

The Parish Church of St Matthew
Northampton

Palm Sunday

OF THE LORD'S PASSION

Year C



The Liturgy of Palms,
Procession of Palms, and Mass of the Passion

Sunday 13 April 2025

9.30 am

Welcome to St Matthew's Parish Church



Safeguarding St Matthew's is committed to providing a safe environment for all who come. If you have any concerns, please speak with one of our welcomers or a churchwarden who may be identified by their lanyard. They will be happy to help you.

Live streaming Please note that this service is being streamed. You may sit where you wish. If, however, you prefer not to be seen online, please sit in a side aisle. The administration of Holy Communion will not be shown.

GDPR Some of St Matthew's services (most Sunday mornings and some special services) are live-streamed or recorded for those who cannot attend church in person. Under GDPR, the church must gain the consent of anyone whose image may be captured, as this constitutes collection of "personal data". This includes clergy, readers/intercessors, musicians and congregation. Whilst every attempt is made not to capture the faces of members of the congregation, this may occasionally happen if people turn around or move around the church during the service. The exception is communion, when the congregation is not filmed. The side aisles and back of the nave are so far as possible film-free areas not covered by the camera. Any-one whose personal data is collected must give their consent. Consent forms are available both in church and on the website. The full policy can be read on our parish website or on the noticeboards in church.

Toilet and baby changing facilities may be found at the base of the church tower. There is also a small servery.

For younger children In the north aisle (nearest to Collingwood Road), a carpeted area equipped with age-specific Christian resources is provided. Please feel free to make use of these facilities.



Collection – ‘Building a Generous Church’



Our response to God’s generosity

We believe in a generous God, who longs for us to share his generosity with others. A generous life is therefore a hallmark of our faith and a testament to it, as the more generous we are, the more we reflect the generous God we believe in. Generosity is, therefore, at the heart of our faith, and our own generosity is a sure sign of our faith in action. Generosity is a spiritual gift, and we need to encourage people to seek this gift as they grow in their faith. The ministry and mission of St Matthew’s is largely funded through the incredible generosity of those who give to it.

* * * * *

We invite you to make a monetary offering towards the ministry and mission of St Matthew’s Church. You may do so using any of the following methods:

Cash, cheques, stewardship envelopes - using the receptacle provided at the back of church. If you are a taxpayer please use the envelopes in the chairs, and fill out the details in order that our parish may also benefit from the Gift Aid (an extra 25p for every pound given) associated with your giving.

Contactless giving - using the terminal provided. Just press the button for the amount you wish to give - £5, £10, or £20, and then hold your bank card over the reader.

Giving on your smart phone - using the QR code printed below. It gives you the option of any amount, Gift Aid, and making a regular payment.

Giving online - click the donate button on the parish website or Facebook page and follow the instructions.

Your generosity is gratefully received. Thank you.



¶ The Beginning of Holy Week

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Palm Sunday has a double focus - the Triumphal Entry of Christ into Jerusalem, and the celebration of his passion and death.

The **Liturgy of the Palms** and procession contains the first commemorative actions of Holy Week which remind us of the main events in the last week of Jesus' ministry. Palm branches are carried, although they are secondary to the procession itself. The procession is also an act of praise to Christ the King who reigns and triumphs on the cross, and it expresses our own readiness to take up our cross and follow our crucified and risen Lord, as we go with him to the place of suffering and death.

The practice of giving palm crosses is well established and provides a valuable devotional focus throughout the year. However, in the procession, it is not as telling a symbol as the carrying of branches whether of palm or of other trees, perhaps brought by members of the congregation.

The solemn reading of the passion and death of Jesus Christ is central to the **Liturgy of the Passion**. This year, the narrative comes from Luke, and takes us into the heart of Holy Week. For this reason the full form of the Passion is used. Coming after the Procession, it reminds us that the kingly power of Christ is the power of self-giving love alone.

Although the services of this week are shaped by the historical commemoration of the events of the last week in Jesus' earthly life, taken together, they form an extended celebration of the victory Christ won over death.

