

LITURGY OF THE WORD: PALM SUNDAY 2020



The Lord 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.

Let us pray

Eternal God, bless these palms to our use: grant that we who shall receive them may ever hail as King, and love as Saviour, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us go forth, praising Jesus our Messiah.

HYMN

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:

*Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
sing hosanna to the King of kings!
Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
sing hosanna to the King!*

Amen.

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. **Amen.**

CONFESSION

Have mercy on us, O God, in your great goodness:
according to the abundance of your compassion, blot out our offences.

Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

Against you only have we sinned
and done what is evil in your sight.

Christ have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Purge us from our sin and we shall be clean:
wash us and we shall be whiter than snow.

Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

ABSOLUTION

May the Father forgive us by the death of his Son
and strengthen *us* to live in the power of the Spirit all *our* days.

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

At the end

Music interlude as we reflect on the Gospel (1-2 minutes of reflective piano music)

PRAYERS

Crowds cheered when you came to Jerusalem; you came to bring peace, but the authorities did not welcome you.

Jesus we pray for your world: for peace that brings an end to violence, oppression and war; for peace that enables all people to live with dignity and justice; for world leaders and all who commit themselves to the work of peace.

Lord in your mercy.

hear our prayer.

Crowds cheered when you came to Jerusalem; you came to bring the freedom of your Holy Spirit but the Chief Priests plotted your death.

Jesus we pray for your church: for a church united in your love, for a pilgrim church ready to travel where you lead, for all leaders of your church and those who minister in your name.

Lord in your mercy.

hear our prayer.

Crowds cheered when you came to Jerusalem; you came to bring love but were betrayed and deserted by your friends.

Jesus we pray for this community at this time of separation, may we be brought closer together. We pray for our families and friends that we can keep in touch with them to share our love. We pray for all who are working for the good of others, the health workers, providers of our daily food and those who are keeping the essential services going. We thank you for their faithfulness and courage.

Lord in your mercy.

hear our prayer.

Crowds cheered when you came to Jerusalem; you came to heal the sick and release the captives, but you were beaten, imprisoned and killed.

Jesus, we pray for all in need, for those who are very lonely, those who are in danger in their own homes, those who mourn, those who are unwell; in the silence we name them May they be comforted and healed.

Lord in your mercy.

hear our prayer.

Crowds cheered when you came to Jerusalem; you bore the cross and were buried, but Jerusalem was also the place of Resurrection.

We pray that those who have died are now at rest and safe with you; we give thanks for all faithful people who have followed you on the journey of life, be with us as we travel towards your heavenly kingdom.

Lord in your mercy.

hear our prayer.

Amen.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

HYMN

*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:
All glory, laud, and honour

The company of angels
are praising thee on high,
and mortal men and all things
created make reply:
All glory, laud, and honour

The people of the Hebrews
with palms before thee went:
our praise and prayer and anthems
before thee we present:
All glory, laud, and honour

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

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**

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 with you all today and always.
Amen.

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

Piano Voluntary

