



The Anglican Parish of
CHRIST CHURCH ST LUCIA

Sunday, 5th April 2020

Palm Sunday



An Online Liturgy for the
Sunday of the Passion (Palm Sunday)

<https://youtu.be/5Dw31KV1unl>

Introduction & Welcome

Fr. Michael

Organ Prelude

'Valet will ich dir geben', BWV 735 – J.S.BACH (1685-1750)
(based on the hymn tune set for 'All Glory, Praise & Honour')

LITURGY OF THE PSALMS

Priest: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

All: Hosanna in the highest!

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

This morning begins the Great Week of the Christian Year.

During Lent we have been preparing by works of love and self-sacrifice for the celebration of our Lord's death and resurrection.

With Christians throughout the world,
we come together this week to call to mind
and to express in word and action,
the center of the Easter mystery:
our Lord's Passover from death to life.

Christ entered into the Holy City to complete his work as Messiah:
to suffer, to die, and to rise to new life.

Let us go with him in faith and love, so that, united with him in his sufferings,
we may share his risen life.

All may hold up their palms for this blessing, said by the presider.

Sovereign God,
we thank you for these branches and crosses of palm.
By your blessing may they be for us signs of the victory of your Son. May we
who carry them in his name ever hail him as our Messiah, and follow him in the
way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Palm Gospel

Matthew 21.1-11

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, “Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.” The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!” When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

Prayer

Merciful God,
as we enter this holy week
and gather in spirit at your house of prayer,
turn our hearts again to Jerusalem,
to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ,
that, united with Christ and all the faithful,
we may one day enter in triumph the city not made with hands, the new
Jerusalem, eternal in the heavens,
where, with you and the Holy Spirit,
Christ lives in glory forever.
Amen.

God of all, you gave your only-begotten Son
to take the form of a servant,
and to be obedient even to death on a cross:
give us the same mind that was in Christ Jesus
that, sharing in his humility,
we may come to be with him in his glory
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The Gospel is intoned without introduction or response

Matthew 26:14 – 27:66

A separate LINK to the intoned **GOSPEL** may be found at the end of this booklet.

The Sermon

Fr Michael

Organ Reflection

*Prelude on the 'Passion Chorale', BWV 735 – J.S.BACH
(Herzlich tut mich verlangen)*

*O sacred head, sore wounded, with grief and shame weighed down;
O kingly head surrounded with thorns your only crown;
death's shadow's rise before you, the glow of life decays;
yet hosts of heaven adore you and tremble as they gaze.*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Intercessions

(read by Del Ponsonby)

Let us pray

*'Hosanna to the Son of David!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!'*

We pray for the world and our nation. Lord God, as we face uncertain times, may we be ever aware of your continual presence among us. You chose to come amongst us in weakness and humility, a servant to those who are rejected and despised, hear our prayers for your world. We pray your Holy Spirit touches the hearts of those who bear responsibility as leaders at this time of uncertainty. May they have regard for your laws, wisdom to know your will, respect for human rights and the grace of humility.

*Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Lord we pray for your church throughout the world. We pray that in the midst of all the uncertainties in these times of living in a pandemic, there will be space to listen to the sound of your voice. May your voice take our minds beyond the tangible and immediate concerns, to the everlasting belief and life through Jesus.

We give thanks for this technology that allows us to keep in touch and help us as we prepare for Holy Week in our homes. Grant that we may hear your voice as we travel with you through each day. You know that we will miss our times to share and pray with our friends in our churches. As the journey takes us to your ultimate sacrifice on Good Friday, we particularly remember and think of Father Michael and all clergy as they prepare for the Easter celebration. May your Grace support them as they celebrate Easter for the first time without a congregation in the church.

*Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

At this time of concern in our community let us never forget, or be too busy, to thank God for the many blessings we receive each day. Dear Lord we thank you for the ways in which we care for each other. We thank you for our natural instinct to care, to be generous and ready to share and we thank you for the work of our community and all who help, officially and unofficially.

*Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Lord God, whose Son, Jesus Christ, understood people's fear and pain before they spoke of them, we pray for those in hospitals; surround the frightened with your tenderness; give strength to those in pain; hold the weak in your arms of love and give hope and patience to those who are recovering.

