

## All Age Order of Service for Palm Sunday 2020

The Lord be with you

**And also with you**

Hosanna to the Son of David.

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

Behold your king comes to you,

Meek and lowly, sitting upon a donkey.

Ride on in the cause of truth and for the sake of justice.

**Hosanna to the Son of David.**

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

*If you would like to, we join in singing Ride on ride on in majesty (or you could read the words to the hymn below).*

**Ride on, ride on in majesty!**

**Hark! all the tribes hosanna cry;**

**O Saviour meek, pursue your road**

**with palms and scattered garments strowed.**

**Ride on, ride on in majesty!**

**In lowly pomp ride on to die:**

**O Christ, your triumphs now begin**

**o'er captive death and conquered sin.**

**Ride on, ride on in majesty!**

**The winged squadrons of the sky**

**look down with sad and wond'ring eyes**

**to see th'approaching sacrifice.**

**Ride on, ride on in majesty!**

**Your last and fiercest strife is nigh;**

**the Father on his sapphire throne**

**expects his own anointed Son.**

**Ride on, ride on in majesty!**

**In lowly pomp ride on to die;**

**bow your meek head to mortal pain,**

**then take, O God, your pow'r and reign**

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.

*If you have a palm cross or a branch from your garden, please hold it up now.*

God our Saviour, whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah to suffer and to die; let these palms 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.**

**Let us enter the city with God today,  
And sing hosannas to our king,  
Let us turn our backs on the powers that grasp and control,  
And open our hearts to the son of God riding on a donkey.  
Let us join his parade,  
Surrounded by outcasts,  
Let us follow the one who brought freedom and peace,  
And walk in solidarity with the abandoned and oppressed.  
Let us shout for joy at Christ's coming and join his disciples,  
Welcoming the broken, healing the sick,  
Let us see the truth as God draws near.**

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,  
Who in your tender love towards humankind 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 and the Holy Spirit,  
One God, now and forever, **Amen**

*We say together the Psalm set for Palm Sunday (Psalm 118: 19-24)*

**Open to me the gates of righteousness,  
that I may enter through them  
and give thanks to the LORD.**

**This is the gate of the LORD;  
the righteous shall enter through it.**

**I thank you that you have answered me  
and have become my salvation.  
The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.**

**This is the LORD's doing;  
it is marvellous in our eyes.**

**This is the day that the LORD has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever, Amen**

We pause for a moment or sing together

**Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising.  
Give me joy in my heart, I pray.  
Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising.  
Keep me praising till the break of day.**

**Refrain:**

**Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,  
sing hosanna to the King of kings!  
Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,  
sing hosanna to the King!**

**Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting.  
Give me peace in my heart, I pray.  
Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting.  
Keep me resting till the break of day. [Refrain]**

**Give me love in my heart, keep me serving.  
Give me love in my heart, I pray.  
Give me love in my heart, keep me serving.  
Keep me serving till the break of day. [Refrain]**

*We hear the Palm Gospel reading (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<sup>(b)</sup> 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?” <sup>11</sup>The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

This is the gospel of the Lord

## **Praise to you Oh Christ**

*We read or listen to the reflection here...*

### The Prayers

*As we say the prayers below together, we bring before God:*

*...all those known to us we are anxious for*

*...our NHS staff – doctors, nurses, administrators and cleaners*

*...other key workers – postmen, teachers and nursery workers, shop keepers, researchers, delivery drivers, funeral directors and clergy*

*...our Church and national leaders*

*...those who have asked for our prayers: Jim and Sheila Allan and the Towriss family, Kayleigh, Mary Stapleton, Jeanette Ambrose, Rosemary Hazel, Doris Lister, Lynne and Arthur Unitt and Winnie Brown and family.*

*...those who have lost their lives who we remember with thanksgiving: Dorothy Stuteley, Charles Backhouse, Valerie Parker and Peter Beaumont. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.*

.....

Dear God, as we remember your journey into Jerusalem, we thank you that you are always with us, in our inner journeys.

We pray for our world. For people who are scared of the future and for all who have lost homes or health or hope.

We pray for the Church and for the journey of faith that we walk together. Help us to trust you in all our troubles and serve other people as you have called us.

We pray for members of our government and for those in leadership positions around the world. Give them wisdom as they work to lead and care for all people.

We pray for people we know who are anxious or lonely or unwell, especially those known to us. We pray for friends and family who have died and who walk with God a different journey in heaven with him.

God of our homes and God of our journeys, you are our past, present and future. Walk with us always, through Jesus Christ our Lord,

**Amen**

*As this service ends, we turn towards Holy Week – following in Jesus' footsteps in the knowledge that things will get worse for him before they get better, but that love and life will triumph in the end. So in these concluding prayers, we look towards that week, and commit to walking the way of the cross with our Lord and saviour.*

Lord Jesus,

As we remember how the crowds cheered on Palm Sunday as you rode into Jerusalem, we thank you for everything good in our lives, and all the opportunities we have for celebration.

Holy God, **be with us this Holy Week**

As we remember how on Monday you turned over the tables of the money lenders – help us to remember too that there are a lot of things that are more important than money.

Holy God, **be with us this Holy Week**

As we remember how on Tuesday you taught the crowds about the kindness and compassion of the kingdom of God, help us to look after one another and see God in all people.

Holy God, **be with us this Holy Week**

As we remember how on the Wednesday, the woman poured costly perfume all over your feet, help us to be generous people, always ready to do what we can for people in need.

Holy God, **be with us this Holy Week**

As we remember how on Thursday, you ate the meal with your friends, help us to be good friends and neighbours, and share things willingly and sacrificially.

Holy God, **be with us this Holy Week**

As we remember how on Friday you were killed even though you had done nothing wrong, we pray for people who suffer, and we remember that you care for us all.

Holy God, **be with us this Holy Week**

As we remember how on the Sabbath all was quiet and dark and no-one visited the tomb, we pray for people who feel alone – help us to be a comfort to one another.

Holy God, **be with us this Holy Week**

Together we look forward to Easter, remembering that God has promised new life for all and that there is nothing, not even death, that is as strong as love.

Holy God, **be with us this Holy Week**

**Amen**

### **Concluding Poem**

Ride on Lord Jesus.  
Upon a colt,  
over cloaks,  
under branches –  
ride on Lord Jesus.

Towards a city,  
through its gates,  
past the crowds –  
ride on Lord Jesus.

As Hosannas fade  
and enemies sneer,  
as danger closes  
and friends falter –  
ride on Lord Jesus.

Showing the way,  
teaching the truth,  
bringing life for all.  
In the name of the Lord –  
ride on Lord Jesus.

### **The Blessing**

Christ crucified draw you to himself, to find in him a sure ground for faith,  
a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sins forgiven;  
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**