

# Palm Sunday

March 24, 2024

10:00 am Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion In-Person and Live-streamed

### Welcome to our Palm Sunday Worship

We are blessed by your presence with us today. Palm Sunday, also designated as Passion Sunday, begins the journey of Holy Week, the final days of Jesus' life that culminate in his crucifixion. On this Sunday we remember Jesus' arrival in the holy city of Jerusalem to commemorate the festival of Passover with his disciples. While the crowds who had followed Jesus' ministry welcomed him with shouts of triumph as they waved palms in greeting, we know that the civil and religious authorities who feared his increasing authority were making plans to silence him in the events that play out later in the week. Please note the Passion Gospel will be read on Good Friday. On Palm Sunday we bless and distribute the palms that serve as a re-enactment of Jesus' triumphant entry into the city; by tradition we preserve the palms throughout the year, and they are burned to produce the ashes with which we anoint our faces in the coming year's Ash Wednesday.

Our liturgy is drawn primarily from the 1979 Book of Common Prayer and Enriching Our Worship 1 & 2. We also frequently make use of other approved worship resources from elsewhere within the Anglican Communion, such as the Church of England, Scottish Episcopal Church, Anglican Church of Canada, and the Anglican Church in New Zealand, as well as Eucharistic Prayers and Prayers of the People which correlate to the Revised Common Lectionary. We believe that the use of fresh language provides us the opportunity to broaden and deepen our relationship with God. Our music is drawn primarily from the Hymnal 1982, Wonder, Love, and Praise, and Lift Every Voice and Sing II, and other approved hymnals. All materials are printed with permission using RiteSeries. Please note that our worship is live-streamed to Facebook.

#### Our Mission

We believe God is calling us to cultivate a community of love, joy, hope, and healing. Jesus is our model for a life of faith, compassion, hospitality and service. We strive to be affirming and accessible, welcoming and inclusive; we seek to promote reconciliation, exercise responsible stewardship, and embrace ancient traditions for modern lives.

### Welcome (from outside)

The Rev. Heather J. Blais

### Liturgy of the Palms

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

Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

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 Savior. **Amen.** 

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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.** 

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Let us go forth in peace.

In the name of Christ. Amen

#### **Procession of the Palms**

The crucifer leads the procession into the church.



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).

# **Opening Acclamation and Collect**

Blessed be the God of our salvation:

Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.

God our rock and refuge: keep us safe in your care and strengthen us with your grace, that we may pray to you faithfully and love one another boldly, following the example of Jesus, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives for ever and ever. Amen.

(Source: Veronese Sacramentary)

### **Collects**

God be with you.

And also with you.

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.** 

First Reading Isaiah 50:4-9a Mike Maleno

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?

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

### Psalm 31:9-16



© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

```
9 Have mercy on me, O God, 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 con-sumed.
11 I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors, /
       a dismay to those of my ac-quaintance; *
       when they see me in the street they avoid me. /
12 I am forgotten like the dead, out of mind; *
       I am as useless as a broken pot.
13 For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; /
       fear is all a-round; *
       they put their heads together against me; /
       they plot to take my life.
14 But as for me, I have trusted in you, O God. *
       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, *
```

© Order of Saint Helena, used by permission

### **Second Reading**

Philippians 2:5-11

Sheila Heffernon

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

and in your loving-kindness, save me."

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 deatheven 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God.** 

### The Gospel

Mark 11:1-11

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark. Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately." They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.** 

#### Sermon

#### Silence for Reflection

The Nicene Creed

Bill Hattendorf

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## The Prayers of the People

Blessed are you, O God, the king who rides on the colt of a donkey. We lay before you our lives dedicated to your service. Give your Church grace to sing your praises in word and deed. Give thanks to God.

### God's mercy endures for ever.

Blessed are you, O God, the servant king. We lay before you the decisions and choices we must make. Give us grace to use the power we have for the benefit of all. Give thanks to God. **God's mercy endures for ever.** 

Blessed are you, O God, friend of rich and poor. We lay before you our friendships and those we find difficult to be with. Give us grace to delight in intimacy shared. Give thanks to God. **God's mercy endures for ever.** 

Blessed are you, O God, suffering servant. We lay before you the sick and dying. Give us hope to

God's mercy endures for ever.

find a voice to sing your praise. Give thanks to God.

Blessed are you, O God, the servant king. We lay before you all who have died. Give eternal life to all your children. Give thanks to God.

God's mercy endures for ever.

