

Sunday 29th March 2026

Christ Church with St Mary's

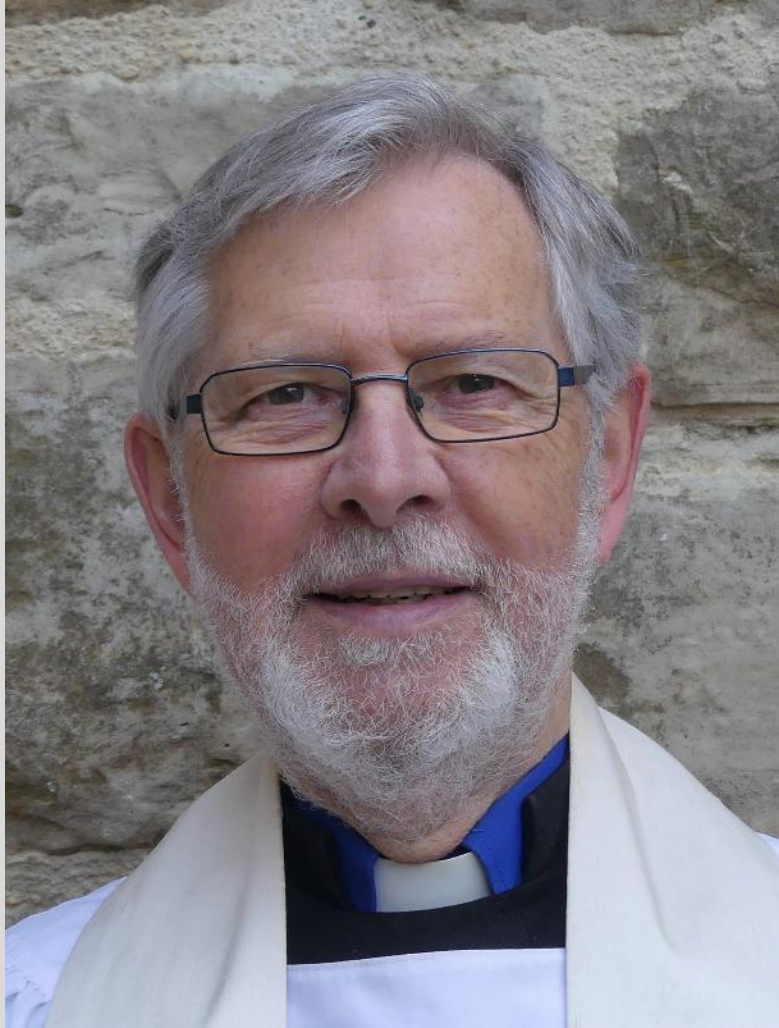
Service of Holy Communion

Theme : Palm Sunday

We say together the words in **bold**



Welcome and Introduction



The Lord be with you **and also with you**



Parish Bible verse
2025 - 2026

**Love never wrongs
anyone- hence
love is the fulfilment
of the law.**

Romans 13:10

A Prayer for Growth

God of mission

**who alone brings growth to your church,
send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning
wisdom to our actions and power to our witness.
Help our Partnership of Churches to grow in numbers
in spiritual commitment to you
and in service to our Swindon community
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen



Blessing of the palm crosses

We hold up our
palm crosses for
the blessing prayer

Chorus

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

**1Thou are the King of Israel
and David's royal Son
who in the Lord's name comest
the King and blessed one.**



Chorus

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

**2 The company of angels
are praising thee on high
and mortals, joined with all things
created, make reply.**



Chorus

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

**3 The people of the Hebrews
with palms before thee went
our praise and prayer and anthems
before thee we present.**



Chorus

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

**⁴To thee before thy passion
they sang their hymns of praise
to thee now high exalted
our melody we raise.**



Chorus

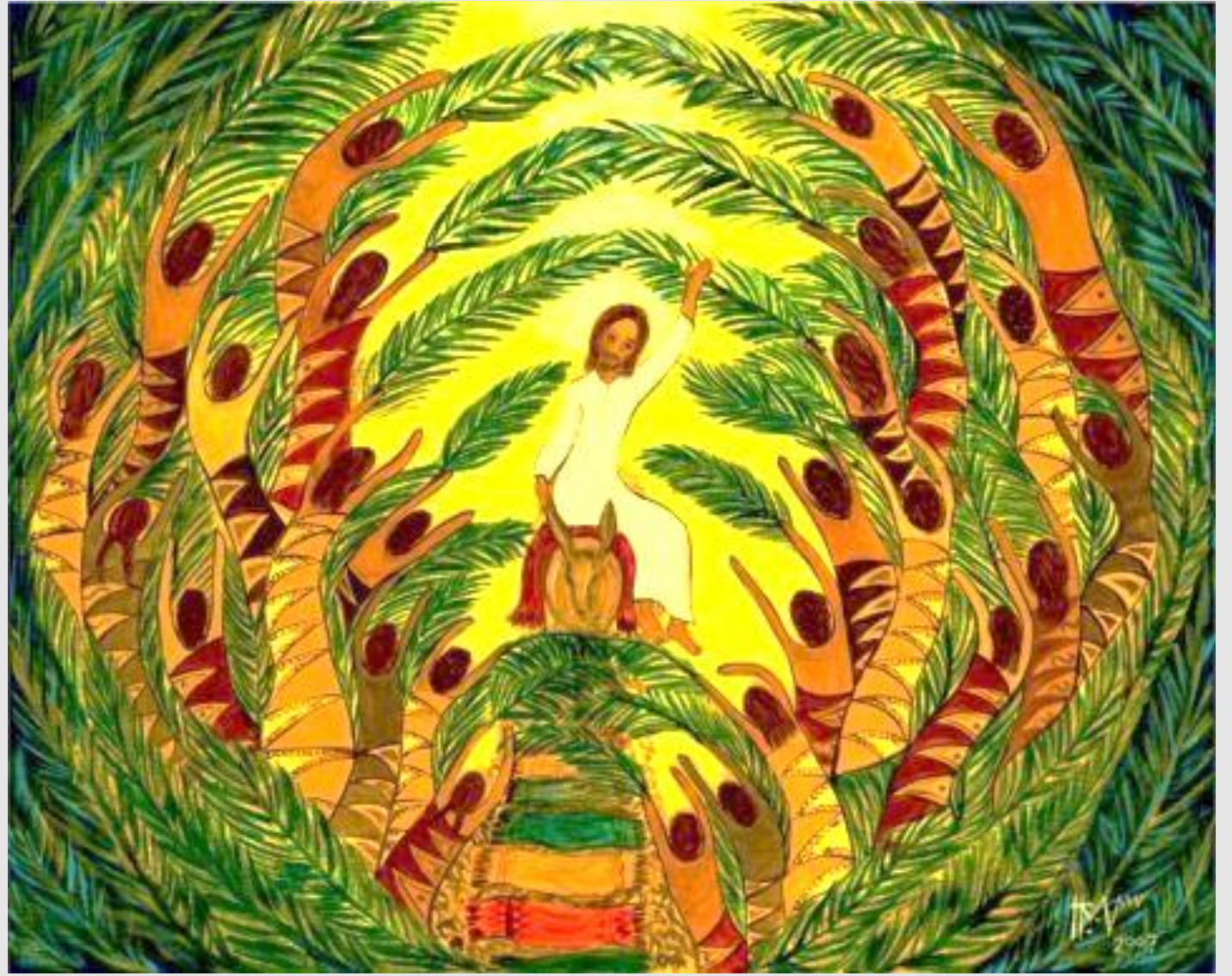
**All glory, laud, and honour
to thee, Redeemer King
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.**

**⁵Thou didst accept their praises
accept the prayers we bring
who in all good delightest
thou good and gracious King!**





Offertory
and
thank you prayer



Children's Talk – 'What kind of King is Jesus?'



Prayer with the children

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known
and from whom no secrets are hidden
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Prayer of Confession

Hear these commandments which God has given to his people and examine your hearts.

I am the Lord your God:
you shall have no other gods but me.

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength.

Amen. Lord have mercy



You shall not make for yourself any idol.

God is spirit and those who worship him
must worship in spirit and truth.



Amen. Lord have mercy

You shall not dishonour
the name of the Lord your God.

You shall worship him with awe and reverence.



Amen. Lord have mercy

Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy.

