



Palm Sunday



Blessed is He
who comes in the
name of the
Lord

Luke 13.35

Sunday, March 29, 2026
with Fr Theo Ipema



The Church Of
St Stephen
Downsview

2259 Jane St, North York, ON, M3M 1A6

First time at St Stephen's?
See what we're about!



Collect

Almighty and everliving God,
in tender love for all our human race you sent your Son our Saviour Jesus
Christ to take our flesh and suffer death upon a cruel cross.
May we follow the example of his great humility, and share in the glory of his
resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Isaiah 50:4-9a

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?

PSALM 31:9-16

Have mercy upon me, O Lord, for I am in trouble; my eye is consumed with
sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; my strength fails
me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.

I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbours, a
dismay to those of my acquaintance; when they see me in the street they
avoid me..

I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind;
I am as useless as a broken pot.

For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around; they put their
heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

But as for me, I have trusted in you,
O Lord. I have said, "You are my God.

My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

Make your face to shine upon your servant,
and in your loving-kindness save me.”

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11

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

Matthew 27:11-54

Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?” Jesus said, “You say so.” But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer.

Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?” But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them,

“Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?” For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over.

While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, “Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.”

Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barabbas.”

Pilate said to them, "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" All of them said, "Let him be crucified!" Then he asked, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified!"

So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "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?"

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.

Prayer over the Gifts

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.

Prayer After Communion

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, f
or he is Lord now and for ever.

Sunday, April 5th, 2026, Easter Sunday

**JEREMIAH 31:1-6, PSALM 118:1-2, 14-24
ACTS 10:34-43, JOHN 20:1-8**



**WORSHIP
THIS
WEEK**



SET YOUR CALENDAR FOR...

- *Sunday Worship 9AM & 11AM
- *Morning Prayers (see below)
- *Devotions TUE 7PM



**Fellowship
down stairs**

COFFEE, TEA, SNACKS...

Join us in the Parish Hall after worship for fellowship... and... coffee, tea, and snacks.



**Sermon
as Text
(and video)**

Once a week but never weakly

NOW included in our weekly news email, "Dateline, Church of St Stephen", get Sunday's sermon as a blog...



Holy Week: Mar 29th to Apr 5th

7PM THUR: Maundy Thursday

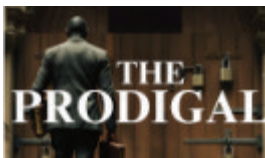
10AM FRI: Good Friday

9AM & 11AM SUN: Easter Sunday



40 Days of Giving

Set aside \$5/day Feb 18 to Apr 1 to support St Stephen's as a Lenten discipline.



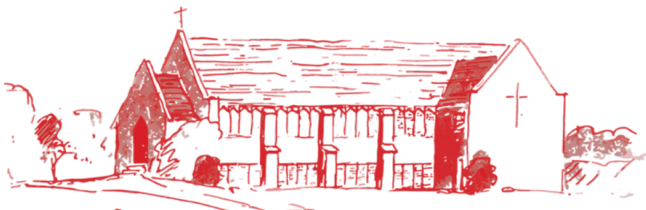
Play by Dr Elaine Brown Spencer

What happens when those who once believed turn away, only to be tested?
SAT APR 11th, Yorkwoods Theatre



Women of St Stephen (WOSS)

Paid your \$60 annual dues? join Dr Elaine Brown Spencer for prayer, praise, and worship, 9AM SAT MAY 2.



In-Person Office Hours
(Parish Office)

2259 Jane St, North York ON, M3M 1A6
Wednesdays & Fridays,
11:00AM to 2:00PM

Voice, Text, WhatsApp
(Parish Office)

416-241-4639
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Pastoral Care
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HTTPS://

Give Online

give.ststephendownsvie.ca

Livestream
(Live on YouTube)

livestream.ststephendownsvie.ca

Worship Service Replay
(YouTube)

replay.ststephendownsvie.ca

One-Minute Clips
(YouTube)

clips.ststephendownsvie.ca

Space Availability

space.ststephendownsvie.ca

Order Of Service

READINGS

EXODUS 24:12-18

PSALM 99

2 PETER 1:16-21

rb449 Ride On! Ride On In...

MATTHEW 17:1-9

OFFERTORY

Offering

bb297 Hosanna, Loud...

Prayer Over the Gifts



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Weekly Email Newsletter



WELCOME

The Opening Sentence

bb300 All Glory, Laud and...

The Gathering

kyrie eleison

The Collect

MEDITATION

Sermon

Prayers of the People

Peace

EUCCHARIST

Eucharistic Prayer

Prayer & Silence

Lord's Prayer

Ther Breaking of Bread

The Communion

bb356 Redeemed...

bb640 Sweet Hour of...

bb315 O Sacred Head....

bb301 We Will Glorify...

Prayer After Communion

The Blessing

CLOSE

bb785 Count Your Blessings

Dismissal

After Worship Fellowship