



Sharing Christ in the Community

## **A Service for Palm Sunday**

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

*Commemoration of Jesus' Entry into Jerusalem*

### **SONG                      9 All glory, laud and honour**

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

**and also with you.**

### **INTRODUCTION**

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.

*Everyone holds up their palm crosses and the minister prays:*

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 with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **THE PALM GOSPEL: Matthew 21: 1-11**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, "The Lord needs them." And he will send them immediately.' This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

'Tell the daughter of Zion,  
Look, your king is coming to you,  
humble, and mounted on a donkey,  
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, 'Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Hosanna in the highest heaven!'

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, 'Who is this?' The crowds were saying, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.'

*At the end the reader says:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **THE COLLECT FOR PALM SUNDAY**

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 Liturgy of the Passion*

### **READING:           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.

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **SONG                   580 Ride on, ride on in majesty**

**THE PASSION READING:    Matthew 26 and 27**  
The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*At the end:*  
This is the Passion of the Lord.

*No response is made. Silence is kept.*

## **THE PRAYERS**

*This response may be used:*

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

*St John's Prayer for Growth*

**God of mission,  
you give fresh life to St John's.  
Send your Holy Spirit to give  
vision to our planning,  
wisdom to our activities,  
and power to our witness,  
that we may grow  
in love and commitment to you,  
in number of disciples,  
and in loving service to our neighbours  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

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

*The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

## **THE 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.**

## **SONG**

**1000 King of kings, majesty**

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND REMEMBRANCE**

The Lord is here

**His Spirit is with us.**

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 singing:

**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.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:  
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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice  
    made once for all upon the cross.  
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection  
until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Lord of all life,  
help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

As our Saviour taught us so we pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## **BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

## **GIVING OF COMMUNION**

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.  
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

## **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.**

**SONG                      674 There is a green hill**

*The Blessing and Dismissal*

**THE 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.**