Christ is risen from the dead:
set your minds on things that are above,
not on things that are on earth.



Amen. Lord have mercy

Honour your father and mother.

Live as servants of God:

let us work for the good of all,
especially members of the household of faith.

Members of the
Household of God



Amen. Lord have mercy

You shall not commit murder.

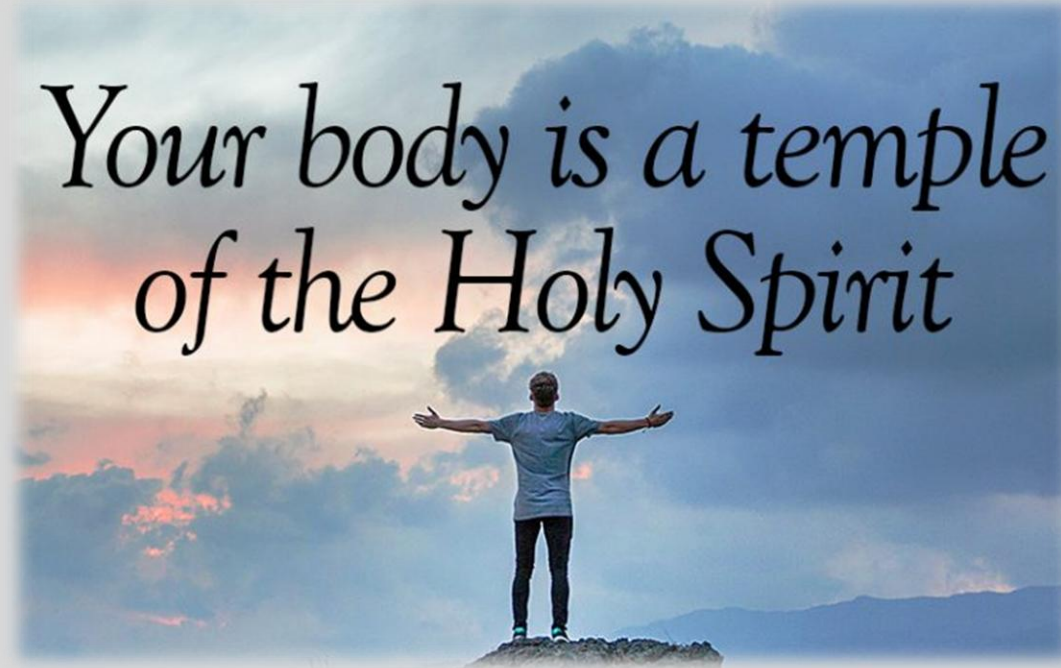
Live peaceably with all:
overcome evil with good.



Amen. Lord have mercy

You shall not commit adultery.

Know that your body
is a temple of the Holy Spirit.



Amen. Lord have mercy

You shall not steal.

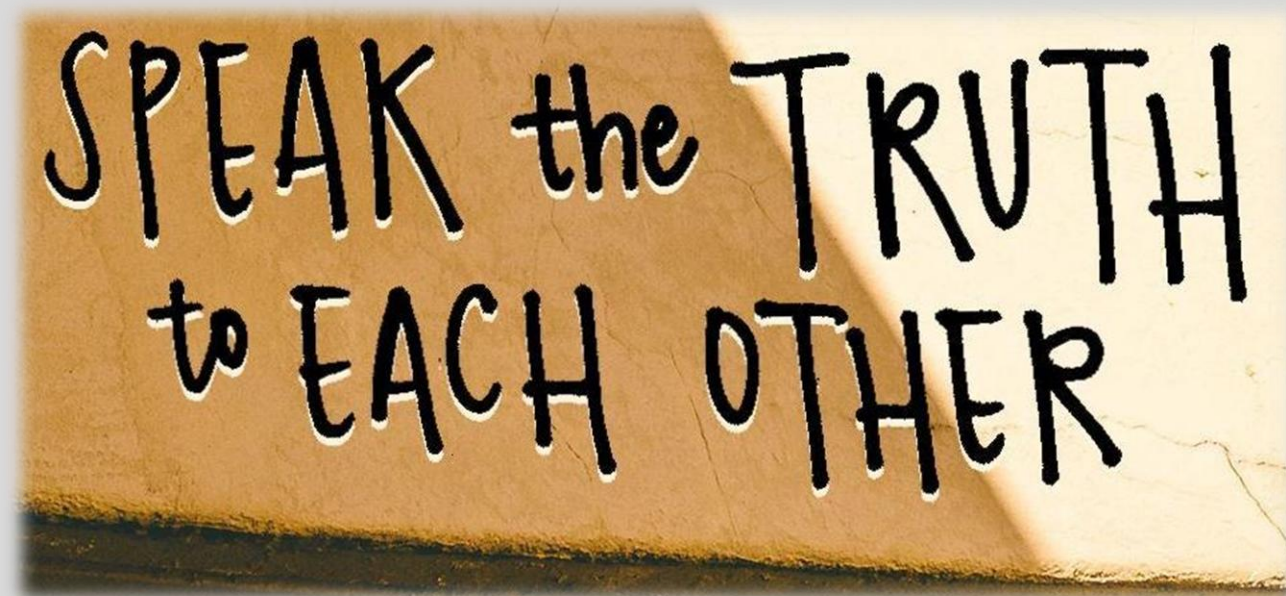
Be honest in all that you do
and care for those in need .

honest.

Amen. Lord have mercy

You shall not be a false witness.

Let everyone speak the truth.



Amen. Lord have mercy

You shall not covet anything
which belongs to your neighbour.

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus
'It is more blessed to give than to receive'
Love your neighbour as yourself,
for love is fulfilling the law.

Amen. Lord have mercy

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit:
a broken and contrite heart God will not despise.
Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion
and acknowledge our transgressions
in penitence and faith.



**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.**

**We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,
forgive us all that is past and grant that we may
serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

Lord, have mercy. x2

Christ, have mercy. x2

Lord, have mercy. x2

May Almighty God,
who sent his Son into
the world to save sinners
bring you his pardon
and peace, now and forever.

Amen



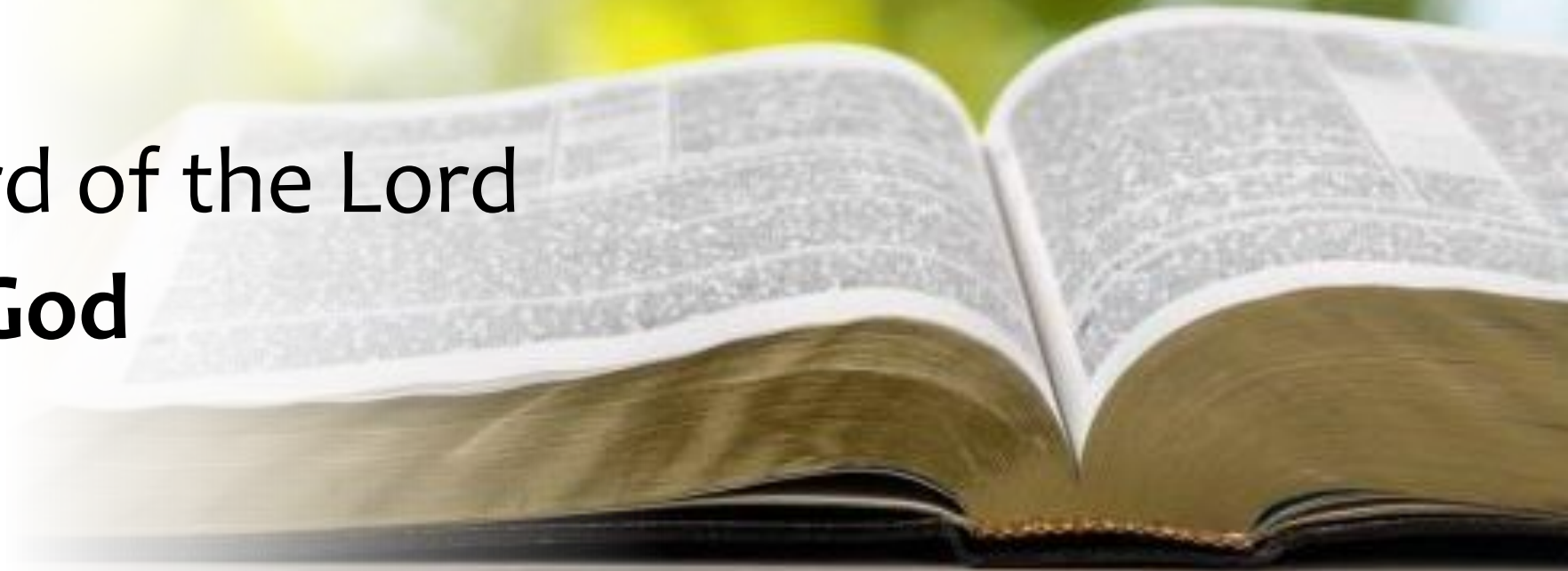
The Collect Prayer for Palm Sunday

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

Isaiah 50 : 4 – 9a

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God



**1 From heav'n you came helpless babe
enter'd our world your glory veiled
not to be served but to serve
and give your life that we might live.**

