



Sunday March 24, 2024
The Sunday of the Passion with the Liturgy of the Palms
St. Paul's Anglican Church, Uxbridge



THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Prelude

O Sacred Head

Beaudoin

Palm Sunday

Look around the temple in Jerusalem as Jesus saw it. The vast stone platform on which it stands is alive with people from every corner of the earth. Believers, scattered over the known world, look to this spot as being truly the place of God's dwelling. They support the temple's life with a yearly tax payment. Into this building there pours an avalanche of money, bringing with it choices, responsibilities, political intrigues, and the temptations of power. The original purpose of this great complex machinery which throbs around Jesus was once simple. At heart, in its best moments and in its best people, it is still simple. It is searching for and mediating God to his sons and daughters. But the nature of systems is to forget their origins. Suddenly Jesus moved, swiftly and purposefully. We will never know to what extent the act was spontaneous or calculated. He heaved up a table laden with coins; he went from there to a stall of chirping birds, overturning, gesticulating, and shouting. We will never know how the episode ended, whether he was stopped by anxious friends, or whether the attack was so sudden and unthinkable in that particular place that he was gone before response was possible.

The question today asks is this – Whose is the hand overturning the tables in the great “temples” of the contemporary world? Is it only political enemies, radicals, iconoclasts, terrorists? Or could it be one who walks among us with total justice and utter love, who will not allow our carefully constructed systems to continue without challenge? *Herbert O'Driscoll*

Order for the Liturgy of the Palms

Celebrant: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: **Hosanna in the highest.**

Introduction:

Celebrant: Dear Friends in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing for the celebration of the 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 on the cross. United with him in his suffering on the cross, may we share his resurrection and new life.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant: 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.

People: **Amen.**

Gospeller: The Lord be with you

People: **And also with you**

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

People: **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

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."
(Matthew 21:1-11)

[at the conclusion of the reading of the Gospel]

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ
People: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

The Blessing of the Palms *[Please remain standing and raise your palm]*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you

Celebrant: It is right to praise you almighty God, for the act 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.’ Sanctify these branches with your blessing, that we, who follow Christ the King in exultation, may reach the eternal Jerusalem through him, who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

People: Amen

The Procession

Celebrant: Let us go forth in peace

People: In the name of Christ. Amen.

Hymn: *Ride On, Ride On in Majesty*

CP 182

[tune: Winchester New]

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 angel-squadrons of the sky
look down with sad and wondering eyes
to see the approaching sacrifice.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
thy 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 thy meek head to mortal pain;
then take, O God, thy power, and reign.

Symbolic Knocking on the Church Door

[The gates of the Holy City and Temple were locked and only those who had the right could enter. The processional cross will knock on our church door to remind us of this.]

Celebrant: Almighty God, whose Son was crucified yet entered into glory, may we, walking the way of the cross, find it is for us the way of life; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People: Amen.

[With palms waving and with shouts of Hosanna, the procession enters the sanctuary (now, our Jerusalem) as our Lord rode into the fabled city of so many years ago.]

Hymn

All Glory, Laud and Honour

CP 181

[tune: St. Theodulph]

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

Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son,
Who in the Lord's name comest, the King and blessed one.

The company of angels are praising thee on high,
and we with all creation in chorus make reply.

The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems before thee we present.

To thee before thy Passion they sang their hymns of praise;
To thee now high exalted our melody we raise.

Thou didst accept their praises; accept the praise we bring
Who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King.

Collect of the Day *[Please remain standing]*

Celebrant: 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.

People: Amen.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading Isaiah 50:4-9A

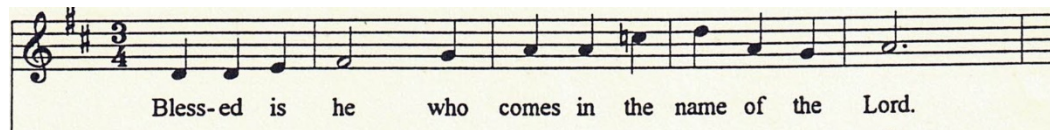
Reader: A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

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)*

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 118



Second Reading Philippians 2:5-11

Reader: A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Philippians

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. *(Philippians 2.5-11)*

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Gradual

Into Jerusalem Jesus Rode (vs. 1, 2)

CP 183

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Reader: The Lord be with you

People: **And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

All: **Glory to You Lord Jesus Christ.**

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, ‘Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—the King of Israel!’ Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: ‘Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey’s colt!’ *(John 12.12-15)*

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

All: **Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ.**

Gradual

Into Jerusalem Jesus Road (vs. 3)

CP

183

The Homily: Fr. Richard Newland

The Apostles’ Creed *[please stand as you are able]*

Celebrant: Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

All: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Choir Anthem

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

Phillips

[please sit or kneel]

The Prayers of the People

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; God welcomes sinners and invites us to this table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Celebrant: Most merciful God,

All: we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant: May the peace of the risen Christ be with you!

People: And also with you.

Offertory Hymn

Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle

CP 185

Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant: 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.

People: Amen.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who for our sins was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself. By his suffering and death, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him. Therefore with all the host of heaven who gather around your throne and the Lamb, we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

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.

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, Father, according to his command,

All: we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;

Celebrant: and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **People:** Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now as our Saviour Christ has taught and commanded, let us pray with the words he gave 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.

Celebrant: We break this bread,

All: **Communion in Christ's body once broken.**

Celebrant: Let your Church be the wheat which bears its fruit in dying.

All: **If we have died with him, we shall live with him; if we hold firm, we shall reign with him.**

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn during Communion

Giver of the Perfect Gift

CP 180

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant: 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.

All: **Amen.**

Celebrant: Glory to God,

All: **whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Solemn Benediction

Announcements

Recessional Hymn:

Three Tall Trees

[words: T. Herbert O'Driscoll]

Three tall trees stood on a windy hill
close by a Hebrew town;
and oft they thought what the hand of man
would do when he cut them down.

A cradle,' said one, 'for a child I will
be.'

sea.'

stand strong and free,
on high.'

'As a ship,' said another, 'Will I sail the

'I will stay,' said the third, 'I will

and point men to God

One day man walked on that windy hill,
came where the tall trees stood;
and one by one did he work his will
as he sought for the best of wood.

From one did he fashion a manger stall,
from another the keel of a fish boat small,
but the third did he lay by the workshop wall,
so straight did it stand, and high.

The seasons passed on the windy hill,
close by a Hebrew town;
that manger cradled a baby still,
and a star in the east looked down.
And when as a teacher He spoke on the shore,
that boat was brought and the Lord it bore,
and across the waters He taught them more
of love, and a God on high.

A voice cried '*HALT!*' and a prisoner stood,
bleeding and bound and still,
while they chose for His cross the last of the wood
that had grown on that windy hill.
It had cradled a baby asleep and awake,
it had held the sail on the stormy lake:
now it bore Him aloft for the whole world's sake,
the Son of God most high.

Celebrant: Go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Meditation for Lent VI Ah Holy Jesus

Beaudoin