

A graphic for Palm Sunday. It features a background of overlapping palm fronds in various shades of gray. In the center, there is a white square with a thin gray border. Inside this square, the word "Palm" is written in a simple, sans-serif font. Below it, the word "Sunday" is written in a larger, elegant script font. Underneath "Sunday" is a simple, dark gray cross symbol.

Palm  
*Sunday*



**PALM SUNDAY  
 HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II**

**APRIL 2, 2023  
 8 & 10 am**

**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church  
 180 Route 539, Whiting, NJ 08759  
 Phone: 732-350-2121, Fax: 732-350-6000  
 ssechurch@gmail.com  
 www.saintstephenswhiting.org**

**A parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey**

The Rt. Rev. William H. (Chip) Stokes, Bishop  
 The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr., Rector  
 Gerrie Vergona, Treasurer  
 Esther Graham, Music Director  
 Greg Mathews, Parish Administrator  
 Tom O'Brien, Sexton

**Wardens and Vestry 2023**

Stefanie Bodine, Rector's Warden  
 Peter Quigley, Property Warden  
 Shelagh Bluni, Marge Pomykala, Joanne Soriano  
 Dottie Kaster, Maryann Payne, Robert Virtue  
 Bill Bodine, Barbara Marshal, Kay Karlick  
 Joanne Smithson, Clerk

**Mission Statement**

To proclaim the faith that our years have engendered: to use the diversity  
 of our Episcopal experience while working toward a common goal; to teach  
 the young about Jesus and to reach out and affect the lives of those in the community.

***"Wherefore by their fruits you shall know them." Matthew 7:20***

**Welcome to St. Stephen's Church!**

We thank you for joining us for worship today. Please stay for coffee hour, and sign our guest book  
 at the podium in the Narthex. If you are looking for a church home, you have just found it. We  
 would love to have you at St. Stephen's. Arrangements for weddings and baptisms can be made by  
 speaking directly with the Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr., Rector.

**To Report Illness, Hospitalization, etc.**

Please notify the church office 732-350-2121 of any illnesses or hospitalizations.  
 If it is an emergency you may also reach Stefanie Bodine, Rector's Warden at 732-350-2904 or  
 Father Paul at his home 609-268-2864.

**Hymnal**                                        **The Word of God**  
 Liturgy of the Palms  
*Mathew 21:1-11*  
 Blessing and distribution of Palms  
 154 Processional Hymn: "All glory, laud, and honor"  
 Collect of the Day  
 First Lesson: **Isaiah 50:4-9a**  
**Psalm 31:9-16**  
 Second Lesson: **Philippians 2:5-11**  
*The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mathew*

**BCP**  
*Palm Sunday Booklet*  
*Palm Sunday Booklet*  
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Sermon — *The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr.*  
 The Nicene Creed                                        358  
 Prayers of the People Form VI                                        392  
 The Peace    360  
 Offertory Anthem: "The Power of the Cross"  
 Doxology: "All things come of thee O Lord"

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**The Great Thanksgiving**  
 Eucharistic Prayer A                                        361  
 S120 Sursum Corda  
 S125 Sanctus    362  
 S133 Memorial Acclimation    363  
 The Lord's Prayer  
 Breaking of the Bread  
 S157 Agnus Dei  
 Communion Hymns:  
 158 "Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended"  
 168 "O sacred head, sore wounded"  
 Post Communion Prayer    366  
 Blessing  
 Announcements  
 313 Recessional: "Let thy blood in mercy pour"  
 Dismissal

# Save the Date on Upcoming Events

## **BIBLE STUDY GROUP**

“The Bible, What Speaks to your Heart”, Mondays at 11am-12:30pm  
for info contact : *Roberta Mackey at 917-696-6863*

## **CHOIR PRACTICE**

10am every Wednesday. Please see *Esther Graham* if you are interested in being a part of our joyous hymns and songs.

