

A Eucharist for Palm Sunday

The Gathering

All **Hosanna to the Son of David.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

Behold your King comes to you, O Zion,
meek and lowly, sitting upon an ass.
Ride on in the cause of truth and for the sake of justice.
Your throne is the throne of God, it endures for ever;
and the sceptre of your kingdom is a righteous sceptre.
You have loved righteousness and hated evil.
Therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness above your fellows.

All **Hosanna to the Son of David.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

The Greeting

We come from scattered lives to meet with God.
Let us recognise his presence with us.

Silence is kept

As God's people we have gathered:

All: **let us worship him together.**

Introduction

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, 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.

We hold up our palms while this prayer is said:

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 forever.

All **Amen.**

The Palm Gospel

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

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

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, "The Lord needs them." And he will send them immediately.' This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, 'Tell the daughter of Zion,

Look, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, 'Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, 'Who is this?' The crowds were saying, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

The 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.

All: **Amen**

First Reading – Isaiah 50.4-9a

The Lord God has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens—
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.
The Lord God has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backwards.
I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.

The Lord God helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.
It is the Lord God who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?
All of them will wear out like a garment;
the moth will eat them up.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

The Passion of St Matthew

Hear the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

At the end:

This is the Passion of the Lord.

A time of silence follows.

All: **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 of 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

We *sit* or *kneel* for the prayers. This response can be used:

Lord, in your mercy

All: **Hear our prayer.**

At the end of the prayers:

Merciful Father,

All: **Accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

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.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The Preparation of the Table

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: **Blessed be God for ever.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you

All: **and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and just,
our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
For as the time of his passion draws near
the whole world is called to acknowledge his hidden majesty.
The power of the life-giving cross
reveals the judgement that has come upon the world
and the triumph of Christ crucified.
He is the victim who dies no more,
the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever,
our advocate in heaven to plead our cause,
exalting us there to join with angels and archangels,
for ever praising you and singing:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and God of might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory,
hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name,
he who comes in the name of the Lord,
hosanna in the highest.**

We praise you and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
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.
So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Christ is the bread of life:

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

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us into your loving arms
and bring us with all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, as we pray in the words you gave us:

All: **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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

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

Agnus Dei

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

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

**Jesus, Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world:
grant us your peace.**

Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.
**All: Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

The President receives communion.

Spiritual Communion

It is an ancient practice of the Church that, when you are prevented from attending the Holy Eucharist, people are invited to express, in the words of St. Thomas Aquinas, "an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Holy Sacrament and a loving embrace as though we had already received Him." Therefore, during this time you are invited to pray this prayer, which may be said as often as you desire:

**Jesus, I believe that you are present
in the Blessed Sacrament.
I love you above all things,
and I long for you in my soul.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, be with me at least spiritually
into my heart.
Amen.**

Prayers after Communion

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.

All: **Amen.**

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.**

Notices and Announcements

The Blessing and Dismissal

22 May the Father,
who 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 the 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.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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