



**An Order for the Blessing of Palms and Ante-Communion
from the Book of Common Prayer**

**Palm Sunday
Sunday, April 5, 2020**



Entrance into Jerusalem
Giotto di Bondone, 1305

INTROIT: 'Hosanna to the Son of David'

Hosanna filio David : benedictus que venit in nomine Domini. Rex Israel: Hosanna in excelsis.

Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE GOSPEL OF THE PALMS

Matthew 21.1-11

R / *Glory be to thee, 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 fulfill 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."

The Gospel of Christ

R / *Praise be to thee, O Christ*

THE BLESSING OF THE PALMS

The Celebrant says:

Brothers and sisters in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing 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 in his risen life.

Let us pray. O God our heavenly Father, whose blessed Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, entered Jerusalem as Messiah to suffer and to die; bless (+) we pray these palms, that they may be unto us a sign 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 leadeth to eternal life; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

HYMN 130 - All Glory, laud, and honour

Ref: *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.
All glory, laud, and honour...
- 2 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...
- 3 Thou didst accept their praises,
Accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest,
Thou good and gracious King.
All glory, laud, and honour...

S' THEODULPH
Melody by M. Teschner, c 1613
Adapted and harmonized by J.S. Bach

S' Theodulph of Orleans, d. 821
Tr J. M. Neale, 1818-66

KYRIE ELEISON *Missa de Angelis*

Cantor: Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who, of thy tender love towards mankind, hast sent thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, to take upon him our flesh, and to suffer death upon the cross, that all mankind should follow the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant, that we may both follow the example of his patience, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

FIRST READING Isaiah 50:4-9a

The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned. The Lord GOD hath opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back. I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting. For the Lord GOD will help me; therefore shall I not be confounded: therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed. He is near that justifieth me; who will contend with me? let us stand together: who is mine adversary? let him come near to me. Behold, the Lord GOD will help me; who is he that shall condemn me?

PSALM 31:9-16

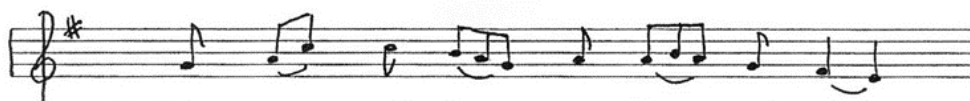
- 9 Thou hast not shut me up into the hand of the enemy; /
but hast set my feet in a broad place.
- 10 HAVE mercy upon me, O LORD, for I am in trouble, /
and mine eye is consumed for very heaviness; yea, my soul and my body.
- 11 For my life is waxen old with sorrow, / and my years with mourning.
- 12 My strength faileth me because of my adversity, /
and my bones are consumed.
- 13 I am become a reproach because of all mine enemies, /
and especially unto my neighbours;
- 14 And they of mine acquaintance are afraid of me; /
and they that see me in the street flee from me.
- 15 I am clean forgotten, as a dead man out of mind; /
I am become like a broken vessel.
- 16 For I have heard the whispering of the multitude, and fear is on every side; /
while they conspire together against me, and plot to take away my life.

EPISTLE : Philippians 2.5-11

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: who, being in the form of God, counted it not a prize to be equal to God, but emptied himself, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him the name which is above every name; that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord
R / *Thanks be to God*

SEQUENCE HYMN



1 The roy - al ban - ners for - ward go,
2 There whil'st he hung, his sa - cred side
3 Ful - fill'd is now what Da - vid told
4 O Tree of glo - ry, Tree most fair,
5 Up - on its arms, like bal - ance true,
6 To thee, E - ter - nal THREE in ONE,



1 The Cross shines forth in mys - tic glow;
2 By sol - dier's spear was o - pen'd wide,
3 In true pro - phet - ic song of old,
4 Or - dain'd those ho - ly limbs to bear,
5 He weigh'd the price for sin - ners due,
6 Let hom - age meet by all be done:



1 Where he in flesh, our flesh who made,
2 To cleanse us in the pre - cious flood
3 How GOD the hea - then's King should be;
4 How bright in pur - ple robe it stood,
5 The price which none but he could pay,
6 As by the Cross thou dost res - tore,



1 Our sen - tence bore, our ran - som paid.
2 Of wa - ter ming - l'd with his Blood.
3 For GOD is reign - ing from the Tree.
4 The pur - ple of a SA - VIOUR's Blood!
5 And spoil'd the spoil - er of his prey.
6 So rule and guide us ev - er - more.



A - men.

THE PASSION ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

*The Passion Gospel is read in parts. The Congregation says the words in **bold type**:*

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Matthew.