Chorus

**This is our God the Servant King
he calls us now to follow him
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King.**



**2 There in the garden of tears
my heavy load he chose to bear
his heart with sorrow was torn
'Yet not my will but yours' he said.**

Chorus

**This is our God the Servant King
he calls us now to follow him
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King.**



**3 Come see his hands and his feet
the scars that speak of sacrifice.
Hands that flung stars into space
to cruel nails surrendered.**

Chorus

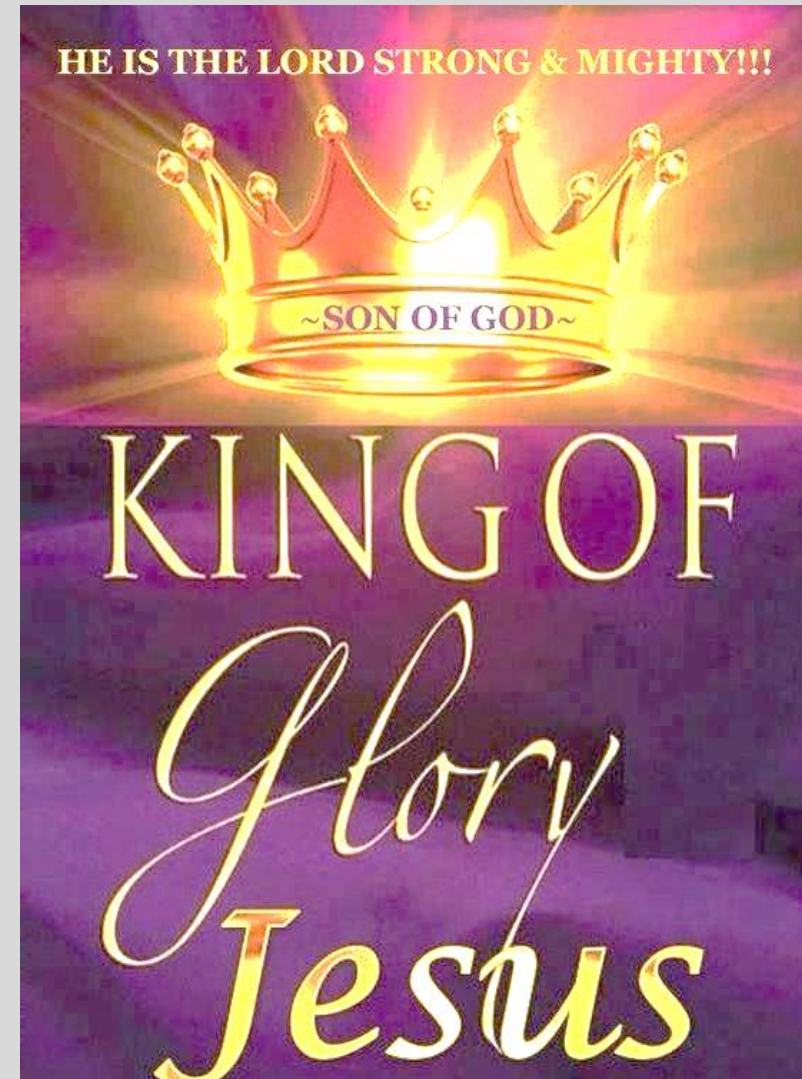
**This is our God the Servant King
he calls us now to follow him
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King.**



**4 So let us learn how to serve
and in our lives enthrone him
each other's needs to prefer
for it is Christ we're serving.**

Chorus

**This is our God the Servant King
he calls us now to follow him
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King**

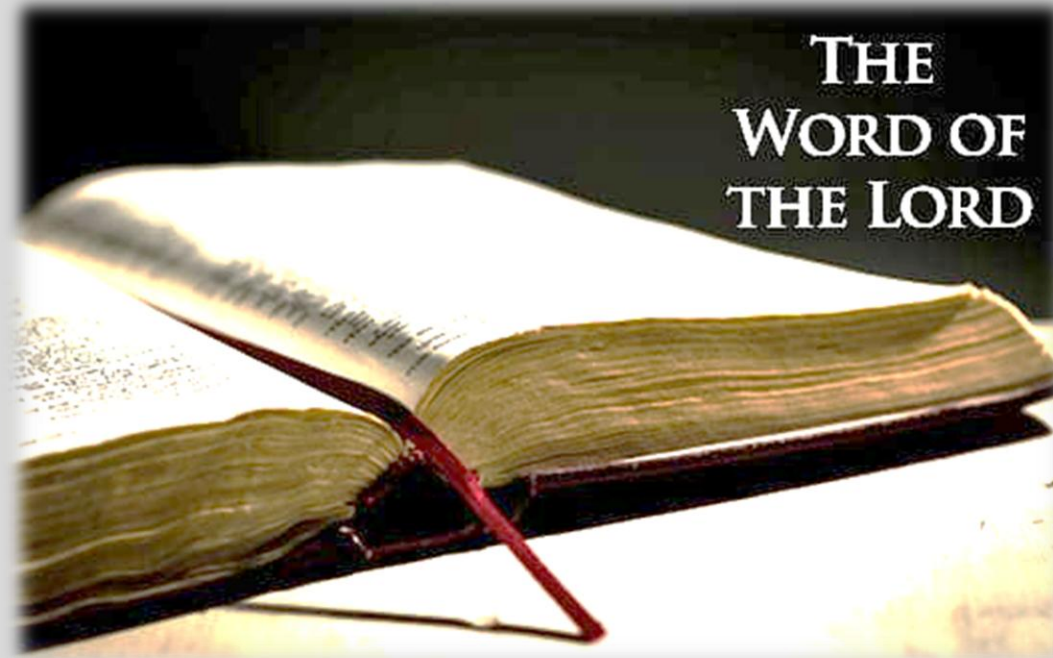


Praise to you O Christ, King of eternal glory.

The Lord is a great God,

O that today you would listen to his voice.

Harden not your hearts.



Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

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

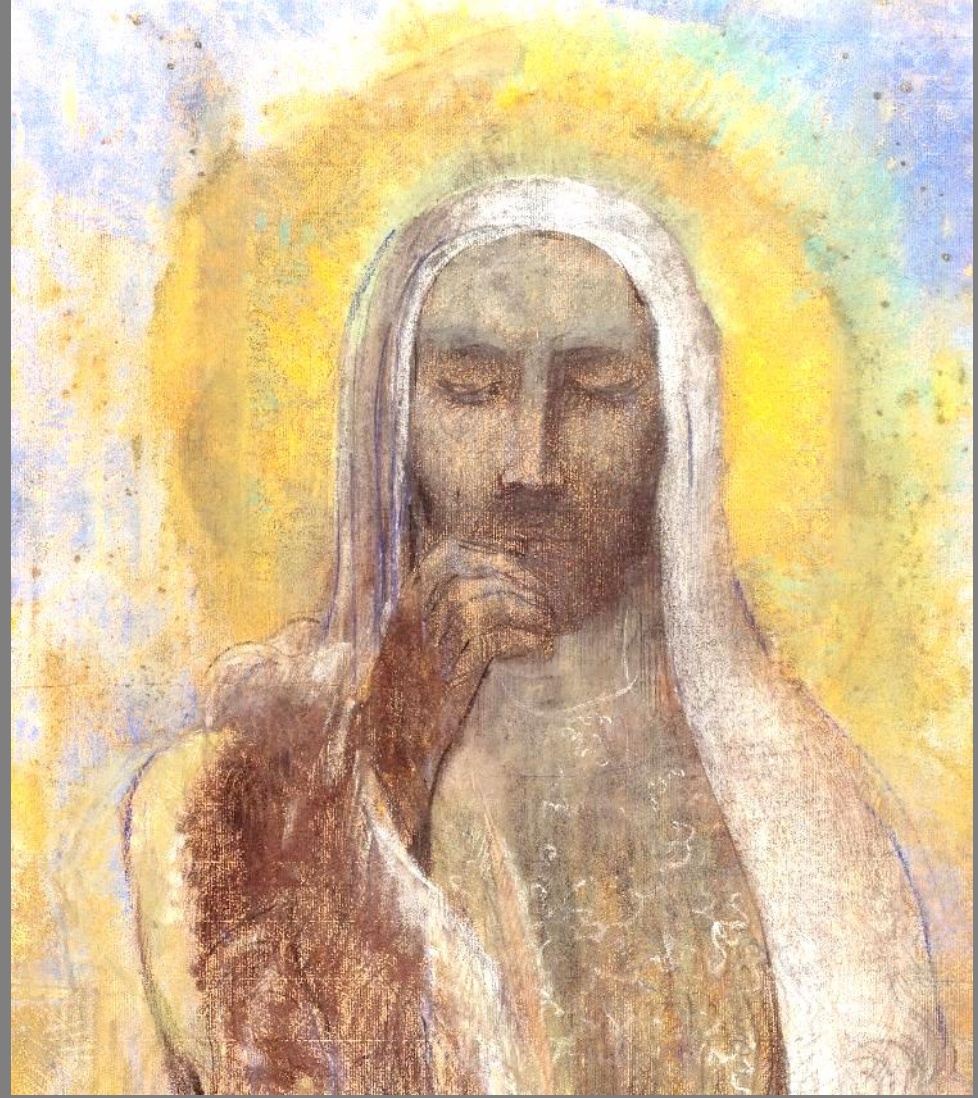
Glory to you O Lord

Matthew 27 : 11- 54

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you O Christ





Sermon – ‘The Silent Strength of the King’

The Creed

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God
**Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God
but made himself nothing. Taking the form of a slave,
he was born in human likeness. He humbled himself and
was obedient to death, even the death of the cross.**

**Therefore, God has raised him on high
and given him the name above every name:
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father. Amen**

Prayers of Intercession

Final Response

Merciful Father-

**Accept these
prayers for the
sake of your son
our Saviour
Jesus Christ.
Amen**



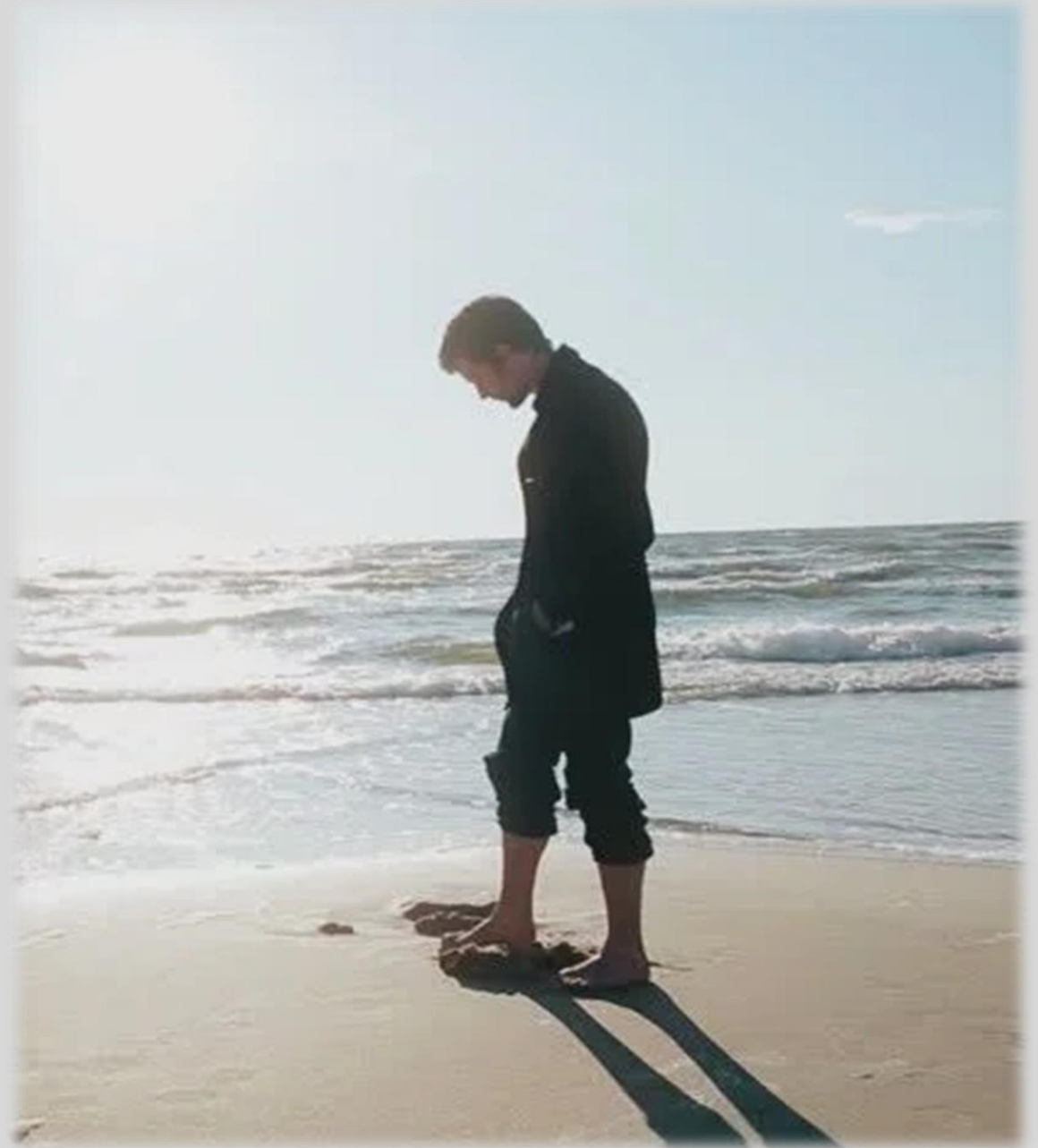
The Peace

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us access to his grace. The peace of the Lord be always with you

