of Isaac Watts's desire to give Christians the ability to sing about gospel events. It is set here to a very restrained tune from the early 19th century inspired by the patterns of Gregorian chant.

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1707
 MUSIC: Lowell Mason, 1824

HAMBURG
 LM
 (alternate tune: ROCKINGHAM, 224)

Benediction

Rusty Edwards

Amen

Postlude

Lynette Wahlstrom

The Week Ahead at FBCH

For details go to fbchalifax.ca or read News Notes

Sunday, April 13

Easter Mini Sale

10:30 am - Sunday Worship; Sanctuary

11:45 am - New to FBCH Lunch; Parlour

Wednesday, April 16

7:00pm Jazz Vespers; Sanctuary

Thursday, April 17

7:00pm - Maundy Thursday; Sanctuary

Easter Sunday, April 20

10:30 am - Sunday Worship; Sanctuary

Guest Musicians: The Blue Engine String Quartet

CONNECT WITH FBCH STAFF

Paula Zanello Antunes | Community Engagement Lead

On leave until September 2025

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Lynette Wahlstrom | Director of Music

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Special thanks to
today's worship leaders:

Dahrl Whitney

FIND OUT MORE

fbchalifax.ca 

CONNECT ONLINE

First Baptist Church Halifax 

[fbchalifax](https://fbchalifax.ca) 

First Baptist Church Halifax 



FIRST
BAPTIST
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HALIFAX

Breaking Stereotypes Since 1827

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The story of the early church in the New Testament is a story of the ever-expanding circle of those included in the community of Jesus. We believe that circle expands to include all people.

Because we are followers of Jesus, First Baptist Church Halifax welcomes all people into the full life of the church community. This means we will not discriminate on the grounds of gender, age, race, national or ethnic origin, colour, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or economic circumstances.

We really do want you to join us. Our diversity helps us all expand our understandings of God.

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