Setting

Mass of the Altar of Life

David Halls b. 1948

Order of Service



Commemoration of the Lord's Entry into Jerusalem

At the Parish Centre

§ *As the people gather, suitable music is played or sung*

§ *The sacred ministers enter, and the choir sing the following anthem*

Choir The children of the Hebrews, carrying palms and olive branches,
went forth to meet the Lord, crying out and saying.
Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna to the Son of David!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Plainsong

Priest † In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
All **Amen.**

The Greeting

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

Introduction

Dear brothers and sisters 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 Palm Liturgy

§ *The people hold up their palms to be blessed and the priest extends his hands towards them*

Let us pray:

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.

All

Amen.

§ *The priest sprinkles the branches with holy water in silence*

The Palm Gospel

All The Lord our redeemer be with you
and also with you.

All Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" just say this: "The Lord needs it."' So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, 'Why are you untying the colt?' They said, 'The Lord needs it.' Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount

of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

‘Blessèd is the king
who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest heaven!’

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, ‘Teacher, order your disciples to stop.’ He answered, ‘I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.’

Luke 19:28-40

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Priest Let us go forth in peace, praising Jesus our Messiah,
as did the crowds who welcomed him to Jerusalem.

§ *The procession to church (Jerusalem) begins in the following order -
servers, choir, sacred ministers and people*

Processional hymn

All ***ALL glory, laud, and honour
To thee, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children
Made sweet hosannas ring.***

²
**Thou art the King of Israel,
Thou David’s royal Son,
Who in the Lord’s name comest,
The King and blessèd One.**

³
**The company of angels
Are praising thee on high,
And mortal men and all things
Created make reply.**

⁴
**The people of the Hebrews
With palms before thee went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems
Before thee we present.**

⁵
**To thee before thy passion
They sang their hymns of praise;
To thee, now high exalted,
Our melody we raise.**

⁶
**Thou didst accept their praises,
Accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest,
Thou good and gracious King.**

⁷
**Thy sorrow and thy triumph
Grant us, O Christ, to share,
That to the holy city
Together we may fare.**

⁸
**Do thou direct our footsteps,
Upon our earthly way,
And bring us by thy mercy
To heaven's eternal day.**

⁹
**For homage may we bring thee
Our victory o'er the foe,
That in the Conqueror's triumph
This strain may ever flow.**

¹⁰
**Within that blessed city
Thy praises may we sing,
And ever raise hosannas
To our most loving King.**

Words St Theodulph of Orleans c.750-821
translated by John Mason Neale 1818-1866

Melody Melchior Teschner 1584-1635
Harmony by Johann Sebastian Bach 1685-1750

When the priest enters the church building ...

Priest **O Jerusalem, look towards the east and behold:
lift up your eyes, O Jerusalem, and behold the power of your King!**
All **'Blessed is he who comes.
Hosanna in the highest.'**

The Entry into Jerusalem

§ *The procession enters and all go to their seats*

§ *The priest honours the altar with incense*

All **RIDE on, ride on in majesty!
Hark, all the tribes hosanna cry:
Thy humble beast pursues his road
With palms and scattered garments strowed.**

**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.**

**Ride on, ride on in majesty!
The wingèd squadrons of the sky
Look down with sad and wondering eyes
To see the approaching sacrifice.**

**Ride on, ride on in majesty!
The last and fiercest strife is nigh;
The Father on his sapphire throne
Awaits his own anointed Son.**

**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.**

Words Henry Hart Milman 1791-1868

Music Winchester New
adapted from a chorale in *Musicalisches Hand-Buch*, 1690

¶ Liturgy of the Passion

§ *The priest, now wearing eucharistic vestments, goes to his chair*

The Collect

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

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.

All

§ *Sit*

First Reading

Reader A reading from the prophecy of Isaiah.

The Lord God has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens -
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.
The Lord God has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backward.
I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.
The Lord God helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.
It is the Lord God who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

Isaiah 50.4-9a

All This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Silence is kept

¶ The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ

§ *The congregation is invited to **remain seated***

Acclamation



Choir 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.

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

Asst priest The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

No response is made

Evangelist When the hour came, Jesus took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. He said to them,

Jesus I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer;
for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.

Evangelist Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said,

Jesus Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that
from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the
kingdom of God comes.

Evangelist Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks,
he broke it and gave it to them, saying,

Jesus This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of
me.

Evangelist And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying,

Jesus This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.
But see, the one who betrays me is with me, and his hand is on the
table. For the Son of Man is going as it has been determined, but woe
to that one by whom he is betrayed!

Evangelist Then they began to ask one another, which one of them it could be who would do this.

A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. But he said to them,

Jesus The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

You are those who have stood by me in my trials; and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Evangelist Jesus said to Simon Peter:

Jesus Simon, Simon, listen! Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.

Peter Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death!

Jesus I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day, until you have denied three times that you know me.

When I sent you out without a purse, bag, or sandals, did you lack anything?

Disciples No, not a thing.

Jesus But now, the one who has a purse must take it, and likewise a bag. And the one who has no sword must sell his cloak and buy one. For I tell you, this scripture must be fulfilled in me, 'And he was counted among the lawless'; and indeed what is written about me is being fulfilled.

Disciples Lord, look, here are two swords.

Jesus It is enough.

Evangelist He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. When he reached the place, he said to them,

Jesus Pray that you may not come into the time of trial.

- Evangelist** Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed,
- Jesus** Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.
- Evangelist** Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground.
- When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, and he said to them,
- Jesus** Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial.
- Evangelist** While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said to him,
- Jesus** Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?
- Evangelist** When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked,
- Disciples** Lord, should we strike with the sword?
- Evangelist** Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said,
- Jesus** No more of this!
- Evangelist** And he touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him,
- Jesus** Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!
- Evangelist** Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high Priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said,
- Servant-girl** This man also was with him.
- Evangelist** But he denied it.
- Peter** Woman, I do not know him.
- Evangelist** A little later someone else, on seeing him, said,

Bystander 1 You also are one of them.

Peter Man, I am not!

Evangelist Then about an hour later still another kept insisting,

Bystander 2 Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean.

Peter Man, I do not know what you are talking about!

Evangelist At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, 'Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times.' And he went out and wept bitterly. *(Pause)*.

Now the men who were holding Jesus began to mock him and beat him; they also blindfolded him and kept asking him,

Men Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?

Evangelist They kept heaping many other insults on him.

§ ALL STAND

When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought him to their council. They said,

Priests If you are the Messiah, tell us.

Jesus If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I question you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God."

Priests Are you, then, the Son of God?

Jesus You say that I am.

Priests What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!

Evangelist Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him.

Priests We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king.

Pilate Are you the king of the Jews?

Jesus You say so.

Pilate *(to the priests)* I find no basis for an accusation against this man.

Priests *(urgently)* "He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.

Evangelist When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies.

Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them,

Pilate You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him.

Evangelist Then they all shouted out together,

Priests Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!

Evangelist This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder. Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting,

Priests Crucify, crucify him!

Evangelist A third time he said to them,

Pilate Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him.

Evangelist But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said,

Jesus Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?

Evangelist Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said,

Jesus Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.

Evangelist And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him.

Priests He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!

Evangelist The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine.

Soldiers If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!

Evangelist There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him.

Robber 1 Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!

Evangelist But the other rebuked him.

Robber 2 Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.

Evangelist It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of

the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said,
Jesus Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.
Evangelist Having said this, he breathed his last.

Act of Reverence

all are invited to kneel for a time, or bow deeply

§ *We stand with the presiding priest*

Evangelist When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said,

Centurion Certainly this man was innocent.

Evangelist And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid.

It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was beginning. The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments.

On the sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

Asst priest This is the Passion of the Lord.

No response is made

§ *We **SIT** for a time of silent contemplation*

Homily

§ Sit

At the end, there may be a time of quiet reflection

Prayers of the Faithful

Priest In solidarity with Christ in his suffering we offer our prayers to God.

§ Kneel

Intercessor For forgiveness for the many times we have denied Jesus,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For grace to seek out those habits of sin
which mean spiritual death,
and by prayer and self-discipline to overcome them,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For Christian people,
that through the suffering of disunity
there may grow a rich union in Christ,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who make laws, interpret them, and administer them,
that our common life may be ordered in justice and mercy,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who still make Jerusalem a battleground,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who have the courage and honesty to work openly
for justice and peace,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For those in the darkness and agony of isolation,
that they may find support and encouragement,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who, weighted down with hardship, failure, or sorrow,
feel that God is far from them, (*the acutely ill ...*)
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who are tempted to give up the way of the cross,
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

That we, with those who have died in faith,
may find mercy in the day of Christ, (*the recently departed ...,*
anniversaries of death ...)
let us pray to the Lord.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Choir *Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal,*
have mercy upon us.

