

## 24/3/24 - Palm Sunday

### ANTIPHON: HOSANNA TO THE SON OF DAVID

*The choir sing the Antiphon:*

Hosanna to the Son of David! The King of Israel!  
**Hosanna to the Son of David! The King of Israel!**  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!  
**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!**  
Hosanna in the highest!  
**Hosanna in the highest!**  
Hosanna in the highest!  
**Hosanna in the highest!**  
Hosanna in the highest heavens!  
**Hosanna in the highest heavens!**

### GREETING

✠ In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Dear brothers and sisters,  
since the beginning of Lent until now  
we have prepared our hearts  
by penance and charitable works.  
Today we gather together to herald with the whole  
Church the beginning of the celebration  
of our Lord's Paschal Mystery.  
For it was to accomplish this mystery  
that he entered his own city of Jerusalem.  
Therefore, with all faith and devotion,  
let us commemorate the Lord's entry  
into the city for our salvation,  
following in his footsteps,  
so that, being made by his grace  
partakers of the Cross, we may have a share also  
in his Resurrection and in his life.

### BLESSING OF THE PALM CROSSES

*The people hold their palm crosses  
in the air to be blessed*

Almighty God,  
we pray you bless these branches  
and make them holy.  
Today we joyfully acclaim Jesus our Messiah and King.  
May we reach one day the  
happiness of the new and everlasting Jerusalem  
by faithfully following him  
who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### PALM GOSPEL:

John 12:12-16

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

✠ Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**‘Hosanna!’**

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting,

‘Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel!’

Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: ‘Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey’s colt!’

His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him.

The Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, O Christ**

THE PROCESSION

Let us go forth in peace, praising Jesus our Messiah.

*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. *Refrain*

The company of angels  
are praising thee on high;  
and mortal men and all things  
created make reply. *Refrain*

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

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

Thou didst accept their praises;  
accept the prayers we bring,  
who in all good delightest,  
thou good and gracious King. *Refrain*

Do thou direct our footsteps  
upon our earthly way,  
and bring us by thy mercy  
to heaven's eternal day. *Refrain*

Within that blessed city  
thy praises may we sing,  
and ever raise hosannas  
to our most loving King. *Refrain*

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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 triumphs 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 wondering 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.

## COLLECT

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. **Amen**

## FIRST READING: Philippians 2.5-11

### *He Humbled Himself*

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**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!**

Christ was humbler yet,  
even to accepting death, death on a cross.  
But God raised him high  
and gave him the name which is above all names  
**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!**

**PASSION GOSPEL:**

Mark 14:1-15:47

*If you are able, please stand throughout the reading.  
The people say the parts **IN BOLD***

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Mark.

NARRATOR: It was two days before the Passover  
and the festival of Unleavened Bread.  
The chief priests and the scribes were  
looking for a way to arrest Jesus by  
stealth and kill him; for they said,

CHIEF PRIESTS: "Not during the festival, or there  
may be a riot among the people."

NARRATOR: While he was at Bethany in the house  
of Simon the leper, as he sat at the  
table, a woman came with an alabaster  
jar of very costly ointment of nard, and  
she broke open the jar and poured the  
ointment on his head. But some were  
there who said to one another in anger,

DISCIPLES: "Why was the ointment wasted in this  
way? For this ointment could have  
been sold for more than three hundred  
denarii, and the money given to the  
poor."

NARRATOR: And they scolded her. But Jesus said,

JESUS: "Let her alone; why do you trouble her?  
She has performed a good service for  
me. For you always have the poor with  
you, and you can show kindness to  
them whenever you wish; but you will  
not always have me. She has done  
what she could; she has anointed my  
body beforehand for its burial. Truly I  
tell you, wherever the good news is  
proclaimed in the whole world, what  
she has done will be told in  
remembrance of her."

NARRATOR: Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of  
the twelve, went to the chief priests in  
order to betray him to them. When they  
heard it, they were greatly pleased, and  
promised to give him money. So he  
began to look for an opportunity to  
betray him. On the first day of  
Unleavened Bread, when the Passover  
lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to  
him,

DISCIPLES: "Where do you want us to go and make  
the preparations for you to eat the  
Passover?"

NARRATOR: So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them,

JESUS: "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks, Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there."

NARRATOR: So the disciples set out and went to the city, and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal. When it was evening, he came with the twelve. And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said,

JESUS: "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me."

NARRATOR: They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another,

DISCIPLES: "Surely, not I?"

NARRATOR: He said to them,

JESUS: "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born."

NARRATOR: While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said,

JESUS: "Take; this is my body."

NARRATOR: Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them,

JESUS: "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

NARRATOR: When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. And Jesus said to them,

JESUS: "You will all become deserters; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.' But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee."

NARRATOR: Peter said to him,

PETER: "Even though all become deserters, I will not."

NARRATOR: Jesus said to him,

JESUS: "Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times."

NARRATOR: But he said vehemently,

PETER: "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you."

NARRATOR: And all of them said the same. They went to a place called Gethsemane; and Jesus said to his disciples,

JESUS: "Sit here while I pray."

NARRATOR: He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And said to them,

JESUS: "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake."

NARRATOR: And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said,

JESUS: "Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want."

NARRATOR: He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter,

JESUS: "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

NARRATOR: And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. He came a third time and said to them,

JESUS: "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

NARRATOR: Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying,

JUDAS: "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard."