## **HEALING SERVICES**

Thursdays at 10:00 am

## **OSL WILL BE MEETING**

On Thursday May 11th after the Healing Service

## **THYROID SUPPORT GROUP MEETING**

Monday, May 8th @10 AM

## **VESTRY MEETING**

Monday, April 24th @ 10am

## **THE NEXT STEWARDSHIP LEGACY SUMMIT MEETING**

Saturday, April 29.

## **PLEDGE CARDS**

If you filled in a pledge card, your envelopes are in the Narthex on the shelf, right side before you enter the church. If you need envelopes, see our treasurer, Gerrie Vergona.

## **WHITING GARDEN CLUB**

will meet on Wednesday, April 5 at 10AM. The speaker is **Ben Ackerman** from Jake's Branch County Park on Culinary Herbs. Come and join us.  
Call Stefanie at (732) 350-2904 with your questions.



Today's liturgy is in two parts. The Liturgy of the Palms celebrates Jesus' entry into Jerusalem at the beginning of the week of his Passion. After we hear Matthew's account of that event, the celebrant gives thanks over the branches of Palm, which we carry. In many congregations, a procession with branches follows as we enact the event that led directly to Good Friday.

The second part of today's liturgy changes from triumph to tragedy as it focuses on the suffering and death of Jesus. The account of the Lord's Passion is read from Matthew's Gospel so that we may have a fuller sense of sharing with him in his redemptive acts of dying and rising for our salvation.

The first reading is from Isaiah. This is one of the servant songs in which God's servant is rejected by the people but he will be vindicated by God. The reading from Philippians is an early Christian hymn announcing that Jesus' Lordship is revealed not in power and divinity, but in self-giving love to the point of dying for us, his beloved.

Today we enter into the celebration of the mighty acts of God that brought about our redemption. During this week we will rediscover what God has done for us, rediscover the meaning of our baptism, rediscover the meaning of our sharing in Eucharist.

From *The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year*.

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*Serving in the Liturgy today:*

Lector 8:00 am	<i>Susan Quigley</i>
LEM 8:00 am	<i>Bill Bodine, Susan Clark</i>
Altar Guild 8:00 am	<i>Linda Chiappetta</i>
Ushers 8:00 am	<i>Glenn Mortimer, Mary Storey, Bill Bodine</i>
Lector 10:00 am	<i>Mike Munson</i>
LEM 10:00 am	<i>Susan Clarke, Bill Bodine, Dottie Kaster</i>
Altar Guild 10:00am	<i>Valerie Thompson, Karen Mauro</i>
Ushers 10:00 am	<i>Al Thompson, Valerie Thompson</i>

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**Sanctuary Candle**

*The Sanctuary Candle is given to  
The Glory of God*

*In Memory of  
Charles Rotsaert by  
Stefanie and Bill Bodine*



**Altar Flowers**

*Altar Flowers are given to  
the Glory of God*

*In Memory of  
Charles Rotsaert by  
Stefanie and Bill Bodine*



**ONLINE CHURCH SERVICES**

Holy Eucharist are held every Sunday at 8AM and 10:15AM – join us in person or on zoom or you tube. See our schedule of services for Lent and Holy Week located in the Narthex or online at [www.ststephenswhitingnj.org](http://www.ststephenswhitingnj.org)

**Memorial Garden For Pets**

*(Cremains Only)*

*For all who are looking for a special place to lay your beloved pets to rest.  
Please contact our office Monday–Thursday 9am–2pm for and more  
(732) 350-2121*

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**A Legacy Summit For Estate & Will Planning**

*Please join us for a day of will & estate planning for your final expenses on  
Saturday April 29th from 10am-2pm!*

**Next public relations team meeting**

*Sunday April 16th!*

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**Our Daily Bread Pantry and Hungry Paws**

Days and Hours of Operation are:

Tuesday 10 AM until 12:00 PM

Wednesday 10 AM until 12:00 PM

***Our Daily Bread Pantry and Hungry Paws*** is made up of members of the **St. Stephen's Episcopal Church** community and other volunteers who assist in maintaining our pantry, provide food for the sick, the hungry and the needy. The food pantry is here to help those who have minimal funds to work with and come to us when they have a specific need for food.

