

A Service for Palm Sunday, 28th March 2021

St Paul's Scotforth, Lancaster



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

All and also with you.

Blessing of the Palm Crosses

We join with Christians throughout the world to mark Christ's entry into Jerusalem 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.

In the tradition of Palm Sunday, I invite you at home to take up a cross – you can download a palm frond from the internet, you may have an old palm cross lying about, or some greenery, to hand, or, take your hands themselves and make a cross, or sign 'hosanna'

Rejoice, people of God! Celebrate the life within you, and Christ's presence in your midst!

Our eyes shall be opened! The present will have new meaning, and the future will be bright with hope.

Rejoice, people of God! Bow your heads before the One who is our wisdom and strength.

We place ourselves before our God, that we may be touched and cleansed by the power of God's Spirit.

Hymn

The Confession

Jesus said: "Ask and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock and it will be opened to you."

Friends in Christ, God knows our needs before we ask, and in our asking prepares us to receive the gift of grace. Let us open ourselves to God's forgiving presence, and confess to God whatever has wounded us or brought injury to others, that we may receive mercy and become ministers of grace for each other.

God of mercy,

***All* we acknowledge that we are all sinners.**

We turn from the wrong that we have thought and said and done, and are mindful of all that we have failed to do.

For the sake of Jesus, who died for us,

forgive us all that is past,

and help us to live each day

in the light of Christ our Lord.

Amen.

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Collect

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

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.

All Amen.

Readings

Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29

Palm Sunday gospel (Mark 11)

The Sermon

The Creed

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

**All Though he was divine,
he did not cling to equality with God,
but made himself nothing.
Taking the form of a slave,
he was born in human likeness.
He humbled himself**

**and was obedient to death,
even the death of the cross.
Therefore God has raised him on high,
and given him the name above every name:
that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bow,
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

Intercessions

Closing Prayer and Blessing

Eternal God, Creator of the world and Giver of all good, we thank you for the earth our home, and for the gift of life. We thank you for all your mercies, for your goodness that has created us, your grace that sustains us, your discipline that seeks to correct us, your patience that has borne with us, and your love that redeems us. Help us to love you, and to be thankful for all your gifts; serve you and delight in doing your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Blessing:

Go out into the world united and committed to ever be united. That in our unity, the brokenness of the world may be challenged. That in our unity, you will proclaim the peace of oneness to all the world. The God of peace that surpasses all understanding is and will go with you.

And now may the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.