



Blessing of Palms and The Cathedral Eucharist for Palm Sunday

28TH MARCH 2021

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

Introit:

Hosianna dem Sohne Davids

Hosanna to the Son of David,

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Words: Matthew 21. 9

Music Bartholomaus Gesius (c. 1560 – 1613)

Introduction

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord:

Hosanna in the Highest.

Dear friends 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 GOSPEL READING

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

Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

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

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St. John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

John 12. 12-16

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



The Blessing of the Palms.

God our Saviour, whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah to suffer and 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 lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

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 blessèd One.

The people of the Hebrews With palms before thee went; Our praise and prayer and anthems Before thee we present.

Thou didst accept their praises, Accept the prayers we bring, Who in all good delightest, Thou good and gracious King.

St Theodulph of Orleans d. 821 Tr J M Neale 1818-66

Tune: St Thoedulph, Melody by M Teschner c1613, Adapted and harmonised by J S Bach

THE LITURGY OF THE PASSION

THE COLLECT FOR PALM SUNDAY

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 on 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.**

Isaiah 50. 4-9a

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

The servant of the LORD said: 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.

For the word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 31: 9-16

R: I trust in you, O Lord, for you are my God.

Have mercy on me, Lord, for I am in trouble; my eye is consumed with sorrow, my soul and my body also.

For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; my strength fails me because of my affliction, and my bones are consumed. *R*:

I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbours, an object of dread to my acquaintances; when they see me in the street they flee from me. I am forgotten like one that is dead, out of mind; I have become like a broken vessel. *R*:

For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is on ev'ry side; they scheme together against me, and plot to take my life.

But my trust is in you, O Lord.

I have said, 'You are my God. *R*:

'My times are in your hand;
deliver me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.
'Make your face to shine upon your servant,
and save me for your mercy's sake.' R:

R: I trust in you, O Lord, for you are my God.

THE PASSION GOSPEL: MARK

Please join in with the words in bold type.

Narrator: The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Narrator: 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,

Pilate: 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 realized 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,

All: Crucify him!

Narrator: Pilate asked them,

Pilate: Why, what evil has he done?

Narrator: But they shouted all the more,

All: 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,

All: 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,

All: 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,

All: 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, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

All: 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,

Person 1: Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.

Narrator: Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. (Pause) 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 Joses saw where the body was laid.

Narrator: The Passion of the Lord.

THE HOMILY - The Rev'd Canon Dr Randolph Ellis

An Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

Though he was divine,
he did not cling to equality with God,
but made himself nothing.
Taking the form of a slave,
he was born in human likeness.
He humbled himself
and was obedient to death,
even the death of the cross.
Therefore God has raised him on high,
and given him the name above every name:
that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bow,
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE INTERCESSION

Lord, in your mercy: Or Lord, hear us:

hear our prayer. Lord, graciously hear us.

THE PEACE

Once we were far away from God, but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near through the shedding of his blood.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Hymn

The royal banners forward go, The Cross shines forth in mystic glow, Where he in flesh, our flesh who made, Our sentence bore, our ransom paid.

Where deep for us the spear was dyed, Life's torrent rushing from his side, To wash us in that precious flood, Where mingled water flowed, and blood.

Fulfilled is all that David told In true prophetic song of old, The universal Lord is he, Who reigns and triumphs from the tree.

O Tree of beauty, Tree of light,
O Tree with royal purple dight,
Elect on whose triumphal breast
Those holy limbs should find their rest!

To thee, eternal Three in One, Let homage meet by all be done: Whom by thy Cross thou dost restore, Preserve and govern evermore.

> Latin, Venantius Fortunatus 530-609 Tr J M Neale 1818-66 Tune Gonfalon Royal, Percy Buck 1871-1947

THE THANKSGIVING

We celebrate together the gifts and grace of God. We take this bread, we take this wine to follow Christ's example and obey his command.

Prayer over the Gifts

Lord, may the passion of your only Son make us pleasing to you, that we may gain your mercy and love not by any merits of our own but by his perfect sacrifice; we ask this in his name. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer (3)

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 our 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, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord.

Who, bearing the human likeness, humbled himself and in obedience accepted death, even death on a cross. He was lifted up from the earth that he might draw all people to himself.

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:

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.

Missa Alme Pater, Andrew Millington

Hear us, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Through him accept our sacrifice of praise, and grant that, by the power of your Spirit, these gifts of bread and wine may be for us his body and his 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 from this, all of you; for 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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come in glory, Therefore, Father, remembering the saving death and resurrection of your Son we offer to you in thanksgiving this bread and this cup, your gifts to us, and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send your Holy Spirit upon all of us who share this bread and this cup. Strengthen our faith, make us one and welcome us and all your people into the glorious kingdom of your Son.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Silence

As our Saviour taught us, we boldly pray:
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 COMMUNION

The priest breaks the bread.

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

Jesus 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.

As the priest receives Holy Communion, you may like to pray this prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

During Holy Communion the Choir sings

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

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

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

Missa Alme Pater, Andrew Millington

Post Communion

Give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious:

his love is everlasting.

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**

THE BLESSING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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 always. **Amen.**

The Eucharist is ended, and our holy week of remembrance has begun. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

HYMN
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 wingèd 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.

Henry Milman 1791-1868

Tune: Winchester New, adapted from a chorale in Musicalisches Hand-Buch, Hamburg 1690

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