§ *Stand*

¶ The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Sign of Peace

Once we were far off,
but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near
through the shedding of Christ's blood,
for he is our peace.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

The Offertory

§ *The Gifts are presented to the presiding priest and the altar is prepared*

Hymn

§ *A monetary collection is taken towards the ministry and mission of St Matthew's. For alternative ways of giving please refer to the front of this booklet.*

1
MY song is love unknown,
My Saviour's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown,
That they might lovely be.
 O who am I,
 That for my sake
 My Lord should take
 Frail flesh, and die?

3
Sometimes they strew his way,
And his sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day
Hosannas to their King.
 Then 'Crucify!'
 Is all their breath,
 And for his death
 They thirst and cry.

2
He came from his blest throne,
Salvation to bestow:
But men made strange, and none
The longed-for Christ would know.
 But O my friend,
 My friend indeed,
 Who at my need
 His life did spend!

4
They rise, and needs will have
My dear Lord made away;
A murderer they save,
The prince of life they slay.
 Yet cheerful he
 To suffering goes,
 That he his foes
 From thence might free.

5
Here might I stay and sing,
No story so divine!
Never was love, dear King,
Never was grief like thine!
 This is my friend,
 In whose sweet praise
 I all my days
 Could gladly spend.

Words Samuel Crossman 1624-1683

Music Love Unknown
John Ireland 1879-1962

Invitation to Prayer

Pray, my brothers and sisters,
that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God,
the almighty Father.

All **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

Prayer over the Gifts

O Lord, through the passion of our only begotten Son,
may our reconciliation with you be near at hand,
so that, though we do not merit it by our own deeds,
yet by this sacrifice made once for all,
we may feel already the effects of your mercy.
Through Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

All The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

All Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
For as the time of his passion and resurrection draws near
the whole world is called to acknowledge his hidden majesty.
The power of the life-giving cross
reveals the judgement that has come upon the world
and the triumph of Christ crucified.

He is the victim who dies no more,
the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever,
our advocate in heaven to plead our cause,
exalting us there to join with angels and archangels,
for ever praising you and singing:

All

**Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God of power and might.
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

§ *Remain standing*

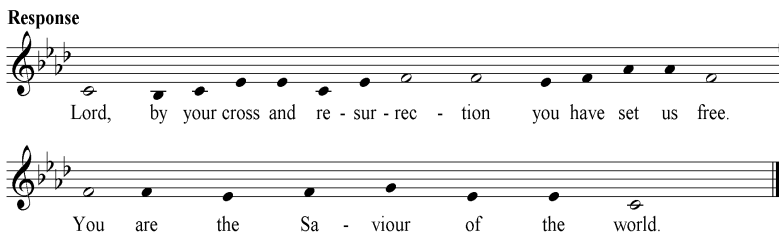
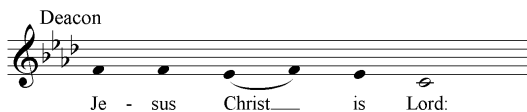
Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way,
after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:

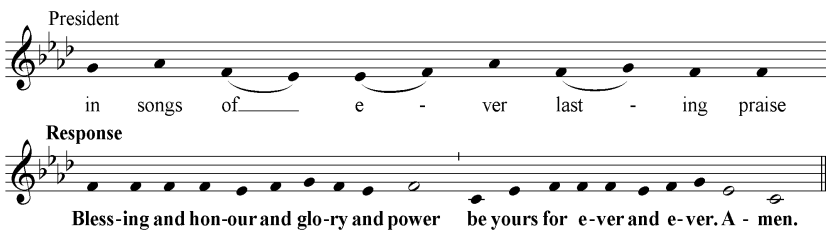
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.



Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
we look for the coming of your kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love
and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,



The Lord's Prayer

§ *Kneel*

Standing at the foot of the cross,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

All **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.**

Breaking of the Bread

All We break this bread,
communion in Christ's body once broken.

Invitation to Communion

Behold the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

The clergy receive Holy Communion

Giving of Communion

Father, if this cup cannot pass without my drinking it,
your will be done.

