

Liturgy of Palm Sunday
and
The Passion Gospel
according to Saint Mark



the parish of
St George the Martyr
Shirley

Liturgy of Palm Sunday

Commemoration of the 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

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing by works of love and self-sacrifice 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 his risen life.

The people hold up their palms as they are blessed.

God our Saviour,
whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem
as Messiah to suffer and to die;
+bless these palms, that they may be for us signs 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 leads to eternal life;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Palm Gospel

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, "Why are you doing this?" just say this, "The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately."' They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, 'What are you doing, untying the colt?' They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, 'Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Mark 11.1-11

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

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.

*Please stand or sit to listen to the Passion Gospel. Everyone is invited to join in the parts in **Bold print**.*

The Passion Gospel according to Saint Mark

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.
Christ humbled himself and became obedient unto death,
even death on a cross.

Therefore God has highly exalted him
and given him the name that is above every name.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

No response is made.

Mark 14.1 - 15.47

EVANGELIST It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; for they said,

CHIEF PRIESTS & SCRIBES **‘Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.’**

EVANGELIST While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. But some were there who said to one another in anger,

DISCIPLES **‘Why was the ointment wasted in this way? For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor.’**

EVANGELIST And they scolded her. But Jesus said,

JESUS ‘Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.’

EVANGELIST Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. When they heard it, they were greatly pleased, and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him. On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to him,

DISCIPLES **‘Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?’**

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| EVANGELIST | So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, |
| JESUS | 'Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, "The Teacher asks, Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?" He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.' |
| EVANGELIST | So the disciples set out and went to the city, and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal. When it was evening, he came with the twelve. And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said, |
| JESUS | 'Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me.' |
| EVANGELIST | They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another, |
| DISCIPLES | 'Surely, not I?' |
| EVANGELIST | He said to them, |
| JESUS | 'It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. For 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.' |
| EVANGELIST | While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, |
| JESUS | 'Take; this is my body.' |
| EVANGELIST | Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them, |
| JESUS | 'This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.' |

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| EVANGELIST | When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. And Jesus said to them, |
| JESUS | ‘You will all become deserters; for it is written, “I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.” But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.’ |
| EVANGELIST | Peter said to him, |
| PETER | ‘Even though all become deserters, I will not.’ |
| EVANGELIST | Jesus said to him, |
| JESUS | ‘Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.’ |
| EVANGELIST | But Peter said vehemently, |
| PETER | ‘Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.’ |
| EVANGELIST | And all of them said the same. They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, |
| JESUS | ‘Sit here while I pray.’ |
| EVANGELIST | He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them, |
| JESUS | ‘I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.’ |
| EVANGELIST | And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, |
| JESUS | ‘Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.’ |

- EVANGELIST He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter,
- JESUS ‘Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.’
- EVANGELIST And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. He came a third time and said to them,
- JESUS ‘Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.’
- EVANGELIST Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying,
- JUDAS ‘The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard.’
- EVANGELIST So when he came, he went up to him at once and said,
- JUDAS ‘Rabbi!’
- EVANGELIST and kissed him. Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to them,
- JESUS ‘Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled.’

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| EVANGELIST | <p>All of them deserted him and fled.</p> <p>A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked. They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying,</p> |
| WITNESSES | ‘We heard him say, “I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.” ’ |
| EVANGELIST | But even on this point their testimony did not agree. Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, |
| HIGH PRIEST | ‘Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?’ |
| EVANGELIST | But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him, |
| HIGH PRIEST | ‘Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?’ |
| EVANGELIST | Jesus said, |
| JESUS | <p>‘I am; and</p> <p>“you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power”,</p> <p>and “coming with the clouds of heaven.” ’</p> |
| EVANGELIST | Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, |

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| HIGH PRIEST | 'Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?' |
| EVANGELIST | All of them condemned him as deserving death. Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him, |
| PRIESTS | 'Prophecy!' |
| EVANGELIST | The guards also took him over and beat him. While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said, |
| SERVANT GIRL | 'You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth.' |
| EVANGELIST | But he denied it, saying, |
| PETER | 'I do not know or understand what you are talking about.' |
| EVANGELIST | And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed. And the servant-girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders, |
| SERVANT GIRL | 'This man is one of them.' |
| EVANGELIST | But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, |
| SERVANT GIRL | 'Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean.' |
| EVANGELIST | But he began to curse, and he swore an oath, |
| PETER | 'I do not know this man you are talking about.' |
| EVANGELIST | At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, |
| JESUS | 'Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.' |

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| EVANGELIST | And he broke down and wept. |
| EVANGELIST | As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him, |
| PILATE | ‘Are you the King of the Jews?’ |
| EVANGELIST | He answered him, |
| JESUS | ‘You say so.’ |
| EVANGELIST | Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again, |
| PILATE | ‘Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.’ |
| EVANGELIST | But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed. Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them, |
| PILATE | ‘Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?’ |
| EVANGELIST | For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again, |
| PILATE | ‘Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?’ |
| EVANGELIST | They shouted back, |

CROWD

‘Crucify him!’

EVANGELIST

Pilate asked them,

PILATE

‘Why, what evil has he done?’

EVANGELIST

But they shouted all the more,



CROWD

‘Crucify him!’

EVANGELIST

So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor’s headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him,

SOLDIERS

‘Hail, King of the Jews!’

EVANGELIST

They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him. They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take. It was nine o’clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, ‘The King of the Jews.’ And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying,

PASSERS BY

‘Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!’

EVANGELIST In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying,

CHIEF PRIESTS & SCRIBES **‘He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.’**

EVANGELIST Those who were crucified with him also taunted him. When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o’clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice,

JESUS ‘Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?’

EVANGELIST which means,

JESUS ‘My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?’

EVANGELIST When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

BYSTANDERS **‘Listen, he is calling for Elijah.’**

EVANGELIST And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying,

BYSTANDER **‘Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.’**

EVANGELIST Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said,



CENTURION ‘Truly this man was God’s Son!’

EVANGELIST

There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem. When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where the body was laid.

This is the Passion of the Lord.

Again, no response is made.

The service continues in the Lent book with the Intercessions at the top of page 7.

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

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