



## **The Sunday of the Passion**

April 5 2009

The Liturgy of the Palms

Dear friends in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing for the celebration of our Lord's paschal mystery. On this day our Lord Jesus Christ entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph. The people welcomed him with palms and shouts of praise, but the path before him led to self-giving, suffering, and death. Today we greet him as our King, although we know his crown is thorns and his throne a cross. We follow him this week from the glory of the palms to the glory of the resurrection by way of the dark road of suffering and death. United with him in his suffering on the cross, may we share his resurrection and new life. Let us pray.

Assist us mercifully with your help, Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy into the celebration of those mighty acts whereby you give us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Please Stand for the Gospel.*

Reader The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

**People Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Mark 11:1-11** When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" <sup>4</sup> They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, <sup>5</sup> some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing,

untying the colt?" <sup>6</sup> They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. <sup>7</sup> Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. <sup>8</sup> Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. <sup>9</sup> Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!" <sup>10</sup> Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" <sup>11</sup> 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.

Reader            The Gospel of Christ.  
People            **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

It is right to praise you, almighty God, for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. The Hebrews acclaimed Jesus as Messiah and King, with palm branches in their hands, crying, Hosanna in the highest. May we also, carrying these emblems, go forth to meet Christ and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### *We Gather*

**Processional Hymn No. 181**

"All Glory, Laud, and Honour"

(St. Theodulph)

Call to Worship

**Choir Anthem** "Hosanna We Sing to Him"

Pethel

Prayer of Approach

**All:    Creator God,  
         We come before you this Palm Sunday  
         to share in your love  
         to share in the Passion of your Son.  
         Be with us in this hour  
         and in our life to come. Amen.**

Collect of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God,  
in tender love for all our human race  
you sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
to take our flesh and suffer death upon a cruel cross.  
May we follow the example of his great humility,  
and share in the glory of his resurrection;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

Prayer of Confession

**All: We are nearing the end of our Lenten journey.  
We have looked at our lives.  
We have looked at our world.  
We have been found wanting.  
We confess that we do not always act as peacemakers,  
that we are not always able to be a loving community,  
We seek renewal as we stand at the brink of  
Holy Week, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Prayer for Pardon

*(this is done antiphonally—the leader says a phrase and the people repeat)*

Leader: Grant us your grace, O God...  
Grant us your pardon...  
That we may arise...  
as your people...  
a rainbow people...  
an Easter people...  
Amen....

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: There is nothing  
in heaven or on earth  
that can separate us from the love of God.  
We are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God.

**Response:** *(sung to tune: "Old Hundredth"/Doxology tune)*  
**Praise to our God, wave high the palm**  
**Praise to Christ Jesus God's own Son,**  
**Praise to the Spirit we now sing**  
**For in our hearts hosannas ring.**

### *We Hear the Story*

Homily – Meditation

First Reading **Isaiah 50:4-9a** <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> 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; <sup>8</sup> he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. <sup>9</sup> It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

Psalm 31:9-16

One: Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am in distress;

**All: My eye wastes away from grief,  
my soul and body also.**

One: For my life is spent with sorrow,  
and my years with sighing;

**All: My strength fails because of my misery,  
and my bones waste away.**

One: I am the scorn of all my adversaries,  
a horror to my neighbours,

**All: An object of dread to my acquaintances;  
those who see me in the street flee from me.**

One: I have passed out of mind like one who is dead;

**All: I have become like a broken vessel.**

One: For I hear the whispering of many—  
terror all around!—

**All: As they scheme together against me,**

**as they plot to take my life.**

One: But I trust in you O Lord;

**All: I say, You are my God.**

One: My times are in your hand;

**All: Deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.**

One: Let your face shine upon your servant;

**All: Save me in your steadfast love.**

Epistle **Philippians 2:5-11** <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, <sup>7</sup>but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup>he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**Gradual Hymn No. 375**

"At the Name of Jesus"

(King's Weston)

**Gospel: The Story of the Passion of Jesus**

Narrator 1     The Plot Against Jesus                     Mark 14:1–2

Narrator 2     Jesus Is Anointed at Bethany                     Mark 14:3–9

Narrator 3     Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus                     Mark 14:10–11

Narrator 4:     Jesus Eats the Passover Meal with His Disciples  
Mark 14:12–21

**Offertory Hymn No. 602**

"Lift High the Cross"

(Crucifer)

Prayer over the Gifts

Gracious God, the suffering and death of Jesus, your only Son,

makes us pleasing in your sight. Alone we can do nothing, but through his sacrifice, may we receive your love and mercy.

Priest                      The Lord's Supper                      Mark 14:22–26

Communion Hymns

**No. 198** "O Sacred Head Surrounded"                      (Passion Chorale)

**No. 377** "To the Name of Our Salvation"                      (Oriel)

**No. 482** "Come and Journey with a Saviour"                      (Beach Spring)

Prayer After Communion

God our help and strength, you have satisfied our hunger with this eucharistic food. Strengthen our faith, that through the death and resurrection of your Son, we may be led to salvation, for he is Lord now and for ever.

Narrator 1              Jesus Predicts Peter's Denial                      Mark 14:27–31

Narrator 2              Jesus Prays in Gethsemane                      Mark 14:32–42

**Choir Anthem**                      "Winds Through the Olives"  
excerpt from "*Harvest of Sorrows*"

Prayers of the People                      Dawn Jones

Let us pray to the God through his Son who suffered on the cross for the world's redemption, and say

By the Saviour's cross and passion,  
**All      Lord, save us and help us.**

Fill with your Spirit Christ's broken body, the Church ...

Give to Christian people everywhere a deep longing to take up the cross and to understand its mysterious glory.

By the Saviour's cross and passion,  
**All      Lord, save us and help us.**

Bless those who lead the Church's worship at this solemn time ....

In the preaching of the word and the celebration of the sacraments, draw your people close to you.

By the Saviour's cross and passion,  
**All Lord, save us and help us.**

Strengthen those among us preparing for baptism and confirmation, together with their teachers, sponsors and families.

Teach them what it means to die and rise with Christ and prepare them to receive the breath of his Spirit.

By the Saviour's cross and passion,  
**All Lord, save us and help us.**

Look in your mercy upon the world you loved so much that you sent your Son to suffer and to die ....

Strengthen those who work to share the reconciliation won at such cost upon the cross.

By the Saviour's cross and passion,  
**All Lord, save us and help us.**

Bring healing by the wounds of Christ to all who are weighed down by pain and injustice ...

Help the lonely and the betrayed, the suffering and the dying .....

To find strength in the companionship of Jesus,  
And in his passion to know their salvation.

By the Saviour's cross and passion,  
**All Lord, save us and help us.**  
Welcome into paradise all who have left this world in your friendship ...

According to your promises, bring them with all your saints to share in all the benefits of Christ's death and resurrection.

**All** By the Saviour's cross and passion,  
**Lord, save us and help us.**

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

|            |                                |               |
|------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Narrator 3 | The Arrest of Jesus            | Mark 14:43–51 |
| Narrator 4 | Jesus Before the Council       | Mark 14:53–65 |
| Narrator 1 | Peter Denies Jesus             | Mark 14:66–72 |
| Narrator 2 | Jesus Before Pilate            | Mark 15:1–5   |
| Narrator 3 | Jesus Is Sentenced to Death    | Mark 15:6–15  |
| Narrator 4 | The Soldiers Make Fun of Jesus | Mark 15:16–20 |
| Narrator 1 | Jesus is Crucified             | Mark 15:21–32 |

***The Congregation Stands***

|            |                     |               |
|------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Narrator 2 | The Death of Jesus  | Mark 15:33–41 |
| Narrator 3 | The Burial of Jesus | Mark 15:42–47 |

*(time of silence)*

**Choir** “Were You There When They Crucified My Lord”

Benediction

**One** Unlike the disciples in those days, we know how the story ends. Still during the next days, as we go about our daily business, let us hold the story of Jesus' passion and death very close to our hearts so that we might more fully experience the good news of Easter morning.

**All** **Be gracious unto us according to your mercy, O God and bless us. Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, and give us peace. Amen.**

**Hymn No. 431**

“Take Up Your Cross, the Saviour Said”

(Breslau)

*Worshippers are asked to observe silence and leave when ready.  
All are free to remain in the Church as long as they like for prayer  
and meditation.*

**The altar flowers are given in loving memory of Bert White.**

*Please join us downstairs in the Lower Hall for  
fellowship and refreshments.*



**Liturgical Ministers**

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <b>Presiding:</b>            | The Rev. Jagdutt Singh  |
| <b>Organist:</b>             | Margaret Kosa<br>St. Barnabas Choir   |
| <b>Sunday School Coord.:</b> | Alethea Power   |
| <b>Lay Assistant:</b>        | Dawn Jones  |
| <b>Readers:</b>              | Isobel Attrell & David James  |
| <b>Narrators:</b>            | 1 Yvonne Clode<br>2 Cathy Noullett<br>3 Pedro Goncalves<br>4 Elizabeth Knafla |
| <b>Server:</b>               | Matthew Jones   |
| <b>Crucifer:</b>             | Kerra MacLeod   |
| <b>Altar Guild:</b>          | Marian Standing,<br>Susan Marasco & Lyn Innes                                 |