



Welcome to St Alban's Palm Sunday



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

And also with you.

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, 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 people hold up palms or branches while this prayer is said by the president:

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. **Amen.**

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

Luke 19.28-40

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" just say this: "The Lord needs it."' "

So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, 'Why are you untying the colt?' They said, 'The Lord needs it.' Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it.

As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

'Blessed is the king
who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest heaven!'

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, order your disciples to stop.' He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.'

THE PROCESSION

Let us go forth, praising Jesus our Messiah.

ALL GLORY, LAUD AND HONOUR *St Theodulph of Orleans Tr. J M Neale*

***All glory, laud and honour
To thee, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children
Made sweet Hosannas ring.***

**1 Thou art the King of Israel,
Thou David's royal Son,
Who in the Lord's name comest,
The King and blessed one.**

**2 The company of angels
Are praising thee on high,
And mortal men and all things
created make reply.**

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

**4 To thee before thy Passion
They sang their hymns of praise:
To thee now high exalted
Our melody we raise.**

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

RIDE ON, RIDE ON IN MAJESTY! *Henry Hart Milman (1791-1868)*

**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 wingéd squadrons of the sky
look down with sad and wond'ring 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 appointed 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 pow'r, and reign.**

MAKE WAY, MAKE WAY *Graham Kendrick © 1986 Kingsway's Thankyou Music.*

**1 Make way, make way, for Christ the King
in splendour arrives.
Fling wide the gates and welcome him
into your lives.**

***Make way! (Make way!) Make way! (Make way!)
for the King of kings. (for the King of kings.)
(Repeat)***

**2 He comes the broken hearts to heal,
the prisoners to free.
The deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance,
the blind shall see.**

**3 And those who mourn with heavy hearts,
who weep and sigh;
with laughter, joy and royal crown
he'll beautify.**

**4 We call you now to worship him
as Lord of all.
To have no gods before him,
their thrones must fall!**

We enter the church together for the Liturgy of Palm Sunday

GATHERING HYMN *James Montgomery (1771-1854)*

**1 Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
Great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free,
To take away transgression,
And rule in equity.**

**2 He shall come down like showers
Upon the fruitful earth,
And love, joy, hope, like flowers,
Spring in his path to birth.
Before him, on the mountains,
Shall peace, the herald, go;
And righteousness in fountains
From hill to valley flow.**

**3 O'er every foe victorious,
He on his throne shall rest,
From age to age more glorious,
All blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never
His covenant remove;
His name shall stand for ever;
That name to us is Love.**

† In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Before the children leave for Children's Church we pray together....

**Dear God, this church is a family.
Help us to learn together, to worship together,
to share together and to pray together.
In Jesus' name. Amen.**

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

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 upon 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.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 50. 4-9a

*After the reading...*This is the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PASSION READING

Please stand if you are able

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

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Luke 22.14 – 23.56

*At the end...*This is the Passion of the Lord (*No response is made*)

HYMN

- 1 Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?**
- 2 Were you there when they nailed him to a tree?...**
- 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?...**
- 4 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?...**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Response: Lord, in your mercy...**hear our prayer.**

At the end of the prayers we say together:

**Merciful Father, accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

THE PEACE *Please stand.*

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.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN *Robert Grant (1779-1838)*

**1 O worship the King,
all glorious above;
O gratefully sing
his power and his love:
our shield and defender,
the ancient of days,
pavilioned in splendour,
and girded with praise.**

**2 O tell of his might,
O sing of his grace,
whose robe is the light,
whose canopy space.
His chariots of wrath,
the deep thunder-clouds form,
and dark is his path
on the wings of the storm.**

**3 The earth, with its store
of wonders untold,
almighty, thy power
hath founded of old;
hath 'stablished it fast,
by a changeless decree,
and round it hath cast,
like a mantle, the sea.**

**5 Frail children of dust,
and feeble as frail,
in thee do we trust,
nor find thee to fail;
thy mercies how tender,
how firm to the end!
Our maker, defender,
redeemer, and friend.**

**4 Thy bountiful care
what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air,
it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills,
it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distils
in the dew and the rain.**

**6 O measureless might,
ineffable love,
while angels delight
to hymn thee above,
thy humbler creation,
though feeble their lays,
with true adoration
shall sing to thy praise.**

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. **Amen.**

THE EUCHARIST

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 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 and resurrection 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:

**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.

Great is the mystery of faith

All sing: Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

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 the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Alban and 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.
Amen.

As our Saviour taught us so we pray:

**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.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

All sing:

**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.**

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

All baptised Christians who receive communion in their own churches are welcome to receive communion. Any member of the congregation may come to receive a blessing

COMMUNION HYMN *Samuel Crossman (c. 1624-83)*

**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 In life no house, no home
my Lord on earth might have;
in death, no friendly tomb,
but what a stranger gave.
What may I say?
Heaven was his home;
and mine the tomb wherein he lay.**

**5 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.**

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. **Amen.**

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ.
Through Him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen**

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

The love of the Lord Jesus draw you to himself,
the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen you in his service,
the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts.
And the blessing....

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

CLOSING HYMN *Frances J. van Alstyne (1820-1915)*

**1 To God be the glory! Great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
Who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.**

*Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son;
And give him the glory,
great things he has done!*

**2 O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
To every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives. *Praise the Lord...***

**3 Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son:
But purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our worship, when Jesus we see! *Praise the Lord...***

Mass setting: New People's Mass, A Gregory Murray ©1975, 1987 McCrimmon Publishing Co Ltd.

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