

Palm Sunday 5th April, 2020

**God is love, since God loves us we should love one another Lord,
direct our thoughts, and teach us to pray.**

Lift up our hearts to worship you in spirit and in truth.

Amen.

Opening Prayer

Lord, direct our thoughts and teach us to pray.

Lift up our hearts to worship you in spirit and in truth,

Help us through your Holy Spirit, that we may do everything that pleases you,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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 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 forever.

We ask for God's forgiveness

God of mercy, we are sorry that we have not always done what you wanted us to do. We have not loved you with all our heart, and we have not cared enough for other people. Forgive us, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Reading for today. (Matthew 21:1-11)

Jesus Comes to Jerusalem as King.

On the Sunday before his death, Jesus began his trip to Jerusalem, knowing that soon he would lay down his life for our sins.

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."

This took place to fulfil what was spoken through the prophet:

**"Say to Daughter Zion,
'See, your king comes to you,
gentle and riding on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'"**

The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on.

A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed welcomed him by waving palm branches in the air and shouting,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?"

The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

Short silence

Palm Sunday message.

If you have a palm cross from previous years please hold up your cross in prayer. If you don't have a palm cross I hold this cross up for you as well as for me, as we come together as one family singing Hosanna in the highest heaven. Lets bow our heads.

God our Saviour, whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah to suffer and to die, let this palm be for us a sign of his victory; and grant that we who bear them in his name may forever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life. **Amen.**

Short silence

With Christians across the nations and down the centuries, we declare our common faith in God and affirm our Faith

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and earth is named.

We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high. We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Intercessions (from Malcolm) Please respond 'hear our prayer'

Heavenly Father as we continue to shut ourselves off from the world. Let us not lose sight of those in need. The homeless, the lonely, those in hospital and nursing homes.

Risen Lord **hear our prayers.**

We pray for those on the front line doctors and nurses who work long hours away from their loved to care for those in need at this time.

Risen Lord **hear our prayers.**

We pray for everyone who is working to supply the necessary equipment and sanitizers. For those working to ensure everyone has enough food and are being cared for at home.

Risen Lord **hear our prayers.**

We pray for friends and family who we can only talk to by phone. We pray for those who are isolated and have no one to talk to.

Risen Lord **hear our prayers.**

We pray for those who have lost their lives and those who are left to mourn. May they find comfort in Jesus Christ who came to earth suffered death and rose again.

Risen Lord **hear our prayers.**

Lord's Prayer (the prayer Jesus Himself taught us)

Together we say:

**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, forever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing

The Lord bless us and watch over us;
the Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us; the Lord look kindly on
us and give us peace. **Amen.**

Over the coming week up to Easter Day we will be walking with Jesus each day on
His journey to the cross and glorious resurrection. I hope you will join us each day
on our website and Facebook page. Amen