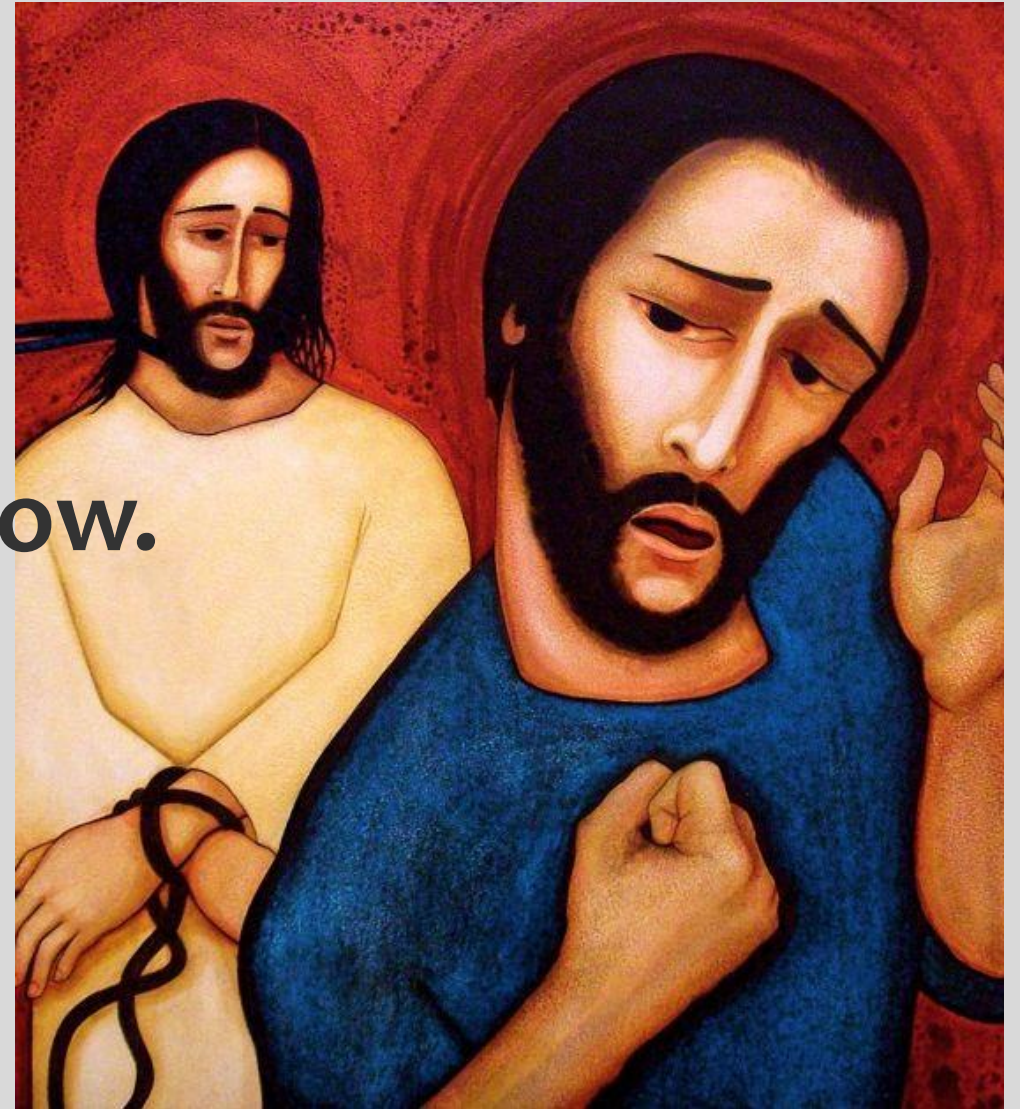


and also with you.

**1 My song is love unknown
my Saviour's love to me
love to the loveless shown
that they might lovely be.
O who am I,
that for my sake
my Lord should take
frail flesh and die?**



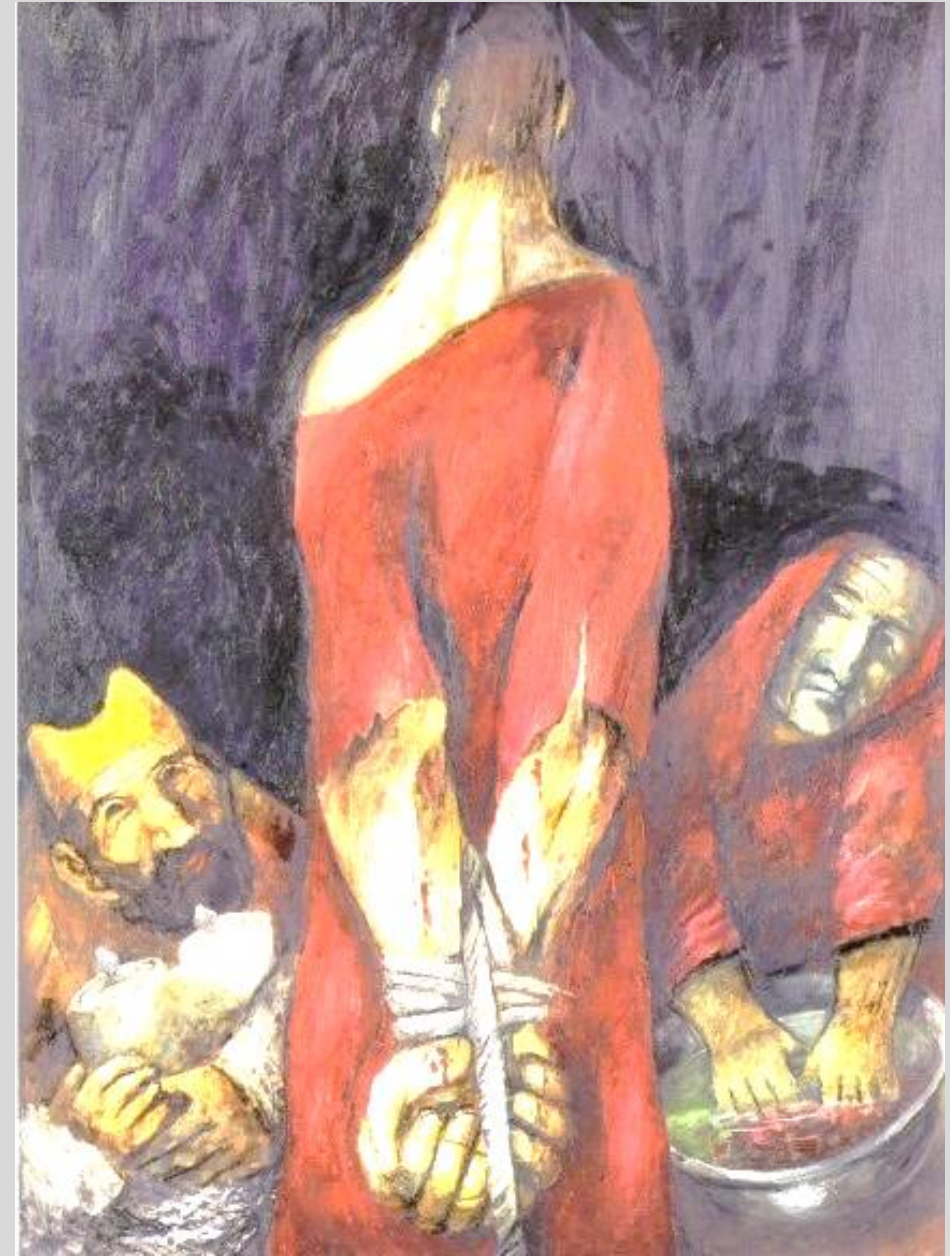
**2 He came from his blest throne
salvation to bestow
but sin made blind and none
the longed-for Christ would know.
But O, my friend
my friend indeed
who at my need
his life did spend!**



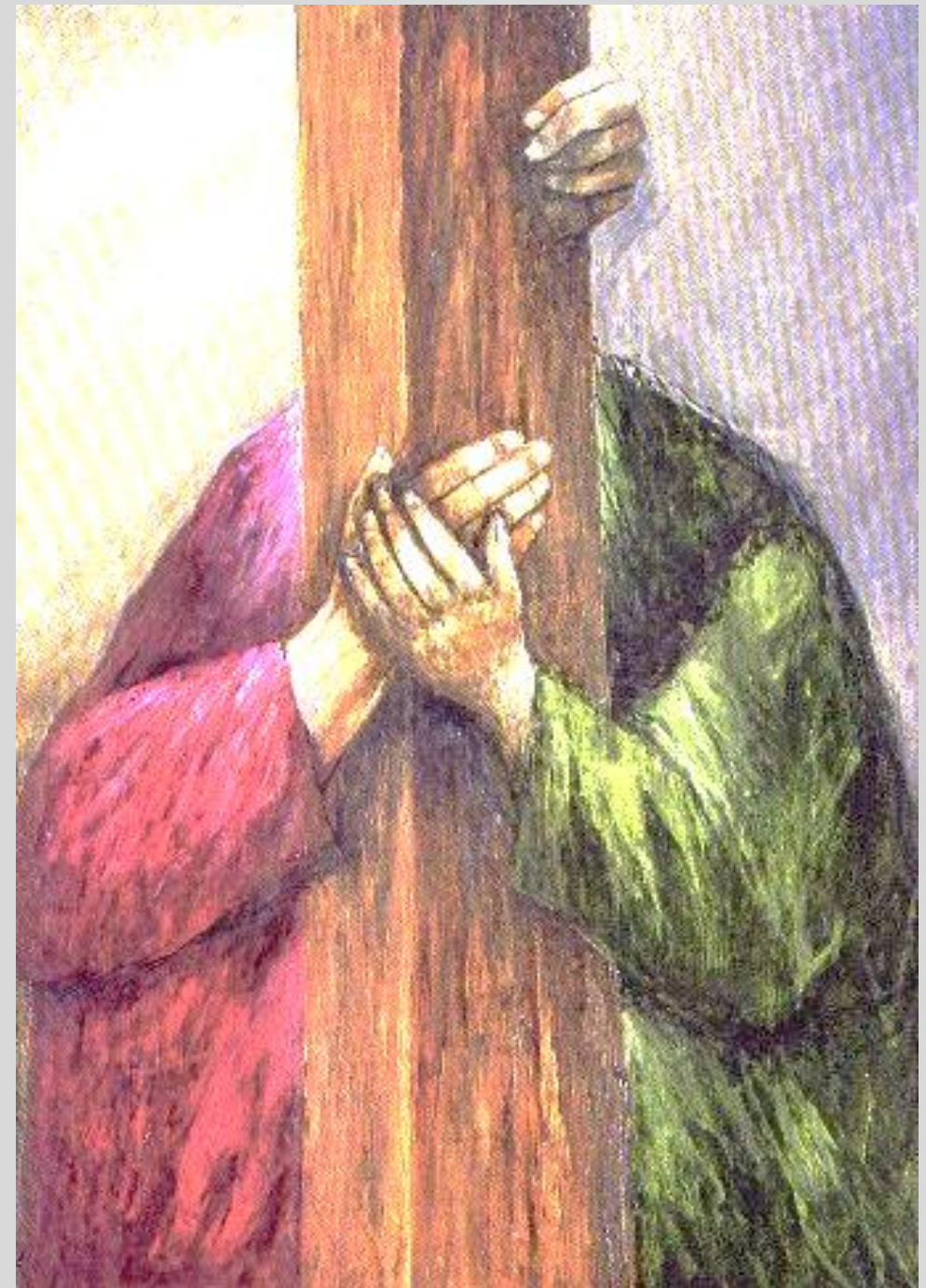
**3 Sometimes they strew his way
and his sweet praises sing
resounding all the day
hosannas to their King:
then “Crucify!”
is all their breath
and for his death
they thirst and cry.**