NARRATOR: So when he came, he went up to him at once and said,

JUDAS: "Rabbi!"

NARRATOR: and kissed him. Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to them,

JESUS: "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled."

NARRATOR: All of them deserted him and fled. A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked. They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying,

ACCUSERS: **"We heard him say, `I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.'"**

NARRATOR: But even on this point their testimony did not agree. Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus,

HIGH PRIEST: "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?"

NARRATOR: But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him,

HIGH PRIEST: "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?"

NARRATOR: Jesus said,

JESUS: "I am; and `you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power,' and `coming with the clouds of heaven.'"

NARRATOR: Then the high priest tore his clothes and said,

HIGH PRIEST: "Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?"

NARRATOR: All of them condemned him as deserving death. Some began to spit

on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him,

ACCUSERS: **"Prophecy!"**

NARRATOR: The guards also took him over and beat him. While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said,

SERVANT GIRL: "You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth."

NARRATOR: But he denied it, saying,

PETER: "I do not know or understand what you are talking about."

NARRATOR: And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed. And the servant-girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders,

SERVANT GIRL: "This man is one of them."

NARRATOR: But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter,

BYSTANDERS: **"Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean."**

NARRATOR: But he began to curse, and he swore an oath,

PETER: "I do not know this man you are talking about."

NARRATOR: At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him,

JESUS: "Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times."

NARRATOR: And he broke down and wept. As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him,

PILATE: "Are you the King of the Jews?"

NARRATOR: He answered him,

JESUS: "You say so."

NARRATOR: Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again,

PILATE: "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you."

NARRATOR: But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed. Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked.

Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them,

PILATE: "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?"

NARRATOR: For he realised that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again,

PILATE: "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?"

NARRATOR: They shouted back,

CROWD: **"Crucify him!"**

NARRATOR: Pilate asked them,

PILATE: "Why, what evil has he done?"

NARRATOR: But they shouted all the more,

CROWD: **"Crucify him!"**

NARRATOR: So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him,

SOLDIERS: **"Hail, King of the Jews!"**

NARRATOR: They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him. They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take. It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed

by derided him, shaking their heads and saying,

BYSTANDERS: **"Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!"**

NARRATOR: In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying,

CHIEF PRIESTS: "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe."

NARRATOR: Those who were crucified with him also taunted him. When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice,

JESUS: "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?"

NARRATOR: which means,

JESUS: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

NARRATOR: When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

BYSTANDERS: **"Listen, he is calling for Elijah."**

NARRATOR: And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying,

BYSTANDERS: **"Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down."**

NARRATOR: Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

*Silence*

And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said,

CENTURION: "Truly this man was God's Son!"

NARRATOR: There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem. When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the

kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus saw where the body was laid.

<b>NICENE CREED</b>
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<i>Stand</i>
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**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit  
and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified  
under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand  
of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic  
and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

<b>INTERCESSIONS</b>
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<i>Stand</i>
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Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

✕ Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord,  
**and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

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

## PEACE

Lord Jesus Christ,  
who said to your Apostles:  
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,  
look not on our sins,  
but on the faith of your Church,  
and graciously grant her peace and unity  
in accordance with your will.  
Who live and reign for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

## PROCESSION OF THE GIFTS: Jesus Remember Me

Jesus, remember me  
when You come into Your kingdom.

*During this hymn a collection will be taken. If you are a UK taxpayer and can gift aid your donation, please place it in a yellow gift aid envelope (available in the pews) and complete all the details requested.*

## OFFERTORY HYMN: 84 It Is A Thing Most Wonderful

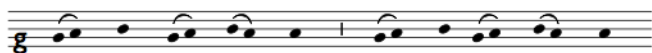
## OFFERTORY PRAYERS

Pray, my brothers and sisters,  
that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God,  
the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept  
the sacrifice at your hands,  
for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

Through the Passion  
of your Only Begotten Son, O Lord,  
may our reconciliation with you be near at hand,  
so that, though we do not merit it by our own deeds,  
yet by this sacrifice made once for all,  
we may feel already the effects of your mercy.  
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER





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



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**R. It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*The Priest continues singing the Preface, ending with:*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord**

God of power and God of might;  
**God of power and God of might**

Heav'n and earth are full of your glory  
**Heav'n and earth are full of your glory**

Hosanna in the highest  
**Hosanna in the highest**

Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord  
**Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord**

Hosanna in the highest  
**Hosanna in the highest**

*The Priest continues the Eucharistic Prayer*

Great is the mystery of faith:  
Christ has died;  
Christ is risen;  
Christ will come again.

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

*The Priest concludes the Eucharistic Prayer  
At the end all sing*



**A - men.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

At the Saviour's command  
and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

**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

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.  
**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

## AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
**Lord, grant us peace**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

This is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sins of the world.  
Happy 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.**

## COMMUNION HYMNS:

**90 O Sacred Head**

**284 Abba Father**

*If you would like to receive a blessing instead, please  
bring your service sheet with you.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*Stand*

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**

## NOTICES

*Sit*

## BLESSING & DISMISSAL

*Stand*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

✠May almighty God bless you,  
the Father,  
and the Son,  
and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

## RECESSIONAL HYMN:

**86 My Song Is Love Unknown**