

ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH, CANTERBURY



# **The Procession of Palms and Sung Eucharist**

**Palm Sunday**



## Welcome to our worship at St Stephen's today

Holy Week begins today, and it begins with a double celebration, of triumph and despair. The triumph comes with our Lord's entry into Jerusalem. Standing outside the church, we hear the Gospel account, and holding our palm crosses we come into the church building. The church itself becomes Jerusalem, the place in which our Lord was acclaimed as Messiah and the place in which he suffered and died. We are the crowds who cheer the Messiah: "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord".

The commemoration of despair is the reading of the Passion Gospel, on this solemn occasion of the Church's year, the Gospel reading takes a different form; there is no procession and no acclamation, the reading is as stark as the events narrated.



An induction loop system for the hard of hearing is installed in our Church. Hearing aid users should adjust their aid to 'T'



Large print orders of service are available from the sidespersons. Please ask.



Toilet facilities are available in the Church Hall. Please ask a Sidesperson for directions.



This service is being live-streamed for those who are unable to join us in church; By attending this service, you are giving permission and acknowledging that you may briefly appear on this stream. If you have any queries or concerns about this, please speak to a churchwarden or member of the clergy before the service begins.

# The Liturgy of Palm Sunday

## ¶ Commemoration of the Lord's Entry into Jerusalem

*Those who are able gather on Manwood Green, or otherwise in the church building.*

*When all are ready, this anthem is sung by the choir*

Hosanna to the Son of David, the King of Israel.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

*We sing the hymn together*

WINCHESTER NEW LM

Adapted from a chorale in  
*Musicalisches Hand-Buch*, Hamburg 1690



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.
- 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!  
Thy 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)

## The Greeting

*The president greets the people*

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

*All*

## Introduction

*The president welcomes the congregation and introduces the celebration*

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.

*The people hold up palms or branches while this prayer is said by the president*

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**

*Year A: Matthew 21.1–11*

*Year B: Mark 11.1–11*

*Year C: Luke 19.28–40*

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

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

*At the end the reader says*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **The Procession**

Let us go forth, praising Jesus our Messiah.

*All* **In the name of the Lord, Amen.**

*The ministers and people process to the Church, singing the processional hymn.*



*ALL glory, laud and honour  
To thee, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children  
Made sweet hosannas ring.*

- 2 Thou art the King of Israel,  
Thou David's royal Son,  
Who in the Lord's name comest,  
The King and blessèd One.
- 3 The company of angels  
Are praising thee on high,  
And mortal men and all things  
Created make reply.
- 4 The people of the Hebrews  
With palms before thee went;  
Our praise and prayer and anthems  
Before thee we present.
- 5 To thee before thy passion  
They sang their hymns of praise;  
To thee, now high exalted,  
Our melody we raise.
- 6 Thou didst accept their praises,  
Accept the prayers we bring,  
Who in all good delightest,  
Thou good and gracious King.

7 Do thou direct our footsteps  
Upon our earthly way,  
And bring us by thy mercy  
To heaven's eternal day.

8 Within that blessed City  
Thy praises may we sing,  
And ever raise hosannas  
To our most loving King.

ST THEODULPH OF ORLEANS (d. 821)

Tr J. M. NEALE (1818–66)

*When all have entered the church, and the hymn is concluded, we REMAIN  
STANDING for*

## The Collect

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

Let us pray.

*Silence is kept.*

Almighty and everlasting God,  
who in your tender love towards the human race sent  
your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
to take upon him our flesh  
and to suffer death upon the cross:  
grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility,  
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

*We SIT.*

## ¶ *The Liturgy of the Word*

### **Reading**

*A reading from Scripture follows. At the end the reader says*

This is the word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

### **The Passion Reading**

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.  
Christ humbled himself and became obedient unto death,  
even death on a cross.

Therefore God has highly exalted him  
and given him the name that is above every name.

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

*When the Passion is announced the reader says*

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N*.

*At the end*

This is the Passion of the Lord.

*No response is made.*

### **Sermon**

*A short address may follow.*



# Prayers of Intercession

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,  
let us pray to the Father.

*We SIT or KNEEL*

For forgiveness for the many times we have denied Jesus,  
let us pray to the Lord.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

For grace to seek out those habits of sin which mean  
spiritual death,  
and by prayer and self-discipline to overcome them,  
let us pray to the Lord.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

For Christian people,  
that through the suffering of disunity  
there may grow a rich union in Christ,  
let us pray to the Lord.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who make laws, interpret them, and administer them,  
that our common life may be ordered in justice and mercy,  
let us pray to the Lord.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who still make Jerusalem a battleground,  
let us pray to the Lord.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who have the courage and honesty  
to work openly for justice and peace,  
let us pray to the Lord.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

For those in the darkness and agony of isolation,  
that they may find support and encouragement,  
let us pray to the Lord.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who, weighed down with hardship, failure, or sorrow,  
feel that God is far from them,  
let us pray to the Lord.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who are tempted to give up the way of the cross,  
let us pray to the Lord.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