**4 Why what hath my Lord done?
What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run
he gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these
themselves displease
and 'gainst him rise.**

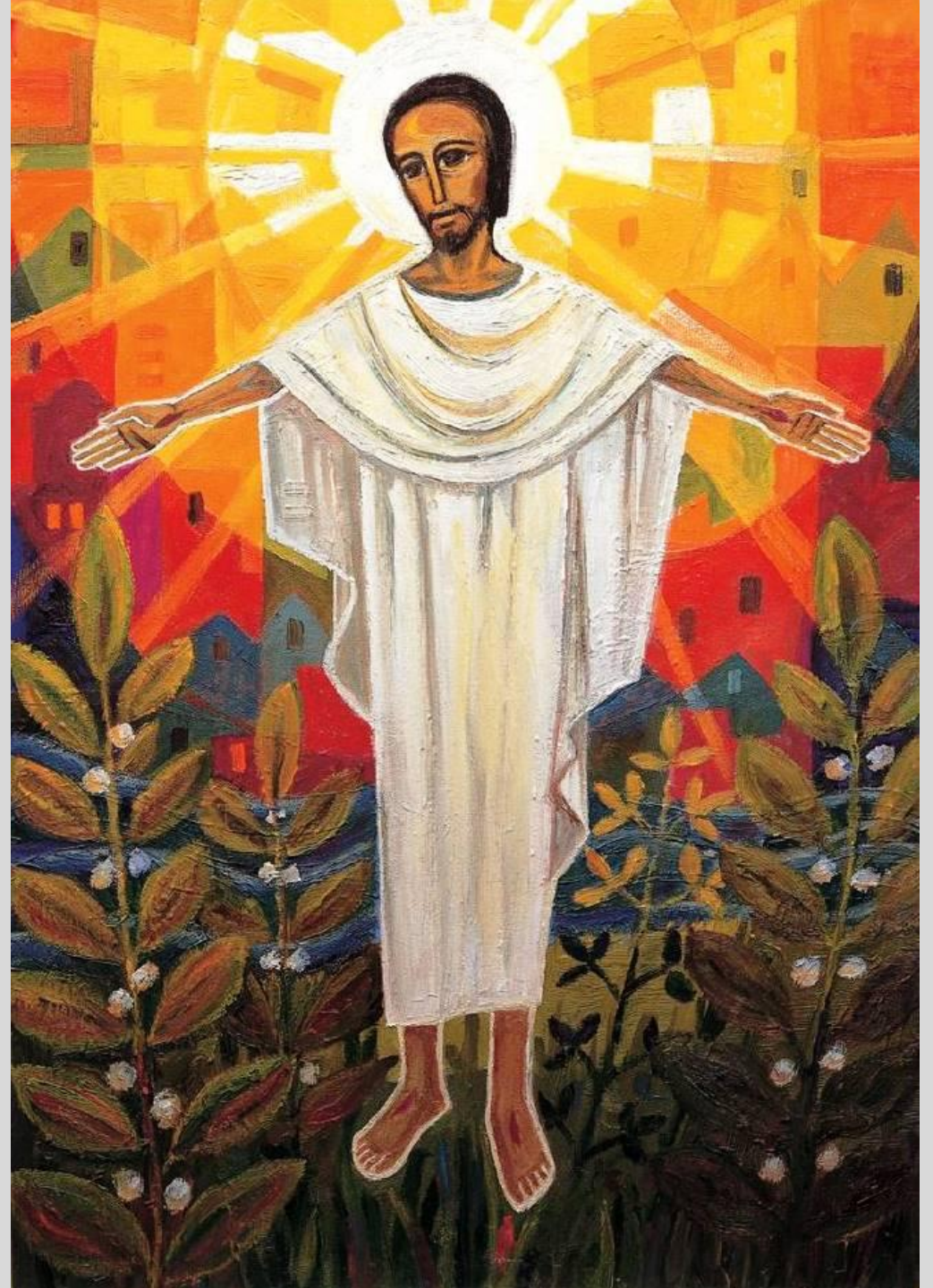


**5 They rise and needs will have
my dear Lord made away
a murderer they save
the Prince of Life they slay.
Yet cheerful he
to suff'ring goes
that he his foes
from thence might free.**



**6 Here might I stay and sing
no story so divine
never was love, dear King
never was grief like thine.
This is my friend
in whose sweet praise
I all my days
could gladly spend.**

6/6 Samuel Crossman (1624-1684)





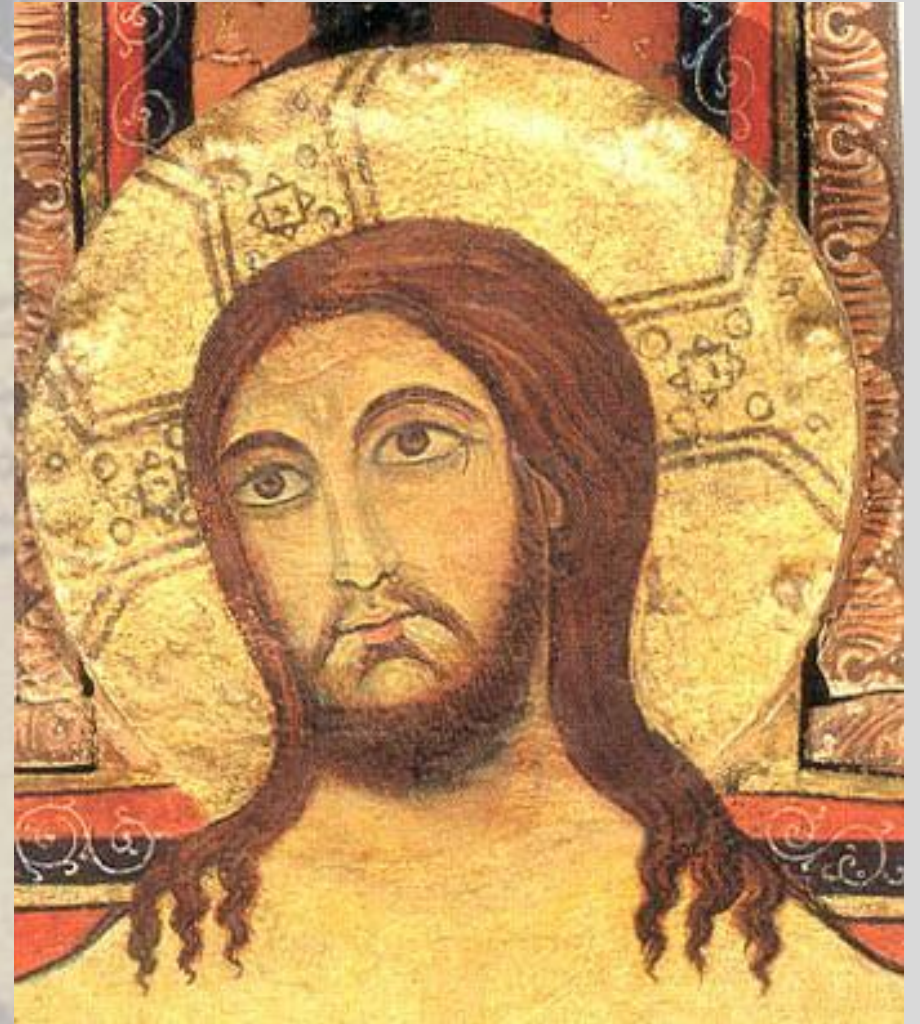
Pour upon the poverty of our love
and the weakness of our praise,
the transforming fire of your presence.