Spiritual Communion – *for those watching at home*

Act of Reception

All In union, blessed Jesus,
 with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church
 where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day,

(and remembering particularly my own parish ...)

I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving,
for creation and all the blessings of this life,
for the redemption won for us by your life, death,
 and resurrection,
for the means of grace and the hope of glory.

(and particularly for the blessings given me ...)

I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament,
and, since I cannot at this time receive communion,
I pray you to come into my heart.
I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart,
 my soul, and my mind.

Let nothing separate me from you;
let me serve you in this life until, by your grace,
I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace.
Amen.

Words at the distribution:

The body of Christ, broken for you.

Response **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Response **Amen.**

Agnus Dei is sung here by the choir

Motet

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

Music Arthur Hutchings 1906-1989

Hymn

All **NOW my soul, thy voice upraising,
Tell in sweet and mournful strain
How the Crucified, enduring
Grief and wounds, and dying pain,
Freely of his love was offered,
Sinless was for sinners slain.**

**See, his hands and feet are fastened!
So he makes his people free;
Not a wound whence blood is flowing
But a fount of grace shall be;
Yea, the very nails which nail him
Nail us also to the tree.**

**Jesu, may those precious fountains
Drink to thirsting souls afford;
Let them be our cup and healing,
And at length our full reward:
So a ransomed world shall ever
Praise thee, its redeeming Lord.**

Words Latin, Claude de Santeuil 1628-1684
translated by Henry William Baker 1821-1877

Music Webbe's St Thomas
Samuel Webbe 1740-1816

§ *All sit for a period of silent prayer and thanksgiving*

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

§ *Stand*

Lord Jesus Christ,
you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant,
and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation:
give us the mind to follow you
and to proclaim you as Lord and King,
to the glory of God the Father.

All

Amen.

**Faithful God,
may we who share this banquet
glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
our salvation, life and hope,
who reigns as Lord now and for ever.
Amen.**

Hymn

All

**THE royal banners forward go,
The cross shines forth in mystic glow,
Where he in flesh, our flesh who made,
Our sentence bore, our ransom paid.**

**Where deep for us the spear was dyed,
Life's torrent rushing from his side,
To wash us in that precious flood,
Where mingled water flowed, and blood.**

**Fulfilled is all that David told
In true prophetic song of old,
Amongst the nations, God, says he,
Has reigned and triumphed from the tree.**

**O tree of beauty, tree of light,
O tree with royal purple dight,
Elect on whose triumphal breast
Those holy limbs should find their rest!**

**On whose dear arms, so widely flung,
The weight of this world's ransom hung,
The price of humankind to pay
And spoil the spoiler of his prey.**

**O Cross, our one reliance, hail!
So may thy power with us prevail
To give new virtue to the saint,
And pardon to the penitent.**

**To thee, eternal three in one,
Let homage meet by all be done;
Whom by the cross thou dost restore,
Preserve and govern evermore. Amen.**

Words Latin, Venantius Fortunatus 530-609
translated by John Mason Neale 1818-66

Music Gonfalon Royal
Percy Buck 1871-1947

Notices for the Community

§ Sit

¶ Sending Out

§ Stand

All The Lord our redeemer be with you
and also with you.

Solemn Blessing

All You believe that by his dying Christ destroyed death for ever.
Amen.

All You have been crucified with Christ
and live by faith in the Son of God,
who loved you and gave himself for you.
Amen.

All May he send you out to glory in his cross,
and live no longer for yourselves but for him,
who died and was raised to life for us.
Amen.

All And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son †, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.

The Dismissal

All The Mass is ended, go in peace.
Thanks be to God.

Organ Voluntary

Valet will ich dir geben BWV 735

J S Bach 1685-1750

'Farewell I gladly bid thee'

§ Please remain standing until the procession has departed

- § *Those leaving immediately are asked to be aware of those who wish to listen to the organ voluntary.*
- § *Refreshments are served after Mass, please join us in the Parish Centre*

This evening at 5.30 pm
**A Service of Penitence and Forgiveness
for Holy Week**

Our thanks are due to Anonymous Donor 19
who has generously financed
the production of this week's service booklet.

**Please take this booklet home
as an aid to prayer and reflection during the week,
and then re-cycle it.**

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