



Three Rivers Churches

Chippenham, Fordham, Isleham, Kennett, Snailwell
CHURCH OF ENGLAND, DIOCESE OF ELY

Palm Sunday

24 March 2024



**Service of the Word, Procession
& Reading of the Passion Gospel
St Andrew's, Isleham, 10.30am**

Palm Sunday Procession

The Greeting

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you
and also with you.

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.

Hosanna to the Son of David.

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

Blessing of the Palms

God our Saviour, whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah to suffer and to die; may 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.

Palm Gospel

[Mark 11.1-11]

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he 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.

Let us go forth, praising Jesus our Messiah.

Processional Hymn

Little donkey, little donkey, on the dusty road
Got to keep on plodding onwards, with your precious load.
Bear your king, O little donkey, through the noisy crowd
Don't you fear them, they won't hurt you, hold your head up proud.

*Wave, wave those palms today 'Hosanna !' 'Hosanna !'
Lay down your cloaks and say 'Hosanna !' 'Hosanna !'*

Little donkey, little donkey, down the hill and then
onwards just a little further, to Jerusalem.
Nearly there now, little donkey, soon be home again.
You have carried your Messiah, to his journey's end.

Wave, wave those palms today...

Little donkey, little donkey, had a heavy day
Little donkey, carry Jesus, safely on his way,
Little donkey, carry Jesus, safely on his way.

Welcome & Introduction (in church)

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.

Hymn

Make way, make way
For Christ the King
In splendour arrives
Fling wide the gates and welcome Him
Into your lives

*Make way! (Make way!)
Make way! (Make way!)
For the King of kings
(For the King of kings)
Make way! (Make way!)
Make way! (Make way!)
And let His kingdom in*

He comes the broken hearts to heal
The prisoners to free
The deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance
The blind shall see

Make way! (Make way!)...

And those who mourn with heavy hearts
Who weep and sigh
With laughter, joy and royal crown
He'll beautify

Make way! (Make way!)...

We call you now to worship Him
As Lord of all
To have no gods before Him
Their thrones must fall!

Make way! (Make way!)...

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Prayers Of Penitence

Lord Jesus Christ, we confess we have failed you as did your first disciples.
We ask for your mercy and your help. Our selfishness betrays you:
Lord, forgive us.

Christ have mercy.

We fail to share the pain of your suffering: Lord, forgive us.

Christ have mercy.

We run away from those who abuse you: Lord, forgive us.

Christ have mercy.

We are afraid of being known to belong to you: Lord, forgive us.

Christ have mercy.

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw us to himself and
cleanse us from all our sins that we may behold the glory of his Son,
the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessed is the Lord,
for he has heard the voice of our prayer;
therefore, shall our hearts dance for joy
and in our song will we praise our God.

Reading

[Isaiah 50:4-9a]

The Lord God has given me a trained tongue, 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 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 in court together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

For the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn -

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Hark! All the tribes, hosanna cry;
Thy humble beast pursues his 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 winged squadrons of the sky
look down with sad and wond'ring eyes
to see th'approaching sacrifice.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Thy 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 meek head to mortal pain,
then take, O God, your pow'r and reign.

The Passion Gospel *[Please remain seated]*

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory. Christ humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore, God has highly exalted him and given him the name that is above every name. **Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *Mark [Ch. 14 & 15]*

The Passion Gospel is read

This is the Passion of the Lord.

No response is made.

We keep silence to reflect on what we have just heard.

Hymn -

O sacred head surrounded
by crown of piercing thorn!
O bleeding head, so wounded,
so shamed and put to scorn!
Death's pallid hue comes o'er thee,
the glow of life decays,
yet angel hosts adore thee,
and tremble as they gaze.

Thy comeliness and vigour
is withered up and gone,
and in thy wasted figure,
I see death drawing on.
O agony and dying!
O love to sinners free!
Jesu, all grace supplying,
turn thou thy face on me.

In this thy bitter passion,
Good Shepherd, think of me
with thy most sweet compassion,
unworthy though I be:
beneath thy cross abiding
for ever would I rest,
in thy dear love confiding,
and with thy presence blest.

The Creed

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Prayers will be offered, ending with

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

Standing at the foot of the cross,

So, we pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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.
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.**

The Collect

Let us pray for a closer union with Christ in his suffering and in his glory.

**True and humble king, hailed by the crowd as Messiah: grant us the
faith to know you and love you, that we may be found beside you on
the way of the cross, which is the path of glory. Amen**

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. [Ephesians 2.13,14]

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Hymn

You are the King of Glory, you are the Prince of Peace;
You are the Lord of heaven and earth, you're the Sun of righteousness.
Angels bow down before You, worship and adore, for
You have the words of eternal life, you are Jesus Christ the Lord.

*Hosanna to the Son of David! Hosanna to the King of kings!
Glory in the highest heaven, Jesus the Messiah reigns.*

[Repeat]

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Notices

The Blessing and Dismissal

May the Father who so loved the world that he gave his only Son, bring us by faith to his eternal life. **Amen.**

May Christ, who accepted the cup of sacrifice in obedience to the Father's will, keep us steadfast as we walk with him the way of his cross. **Amen.**

May the Spirit, who strengthens us to suffer with Christ that we may share his glory, set our minds on life and peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. - **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

NOTICES

Leading your Church into Growth

There is an upcoming opportunity to come together as one group to attend an online conference exploring how our churches can begin to grow. See <http://www.leadingyourchurchintogrowth.org.uk> for more information. Those interested in attending these sessions, which would be centrally co-ordinated at an agreed location, please contact Reverend Stephen @ revdsmday@cantab.net

Session 1: Friday 26 April – 6.30-9.30pm

Session 2: Saturday 27 April – 9am–1pm

Session 3: Sunday 28 April – 1pm–3.30pm

The Three Rivers Churches Ministry Team

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EASTER SERVICES

24 March - Palm Sunday

Group Service: 10.30am @ Isleham

27 March - Holy Wednesday

Compline: 18.30pm @ Snailwell

28 March - Maundy Thursday

Holy Communion: 19.00pm @ Chippenham

29 March - Good Friday

Ecumenical Service: 10.30am @ Isleham, The Ark

Hour at The Cross: 14.00pm @ Snailwell

31 March - Easter Sunday

Dawn Service: 6.30am @ Chippenham

(followed by breakfast)

Eucharist: 9.30am @ Isleham

Eucharist - 9.30am @ Snailwell

Eucharist - 11.00am @ Fordham

Eucharist -11.00am @ Chippenham

Eucharist - 15.30pm @ Kennett