



Christ entering Jerusalem, Giotto, Scrovegni Chapel, Padua

Palm Sunday Procession and Eucharist

Presider
Revd Dr Sam Wells

The Passion Narrative
Enacted by members of the
International Group, Nazareth
Community and congregation of St
Martin's

The Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields

Directed by
Jennifer Sterling

Organist
Benjamin Frost

Mass Setting
St Anne's Mass *James MacMillan*

Welcome

Our worship draws us together as one community face to face with God. Being with God and one another is what we call communion. We are glad you have chosen to join this precious moment.

Welcome whether you are joining us onsite or online. If you would like not to be on camera, please sit outside the pillars on the right as you enter.

Welcome to babies, children and young people. We support breastfeeding in services; we also have a room allocated if preferred. We understand that young children make noise. If you are under three and are looking for a quiet space, there's a room where your carer can watch the service. If you are aged 3-11, Children's Church gathers during the Gloria, not long after worship begins. A youth group for teenagers meets fortnightly on Sunday afternoons.

Welcome if you are disabled, unwell, have experiences of dementia, or physical, sensory or mental health issues, or are neurodivergent. The order of service is online. Large print copies are available. The hearing loop works best on the south side of the church. Step-free access to church is via the ramp on the north side, and to the Crypt and Hall via the lifts near the portico.

Welcome to anyone concerned about safeguarding. If you would like to reach our safeguarding team, you can email safeguarding@smitf.org.

Welcome to all heritages and experiences of race, culture and language. At the Lord's Prayer, all are invited to speak in their preferred language. Our 1.30pm is in Cantonese. Our welcomers are happy to help where they can if you are new to English. You are also very welcome if you are LGBTQIA+.

Welcome if you are of no professed faith or are from a faith tradition other than Christianity. Welcome if you are wary of faith. If you'd like to explore what you believe in a friendly and non-judgemental group, our Being With courses run throughout the year online and in the building. Email beingwith@smitf.org for more details.

Welcome if you are looking for silent contemplation. We keep an intentional period of silence after the confession, the sermon, the anthem, and the intercessions. You are welcome to receive prayers for healing and wholeness at the altar rail at the end of the service.

During the service we receive bread in the form of a wafer, and wine from a common cup. Non-alcoholic wine and gluten-free wafers are available on request in the south aisle. If you need to receive in your seat, let a welcomer know; ministers will come to you. If you would rather not receive communion you may bow your head to indicate you would like to receive a simple prayer for blessing, or you are welcome to remain in your seat.

You are welcome to share in refreshments in St Martin's Hall after the service. Our welcomers can show you where to find toilets. We invite your ideas to help us to become a more welcoming community.

We are glad you are here.

The Procession

Anthem Hosanna to the Son of David *Gibbons*

Hosanna to the Son of David: blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Blessed be the King of Israel; blessed be the Kingdom that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest places; Hosanna in the highest heavens.

Matthew 21, Mark 11, Luke 19

Words of Welcome

Look how Christ comes among us: gentle, humble, riding on a donkey.

All **Hosanna to the Son of David.**

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

All **Hosanna in the Highest.**

Dear friends 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.

The people hold up palms and branches while this prayer is said by the presider.

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.

All **Amen.**

The Palm Gospel Matthew 21: 1-11

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

All **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.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

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

Let us go forth, praising Jesus our Messiah.

Hymn

- 1 Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Hark, all the tribes hosanna cry:
O Saviour meek, pursue thy road
with palms and scattered garments strowed.**
- 2 Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die:
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin
o'er captive death and conquered sin.**
- 3 Ride on, ride on in majesty!
The wingèd squadrons of the sky
look down with sad and wondering eyes
to see the approaching sacrifice.**
- 4 Ride on, ride on in majesty!
The last and fiercest strife is nigh:
the Father on his sapphire throne
awaits his own anointed Son.**
- 5 Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die;
bow thy meek head to mortal pain,
then take, O God, thy power and reign.**

Henry Milman (1791-1868)

Prayers on Trafalgar Square

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem; may they prosper who love you. Peace be within your walls.

Luke 13 and Psalm 122

A prayer for the city and nation.

A prayer for the world.

A prayer for our church and the church throughout the world.

Hymn

- 1** **Glory be to Jesus,
who, in bitter pains,
poured for me the life-blood
from his sacred veins.**
- 2** **Grace and life eternal
in that blood I find;
blest be his compassion
infinitely kind.**
- 3** **Blest through endless ages
be the precious stream,
which from endless torments
doth the world redeem.**
- 4** **Abel's blood for vengeance
pleaded to the skies;
but the blood of Jesus
for our pardon cries.**
- 5** **Oft as it is sprinkled
on our guilty hearts,
Satan in confusion
terror-struck departs.**
- 6** **Oft as earth exulting
wafts its praise on high,
angel-hosts rejoicing
make their glad reply.**

continued...