One of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, "What will you give me if I betray Jesus to you?" They paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'"

So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal. When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, "Surely not I, Lord?"

He answered, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born." Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?"

He replied, "You have said so."

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, “You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.”

Peter said to him, “Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.” Jesus said to him, “Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.” Peter said to him, “Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.” And so said all the disciples. Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.”

He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, “I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.” And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want.”

Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, “So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” Again he went away for the second time and prayed, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.” Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.”

While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.” At once he came up to Jesus and said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” and kissed him. Jesus said to him, “Friend, do what you are here to do.”

Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?" At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled."

Then all the disciples deserted him and fled. Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.'"

The high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?" But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, "I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God."

Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, From now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven."

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?"

They answered, "He deserves death." Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, saying, "Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?"

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean." But he denied it before all of them, saying, "I do not know what you are talking about." When he went out to the porch, another

servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.” Again he denied it with an oath, “I do not know the man.” After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you.” Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, “I do not know the man!” At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: “Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.” And he went out and wept bitterly.

When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor. When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. He said, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.” But they said, “What is that to us? See to it yourself.” Throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, “It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money.”

After conferring together, they used them to buy the potter’s field as a place to bury foreigners. For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah, “And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one on whom a price had been set, on whom some of the people of Israel had set a price, and they gave them for the potter’s field, as the Lord commanded me.”

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 judgment 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 “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. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

Silence

Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had provided for him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, "Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' Therefore command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, 'He has been raised from the dead,' and the last deception would

be worse than the first.” Pilate said to them, “You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can.” So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

Silence

HOMILY

Silence

THE INTERCESSION FOR PALM SUNDAY

Celebrant: Dear friends in this Holy Week, let us devoutly pray for those who follow our Lord from the glory of the palms to the glory of the Resurrection, and for all people everywhere.

Deacon: For Andrew our Bishop, Jenny the bishop for this area, and all the clergy and people of this church, Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Linda our Primate, and Anne our Metropolitan. For (_____) according to the Anglican cycle of prayer, and for (_____) according to the diocesan prayer cycle. That as we walk the Way of the Cross, we may find that it is for us the way of life.
Lord, hear our prayer.

All: **And let our cry come unto thee.**

Deacon: For those preparing for baptism and confirmation, and all those being received into the Anglican Communion, that God will give them inquiring and discerning hearts and the courage to will and to persevere.
Lord, hear our prayer.

All: **And let our cry come unto thee.**

Deacon: For the leaders of the nation and the world. that God will kindle in every heart the true love of peace, justice and mercy.
Lord, hear our prayer.

All: **And let our cry come unto thee.**

Deacon: For medical researchers, doctors, and nurses. For firefighters and first responders. For grocery clerks, food packagers, delivery people, and farmers. For janitors, sanitation workers, and all essential worker, that God will strengthen them and keep them safe.

Lord, hear our prayer.

All: **And let our cry come unto thee.**

Deacon: For the sick, especially (_____) and all those suffering from the coronavirus. For the poor, homeless, refugee, and imprisoned. For those who have asked for our prayers, especially (_____), that God will comfort and be present with them.

Lord, hear our prayer.

All: **And let our cry come unto thee.**

Deacon: For those who have died, especially (_____) who have died in recent days, and on their year's mind (_____). that God will give them a share in the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ, with the Blessed Virgin Mary, S. Thomas our Patron, and all the Saints.
Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord.

All: And let light perpetual shine up-on them.

Deacon: May they rest in peace and rise in glory. **Amen.**

Celebrant: Almighty God, who sent thy Son among us to bear the pain and grief of humankind, receive the prayers we offer this day, and as we draw near to the Day of Resurrection, grant us strength on our journey; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION

Deacon: Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

All: **Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men: We acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we from time to time most grievously have committed, By thought, word, and deed, Against thy Divine Majesty. We do earnestly repent, And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

ABSOLUTION

Celebrant: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him: Have mercy upon you; pardon + and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you:

R / *And with thy spirit.*

The Lord's Prayer

Priest Gathering our prayers into one, let us pray as our Saviour Christ hath taught us: **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 them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.**

Silence. The Celebrant introduces the Act of Spiritual Communion

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that thou art truly present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot now receive thee sacramentally, I beseech thee to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself unto thee, and embrace thee with all the affections of my soul. Let me never be separated from thee. Let me live and die in thy love. Amen.

SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE AND BLESSING

Almighty God, we beseech thee graciously to behold this thy family, for which our Lord Jesus Christ was contented to be betrayed, and given up into the hands of wicked men, and to suffer death upon the cross; who liveth and reigneth, now and ever. **Amen**

And may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son + and the Holy Ghost be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen**