

A Liturgy of the Word - Palm Sunday

2 April 2023

The full service or the sermon can be viewed on the website.

Processional 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 blessed one:
*All glory, laud, and honour
to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.*

The company of angels
are praising thee on high,
and mortal men and all things
created make reply:
*All glory, laud, and honour
to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.*

The people of the Hebrews
with palms before thee went:
our praise and prayer and anthems
before thee we present:
*All glory, laud, and honour
to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.*



Call to Worship

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Excitement is all about. Today we tell an ancient story of a parade, palms, and possibilities.
And we wear palms and crosses, reminding ourselves that both delight and agony, joy and disappointment are part of our living.

Today we say: Blessed is the One who comes in God's name! Hosanna!
This One is Jesus of Nazareth —teacher, builder, Christ.

In ancient Jerusalem, people gave Jesus a wonderful welcome.
Today we celebrate the presence of the living Christ!

Merciful Saviour, it is our privilege and delight to be in your presence and to bring our praises and worship to you. You are our teacher and our friend; our rock and our hope; our strength and our light. We celebrate your arrival in Jerusalem; we anticipate the agony that is before you; we await your victory over death. Grant that we might walk this journey alongside you as faithful disciples, rather than as participants of the fickle crowd.
Amen.

The Penitence

We stand at the beginning of our celebration of the Passion of our Lord. As we enter Holy Week, let us prepare our hearts to follow Jesus to the cross by confessing all that turns us from our Saviour's path.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father
in penitence we confess
that we have sinned against you
through our own fault
in thought, word, and deed
and in what we have left undone.
For the sake of your Son, Christ our Lord
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life
to the glory of your name.**



The Absolution

The Psalmist says: But in you Lord have I put my trust, I say 'You are my God.' My times are in your hands; deliver me from my enemies and from those who pursue me. Let your face shine on your servant; save me in your unfailing love." In Christ, God hears; God answers; God sets us free.
In Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

The Collect

**Eternal Father, your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
fulfilled your will by taking our nature and giving his life for us:
help us to follow the example of his humility
by walking in the way of the cross;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

The Word of God

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 31:9-18

Philippians 2:5-11

Gospel

Matthew 27:11-54

The Sermon

The Revd Sharmain James

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in the words of the apostles creed

**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.**



Prayers of Intercession

Through our Lord, Jesus Christ, who endured His passion and death to rise to new life, we bring our prayers in confidence to God for He has done great things for love of us.

As Holy Week begins, we pray for the leaders of the church, that they may grow into the likeness of your Son and be transformed by the service they render in your name. Bless the bishops, the clergy and lay leaders who are leading the church in the example of Christ. Fill them with the same spirit that led your Son in his daily life and service. Lord Jesus, you emptied yourself, form us into a Church that empties itself for others, and for you.
Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Lord Jesus, come to leaders who need wisdom to lead rightly and integrity to lead well. May they recognise in Jesus the model for leadership and humble service and follow the example of Jesus in serving those entrusted to their care. May we all learn from the passion of your Son Jesus, how to spend our lives in the pursuit of our true purpose here on earth, how to show unto the world that leadership truly is about service; and selfless service at that.
Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Loving God, In Jesus, you love the whole world. So, we continue to pray for those areas where normal, daily life is violence, war and unending poverty. We pray that as we approach Easter, peace may begin to take root in these dark places.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

We give thanks for human love and friendship and for all that enriches our daily lives. We pray for the spiritual family of St Michael's, as we work, study, serve, and rest, may our lives reflect your goodness and reflect your peace. As we enter Holy Week may we all experience a special outpouring of your Holy Spirit upon us.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Loving God, In the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus experienced distress and anguish over what lay ahead. We pray for all who are experiencing distress and anguish at the present time. We pray especially for those who are ill, at home or in hospital. Give them the gift of healing, strength, and life. Be with those who are approaching their own death, that they may be comforted by the truth of the resurrection.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Loving God, On the cross as Jesus died, your love was glorified. We thank you that He was obedient to death and that you raised Him on high so we know that not even death can separate us from your love. We remember those who passed away recently and those whose years mind it is this week. Hold in the palm of your hand those who are mourning the loss of loved ones and those who will struggle to sing "alleluia" later this week

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Strengthen our faith on this Palm Sunday so that when the time comes to carry our cross, we might still call out to You with heartfelt praise. Give us the grace and the courage to follow You this Holy Week from death to resurrection, from darkness to the fullness of light.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

God of love and mercy, from the cross your Son cried out to you in complete trust. With that same trust, hear the prayer of your people as we ask them in the name of Jesus, the crucified and risen one, who is Lord forever and ever. **Amen**

Prayer for Offering

Gracious God, we bring our offerings to you as cheerful and grateful givers. You are the giver of every good and perfect gift — of life and of eternal life, of your redeeming grace and mercy, of your love which overcomes our fears and weaknesses. Thank you for blessing us with the gift of yourself, and for counting us worthy to share in Jesus' life and ministry. Take and bless these gifts as tokens of our very lives, as we follow Jesus on the path to crucifixion and resurrection. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As Christ has taught us we are bold to pray:

**Our Father in heaven hallowed be your Name
your kingdom come
your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
And deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen**

The Blessing

As Jesus set his face toward Calvary and the cross, let us enter this Holy Week focusing our hearts and minds on the extraordinary love that motivated and enabled Jesus to lay down his life for us. Go from this place knowing that you are held by the same love that held our Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you, now and always.

Amen

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen

Final 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 triumph now begin
o'er captive death
and conquered sin.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
The winged squadrons of the sky
look down with sad
and wondering eyes
to see the approaching sacrifice.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
The 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.



Credits

Music

All Glory Laud and Honour

Sung by A 250 voice choir

Conductor: Emmanuel Ponraj

Pipe Organ: Leslie David

Recorded live at St Andrews Kirk Chennai in 2010.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zxzhFsuBijs>

Ride On ! Ride On In Majesty

Sung by The choir of King's College, Cambridge

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g-qDQSjnzH8>

Liturgy

Call to Worship

Taken from Homiletics worship resources, worship resources

Prayer

Palm Sunday worship resource: Homiletics Online

Absolution

taken from "Discipleship Ministry, the United Methodist Church

Blessing

taken from: Homiletics Online

Giving

Thank you for your continued financial contribution to the church at this time so as to enable St Michael's to meet its obligations in mission and ministry.

E.F.T

St Michael's Church Bank

Standard Bank (051001)

Account Number: 000 176 397

Account Name: Bryanston St Michael

SNAP SCAN



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