

Welcome to St. Philip's on-the-hill

SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2026

PALM SUNDAY WITH PALM PROCESSION

“Christ became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name.”

(Philippians 2.8-9)



10:00 A.M. SUNG EUCHARIST

Musical Setting for the Holy Eucharist is by Merbecke

PRELUDE: *The Palms by Jean-Baptiste Fauré*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing for the celebration of our Lord's paschal mystery. On this day our Lord Jesus Christ entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph. The people welcomed him with palms and shouts of praise, but the path before him led to self-giving, suffering, and death. Today we greet him as our King, although we know his crown is thorns and his throne a cross. We follow him this week from the glory of the palms to the glory of the resurrection by way of the dark road of suffering and death. United with him in his suffering on the cross, may we share his resurrection and new life.

Let us pray.

All: **Assist us mercifully with your help, Lord God of salvation, that we may enter with joy, into the celebration of those mighty acts, whereby you give us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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

All: **Hosanna in the highest!**

CHOIR ANTHEM: *Ride On, Ride On, the Time is Right* *Voices United #126*

THE BLESSING OF THE PALM CROSSES:

Celebrant: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

All: **Hosanna in the highest!**

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. The Hebrews acclaimed Jesus as Messiah and King, with palm branches in their hands, crying,

“I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.” Then the people as a whole answered, “His blood be on us and on our children!” 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, “Hail, King of the Jews!” 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.

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, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, “This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.”

Then two rebels were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, “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.” In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, “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.’ ” The rebels 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, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

Psalm 31: 9-16

Cantor: Eva Lau

Refrain: Into your hands, O God, I commit my spirit.

Matthew 27:47-66

When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, “This man is calling for Elijah.” 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, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.” Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. 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, “Truly this man was God’s Son!” 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, “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.” Pilate said to them, “You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can.” So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

SERMON:

The Rev. Stephen Kern

Let us sit or kneel to pray.

PRAYER SONG:

Jesus, Remember Me

CP 634

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Shannon Haverstock

Petition: Hear us, O God. ***Response:* Your mercy is great.**

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

OFFERTORY HYMN:

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

CP 386

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Celebrant: Gracious God, the suffering and death of Jesus, your only Son, makes us pleasing in your sight. Alone we can do nothing, but through his sacrifice, may we receive your love and mercy.
Amen.

Please take a posture of prayer, sitting, standing or kneeling.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: The Lord be with you;

All: **and with thy spirit.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts;

All: **we lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God;

All: **it is meet and right so to do.**

Celebrant: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who for our sins was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself. By his suffering and death, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him. Therefore with all the host of heaven who gather around your throne and the Lamb, we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

All: **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory by to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest.**

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

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, Father, according to his command,

All: **we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant: and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus

Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant: As our Saviour Christ has taught us, let us pray,

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 them that 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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: We break this bread,

All: Communion in Christ's body once broken.

Celebrant: Let your Church be the wheat which bears its fruit in dying.

All: If we have died with him, we shall live with him; if we hold firm, we shall reign with him.

AGNUS DEI:

All: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us thy peace.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

The gifts of God for the people of God. **All:** *Thanks be to God.*

All are welcome at the table of Our Lord. To receive a blessing, fold your arms across your chest. Please signal the communion minister if you would like a gluten-free wafer.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion for those worshipping at home

Celebrant: Church, we have friends worshipping online or others who may not be able to receive Communion today. Let us pray together in solidarity to receive Christ anew in spiritual communion.

All: Lord Jesus Christ, present in the Sacrament of the altar and in your people, come and abide in my heart in the fullness of your strength; be my wisdom and guide me in right pathways; transform my life and actions that they may reflect the image of your holiness. In your name I pray. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant: God our help and strength, you have satisfied our hunger with this eucharistic food. Strengthen our faith, that through the death and resurrection of your Son, we may be led to salvation, for he is Lord now and for ever. **Amen.**

BLESSING

DISMISSAL ~ ALL LEAVE IN SILENCE

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MINISTERING IN THE SERVICE TODAY

Celebrant/Preacher: The Rev. Stephen Kern; **Deacon:** The Rev. Lorraine Runza; **Gospeler/Liturgical Assistant:** The Rev. Ajith Varghese; **Crucifer:** Brian Cheung; **Organist:** Kevin Parks, **Cantor:** Eva Lau; **Music:** Choir; **Reader:** multi-voice presentation; **Bread:** The Rev. Stephen Kern, The Rev. Ajith Varghese; **Chalice:** The Rev. Lorraine Runza, Anne Kern; **Prayers:** Shannon Haverstock; **Video/Sound:** Andrew Estabrooks; **Greeters:** Bob & Nancy Clarke; **Sunday School:** Gloria Varghese, Jo Anne Carlisle; **Churchwarden on Duty:** Connalyn Willoughby; **Chancel Guild:** Judith Prentice, Judith Brunton, Christine Herbert, Connalyn Willoughby

TODAY

The Passion of our Lord ~ Palm Sunday

Household Prayer: Morning

I rise, O God, awakened by your Word, to live another day. Lead me in your path. Show me the steps to take toward greater faith. Hold me in your care as I move through this Holy Week where the shadows deepen even in the daylight. Hosanna! Save me now, dear God! Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

I come to the darkness of night, O God, tired and ready for a sweet respite in your care. Keep me safe from all harm, and bring me to the morning light with renewed strength. In Jesus' holy name, I pray. Amen.

(from Feasting on the Word, Year A, Vol. 1)

HAPPENINGS ON-THE-HILL

Holy Week	March 30 to April 5
March 31	4:30 pm Youth and drama groups
April 2	7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service
April 3	10:00 am Good Friday Service
April 4	5:00 pm Evening Prayer on Zoom
April 5	10:00 am Easter Sunday with Easter Egg Hunt
April 17	Deadline for Bishop's FaithWorks Appeal for Jamaica
April 25	Deanery Lay Refresher Day at Holy Trinity, Thornhill
May 16	Sip into Spring – Social Tea
June 6	Annual Walkathon for FaithWorks

JOIN US FOR



HOLY WEEK

APRIL 2
Maundy Thursday
at 7:00 pm

APRIL 3
Good Friday
at 10:00 am

APRIL 4
Evening Prayer on Zoom
at 5:00 pm

APRIL 5
Easter Sunday
at 10:00 am



"Bishop's Appeal for Jamaican Relief and Reconstruction"

From now until April 17th, the Diocese of Toronto FaithWorks Allocation Committee has a dollar-for-dollar matching challenge (up to \$50k) where every FaithWorks gift for Jamaican Hurricane Relief will be doubled.

Donations made by April 17 will be doubled!

To donate today go to faithworks.ca

York Central Deanery Lay Refresher Day, April 25, 2026, 9am - 12:30pm at Holy Trinity Church Thornhill: The Heart of Worship seminar will focus on understanding the four-fold pattern of Christian worship and how this liturgical concept shapes the practice of worship and the place of worship arts in our churches. The second part will explore our understanding of community formation as we cultivate different worship practices. Attending as a church group is strongly encouraged. Please register with your priest to attend this Lay Refresher Day. Closing date is April 19.



SAVE THE DATE!
SATURDAY MAY 16, 2026

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
AND PLAN TO JOIN US AS
WE

SIP INTO SPRING!

YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS
THIS FABULOUS TEA
SOCIAL.

MORE INFORMATION TO
FOLLOW SOON.



WALKATHON
Saturday,
June 6, 2026

As we join churches across the diocese in
celebration of 30th Anniversary of
FaithWorks please help us support the
work they do.

More info to follow.

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