*We know we are not alone: **you are with us.***

We pray for those in need that we may be a channel for the Holy Spirit to provide pastoral care and comfort to all people. We hold in our hearts all who have requested our prayers. We pray for all doctors, nurses, medical staff and emergency service personnel who work so selflessly and hard, often risking their own health, to help and support those in need of care during this pandemic. We offer our prayers for all scientists throughout the world who are searching for a vaccine to stop the spread of COVID-19. May the Holy Spirit grant them knowledge and the ability to produce a vaccine.

*Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

We give thanks and praise for those who have served you faithfully to their life's end and we remember those who have lost loved ones to COVID-19. In the silence of our hearts, we bring to you those known specially to us ...

silence

*May their souls Rest In Peace **and rise in glory.***

Father, we pray that you will guide us as we search for ways in which we can offer friendship and comfort to those who are isolated. We pray you will guide us in all we say and do in the name of your Son, our saviour, Jesus Christ who taught us to pray:

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

DISMISSAL & FINAL BLESSING

Loving God, we thank you for hearing our prayers,
for feeding us with your word and encouraging us in our meeting together.
Take us and use us to love and serve you and all people in the power of your spirit,
and in the name of your son Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

May the God of peace equip you with everything good for doing his will, working
in you what is pleasing to him,
through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. AMEN.

May the peace of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be with you and remain with you always. AMEN.

Organ Voluntary

Herzliebster Jesu, op.122/3 - Johannes BRAHMS (1833-97)

*Ah, holy Jesus, how have you offended,
that mortal judgment has on you descended?
By foes derided, by your own rejected, O most afflicted!*

All organ recordings © 2020 by Christopher Wrench

HYMN LINKS:

All glory laud and honour

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0TTV6-yuCTg>

When I survey the wondrous cross

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iK8kYIBn_qI

Please **CLICK** on the following **LINK** to hear the Gospel:

<https://youtu.be/K8NpgTF7iX8>

Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, “What will you give me if I betray him to you?” They paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?” He said, “Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, ‘The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.’” So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.” And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, “Surely not I, Lord?” He answered, “The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. 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.” Judas, who betrayed him, said, “Surely not I, Rabbi?” He replied, “You have said so.”

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, “You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written, I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.” Peter said to him, “Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.” Jesus said to him, “Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.” Peter said to him, “Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.” And so said all the disciples.

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.” He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, “I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.”

And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what

you want.” Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, “So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

Again he went away for the second time and prayed, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.” Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words.

Then he came to the disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.”

While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people.

Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.” At once he came up to Jesus and said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” and kissed him. Jesus said to him, “Friend, do what you are here to do.” Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, “Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?”

At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, “Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, “This fellow said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.’”

The high priest stood up and said, “Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?” But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, “I

put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.” Jesus said to him, “You have said so. But I tell you, From now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.” Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, “He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?” They answered, “He deserves death.” Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, saying, “Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?”

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said, “You also were with Jesus the Galilean.” But he denied it before all of them, saying, “I do not know what you are talking about.” When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, “This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.” Again he denied it with an oath, “I do not know the man.” After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, “Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you.” Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, “I do not know the man!” At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: “Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.” And he went out and wept bitterly.

When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor. When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. He said, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.” But they said, “What is that to us? See to it yourself.” Throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, “It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money.” After conferring together, they used them to buy the potter’s field as a place to bury foreigners. For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah, “And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one on whom a price had been set, on whom some of the people of Israel had set a price, and they gave them for the potter’s field, as the Lord commanded me.”

Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus said, “You say so.” But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him, “Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?” But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed. Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called

Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, “Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?” For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, “Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.” Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed.

The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barabbas.” Pilate said to them, “Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?” All of them said, “Let him be crucified!” Then he asked, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Let him be crucified!” So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.” Then the people as a whole answered, “His blood be on us and on our children!” So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor’s headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross.

And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it.

And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, “This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.” Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left.

Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, “You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.” In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, “He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down

from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, 'I am God's Son.'" The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him."

Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had provided for him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, "Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' Therefore command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, 'He has been raised from the dead,' and the last deception would be worse than the first." Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can." So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

