

Choral Eucharist

10.30am Sunday 28th March 2021 – PALM SUNDAY

Gathering

Clocks go forward Today!

Please note that the clocks change today. If you have missed the start of this service, the service will be available as a complete video on Facebook, once the service ends.

This service is being live streamed only, and there is no attendance in church in person in the congregation. The choir for this service is the minimum required for the music being offered in worship.

Logging on to the Live Stream

1. The live stream will start at about 10.25am in preparation for the service.
2. Go to our website www.stmaryletower.org.uk and find the “**LIVE Streamed Services**” title and click to go to our [Facebook Live](#) page.
3. Click on the service video. When the video opens you will need to click on the loudspeaker icon to unmute it and hear the sound.

Music before the Service

Hosanna filio David ‘Hosanna to the son of David’

– Jeanne Demessieux

Organist: William Baldry

Liturgy of the Palms

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 Lord be with you.

The Lord bless you.

The minister welcomes the People, and then continues:

Dear friends 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.

Gospel of the Palms: Mark 11.1-11

read by Sonia Docherty, Elder

When the reading is announced, all respond:

Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus and his disciples were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples 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. If anyone says to you, “Why are you doing this?” just say this, “The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.”’

They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, ‘What are you doing, untying the colt?’ They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it.

Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, ‘Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!’

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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Blessing of the Palms

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 lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Palm Sunday Hymn

Please sing along at home if you wish.

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

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

The people of the Hebrews
 With palms before thee went;
 Our praise and prayer and anthems
 Before thee we present.
All glory, laud....

To thee before thy passion
 they sang their hymns of praise:
 to thee now high exalted
 our melody we raise:
All glory, laud.....

Thy sorrow and thy triumph
 Grant us, O Christ, to share,
 That to the holy city
 Together we may fare:
All glory, laud.....

Prayer for the Day (The Collect)

The Lord be with you,
The Lord bless you.

We keep a time of silent prayer together.

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.**

Listening for the Word from God

Philippians 2.5-11

read by Ruth Longhurst

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
 who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard
 equality with God as something to be exploited, but
 emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born
 in human likeness. And being found in human form, he
 humbled himself and became obedient to the point of
 death – even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the
 name that is above every name, so that at the name of
 Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth
 and under the earth, and every tongue should confess
 that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the
 Father.

For the gift of his living word,
Thanks be to God.

Gradual Psalm 31.9-18

Have mercy upon me, O Lord, for I am in trouble : and
 mine eye is consumed for very heaviness; yea, my
 soul and my body.

For my life is waxen old with heaviness : and my years
 with mourning.

My strength faileth me, because of mine iniquity : and
 my bones are consumed.

I became a reproof among all mine enemies, but
 especially among my neighbours : and they of mine
 acquaintance were afraid of me; and they that did
 see me without conveyed themselves from me.

I am clean forgotten, as a dead man out of mind : I am
 become like a broken vessel.

For I have heard the blasphemy of the multitude : and
 fear is on every side, while they conspire together
 against me, and take their counsel to take away my
 life.

But my hope hath been in thee, O Lord : I have said,
 Thou art my God.

My time is in thy hand; deliver me from the hand of
 mine enemies : and from them that persecute me.

Shew thy servant the light of thy countenance : and save
 me for thy mercy's sake.

Let me not be confounded, O Lord for I have called
 upon thee : let the ungodly be put to confusion, and
 be put to silence in the grave.

Let the lying lips be put to silence : which cruelly,
 disdainfully, and despitefully, speak against the
 righteous

Please stand

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the
 Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
 world without end. Amen.

The Passion Gospel: Mark 15.1-39

Narrator: Annie Shead; Pilate: Ian Lord;

Jesus: Richard Hanley; Passer-by: Sue Adair;

Centurian: Humphry Adair.

The Passion of our Lord according to Mark.

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a
 consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole
 council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed
 him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him, 'Are you the King
 of the Jews?' He answered him, 'You say so.' Then the
 chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked
 him again, 'Have you no answer? See how many charges
 they bring against you.' But Jesus made no further
 reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for
 them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called

Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them, 'Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?' For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over.

But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again, 'Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?' They shouted back,

All: 'Crucify him!'

Pilate asked them, 'Why, what evil has he done?' But they shouted all the more,

All: 'Crucify him!'

So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him,

Choir Lower Voices

'Hail, King of the Jews!'

They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, 'The King of the Jews.' And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying,

Choir Upper Voices

'Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!'

In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying,

Choir Lower Voices

'He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.'

Those who were crucified with him also taunted him. When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, 'Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?' which means, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, 'Listen, he is calling for Elijah.' And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, 'Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.' Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

We keep an extended period of silence together.