That we, with those who have died in faith,  
may find mercy in the day of Christ,  
let us pray to the Lord.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

*All* **Holy God,  
holy and strong,  
holy and immortal,  
have mercy upon us.**

## ¶ *The Liturgy of the Sacrament*

*We STAND.*

### **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.

*Ephesians 2.13,14*

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

# Preparation of the Table

## Taking of the Bread and Wine

*We remain STANDING to sing the hymn, during which the gifts of the people are gathered and presented. The altar is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.*

PASSION CHORALE 76 76D

Traditional secular melody in  
H. L. Hassler's *Lustgarten* (1601)



O SACRED head, sore wounded,  
Defiled and put to scorn;  
O kingly head, surrounded  
With mocking crown of thorn:  
What sorrow mars thy grandeur?  
Can death thy bloom deflower?  
O countenance whose splendour  
The hosts of heaven adore.

- 2 In thy most bitter passion  
My heart to share doth cry,  
With thee for my salvation  
Upon the Cross to die.  
Ah, keep my heart thus movèd  
To stand thy Cross beneath,  
To mourn thee, well-belovèd,  
Yet thank thee for thy death.

3 My days are few, O fail not,  
With thine immortal power,  
To hold me that I quail not  
In death's most fearful hour:  
That I may fight befriended,  
And see in my last strife  
To me thine arms extended  
Upon the Cross of life.

PAUL GERHARDT (1607–76)  
from a 14th century Latin hymn  
*Tr* ROBERT BRIDGES (1844–1930)

*The president takes the bread and wine and says*

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.

*All* **Amen.**

*The president takes the bread and wine.*

## The Eucharistic Prayer

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

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

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

It is indeed right,  
it is our duty and our joy,  
at all times and in all places  
to give you thanks and praise,  
holy Father, heavenly King,  
almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

And now we give you thanks  
because, for our salvation,  
he was obedient even to death on the cross.  
The tree of shame was made the tree of glory;  
and where life was lost, there life has been restored.

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and singing:

*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.**

All glory be to you, our heavenly Father,  
who, in your tender mercy,  
gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption;  
who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered  
a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction  
for the sins of the whole world;  
he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue,  
a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.

Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray,  
and grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine,  
according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution,  
in remembrance of his death and passion,  
may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood;  
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.

Jesus Christ is Lord:

*All* **Lord, by your cross and resurrection  
you have set us free.  
You are the Saviour of the world.**

Therefore, Lord and heavenly Father,  
in remembrance of the precious death and passion,  
the mighty resurrection and glorious ascension  
of your dear Son Jesus Christ,  
we offer you through him this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

Grant that by his merits and death,  
and through faith in his blood,  
we and all your Church may receive forgiveness of our sins  
and all other benefits of his passion.  
Although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins,  
to offer you any sacrifice,  
yet we pray that you will accept this  
the duty and service that we owe.  
Do not weigh our merits, but pardon our offences,  
and fill us all who share in this holy communion  
with your grace and heavenly blessing;

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.

*All* **Amen.**

*We SIT or KNEEL*

## The Lord's Prayer

*All* As our Saviour taught us, so we pray  
**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

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

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

*All* **Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.**

# Giving of Communion

*The president invites us to communion*

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed 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.**

*The president and people receive communion. During the distribution, we sing our communion hymn, and the choir sings the anthem*

SONG 46 10 10

First strain of *Song 46*  
Orlando Gibbons (1583–1625)



DROP, drop, slow tears,  
And bathe those beauteous feet,  
Which brought from heaven,  
The news and Prince of peace.

- 2 Cease not, wet eyes,  
His mercies to entreat;  
To cry for vengeance  
Sin doth never cease.
- 3 In your deep floods  
Drown all my faults and fears;  
Nor let his eye  
See sin, but through my tears.

PHINEAS FLETCHER (1582–1650)



## God so loved the world

Music: SIR JOHN STAINER (1840–1901)

Words: John 3.16–17

God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son,  
that whosoever believeth in him should not perish,  
but have everlasting life.

For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world,  
but that the world through him might be saved.

## Prayer after Communion

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

Let us pray.

*Silence is kept. The president says the post-communion prayer*

*All* 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.**

*We say this prayer together*

*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.**

## The Blessing

May the Father,  
who so loved the world that he gave his only Son,  
bring you by faith to his eternal life.

*All* **Amen.**

May Christ,  
who accepted the cup of sacrifice  
in obedience to the Father's will,  
keep you steadfast as you walk with him the way of his cross.

*All* **Amen.**

May the Spirit,  
who strengthens us to suffer with Christ  
that we may share his glory,  
set your minds on life and peace.

*All* **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

*All* **Amen.**

# The Dismissal

*We STAND to sing the hymn.*

LOVE UNKNOWN 66 66 44 44

John Ireland (1879–1962)



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 men made strange, 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 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 suffering goes,  
That he his foes  
    From thence might free.
- 5 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.

SAMUEL CROSSMAN (1624–83)

*A minister dismisses the people.*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

*Do join us for refreshments and fellowship in the church hall after the service.*

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