**7 Lift ye then your voices;
swell the mighty flood;
louder still and louder
praise the precious blood.**

Italian (author unknown), tr. Edward Caswall (1814-1878)

The Gathering in Church

Words of welcome and introduction.

The Greeting

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

All **And also with you.**

Visit us Lord, by your Holy Spirit.

All **Though in many places, we are united as one body.
Though from many backgrounds, we share one hope.**

Please sit.

Prayer of Preparation

All **Father of glory, holy and eternal,
look upon us now in power and mercy.
Overcome our weakness by your strength,
transform our blindness through your radiance,
and in your Spirit draw us to that love
shown and offered to us by your Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

The Palm Gospel Matthew 21: 1-11 *p.1-2 above*

Silent prayer is kept, awaiting the procession from Trafalgar Square.

Please stand at the procession's arrival.

Look how your king comes to you. He is gentle, he is humble, he is riding on a donkey. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
All Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna! Hosanna to the Son of David.

Please gather during the hymn for Children's Church.

Processional Hymn *beginning with the chorus*

***All glory, laud, and honour
to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.***

- 1** Thou art the King of Israel,
thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's name comest,
the King and blessed one.
All glory, laud, and honour...
- 2** The company of angels
are praising thee on high,
and mortals joined with all things
created make reply.
All glory, laud, and honour...
- 3** Thou didst accept their praises:
accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest,
thou good and gracious King.
All glory, laud, and honour...
- 4** Thy sorrow and thy triumph
grant us, O Christ, to share,
that to the holy city
together we may fare:
All glory, laud, and honour...
- 5** For homage may we bring thee
our victory o'er the foe,
that in the Conqueror's triumph
this strain may ever flow:
All glory, laud, and honour...

St Theodulph of Orleans (d. 821), tr. J.M. Neale (1818-1866)

Collect

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.

All **Amen.**

The passion narrative involves scenes of violence. Any who might find the passion play distressing are invited to step out at this stage.

Please sit.

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ based on the Four Gospel Accounts

Enacted by members of St Martin's Sunday International Group, the Nazareth Community, and members of the congregation of St Martin-in-the-Fields. The part of Jesus is played by Jolley Gosnold.

Freya Turton sings On the willows (from Godspell) by Schwartz during the betrayal.

Please join in with the passion narrative with the parts in bold after we reach the scene with Jesus before Pilate.

Pilate Which of the two do you want me to release for you?
Narrator 1 And they shouted,
All **Barabbas.**
Narrator 1 Pilate said to them,
Pilate Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?
Narrator 1 All of them said,
All **Let him be crucified!**
Pilate Why, what evil has he done?
Narrator 1 But they shouted all the more,
All **Let him be crucified!**
Pilate Do you want me to crucify your king?
All **We have no king but Caesar! We have no king but Caesar!**
Narrator 1 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,
Pilate I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.
Narrator 1 Then the people as a whole answered,
All **Let his blood be on us and on our children!**
Narrator 1 So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Pilate Release Barabbas and have this Jesus flogged. Take him away and crucify your king. The people have decided!

Music begins

Narrator 2 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 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!**

Narrator 2 They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe. Then they led him away to crucify him.

Freya Turton sings There is a green hill far away, *Bob Chilcott.*

Narrator 2 When they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they crucified him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read,

All **'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.'**

The narrative of the cross continues. At the end of the narrative, O God I'm dying, Long live God, Prepare ye the way of the Lord (from Godspell) by Schwartz are sung.

Please stand.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

*During the following hymn a collection will be taken for the ministry and work of St Martin-in-the-Fields. You are welcome to donate by **scanning the QR code, cash in the collection bags** (filling in a Gift Aid envelope if applicable), or **card machine** (please see Jeff Claxton to register your payment card for Gift Aid).*



Offertory Hymn

- 1 Crown him with many crowns,
the lamb upon his throne;
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king
through all eternity.**
- 2 Crown him the virgin's son,
the God incarnate born,
whose arm those crimson trophies won
which now his brow adorn:
fruit of the mystic rose,
as of that rose the stem;
the root whence mercy ever flows,
the babe of Bethlehem.**
- 3 Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
those wounds yet visible above
in beauty glorified:
no angel in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends his burning eye
at mysteries so bright.**
- 4 Crown him the Lord of peace,
whose power a sceptre sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,
and all be prayer and praise:
his reign shall know no end,
and round his piercèd feet
fair flowers of paradise extend
their fragrance ever sweet.**

A musical interlude may be played on the organ before the final verse is sung

continued...