The ***Our Daily Bread Pantry and Hungry Paws*** through very generous donations is also able to provide pet food for dogs and cats. For further information please call: **Jim Jados, Director, Food Pantry at (732) 408-5948.**



**CHAPEL CLOTHES LINE** ~ Sells well to groups meeting at our church. Now accepting **Summer** clothes **ONLY** in **TOP** condition, (clean, with no missing buttons, tears or stains). Also, continue to use the **FOUR BINS** in our parking lot for *out of season clothing, all men's wear,* and other items. Our winter clothes are now on clearance sale. We are very appreciative of your kind donations to, and purchases from, this fundraising project.

**ST. STEPHEN'S PRAYER CHAIN** ~ is in need of additional members. The Prayer Chain is a dedicated group of parishioners who will pray for any who are in need. If you are interested or would like further information, please contact Greta Pearl at 732-350-7584 for details. Greta is the contact when placing, on the Prayer Chain, your name or the names of family, neighbors, or friends who would like prayers for healing, comfort, or any other purpose.

**CARE GIVERS VOLUNTEERS** ~ Caregivers volunteers, is a faith base organization that offer assistance to the elderly. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Caregivers at 732-505-2273 Ext 213

**COFFEE HOUR**

A new sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for 2023 - sign up! Everyone is so grateful for the delicious food that you share, your help, and they love chatting after the services. Any questions, contact *Stefanie* at (732) 350-2904

**EASTER FLOWER OFFERINGS**

The Altar Guild is again planning to order potted flowers to decorate the Sanctuary in preparation for Easter. This is a time when we especially may want to remember our loved ones and friends who have died or to express thanksgiving for our blessings.

Easter Flower Offering envelopes will be available in the Narthex for those who would like to participate. Please fill out the appropriate information, and return the envelope to the church at your earliest convenience. [The deadline for submission of Easter Flower Offering envelopes is Sunday, April 2, 2023.](#)

If you have any questions, please call Altar Guild Flower Chair, Valerie Thompson, at 732-657-4510.

Thank you and God Bless.



**Order of Saint Luke**

The Order of St. Luke meets on the second Thursday of each month--May 11th, after the Healing Service.

**Prayer to send out LEMs with the Sacrament:**

**Celebrant:** N. we send you out to share Communion this week with those who have been entrusted to your care.

**People:** May you carry the prayers of all of us as you take this Sacrament of Christ's presence.

**Celebrant:** Continues with a closing prayer.

**ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNION SERVICES**

The Pines	1st Sunday of each month at 9:30 am
Aristicare	1st Monday of each month at 2:00 pm
The Arbors	2nd Monday of each month at 2:00 pm
The Pines	3rd Monday of each month at 2:00 pm



**TECH THURSDAY**

Tech Thursday is at 12:30PM every Thursday. Bring your tablet, computer, phone, ipad, etc to the meeting. Estelle Pizzuti and Bill Bodine will assist you.

**EASTER EGGS**

Fill the plastic Easter eggs for the children. The empty eggs are in a box in the coffee room. Fill them with wrapped candy or soft candy for the children. Return them to Stefanie before Easter Sunday. Helpers will be needed to "hide" them for the children. Thanks for your help.

**Daughters of the British Empire**



The (DBE) is a 501(c) (3) non-profit American society of women of British or Commonwealth of Nations birth, heritage or ancestry. We share and promote our heritage while supporting local charities and our senior living facilities across the United States.

To learn more about our local chapter, here in Ocean County, please email *Joan Saunders* – njstateorganizer@gmail.com