



PALM SUNDAY Yr C 10th April 2022

Leader: Chris W / Greeter: David

Welcome:

Greeting:

This morning begins the Great Week of the Christian Year. During Lent we have been preparing by works of love and self-sacrifice for the celebration of the Lord's death and resurrection. With Christians throughout the world, we come together this week to call to mind, and to express in word and action, the centre of the Easter mystery: our Lord's Passover from death to life. Christ entered in triumph into the Jerusalem to complete his work as Messiah: to suffer, to die and to rise to new life. Today we commit ourselves to walk the way of the cross, so that, sharing his sufferings, we may be united with him in his risen life.

May the light of the Lord be with you

And also with you

Moment of Stillness:

As we begin our service, let's take a moment to be still and aware of God's presence within and all around us.

Christ Candle:

In this season of Light,
we light this candle to remind us of God's light shining in the darkness.
May we carry this light of hope, peace, and justice

to the world around us every day.

Acknowledgement First Peoples:

As we gather to worship God, we acknowledge the sovereign First Peoples of this country on which we gather today; the Gadigal and Wangal people. And we pay our respects to their Elders past and present, together with all descendants.

We commit ourselves to support Voice, Treaty, Truth – justice for First Nations Peoples.

Call to Worship:

When God appeared on earth in the person of Jesus, most of the world did not recognize him and therefore did not worship him.

Today we ask for faith that will open our eyes to see Jesus for who he is, that we might worship him in truth. People of God, behold your God!

We open our eyes to see his glory.

We open our ears to hear his wisdom.

We open our hands to offer him gifts.

We open our mouths to sing his praise.

We open our hearts to offer him our love.

Amen

Opening Prayer:

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you; righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey.

As the people spread their coats & palm branches on the ground to welcome Jesus into Jerusalem, so we welcome him into our lives this morning.

King of Glory, King of Peace, Servant King, reign in our hearts and lives this day and all days, that we might praise your holy name.

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

Hosanna in the highest. Amen

Song: Ride on ride on in majesty

Ride on, ride on in majesty;

hark, all the tribes hosanna cry!
O Saviour meek, pursue your road
with palms and scattered garments strowed.

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,
in lowly pomp ride on to die;
bow your meek head to mortal pain,
then take, O Christ, your power and reign!

Prayer of Confession:

Jesus rode into Jerusalem not as a conquering king but in humility, the Servant King, ready to complete the task for which he had walked this world. Forgive us those times when we think too highly of ourselves and remind us always that you ask from us lives dedicated to service, to you and to our neighbours, wherever and whoever they might be. Enable us to take off our cloaks of self-righteousness and lay them down at your feet.

‘Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord” – and you forgave the guilt of my sin.’

Amen

Words of assurance:

Laying aside judgment, God offers us redemption; setting aside anger, God embraces us with love; letting go of grief, God pours living water upon us. This is the good news, my friends: God's steadfast love endures forever.

Hosanna! Hosanna!

Blessed is the One who brings us the kingdom of God! Amen

Peace:

The peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you.

Let's share Christ's peace with one another.

Song: My song is love unknown

My song is love unknown;

My Saviour's love to me;

Love to the loveless shown,

That they may lovely be.

O who am I,

That for my sake,

My Lord should take

Frail flesh and die?

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.

They rise and needs will have

My dear Lord made a way;

A murderer they save;

The Prince of life they slay.

Yet cheerful He
To suffering goes,
That He His foes
From thence might free.

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.

*Moment for the young at heart: **Graham***

*Bible Readings: **Alison***

Luke 19:28-40

Jesus Comes to Jerusalem as King

28 After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

29 As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 30 “Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. 31 If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ say, ‘The Lord needs it.’”

32 Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. 33 As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?”

34 They replied, “The Lord needs it.”

35 They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it.

36 As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road.
37 When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:
38 “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!”[a]
“Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”
39 Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!”
40 “I tell you,”he replied, “if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.”

Philippians 2:1-11

Imitating Christ’s Humility

2 Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. 3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in very nature[a] God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

7 rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature[b] of a servant, being made in human likeness.

8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death - even death on a cross!

9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place

and gave him the name that is above every name,

10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Hear the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Reflection: Rev. Brian Woodhouse

Moment of Stillness

Prayers of the People: Alison

The Lord's Prayer:

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.

Save us in the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom the power and the glory are yours.

Now and forever.

Amen

Giving thanks: The congregation share good news

Community News:

Offering Prayer:

As we offer these tangible gifts, Lord, remind us of those who could use the clothes hanging in our closets unworn, those who could be feed by the food stored in our pantries, those who could be healed by the grace and hope we keep locked away in our hearts. May we be as generous with others as you are with us, we pray. **Amen.**

Song: Jesus shall reign where'er the sun

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun

does its successive journeys run;

his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,

till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head;
his name like sweet perfume shall rise
with every morning sacrifice;

Where he displays his healing power
death and the curse are known no more;
in him the tribes of Adam boast
more blessings than their father lost.

Let every creature rise and bring
the highest honours to our King,
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud amen.

Benediction & Blessing:

Go now to follow the way of Jesus:
see others as he did;
dare to give freely as he did;
to love unconditionally as he did.
Go, embraced by the Source of life, love and hope;
in the company of the Word of life;
encouraged by the Breath of life.

Amen

Threefold Amen

Pastoral Prayers: Brian & Gretta