**5 Crown him the Lord of years,
the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.
all hail, Redeemer, hail!
For thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.**

Matthew Bridges (1800-1894)

Preparation of the Table

Taking of the Bread and Wine

The table is prepared and bread and wine are received from the congregation and placed upon it. The financial gifts of the people are gathered and presented with the following prayer:

Christ offers himself to us for the life of the world.

All Jesus, true vine and bread of life, ever giving yourself that the world might live, let us share your death and passion: make us perfect in your love. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

All 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.

It is our joy and destiny to praise you, Lord God, for in wondrous love you cast stars into space and in meek obedience your Son surrendered to cruel nails. With loving-kindness you called your people in Abraham, and in covenant with Moses you bound up your life in theirs. Through exile you stayed close to them, and in Jesus you came among them bearing the fullness of grace and truth. Your Son Jesus faced rejection, cruelty and death, yet in resurrection you exalted him, and in sending your Spirit you shed glory on all people. And so we rejoice with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, singing the song of your unending praise.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
 5 God of power and might,
 9 Heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho -
 13 - san - na in the high - est.
 17 Bles - sed is he, O bles - sed is he who
 21 comes in the name of the Lord Ho -
 25 - san - na in the high - est Ho -
 29 san - na in the high - est.

Hosanna is our cry, Blessed One. Your Son comes on a donkey in your name. As Jesus entered Jerusalem to bear our sorrows and suffer for our sins, enter our hearts and confront our waywardness today. Send your Holy Spirit upon us, that we may be your Son's crucified and risen body. Send your Spirit upon this bread that it may be living bread, and on this wine that it may be the cup of salvation, that together they may be for us the body and blood of your son Jesus Christ. Who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying, 'Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.' After supper he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, 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.'

Great is the mystery of faith.

All **Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Humble God, your Son did not exploit his status but emptied himself. Pour out your Spirit on all who are exploited, in world or church, on all who are humbled, by state or employer or family member, on all who are emptied of hope, of faith, or of love. As you highly exalted your Son who had become a slave, highly exalt your children who suffer for righteousness, or grieve those they have cherished, or bend the knee to one who does not honour them. Fill the earth with your justice and peace, until every heart shall sing and every tongue confess that you are the joy of their desiring, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, ever one God, in all ages and forevermore.

All **Amen.**

Please sit or kneel.

Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray, each in our own preferred language.

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.**

Breaking of the Bread

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup:

All **We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again in glory.**

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin_ of the_ world, have
5 mer - cy_ on us. Lamb of God you take a - way the
9 sin_ of the_ world, have mer - cy_ on us.
13 Lamb of God you take a - way the sin_ of the_ world,
17 grant us peace

Giving of Communion

Christ took our humanity and blessed it; and was broken for us that God's life may be shared. Come, enter the mystery of God's passion for us.

Communicant members of all Christian churches are invited to receive Holy Communion. Bread and wine are available in the central aisle and both side aisles. Gluten-free bread and non-alcoholic wine are available in the south aisle upon request from the assistant. If you wish to receive communion in your seat, do let a steward know.

Communion Anthem Ride on, ride on in majesty Ives

Ride on, ride on in majesty! Hark, all the tribes hosanna cry, thy humble beast pursues his road with palms and scattered garments strowed. Ride on, ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die, O Christ thy triumph now begin o'er captive death and conquered sin. Ride on, ride on in majesty! The winged squadrons of the sky look down with sad and wond'ring eyes to see the approaching sacrifice. Ride on, ride on in majesty! Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh; the Father on his sapphire throne awaits his own anointed Son. Ride on, ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die; bow thy meek head to mortal pain, then take, O God, thy power and reign.

Henry Milman (1791-1868)

Silence is kept.

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.**

The Dismissal

Notices

Please stand.

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, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Thanksgiving Hymn

***Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.***

- 1** Come, let us follow where our Captain trod,
our King victorious, Christ the Son of God: ***Refrain***
- 2** O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
as thou hast promised, draw us unto thee: ***Refrain***
- 3** Let every race and every language tell
of him who saves our souls from death and hell: ***Refrain***
- 4** From farthest regions let them homage bring,
and on his cross adore their Saviour King: ***Refrain***
- 5** Set up thy throne, that earth's despair may cease
beneath the shadow of its healing peace: ***Refrain***
- 6** For thy blest cross which doth for all atone
creation's praises rise before thy throne: ***Refrain***

Michael Robert Newbolt (1874-1956) and George William Kitchin (1827-1912)

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

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

Organ Voluntary Dorian Fugue in D minor BWV 538 *J.S. Bach*

Prayers for healing are available at the altar rail after the service.