

Liturgy of Palm Sunday
and
All-Age Passion Gospel



the parish of
St George the Martyr
Shirley

Liturgy of Palm Sunday

We remember our Lord's entry into Jerusalem

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

The Greeting

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

Introduction

Fellow children of God,
sisters and brothers in Christ,
during Lent we have been preparing ourselves
by giving up things to remind us that Jesus gave up his life,
by praying just as Jesus taught his followers,
by doing things for others out of love just as Jesus did.

Today with all the children of God around the world
as we begin to share this Holy Week
we remember

your entry into Jerusalem,
your anger at the temple,
your breaking of the bread of life,
your sharing of a cup of wine,
your washing of your followers' feet,
your prayer in the garden,
your arrest and trial,
your crucifixion, death and burial;

and in eternal hope,
we look forward together to your being raised to new life.

The Palm Gospel

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus and his disciples reached Bethphage and Bethany near the Mount of Olives. When they were getting close to Jerusalem, Jesus sent two of them on ahead. He told them, "Go into the next village. As soon as you enter it, you will find a young donkey that has never been ridden. Untie the donkey and bring it here. If anyone asks why you are doing that, say, 'The Lord needs it and will soon bring it back.'"

The disciples left and found the donkey tied near a door that faced the street. While they were untying it, some of the people standing there asked, "Why are you untying the donkey?" They told them what Jesus had said, and the people let them take it.

The disciples led the donkey to Jesus. They put some of their clothes on its back, and Jesus got on. Many people spread clothes on the road, while others went to cut branches from the fields.

In front of Jesus and behind him, people went along shouting,

"Hosanna!

God bless the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

God bless the coming kingdom of our ancestor David.

Hosanna in heaven above!"

After Jesus had gone to Jerusalem, he went into the temple and looked around at everything. But since it was already late in the day, he went back to Bethany with the twelve disciples.

Mark 11.1-11(CEV)

At the end of the gospel

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Blessing of the Palms

The people hold up their palms as they are blessed.

+Bless these palms as we remember Jesus our Messiah,
humble and riding on a donkey
May they be a sign to us of the Servant King.
As we carry them,
may they remind us to walk the way that leads to life.
Hosanna!

Child(ren): Jesus is coming

All: Hosanna!

Child(ren): He's riding on a donkey

All: Hosanna!

Child(ren): Open the gates

All: Hosanna!

Child(ren): Open the ancient doors

All: Hosanna!

Child(ren): Don't be afraid

All: Hosanna!

Child(ren): Wave the branches

All: Hosanna!

Child(ren): Spread out your coats

All: Hosanna!

Child(ren): Peace in heaven

All: Hosanna!

Child(ren): Glory in highest heaven

All: HOSANNA!

The Procession

Let us go forth, praising Jesus our Messiah.

During the procession all hold palms and the following hymn is sung:

*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.
6. Do thou direct our footsteps
upon our earthly way
and bring us by thy mercy
to heaven's eternal day.
7. Within that blessed City
thy praises may we sing,
and ever raise hosannas
to our most loving King.

The Liturgy of the Word

The Collect

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

Silence is kept

True and humble king,
hailed by the crowd as Messiah:
grant us the faith to know you and love you,
that we may be found beside you
on the way of the cross,
which is the path of glory.

Amen.

The Readings

We sit to hear either one or two readings from Scripture.

At the end of each the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



*All are invited to stay seated for the Passion Reading and to join in
the parts in **BOLD** print.*

Narrator 1: Caiaphas (the High Priest), and the other priests watched nearby.

Priest 1: My Lord.

Priest 2: My Lord High Priest.

Caiaphas: Silence! What is all that noise?

Priest 3: It's Jesus, Sir.

Caiaphas: Jesus who?

Priest 4: Jesus of Nazareth. The carpenter's son.

Caiaphas: Nazareth? Huh! What good ever came from Nazareth?

Priest 1: They say he's the Messiah, the Christ.

Priest 2: The Son of David. The Son of God!

Priest 3: The promised King. He'll set us free from Rome.

Caiaphas: Who says?

Priest 4: His followers. The people. The crowd.

Priest 1: Even the children are shouting it.

Caiaphas: Tell them to stop.

