

**The Parish of West Kirby St. Bridget with the
Resurrection and All Saints Caldy**

PALM SUNDAY



**Holy Communion and Blessing of
Palms**

(Year A)

COMMEMORATION OF THE LORD'S ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

Hosanna to the Son of David, the King of Israel.

All **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.

All **and also with you.**

We all lift high our palm crosses for the blessing.

Bless these palms as we remember Jesus our Messiah,
humble and riding on a donkey.

May they be a sign to us of the Servant King.

As we carry them, may they remind us to walk the way
that leads to life. Hosanna!

All **Amen. Hosanna!**

The Gospel of the Entry

Matthew 21.1-11

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

WE SING THE FOLLOWING HYMN AS WE PROCESS

Hymn

Refrain:

***All glory, laud, and honour
To You, Redeemer, King,
To Whom the lips of children
Made sweet hosannas ring.***

1. You are the King of Israel
and David's royal Son,
Now in the Lord's name coming,
The King and Blessed One. *Refrain*

2. The company of angels
Is praising You on high;
And we with all creation
In chorus make reply. *Refrain*
3. The people of the Hebrews
With palms before You went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems
Before You we present. *Refrain*
4. To You before Your passion
They sang their hymns of praise;
To You, now high exalted,
Our melody we raise. *Refrain*
5. As You received their praises,
Accept the prayers we bring,
For You delight in goodness,
O good and gracious King. *Refrain*

Prayer for the Day

True and humble king,
hailed by the crowd as Messiah:
grant us the faith to know you
and love you,
that we may be found beside you
on the way of the cross,
which is the path of glory.
Amen.



The Reading/s

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

The Passion is read in dramatic form and the Congregation is asked to join in the Crowd parts. There is no announcement before it or response after it.

N. Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him,

1 'Are you the King of the Jews?'

N Jesus said,

J 'You say so.'

N But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him,

1 'Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?'

N 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,

1 'Whom do you want me to release for you, Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?'

N For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgement 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,

1 'Which of the two do you want me to release for you?'

N And they said,

All 'Barabbas.'

N Pilate said to them,

1 'Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?'

N All of them said,

All 'Let him be crucified!'

N Then he asked,

1 'Why, what evil has he done?'

N But they shouted all the more,

***All* ‘Let him be crucified!’**

N 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,

1 ‘I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.’

N Then the people as a whole answered,

***All* ‘His blood be on us and on our children!’**

N 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,

***All* ‘Hail, King of the Jews!’**

N 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 bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying,

***All* ‘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.’**

N In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying,

1 '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."'

N The bandits 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,

J 'Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?'

N that is,

J 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?'

N When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

1 'This man is calling for Elijah.'

N 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,

1 'Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.'

N 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,

1 'Truly this man was God's Son!'



A Sermon may be preached

The Prayer of the Faithful

Lord in your mercy
All **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Father,
All **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Peace

When Jesus entered Jerusalem the people cried out
"Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heaven".
Let us offer one another a sign
of that heavenly peace on earth.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Offertory Hymn

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Almighty God, good Father to us all,
your face is turned towards your world.
In love you gave us Jesus your Son
to rescue us from sin and death.
Your Word goes out to call us home
to the city where angels sing your praise.
We join with them in heaven's song:

All **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.**



Father of all, we give you thanks
for every gift that comes from heaven.
To the darkness Jesus came as your light.
With signs of faith and words of hope
he touched untouchables with love and washed the guilty clean.

This is his story.

All **This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

The crowds came out to see your Son,
yet at the end they turned on him.
On the night he was betrayed
he came to table with his friends
to celebrate the freedom of your people.

This is his story.

All **This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food;
he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said:
This is my body, given for you all.
Jesus then gave thanks for the wine;
he took the cup, gave it and said:
This is my blood, shed for you all
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this in remembrance of me.

This is our story.

All **This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate the cross
on which he died to set us free.
Defying death he rose again
and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.



This is our story.

All **This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

Send your Spirit on us now
that by these gifts we may feed on Christ
with opened eyes and hearts on fire.
May we and all who share this food
offer ourselves to live for you
and be welcomed at your feast in heaven
where all creation worships you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

All **Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

All **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.**

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

All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Happy are those who are called to his supper.

All **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

*We operate an 'Open Altar' policy at St. Bridget's and Caldy Churches;
all are welcome to make their communion in good faith. If you would
prefer a blessing, please keep your hands down and head bowed.*

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.

All **Amen.**

All **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.**

Notices and Banns of Marriage may be given out at this point.



The Blessing

This or another seasonal blessing is used.

May 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.

All **Amen**

Final Hymn

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

**Please join us after the service for refreshments
in St Bridget's Centre.**