Amen

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 good to give you thanks and praise,
Almighty God and Everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.

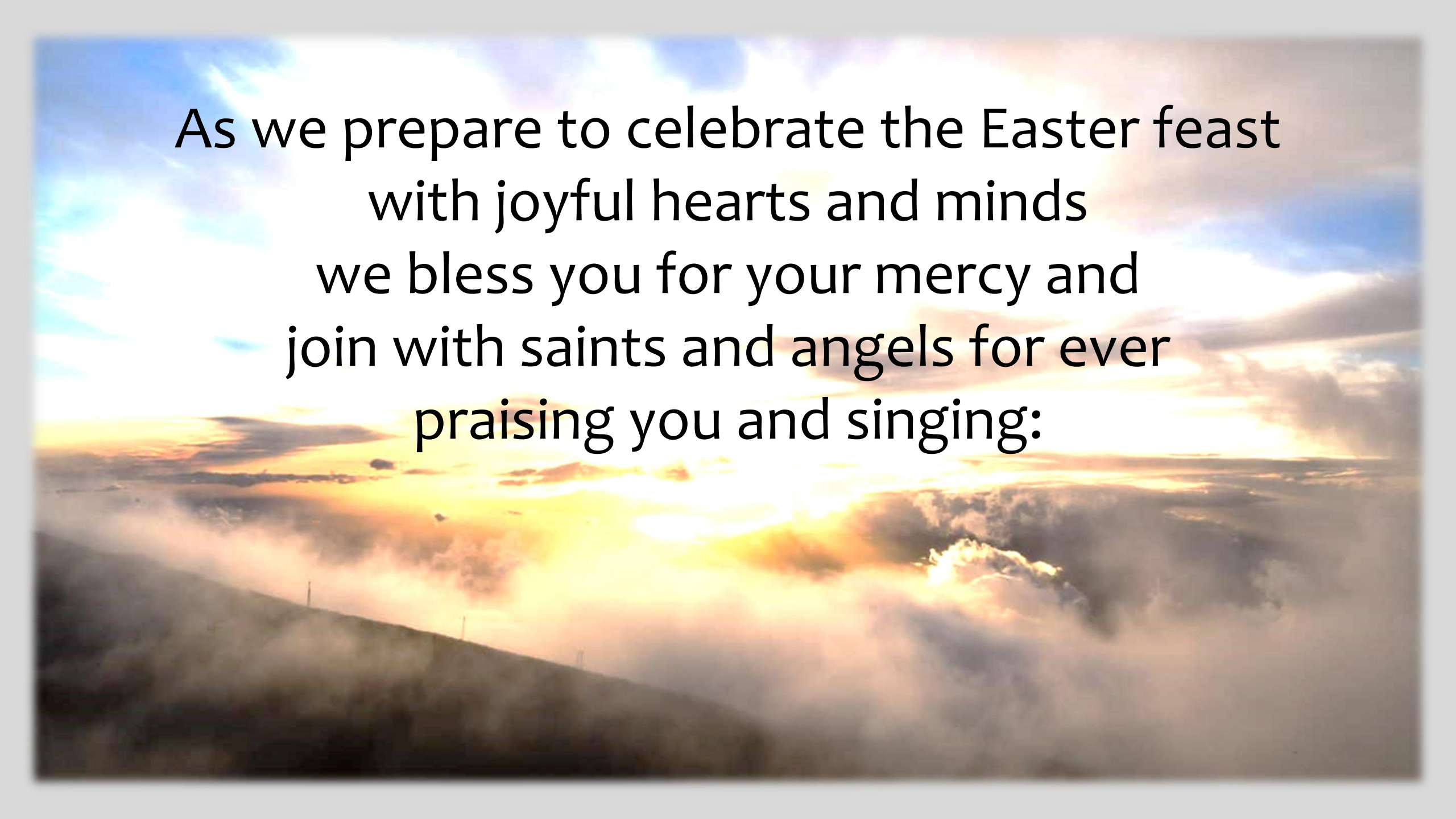


For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of
repentance that through a pilgrimage of prayer
and discipline we may grow in grace
and learn to be your people once again.

Through fasting, prayer and acts of service
you bring us back to your generous heart.



Through study of your holy word
you open our eyes to your presence in the world
and free our hands to welcome others into the
radiant splendour of your love.

A dramatic landscape at sunrise or sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright sunburst that breaks through a thick layer of white and grey clouds. The sky above is a mix of blue and white. In the foreground, a dark, silhouetted hillside slopes down from the left. The overall mood is serene and hopeful.

As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast
with joyful hearts and minds
we bless you for your mercy and
join with saints and angels 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.**





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.



Christ is the bread of life:

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death,
Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.**

I Am the
Bread of
Life





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
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

The Lord's Prayer

**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

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

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.**





**Most merciful Lord, your love compels us to come in.
Our hands were unclean, our hearts were unprepared
we were not fit even to eat
the crumbs from under your table.
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation
and share your bread with sinners.**

**So cleanse and feed us with the precious
body and blood of your Son,
that he may live in us and we in him
and that we, with the whole company of Christ,
may sit and eat in your kingdom.**



Amen


We sing together –

**Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins
have mercy on us.**

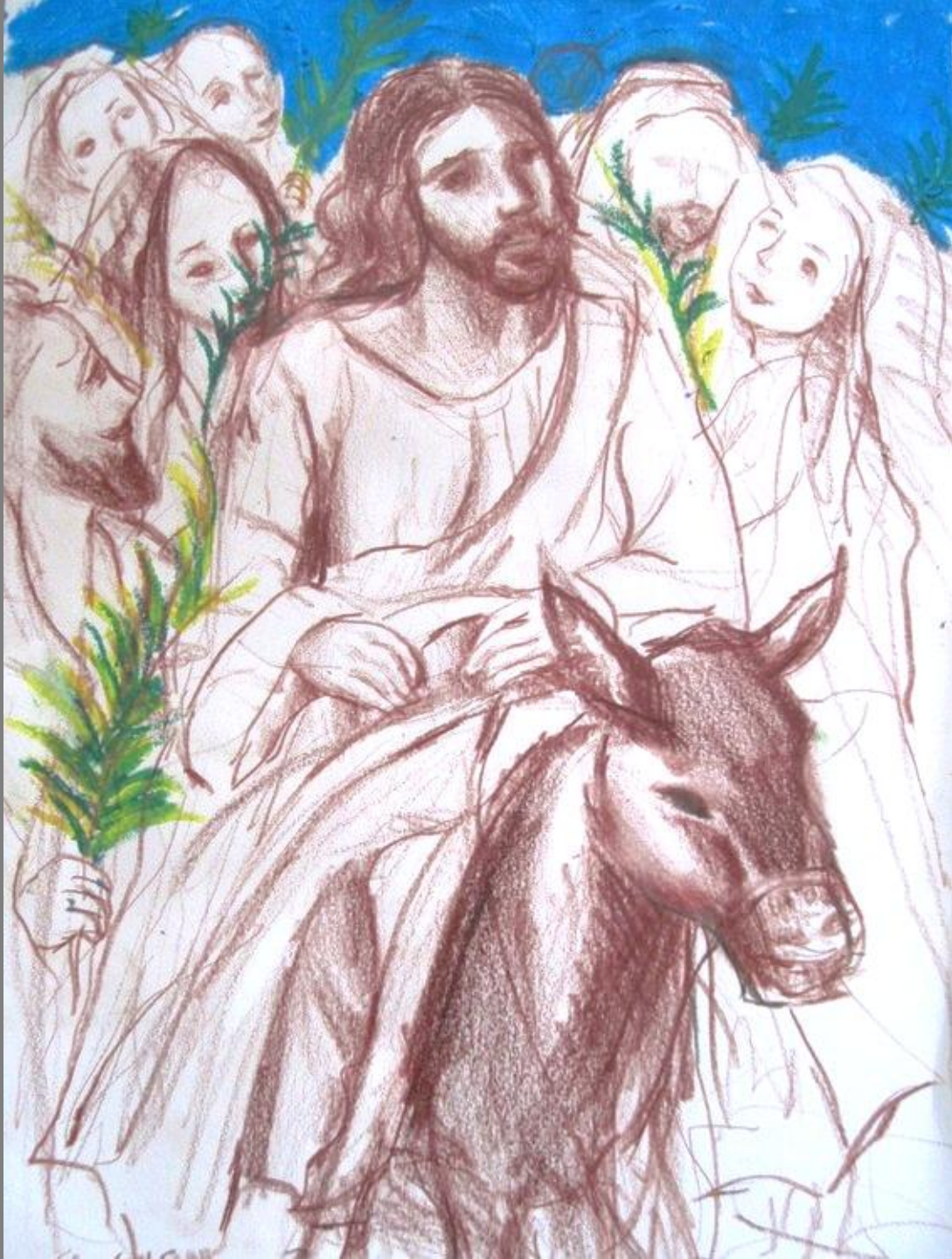
**Jesus, Redeemer of the world
give us your peace.**