Priest 2: They won't stop. They can't stop.

Caiaphas: Tell Jesus to make them stop.

Priest 3: He says, if they keep quiet, the stones on the ground will start shouting.

Priest 4: What shall we do?

Caiaphas: We wait.

All Sing: **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.

Narrator 2: Then Jesus and his disciples went into the temple. Jesus was angry at what he saw and began to drive out those who were buying and selling there.

Priest 1: Look! He's wrecking the temple. He's turning over the tables.

***CROWD:* Hurray!**

Priest 2: He's letting the animals run wild. Pigeons and lambs everywhere.

Priest 3: Temple money all over the floor.

***CROWD:* Hurray!**

Priest 4: It's sacrilege.

Priest 1: It's an insult!

Caiaphas: Silence! What of the people? What are they doing?

Priest 2: They're loving it. They're lapping it up.

Priest 3: They're hanging on his every word.

Priest 4: They cheer when he appears.

***CROWD:* Hurray!**

Priest 1: They're pouring in. I've never seen so many people.

Caiaphas: Silence! He's doing it on purpose. He must be. He's making himself their King.

Priest 2: He can't do that. What will happen to us?

Priest 3: We must stop him. We must arrest him.

Priest 4: But the crowd will riot. They'll lynch us.

Priest 1: Chaos! Bloodshed!

Priest 2: What shall we do?

Caiaphas: WE WAIT !

**All Sing: Ride on, ride on in majesty!
The winged squadrons of the sky
look down with sad and wond'ring eyes
to see the approaching sacrifice.**

Narrator 1: Then Judas, one of the disciples, approached Caiaphas and the other priests.

Priest 1: Sir, we have a man here.

Caiaphas: Who?

Priest 2: Judas, one of Jesus' friends.

Priest 3: He'll lead us to him, to arrest him.

Caiaphas: How much money does he want?

Priest 4: He says fifty, but he might take forty.

Caiaphas: Offer him thirty.

All Priests: Thirty then.

Caiaphas: Done.



Narrator 1: On the first day of the Passover, in the evening, Jesus and the disciples were eating the Passover meal.

At the meal Jesus took bread and said:

“This is my body, broken for you.
Eat it to remember me.”

Then he took the wine and said:

“This wine is my blood, poured out for many.
Drink it to remember me.”

Then Judas, the disciple who would betray Jesus, left and went to see Caiaphas, the High Priest.

Narrator 2: After the meal Jesus and the disciples went to the Garden of Gethsemane as Jesus wanted to pray.

Judas arrived in the Garden with the soldiers and went up to him and kissed him on the cheek. This was the sign Judas was to give to betray Jesus.

Then the soldiers arrested Jesus and took him to the High Priest’s house, where they questioned him all night. Early in the morning they took him to Pilate, the Roman Governor.

Pilate: Who are you Man? A King? A King of the Jews?

You don’t look like a King.

Why have they brought you to me?

They tell me you have healed the sick;
restored sight to the blind;
taught people to love one another.

They want me to crucify you. Who are you, Jesus?
Son of God, or Son of Man?

Why don’t you answer me?

Don’t you realise, I have power over you.
I can set you free, or have you killed.

Narrator 1: Then Pilate brought out Jesus to the crowd, with another man, called Barabbas, a thief.

Pilate: Look! Here is Jesus and Barabbas.
Which of these do you want me to set free for you?

CROWD: **Barabbas, Barabbas!**

Pilate: What do you want me to do with Jesus?

CROWD: **Crucify him! Crucify him!**

Pilate: But I find nothing wrong with this man.

CROWD: *(Louder)* **Crucify him! Crucify him!**

Pilate: Silence! Take him. Crucify your King.
I wash my hands of this man's blood.



All Sing: **Ride on, ride on in majesty!**
Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh;
the Father on his sapphire throne
awaits his own anointed Son.

Narrator 1: Then the soldiers took Jesus and stripped off his clothes and put a scarlet robe on him. They made a crown out of thorns and placed it on his head, and they put a stick in his right hand. The soldiers knelt down and pretended to worship him as a King. They made fun of him and shouted,

Soldiers: “Hey, you king of the Jews!”

Narrator 1: Then they spat on him. They took the stick from him and beat him with it.

