

## Palm Sunday Eucharist – Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2020

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.

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

Welcome to our special Palm Sunday service for the Benefice of Ross with  
Walford and Brampton Abbotts

During Lent we have been preparing for the celebration of Easter with acts of  
self-giving, of kindness and of love.

Today we remember the day Jesus entered Jerusalem in triumph as we hold  
up branches in our homes ready to welcome him.

Our journey will follow him through the city gates riding on a donkey to come  
and stand trial and to suffer and die on the Cross.

Finally we gaze on the Easter garden as we prepare to meet the Risen Lord  
on Easter morning.

*We hold up our palm crosses and branches*

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; **Amen**

### The Palm Gospel

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

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

*Matthew 21.1-11*

When Jesus and his disciples 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.**

As we make our journey with Jesus in heart and mind, holding our palms or branches, we listen to the choir sing.

**Lift up your heads O ye gates – William Mathias (1934 – 1992)**

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

Psalm 24.7-10 – recorded during the week by members of St Mary's Choir

## The Collect

Let us pray for a closer union with Christ in his suffering and in his glory.

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,  
which is the path of glory.

**All** Amen.

## Readings

### 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?

## Gradual

What wondrous love is this – *arr. Geoff Weaver* – an archive recording by St Mary's Choir 2000

# 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.**

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

*Matthew*

*27.11*

Matthew: Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him,

Pilate: Are you the King of the Jews?

Matthew: Jesus said,

Jesus: You say so.

Matthew: But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him,

Pilate: Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?

Matthew: But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed. Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them,

Pilate: Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?

Matthew: For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him,

Pilate's wife: Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.

Matthew: Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them,

Pilate: Which of the two do you want me to release for you?

Matthew: And they said,

Crowd: Barabbas.

Matthew: Pilate said to them,

Pilate: Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?

Matthew: All of them said,

Crowd: Let him be crucified!

Matthew: Then he asked,

Pilate: Why, what evil has he done?

Matthew: But they shouted all the more,

Crowd: Let him be crucified!

Matthew: So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying,

Pilate: I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.

Matthew: Then the people as a whole answered,

Crowd: His blood be on us and on our children!

Matthew: So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying,

Soldiers: Hail, King of the Jews!

Matthew: They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him. As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.' Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying,

Crowd: You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.

Matthew: In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying,

Crowd: He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, 'I am God's Son.'

Matthew: The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice,

Jesus: Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?

Matthew: that is,

Jesus: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

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

Crowd: This man is calling for Elijah.

Matthew: At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said,

Crowd: Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.

Matthew: Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said,

Centurion: Truly this man was God's Son!

This is the Passion of the Lord.

## Sermon

## Prayers of Intercession

## 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*

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**All and also with you.**

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 Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.

**All His Spirit is with us.**

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.**

Father, you made the world and love your creation.

You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour.

His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death.

And so we gladly thank you,

with saints and angels praising you, and *saying*:

**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.**

We praise 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 cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection  
until he comes in glory.

[Jesus Christ is Lord:]

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

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 in 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

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

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

Every time we eat this bread  
and drink this cup,

**All** 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.

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.

*Silence is kept.*

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.

## 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

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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