A collage of various breads and wheat stalks. In the foreground, there are several loaves of bread, some whole and some sliced, showing a porous interior. In the background, there are bundles of wheat stalks tied together. The overall color palette is warm and golden-brown.

Jesus the Bread of Life


Receiving the bread and wine



Anthem

Hosanna
to the
Son of David

Thomas
Hewitt Jones



Jesus the Bread of Life

Receiving the bread and wine

Post Communion Prayer

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

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood
of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you
our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the
power of your Spirit
to live and work to
your praise and glory.
Amen**



What is
going on?

Family News



God's Work ~ Our Hands

**1 Ride on,
ride on in majesty!
Hark all the tribes
hosanna cry
thy humble beast pursues his road
with palms and scattered garments strowed.**





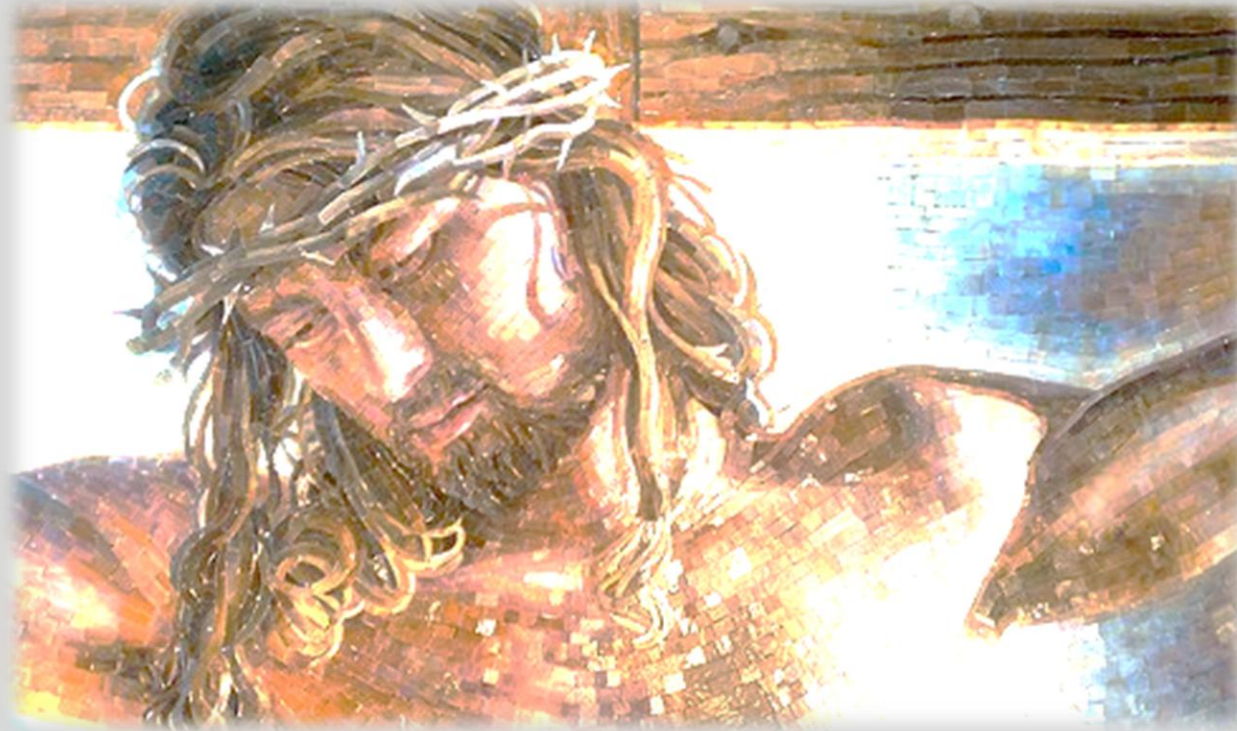
**₂ Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die.
O Christ thy triumphs now begin
o'er captive death and conquered sin.**



**₃Ride on, ride on in majesty!
The winged squadrons of the sky
look down with sad and wond'ring eyes
to see th'approaching sacrifice.**



**⁴Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh
the Father, on his sapphire throne
awaits his own appointed Son.**



**⁵Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die
bow thy meek head to mortal pain
then take, O God, thy pow'r and reign.**

Christ give you the grace to grow in holiness
to deny yourselves, take up your cross and follow him
and the blessing of God Almighty,
Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen

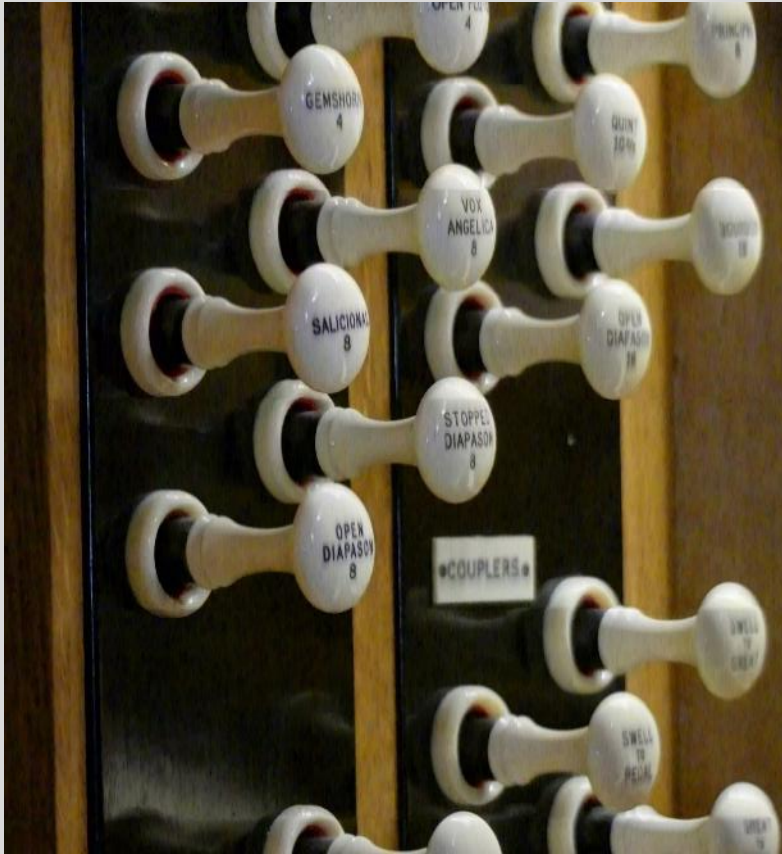


Go in peace to love
and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ.

Amen





Christ Church Organ

Organ Voluntary

‘Valet will ich dir geben BV 735’
J S Bach