

PALM SUNDAY

Morning Worship - Sunday 13 April 2003

Welcome and Introduction



Verse of Scripture

Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Leader: Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth;

All: Serve the Lord with gladness!

Leader: Come before him with joyful songs;

All: Give thanks to him and praise his name! Amen.

Leader:

During Lent we have been preparing for Easter. Our Lord Jesus Christ on this day entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph. The people welcomed him with palms and shouts of praise, but the path before him led to self-giving, suffering and death. Today we greet him as our King, although we know his crown is made of thorns and his throne a cross. We follow him this week from the glory of the palms to the glory of the resurrection by the dark road of suffering and death. As we are united with him in his suffering on the cross; may we share his resurrection and new life.

All: Lord Jesus, you rode into your city in triumph on this day, receiving the shouts and the welcome of many people. Come into this church today. Receive our welcome and our acclaim. Come to rule in our hearts and minds and help us to go out to proclaim you as ruler over all.

Hymn

All glory laud, and honour (Mission Praise 9)

Confession

On Palm Sunday, the crowds worshipped Jesus; on Good Friday they shouted for him to die. Let us who also worship him, confess that we sometimes reject him, and ask his forgiveness:

Lord Jesus Christ, you come to us in peace, but we sometimes shut the door of our mind against you.

In your mercy: **forgive us and help us.**

You come to us in humility, but we prefer our own proud ways.

In your mercy: **forgive us and help us.**

You come to us in judgement, but we cling to our familiar sins.

In your mercy: **forgive us and help us.**

You come to us in majesty, but we will not have you to reign over us.

In your mercy: **forgive us and help us.**

Lord, forgive our empty praise, fill our loveless hearts; come to us and make our lives your home for ever. Amen.

(The Minister will proclaim the words of forgiveness)

Minister: O Lord open our lips

All: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise**

Minister Let us worship the Lord

All: **All praise to his name**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son,

and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now,

and shall be for ever. Amen.

Offering

After the offering is collected it is brought forward.

The people stand as it is presented and say

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.

Hymn
Make Way (Mission Praise 457)

The Ministry of the Word
*(You may follow the Bible Readings
on your Bible Notes sheet)*



The Collect

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.

Bible Readings
Isaiah Chapter 50:4-9a
Mark II: 1-II

At the end of each reading

Reader: This is the word of the Lord
All: **Thanks be to God**

Hymn
Crown Him with many crowns (109 Mission Praise)

The Sermon
The Reverend Dr Joan Crossley

Hymn
O worship the King (528 Mission Praise)

Prayers

Gathering our prayers together into one, we pray the prayer our Saviour taught us

The Lord's Prayer

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,
For ever and ever. Amen

Distribution of the Palms

Minister: Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, almighty God, for the way of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Saviour. As he entered Jerusalem as Messiah to suffer and to die, the Hebrews acclaimed Jesus the Messiah and King with palm branches in their hands, crying 'Hosanna in the highest'.

May your blessing be upon these palms as signs of his love for us and triumph over evil; 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 lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

(The Palm Crosses are now distributed)

Hymn

Ride on, ride on in majesty! (Mission Praise 580)

Blessing

Minister: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

All: In the name of Christ. Amen.