We remember, O God, the concerns of this parish. We remember those who have asked for our prayers: Sharon, Brad, Ed, Kirsten, Ann, Dick, Shirley, Betsy, Don, Sally Ann, and Gordon. We give thanks for the ministry of Green Team. At this time, I invite your prayers of thanksgiving or intercession either silently, aloud, or in the comment section of our virtual worship. Let us pray for our own needs and those of all Creation.

Silence

Give thanks to God.

God's mercy endures for ever. Amen.

(Source: Sundays and Seasons Year B 2015, adapted for use at SsJA)

Confession Bill Hattendorf

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

#### **Absolution**

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.** 

### **Exchange of Peace**

Having received God's word of hope and new life, we share a sign of God's peace with one another.

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

### **Offertory Sentence**

### Offering

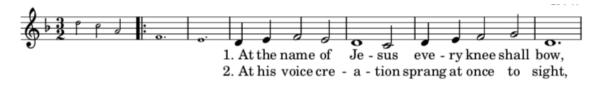
To donate online: Text "Give" (978) 525-0712

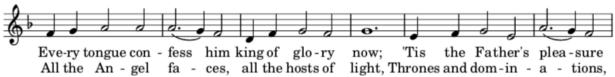
### Offertory Anthem

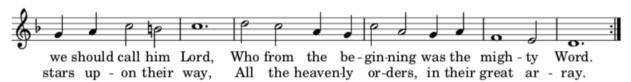
At the Name of Jesus

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Arranged with varied settings by the composer for choir and congregation [1927] Verses 1, 2, 4, 6, & 7 sung by all; text by Caroline M. Noel (alt.).

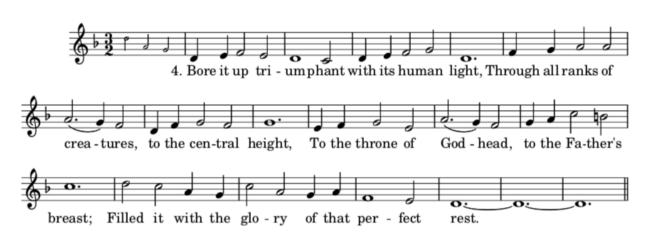






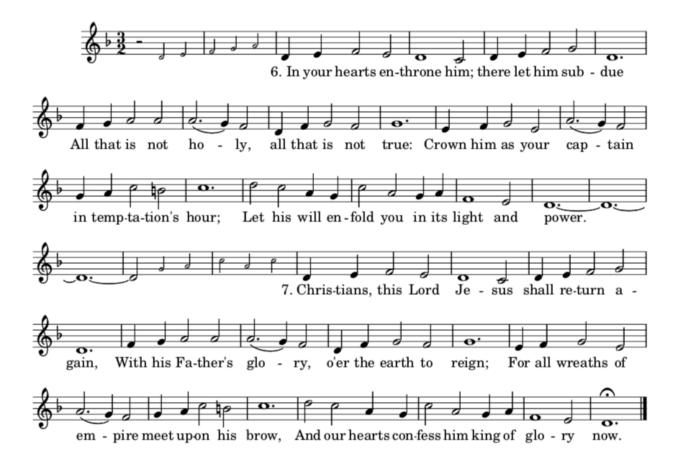
Verse 3, Sung by the choir alone:

Humbled for a season, to receive a name, From the lips of sinners unto whom he came, Faithfully he bore it spotless to the last, Brought it back victorious when from death he passed:



#### Verse 5, Sung by the choir alone:

Name him, Christians, name him, with love strong as death, Name with awe and wonder, and with bated breath; He is God the Saviour, he is Christ the Lord, Ever to be worshipped, trusted, and adored.



# The Preparation of the Gifts

All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee. Amen.

# The Great Thanksgiving

(from Eucharistic Prayers by Samuel Wells and Abigail Kocher, adapted for use at SsJA)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

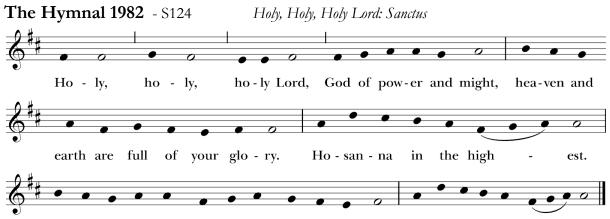
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is our joy and destiny to praise you, Lord God,

for in wondrous love you cast stars into space, and in meek obedience your Son surrendered to cruel nails. With loving-kindness you call your people in Abraham, and in covenant with Moses you bound up your life in theirs. Through exile you stayed close to them. and in Jesus you came among them bearing the fullness of grace and truth. Your Son Jesus faced rejection, cruelty, and death, yet in resurrection you exalted him, and in sending your Spirit you shed glory on all people. And so we rejoice with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, singing the song of your unending praise.



Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est. Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

Hosanna is our cry, Blessed One.

Your Son comes on a donkey in your name.

As Jesus enters Jerusalem to bear our sorrows and suffer for our sins, enter our hearts and confront our waywardness today.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us,

that we may be your Son's crucified and risen body.

Send your Spirit upon this bread that it may be the living bread,

and on this wine that it may be the cup of salvation,

that together, they may be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks,

broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying,

"Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you;

do this in remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup.

Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

"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.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Humble God, your Son did not exploit his status but emptied himself. Pour out your Spirit on all who are exploited, in world or church, on all who are humbled, by state or employer or family member, on all who are emptied of hope, faith, or love.

As you highly exalted your Son who had became a slave, highly exalt your children who suffer for righteousness, or grieve those they have cherished, or bend the knee to one who does not honor them.

Fill the earth with your justice and peace, until every heart shall sing and every tongue confess that you are the joy of their desiring, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, ever one God, in all ages and forevermore. **AMEN.** 

### The Lord's Prayer

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

# The Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

# **Spiritual Communion**

Please join us for a moment of quiet, and then we invite those worshiping at home and any moved to pray with them in solidarity to join in the prayer for spiritual communion.

Silence

Let us pray:

Living God, holy Christ, we offer you praise and thanksgiving as we proclaim your resurrection. We who do not receive the sacrament of bread and wine today long for your spiritual presence, that we may be strengthened by your grace, and that we may draw ever-closer to you and to one another. We pray you, come into our hearts, that we may live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

#### Invitation & Distribution of Communion

All are invited to come forward to receive communion, or a blessing from the clergy. Please note our altar bread is made with whole wheat flour, baking powder, salt, milk, oil, water, and honey. If you wish for gluten free wafer, please tell the clergy.

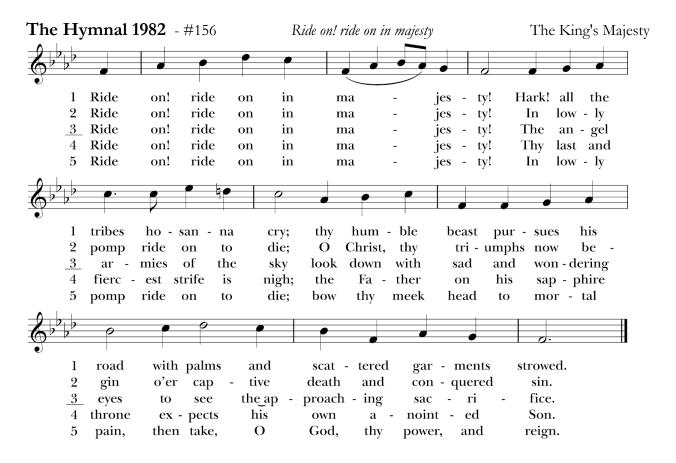
### The Prayer after Communion

Let us give thanks for this meal:

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

### The Blessing

**Announcements** (see back pages)



Words: Henry Hart Milman (1791-1868); alt. Music: *The King's Majesty*, Graham George (b. 1912). Copyright © 1941 H.W. Gray, division of Belwin-Mills Publishing corp. copyright renewed. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

#### **Dismissal**

This service has ended. Now let ours begin. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

**Postlude** 

Canzon Ariosa

Andrea Gabrieli (ca. 1533-1585)

### **Prayer List**

Names are on the list for 6 weeks, then removed. Feel free to add a name again. Sharon, Brad, Ed, Kirsten, Ann, Dick, Shirley, Betsy, Don, Sally Ann, and Gordon

### Announcements

# FAQ's: Question of the Week What is Holy Week?

From early times Christians have observed the week before Easter as a time of special devotion. As the pilgrim Egeria recorded in the late fourth century, Jerusalem contained many sacred places that were sites for devotion and liturgy. Numerous pilgrims to the holy city followed the path of Jesus in his last days. They formed processions, worshiped where Christ suffered and died, and venerated relics. From this beginning evolved the rites we observe today on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. These services provide a liturgical experience of the last days of Jesus' earthly life, as well as the time and events leading up to his resurrection. The BCP provides special liturgies for each of these days, and here at James and Andrew we have expanded upon those by integrating Taize (Monday), Healing (Tuesday), and Tenebrae (Wednesday) services. In our diocese, the diocesan clergy will make a reaffirmation of ordination vows in the context of a eucharist on Holy Tuesday. The three holy days, or Triduum, of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday are at the heart of the Holy Week observance. In many Episcopal parishes, the liturgical color for Holy Week from Palm Sunday through Maundy Thursday is red. Holy Week ends at sundown on the Saturday before Easter, or with the celebration of the Easter Vigil. We encourage you to partake in all of our Holy Week services as life allows.

