

A warm welcome in the name of Jesus Christ to this Eucharist service on Palm Sunday. We meet as a body of Christ's people even though we are physically separated at the moment.

You may wish to light a candle, and if you would like to share in Communion, prepare a table with bread and wine. If you have a palm from a previous year, or a picture of a palm, feel free to have it available and raise it during our opening prayer. If you haven't got a palm, use the palm of your hand!

Before we begin our service, please take the opportunity to be quiet and invite God to be present with you wherever you are. In a very real sense, we now know the truth of that oft-quoted passage in Matthew 18:20: "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

We will begin by singing a well-known Palm Sunday hymn: "All glory, Laud and Honour". To access this, please click on the link below (also shown on the web-page):

https://youtu.be/h3a8fTTrAdE

ALL GLORY, LAUD AND HONOUR,

to thee, Redeemer King, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son, who in the Lord's name comest, the king and blessed one.

The company of angels are praising thee on high And mortals joined with all things Created, make reply. The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went: our praise and prayer and anthems before thee we present.

To thee, before thy passion they sang their hymns of praise: to thee now high exalted our melody we raise.

Thou didst accept their praises, accept the prayers we bring, who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious king. *St Theodulph of Orleans (d. 821) trans. John Mason Neale (1818-1866) alt.*

Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you **and also with you**.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing by works of love and self-sacrifice for the celebration of our Lord's death and resurrection. Today we come together to begin this solemn celebration in union with the Church throughout the world. Christ enters his own city to complete his work as our Saviour, to suffer, to die, and to rise again. Let us go with him in faith and love, so that, united with him in his sufferings, we may share his risen life.

We all hold up palms while this prayer is said

God our Saviour,

whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah to suffer and to die;

let these palms 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 is alive and reigns now and for ever.

Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ, we confess we have failed you as did your first disciples.

When we take our ease rather than watch with you, Lord, forgive us. **Christ have mercy**

When we strike at those who hurt us, rather than stretch out our hands to bless, Lord, forgive us.

Christ have mercy

When we deny that we know you for fear of the world and its scorn, Lord, forgive us.

Christ have mercy

May God who is both power and love forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The minister leads us in the special prayer (the 'Collect') for today

Almighty and everlasting God,

who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen

The Liturgy of the Word Please be seated for the Bible Reading

First Reading: Philippians 2: 5-11

5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; 7 rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!
9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Crescendo on Palm Sunday A poem, written by Angela Jones

The crowd began to gather. The muttering, at first just a pianissimo whisper, grew into shouting and cheering with a crescendo that sounded as if it never wanted to end, louder and louder.

Hosanna! Hosanna!

What's happening? Who's coming? Who is he? Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest! What did you say? Why are we shouting? What are we chanting? Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! I want to wave something. I want a branch. Are there any left? Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! I can't see him. Where is he? I wish I could get to the front. Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest! I really don't know what this is all about; but it's fun to join in anyway! Hosanna! Hosanna!

The vocal crescendo of the cheering crowd went on, still sounding as if it never wanted to end, louder and louder, never wanting to rest in a perfect cadence.... until, that earth shattering fortissimo chord, days later, at the foot of the cross.

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Gospel Reading: Matthew 21: 1-11

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus comes to Jerusalem as king

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. 3 If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."

4 This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

5 "Say to Daughter Zion, 'See, your king comes to you,

gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey." 6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. 7 They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. 8 A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

10 When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?"

11 The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon, by Rev Canon Martin Greenfield

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of Intercession, led by Corrie Hibberd

The Liturgy of the Sacrament



The priest greets the people in peace

Once we were far off, but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near through the shedding of Christ's blood, for he is our peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you **and also with you.**

We greet one another with a sign of peace.

The table is prepared.

The Eucharistic Prayer (Prayer B)

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 thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. For as the time of his passion and resurrection draws near the whole world is called to acknowledge his hidden majesty. The power of the life-giving cross reveals the judgement that has come upon the world and the triumph of Christ crucified. He is the victim who dies no more, the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever, our advocate in heaven to plead our cause, exalting us there to join with angels and archangels, for ever praising you and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.
In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
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.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life: Lord Jesus, come in glory.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,

we bring before you this bread and this cup

and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup,

so that we, in the company of our Lord Jesus Christ and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Let us pray You are invited to sit or kneel

As our Saviour taught us, so we 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

The priest breaks the consecrated bread

God's holy gifts for God's holy people Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Invitation

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, Have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, Have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, Grant us peace.

This is now the time to partake of the bread and wine.

Prayer after Communion

Lord Jesus Christ, you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant, and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation. Give us the mind to follow you and to proclaim you as Lord and King, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

Faithful God, may we who share this banquet glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, our salvation, life and hope, who reigns as Lord now and for ever. Amen

Prayer of God's Blessing

Christ crucified draw you to himself, to find in him a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sins forgiven; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. Amen.

We will close our service with two songs, the words and links for which are shown below:

https://youtu.be/NmjyDmoCLTI

HOSANNA, HOSANNA,

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna, hosanna, Hosanna in the highest! Lord we lift up Your name with hearts full of praise; be exalted, O Lord, our God! Hosanna in the highest!

Glory, glory, glory to the King of Kings! Glory, glory, glory to the King of Kings! Lord we lift up Your name with hearts full of praise; be exalted, O Lord, our God! Glory to the King of Kings!

Carl Tuttle, based on Matthew 21:9

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6e9Wx4Q-C60

GIVE ME OIL IN MY LAMP, KEEP ME BURNNG,

Give me oil in my lamp, I pray, Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning, Keep me burning till the break of day.

> Sing hosanna, sing hosanna, Sing hosanna to the King of kings! Sing hosanna, sing hosanna, Sing hosanna to the King.

Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising, Give me joy in my heart, I pray. Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising, Keep me praising till the break of day

Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting, Give me peace in my heart, I pray. Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting, Keep me resting till the break of day

Give me love in my heart, keep me serving, Give me love in my heart, I pray; Give me love in my heart, keep me serving, Keep me serving till the break of day.

Traditional

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