

Benefice of Marston and Elsfeld

PALM SUNDAY



REMEMBERING OUR LORD'S ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

**A booklet to be used for at Home Worship, both alongside our
online service on YouTube or on its own without the internet.**

You are the Church – We are the Church!

Palm Sunday is the day when Jesus enters Jerusalem – a day of processions and crowds, shouting and singing. This Palm Sunday will be very different: each of us will need to find ways of journeying with Jesus in our scattered places – ‘together, apart’, in and around our homes.

If you’re able to get out for a walk today, you might want to use the ‘Palm Sunday prayer walk’ sheet.

The liturgy here is one that others from Marston and Elsfield will be using some time today.

If there is more than one of you in your home, you might want to share around the parts of a leader/reader, and all join together in the words in **bold type**. If you are on your own, hopefully you’ll feel able to say all the words yourself – either out loud (it’s worth trying this!), or quietly in your head and heart.

What you’ll need

As well as this booklet, you might want to gather together:

- A bible
- A cross, or a picture that helps remind you of God’s presence with you
- A branch of a tree or bush (small or large – you choose!)

GATHERING

Let us worship Jesus.

Hosanna to the king!

Who has come to reign.

We welcome you here Lord!

Hosanna to the King!

Who comes to serve.

Be with us Jesus, alleluia!

BIBLE READING from Mark Chapter 11 verses 1-11

Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna!

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

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Holding your tree branch, say this prayer:

**Jesus, Christ, Messiah our true and humble King:
let us welcome you as you come to our city;
let us run with you as you press on to your passion;
let us scatter not just branches in your path,
but spread our hearts before you, so that you,
God who cannot be contained,
may make your home in us.
Amen.**

Saying Sorry

Lord Jesus when you come to Jerusalem
people gathered to welcome you.
They shouted 'Hosanna' and hope filled their hearts
Forgive us Lord
For the times when we change
our hearts toward you.
**Forgive us Lord,
for the times we change our
hearts towards you.**

When you came into Jerusalem people treated you as a King.
They waved branches in celebration and asked you to save them.
When you hung on the cross,
people treated you like a criminal.
They waved their fists and told you to save yourself.
Forgive us Lord,
for the times we do not trust you.
**Forgive us Lord,
for the times we do not trust you.**

When you came into Jerusalem people stood as one,
shoulder to shoulder in their hopes and dreams

of your reign on earth.

When you were dying on the cross people scattered,
divided by their fears and failures.

Forgive us Lord

for the times when our belief in you turns to betrayal.

Forgive us Lord

**for the times when our belief in you
turns to betrayal.**

This week Lord and every week

let us know your compassion,

your understanding and your forgiveness.

Renew us, forgive us,

Make us sure in hope,

Certain in faith,

And strong in the Lord.

Hosanna, Lord! Hosanna!

Save us Lord and give us hope.

Almighty and everlasting God

your love towards people everywhere

is overwhelming; you sent Jesus into the world to be our Saviour.

He suffered death upon the cross;

an act of love and mercy and forgiveness,

so that we might have life.

Help us to always remember Jesus' love and sacrifice.

May we follow his example

that we may desire love and serve you

and love and serve one another.

We ask this in the name of Jesus;

your Son our Lord.

Amen.

SONG: Meekness and majesty

ANOTHER READING FROM THE BIBLE
Book of Psalm Chapter 118 verses 21-26

21

I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

22

**The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.**

23

This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvellous in our eyes.

24

**This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

25

Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!
O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!

26

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
We bless you from the house of the Lord.**

REFLECTION FOR TODAY by Neil Barker

THE CREED

**Christ died for our sins in accordance with the
Scriptures; he was buried;
he was raised to life on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures;
afterwards he appeared to his followers,
and to all the apostles:
this we have received,
and this we believe. Amen.**

(cf 1 Corinthians 15:3-7)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

SONG: God has Chosen me

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.

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

*The prayer that follows is an adaptation of our Eucharistic Prayer for Lent – a prayer of
thanksgiving (that's what 'eucharist' means) to God, that any of us can pray.*

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

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

Loving God,
the world you made is beautiful and fragile.
You made us, with all your creatures,
and called us to tend the earth with love.
But what you made fertile, we have made desert; and when you
call us to follow, we have turned away.

You gave us your prophets
to challenge us to change our ways,
and in the end you gave us Jesus, your Son, to heal and teach

and proclaim your kingdom come
for all who had lost hope
and were thirsty for life.

He made friends with anyone who would listen and loved even his
enemies.

For these things, he was crucified by the powers-that-be,
but you raised him to life by your love, stronger even than death.

Your Holy Spirit strengthens us on the wilderness paths,
refreshes us with living water, and inspires us to sing your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord,
holy is the Lord God almighty.
Who was, and is, and is to come,
holy, holy, holy is the Lord.**

So with Jesus we praise you,
with Jesus we pray for the brokenness of our world,
with Jesus we thirst for your kingdom to spring to life among us.

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

Send your Holy Spirit upon us your children, upon our bread and
wine and upon your whole creation, that we may walk in your
ways and rejoice in your life, through Jesus Christ, life-giver,
pain-bearer, love-maker.

Amen.

We join together in saying **The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

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.**

Creator God, we offer you our hands and ourselves, as a
community which desires to Break Bread together as brothers and
sisters, united in and by your love.
Be present with us we pray, here in our homes.
Call us to your table, to feast as one body.
We offer you bread and wine all for transformation through your
grace and love.
Amen

*(Through a true desire to receive Christ, lively faith and a genuine
love for Christ and his people, the Church invites you into spiritual
communion; you may eat and drink your bread and wine at home to
symbolically share in the spiritual communion of which you are
already a part)*

Prayer after Communion

If you have a cross you can hold, you might want to pick it up now (or pass it between you if you are with others), as you join in this prayer:

**Jesus our Friend,
your body broken, your life poured out for us: help us, who
walk with you the way of the cross, to learn from you the way
of love,
to stay close to you
through your suffering and death
and to greet you in the Easter dawn.
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 among you,
and remain with you and your loved ones now and always.
Amen.

We pray for peace, we look for peace,
we speak of peace, we act in peace,
we know God's peace.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ.
Amen.