

Sunday 5 April 2020



Christ entering Jerusalem, Giotto, Scrovegni Chapel, Padua

Palm Sunday Eucharist

Beginning at 9.40am with Eucharist at 10.00am

Celebrant
Revd Sally Hitchiner

Preacher
Revd Richard Carter

⊕ Common Worship

The Procession

Words of Welcome

Look how Christ comes among us: gentle, humble, riding on a donkey.

All Hosanna to the Son of David.

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

All 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.

People in their homes are invited to hold up the palm from last year or any cross they have in their house as 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 for ever.

All Amen.

The Palm Gospel Matthew 21: 1-11 *read by Revd Richard Carter*

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

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.**

Let us go forth, praising Jesus our Messiah.

Prayers on Trafalgar Square

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem; may they prosper who love you. Peace be within your walls.

Words: Luke 13 and Psalm 122

A prayer for the city and nation.

A prayer for the world.

A prayer for our church and the Church throughout the world.

The Arrival in Church

Music before the Welcome

Hosianna dem Sohne Davids! *Bartholomäus Gesius*

Recorded by St Martin's Voices

Welcome

Hymn

Recorded remotely this week by our Choral Scholars from their living rooms, and edited together.

- 1 Ride on! Ride on in majesty!
Hark! all the tribes hosanna cry!
Thy humble beast pursues his road
with palms and scattered garments strowed.**
- 2 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.**
- 3 Ride on! Ride on in majesty!
The wingèd squadrons of the sky
look down with sad and wondering eyes
to see the approaching sacrifice.**
- 4 Ride on! Ride on in majesty!
Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh:
the Father on his sapphire throne
awaits his own anointed son.**
- 5 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 Millman (1791-1868)

Confession

Christ himself carried up our sins in his body to the tree, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds we have been healed. Let us confess our sins.

1 Peter 2.24

O God, you know my foolishness and my sins are not hidden from you: Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Let not the flood overwhelm me nor the depths swallow me up; let not the pit shut its mouth upon me: Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Hear me, O Lord, as your loving kindness is good; turn to me as your compassion is great: Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

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, which is the path of glory.

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading Philippians 2. 5-11

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.

Hear the word of the Lord

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading Matthew 27: 11-54
read by Revd Richard Carter

For a full reading of the Passion Gospel, please follow this link after the service to listen to Juliet Stevenson reading the Gospel for us today: www.facebook.com/stmartininthefields

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus said, 'You say so.' But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him, 'Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?' 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, 'Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?' For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgement seat, his wife sent word to him, 'Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.' 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, 'Which of the two do you want me to release for you?' And they said, 'Barabbas.' Pilate said to them, 'Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?' All of them said, 'Let him be crucified!' Then he asked, 'Why, what evil has he done?' But they shouted all the more, 'Let him be crucified!'

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, 'I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.' Then the people as a whole answered, 'His blood be on us and on our children!' 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, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' 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, '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.' In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, '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." ' 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, 'Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?' that is, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, 'This man is calling for Elijah.' 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, 'Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.' Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. '

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Anthem There is a green hill far away (St John Passion) *Bob Chilcott*
Recorded by St Martin's Voices

Sermon *Revd Richard Carter*

Anthem *Jesu, grant me this I pray (St John Passion) Bob Chilcott*
Recorded by St Martin's Voices

Apostles' Creed

All **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

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

Offertory song *Peace I leave with you Amy Beach*
Recorded by St Martin's Voices

Preparation of the Table Taking of the Bread and Wine

*The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.
The presider takes the bread and wine.*

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 our joy and destiny to praise you, Lord God, for in wondrous love you cast stars into space and in meek obedience your Son surrendered to cruel nails. With loving-kindness you called your people in Abraham, and in covenant with Moses you bound up your life in theirs. Through exile you stayed close to them, and in Jesus you came among them bearing the fullness of grace and truth. Your Son Jesus faced rejection, cruelty and death, yet in resurrection you exalted him, and in sending your Spirit you shed glory on all people. And so we rejoice with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, singing the song of your unending praise.

All **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.**

Hosanna is our cry, Blessed One. Your Son comes on a donkey in your name. As Jesus entered Jerusalem to bear our sorrows and suffer for our sins, enter our hearts and confront our waywardness today. Send your Holy Spirit upon us, that we may be your Son's crucified and risen body. Send your Spirit upon this bread that it may be living bread, and on this wine that it may be the cup of salvation, that together they may be for us the body and blood of your son Jesus Christ. Who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying, 'Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.' After supper he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, '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.'

Great is the mystery of faith.

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

Humble God, your Son did not exploit his status but emptied himself. Pour out your Spirit on all who are exploited, in world or church, on all who are humbled, by state or employer or family member, on all who are emptied of hope, of faith, or of love. As you highly exalted your Son who had become a slave, highly exalt your children who suffer for righteousness, or grieve those they have cherished, or bend the knee to one who does not honour them. Fill the earth with your justice and peace, until every heart shall sing and every tongue confess that you are the joy of their desiring, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, ever one God, in all ages and forevermore.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray, each in our first language:

**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.**

Breaking of the Bread

Every time we eat this bread
and drink this cup:

**All We proclaim the Lord's death
until he comes again in glory.**

Giving of Communion

Christ took our humanity and blessed it; and was broken for us that
God's life may be shared.

Come, enter the mystery of God's passion for us.

Communion motet Jesus, remember me *Taizé Community*
Recorded by St Martin's Voices

Prayer 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

The Dismissal

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, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Hymn

Recorded remotely this week by our Choral Scholars from their living rooms, and edited together.

- 1 **My song is love unknown,
my Saviour's love to me,
love to the loveless shown,
that they might lovely be.
O who am I,
that for my sake
my Lord should take
frail flesh, and die?**
- 2 **He came from his blest throne,
salvation to bestow;
but men made strange, and none
the longed-for Christ would know.
But O, my Friend,
my Friend indeed,
who at my need
his life did spend.**
- 3 **Sometimes they strew his way,
and his sweet praises sing;
resounding all the day
hosannas to their King.
Then 'Crucify!'
is all their breath,
and for his death
they thirst and cry.**

**4 Here might I stay and sing:
no story so divine;
never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine!
This is my Friend,
in whose sweet praise
I all my days
could gladly spend.**

Samuel Crossman (1624-1683)

The Grace

**All The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore.
Amen**

**Sung Blessing The Lord bless you and keep you *John Rutter*
*Recorded by St Martin's Voices.***

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