# Journey through Holy Week

All services are in-person and live streamed to Facebook.

#### Palm Sunday—March 24 at 10:00 a.m.

This service recalls Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem through music and Holy Eucharist. Please note this liturgy is different from traditional Palm Sunday liturgies, in that the Passion Gospel is not read until Good Friday.

### Holy Monday—March 25 at 7:00 p.m.

This contemplative service of worship in the Taize tradition includes sung and chanted prayer, brief readings, and silence for meditation.

### Holy Tuesday—March 26 at 7:00 p.m.

A healing service where the community is invited to gather together to offer healing, hope, and thanksgiving.

### Holy Wednesday—March 27 at 7:00 p.m.

Tenebrae comes to us out of the Monastic tradition of the Daily Office for Holy Week from the Middle Ages. It is a liturgy of sung Lessons and Psalms, with the gradual extinguishing of candles, that invites us into the mystery of the Triduum.

### Maundy Thursday—March 28 at 7:00 p.m.

This service features music, the ceremony of the foot washing, anointing oil, a celebration of the institution of the Eucharist, and the stripping of the altar.

### Good Friday—March 29 at 7:00 p.m.

This service commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus, and includes a reading of the Passion gospel, music, and solemn prayers.

### Easter Vigil—March 30 at 7:00 p.m.

This service is the primary celebration of Easter, beginning in darkness. The worship features the kindling of new fire, lighting the Paschal candle, the Exsultet, music, readings from the Hebrew Scriptures, the renewal of our baptismal vows, and the Eucharist.

#### Easter Sunday—March 31 at 10:00 a.m.

A celebration of Christ's resurrection with music and Holy Eucharist, followed by an Easter egg hunt on the lawn.

#### Pledge Notice - Palm Sunday Offering:

This Sunday we invite those whose finances allow, to consider making a special donation to our parish's mission and outreach efforts. For those who use pledge envelopes, please use the 'Palm Sunday' offering envelope; otherwise please donate on our website; or by check, noting 'Palm Sunday' in the memo line. Thank you for your faithful generosity.

#### March - All Month - Grace in Haiti Update

Our parish has again taken on a Lenten discipline that looks beyond our diocese and our country by collaborating with Grace Church, Amherst in supporting an elementary school in Haiti. We are aiming to raise \$2,100 this year, which is enough to support 7 children at about \$300 a student. For details: graceinhaiti.org. To donate please use the envelopes located in the Narthex and include Haiti - St. Matthieu on the memo line or donate on our website and select Haiti - St. Matthieu. As of March 15, we have raised \$1,685.00.

#### March 18-29 Office Closed

The office will be closed March 18 - March 29 while Aaron is out on medical leave. The office will reopen on April 2.

### April 3 (Wednesday) at 12:15 p.m. - Next Bach's Lunch Concert

The next concert in our Bach's Lunch series will take place on Wednesday, April 3 at 12:15 p.m. in the church. The concert will feature Josh Michal, horn. A parishioner at SsJA, Josh played a recital as part of the parish art gala a couple of years ago. He teaches horn at UMass/Amherst. This concert will include music by Robert Schumann for horn and piano (with Bruce Griffin), by Hindemith for four horns (with three of Josh's graduate students at UMass), and by Franz Doppler for four horns and flute (with Cobus du Toit). The concert is free, and light refreshments will be served. You are invited to bring a "box lunch" to eat during the concert.

### April 15 at 6 p.m. - Earth Day Celebration

Celebrate Earth Day Monday, April 15, at the Greenfield Garden Cinema which is presenting the concert film of Geoffrey Hudson's eco-oratorio at 6 pm, followed by a get-involved fair to learn about opportunities to join the vibrant community of people working on climate solutions. The event is co-sponsored by The Episcopal Church of Sts. James and Andrew's Green Team and Hybrid Vigor Music. It is free and open to the public with general seating. Refreshments will be served. Suggested donation \$10.

### The Episcopal Church of Ss. James & Andrew

8 Church Street, Greenfield, Massachusetts 01301 413-773-3925 office office@saintsjamesandandrew.org

www.saintsjamesandandrew.org Facebook: saintsjamesandandrew The Rt. Rev. Dr. Douglas J. Fisher, Bishop The Rev. Heather J. Blais, Rector The Rev. Jimmy Pickett, Missioner

Office Hours: Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (Closed Holidays)

Clergy