When the soldiers had finished making fun of Jesus, they took off the robe. They put his own clothes back on him and led him off to a place named Golgotha to be crucified.

Narrator 2: There the soldiers nailed Jesus to a cross. Then they sat down to guard him. Above his head they put a sign that told why he was nailed there. It read,

“This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.”

The soldiers also nailed two criminals on crosses, one to the right of Jesus and the other to his left.

Many women had come with Jesus from Galilee to be of help to him, and they were there, looking on at a distance. Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of James and John were some of these women.

At noon the sky turned dark and stayed that way until three o’clock.

Then Jesus shouted,

“My God, my God, why have you deserted me?”

and then he died.

(Pause)

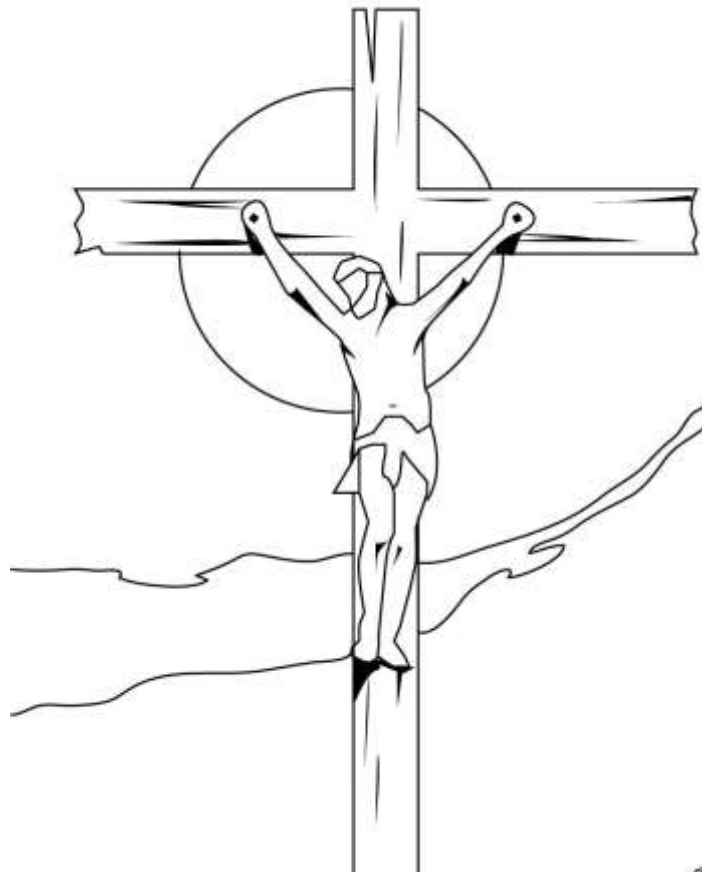
Narrator 1: At once the curtain in the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, and rocks split apart.

The officer and the soldiers guarding Jesus felt the earthquake and saw everything else that happened. They were frightened and said,

“This man really was God’s Son!”

Narrator 2: When Jesus had died they took his body down from the cross and laid him in a tomb in a nearby garden.

All Sing: **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 power and reign.



We pray

You are the king of all creation
and yet so many of us spoil, and abuse, and destroy the planet.

...

Wherever there is pollution or neglect,
King Jesus, **come and reign.**

You are the king of the whole world
and yet so many of us oppress, and fight, and kill each other.

...

Wherever there is violence or hatred,
King Jesus, **come and reign.**

You are the king who throws a heavenly banquet
and yet so many of us have more or less than our fair share.

...

Wherever there is hunger or obesity,
King Jesus, **come and reign.**

You are the king who brings wholeness
and yet so many of us are in situations that disturb, hurt or disable
us.

...

Wherever there is suffering or fear,
King Jesus, **come and reign.**

You are the king who has defeated death
and yet so many of us are sad about the death of someone we love.

...

Wherever there is grief or worry,
King Jesus, **come and reign.**

You are the king of our hearts
and yet so many of us deny you in what we think, say and do.
Wherever we open our hearts to you,
King Jesus, **come and reign. Amen.**

The service continues in the Lent Service Book

Large Print copies of
this booklet are
available
– if you would like one,
please ask.

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