And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, 'Truly this man was God's Son!'

This is the passion of our Lord.

Sermon

Revd Canon Charles Jenkin

Intercession

We stand with Christ in his suffering.

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

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.

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.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

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.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who, weighed down with hardship, failure, or sorrow, feel that God is far from them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

That we, with those who have died in faith, may find mercy in the day of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Liturgy of the Sacrament

The 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.

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

The Gifts of the People

St Mary-le-Tower faces considerable financial challenges at this time and everyone is invited to make a generous contribution by one method or another.

Donations may be made using as follows:

- Regular giving by Standing Order
- The Donation Button on our website
- Via BACS to 30-94-55, 00059383
PCC St Mary le Tower Ipswich

Offertory Anthem (Malcolm)

Sung by the choir.

During which the minister prepares the Holy Table.

*Ingrediente Domino in sanctam civitatem,
Hebraeorum pueri resurrectionem vitae pronuntiantes,
Cum ramis palmarum:
Hosanna, clamabant, in excelsis.*

As the Lord entered the holy city,
The Hebrew children hailed
the resurrection of life
With palm branches
Crying 'Hosanna in the highest'.

The minister takes the collection plate. Recalling our giving for God's work of in the life and mission of our Church, the minister says:

God of life, saviour of the poor,
receive our gifts with gratitude for your goodness,

penitence for our pride and dedication to your service
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord is here:

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise

You are worthy of our thanks and praise,
Lord God of truth,
for by the breath of your mouth
you have spoken your word,
and all things have come into being.
You fashioned us in your image
and placed us in the garden of your delight.
Though we chose the path of rebellion
you would not abandon your own.

Again and again
you drew us into your covenant of grace.
You gave your people the law
and taught us by your prophets
to look for your reign of justice, mercy and peace.

And now we give you thanks because, for our salvation,
he was obedient even to death on the cross.
The tree of shame was made the tree of glory;
and where life was lost, there life has been restored.

As we watch for the signs of your kingdom on earth,
we echo the song of the angels in heaven,
evermore praising you and singing:

*The Sanctus is sung by the choir
(Mozart - Coronation Mass)*

*Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt coeliet terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.*

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord, most high.

The Benedictus is sung by the choir.

*Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

Lord God, you are the most holy one,
enthroned in splendour and light,
yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ
you reveal the power of your love
made perfect in our human weakness.

Amen. Lord, we believe.

Embracing our humanity,
Jesus showed us the way of salvation;
loving us to the end,

he gave himself to death for us;
dying for his own, he set us free from the bonds of sin,
that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

Amen. Lord, we believe.

On the night he gave up himself for us all
he 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.

Amen. Lord, we believe.

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.

Amen. Lord, we believe.

Therefore we proclaim the death
that he suffered on the cross,
we celebrate his resurrection,
his bursting from the tomb,
we rejoice that he reigns at your right hand on high
and we long for his coming in glory.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice
of our redemption,
Father, by your Holy Spirit
let these gifts of your creation be to your Church
the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
form us into the likeness of Christ
and make us a perfect offering in your sight.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Look with favour on your people
and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts.
Bless the earth, heal the sick,
let the oppressed go free
and fill your Church with power from on high.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Gather your people from the ends of the earth
to feast with all your saints
at the table in your kingdom,
where the new creation is brought to perfection
in Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Breaking Bread

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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.
And forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory, are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei (Mozart)

Sung by the choir:

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis, dona nobis pacem.*

O Lamb of God,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us. Grant us thy peace.

Holy Communion

*Before receiving Communion, the minister proclaims
and all respond:*

The Body of Christ; the bread of heaven. **Amen.**

The Blood of Christ; the cup of salvation. **Amen.**

*The People may make a sign of the cross to affirm their
participation in the Body of Christ, and in the blessing
of this Eucharistic celebration.*

*The Minister receives the Bread and the Wine on
behalf of the Body of Christ at St Mary-le-Tower.*

Prayer after Communion

**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. Amen.**

Sending Out

Mission Hymn

Please join in at home if you wish.

**Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Hark, all the tribes hosanna cry.
O Saviour meek, pursue thy 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 dear head to mortal pain,
and take, O God, thy power, and reign.

Blessing and Dismissal

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.**

Go in the peace of Christ
Thanks be to God.

Organ Voluntary

March upon a theme of Handel 'Lift up your heads'
– Alexandre Guilmant

The livestream continues until the end of the Voluntary

After the Service

If you wish to speak to the vicar or another member of staff, it is best to do this currently by phone or email:

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