

# Church at Home

## Palm Sunday

**Caring army of 730,000 on standby to ease burden**

Coronavirus

**Bringing Britain Together**

Our newly-unioned nation is tackling the problems of Covid-19 with fortitude, kindness and dedication

We've no protective gowns left... God help us all!

tributes to the NHS

RAF to transport vital supplies

STAY HOME ▶ PROTECT THE NHS ▶ SAVE LIVES

Keeping the faith

Nothing will be ok, y'all

A moment of crisis, faith can be hugely important. Community support, an inspiring sermon, even coming together as a church, helps take such a burden off our shoulders and provides solace and inspiration at a time when the world no longer makes sense. So with lockdown in full force and places of worship shut, we work, artists, writers and graffiti have been forced to think creatively about how to bring God into homes and churches, people's faith at a time when they so desperately need it.

And technology has played an integral part. "We're seeing a complete transformation of technology" says Rabbi Baruch Levin of London's Beulah Park synagogue. "Something that has so often been a tool of polarisation, to sow division and hate, is now being used for the purpose of sharing goodness and kindness and inclusivity in a way we've never seen before."

Here, there are examples of how Christians, Jews, Muslims and Sikhs are using technology to enable their religions to thrive in the time of coronavirus.

**NHS**

one worship God from wherever we are and still connect through prayer and love.

Christianity: online poetry, podcasts and readings

**One in 7 NHS beds filled by virus patients**

... but officials say social distancing is working

## #DIYcross

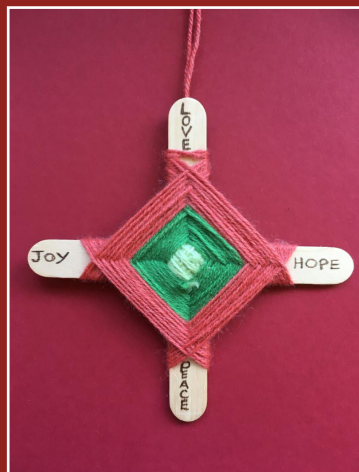
Once again, we're encouraging everyone to get creative and make a palm cross. Our service today begins with a fun film from the Revd Mark Nelson, Assistant Curate of the Benefice of Winslow, Great Horwood and Addington.

You'll find plenty of additional ideas on our website at [oxford.anglican.org/palm-sunday](https://www.oxford.anglican.org/palm-sunday)

From crochet and knitting patterns, colouring sheets, and lollipop stick crosses... there are ideas for people of all ages and require minimal equipment.

Some of the crosses from last year feature in our service today, so let us know if you make one! Take a photo of your cross, post it on social media and tag it **#DIYcross**

However you make your cross, may it be to you a sign of God's blessing for the days ahead.



# ***Before the Service***

Welcome as we worship God together from across the Diocese of Oxford in Church at Home on this Palm Sunday.

We are delighted that the president today is the Rt Revd Dr Alan Wilson, Bishop of Buckingham, and that our address is given by the Revd Canon Sally Lodge, Team Rector, Benefice of New Windsor. Many thanks to everyone who has contributed ideas, prayers, words and music for this week's Church at Home as we begin Holy Week, following Jesus from his triumphal entry into Jerusalem to the empty tomb on Easter morning.

Today we celebrate Palm Sunday from our homes with no gathered processions to our places of worship. Instead, we journey together in worship in spirit, heart and mind. You may have a palm cross from previous years, or might like to make one from paper, nails or twigs to hold as your focus for prayer today. On this day last year, we asked people to send in photographs of their homemade crosses, beautiful examples of which we feature throughout today's liturgy. Whatever cross you have made or chosen to help you journey with Jesus this Holy Week, have it ready for Bishop Alan to bless at the start of the service and do send us a photo afterwards if you would like.

In today's service, we have a dramatic reading of Christ's Passion from the Gospel according to Mark, in which the whole story of the week is anticipated. We hope it carries you into the drama of Holy Week and helps you to engage with the joy of Palm Sunday, followed by the desolation and bewilderment that precedes the excitement and anticipation of Easter for Christians around the world.

*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.*

Thank you to everyone from across the diocese who has made this service possible, including people from Oxford, Buckingham, Windsor, Uffington, Shellingford, Waltham St Lawrence, Shiplake, Dunsden, Harpsden, Bray, Chipping Norton and Reading.

## Video before the service

#DIYCross

Revd Mark Nelson and family, Winslow Benefice

## Hymn

*On screen images are pictures of palm crosses  
sent in after last year's Palm Sunday service*

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  
and 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 mortal men and all things  
created, 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 prayers we bring,  
who in all good delightest,  
thou good and gracious King!

'All glory, laud and honour'

*Sung by the Choir of Christ Church Cathedral, directed by Stephen Darlington  
Words: St Theodulph of Orelans (d. 821) trans John Mason Neal (1818-1866)  
Music: Melchior Teschner (1584-1635)*

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

*All* **And also with you.**

*Bishop Alan welcomes the congregation and introduces the service.*

*President* We come to worship this morning from our homes,  
approaching Calvary in different ways and with new perspectives.  
Yet still we are together, united in heart and mind,  
united by Christ, whose broken body makes us one.

Today with the Church throughout the world,  
we set our eyes upon the Cross.  
We remember Christ entering his own city,  
obedient to his Father's will:  
ready to suffer, die and rise again.

Let us travel with him hopefully.  
Let us walk with him gently.  
That we may come with him joyfully  
to share in his resurrection.

*Bishop Alan invites everyone to hold up their cross.*

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

*All* **Amen**

## Prayers of Penitence

Read by Revd Jeremy Goulston  
Assistant Area Dean, Vale of the White Horse

*Minister* Christ did the Father's will  
and fulfilled the hopes long prophesied.  
How often do we fall short  
of all that God asks and hopes for us?

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

*A time of silent reflection is kept.*

*Minister* Jesus, son of David, you came to your people in peace,  
riding on a donkey,  
we bring before you our lack of humility.

Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Minister* Jesus, son of David, you were greeted with Hosannas,  
that soon became cries of cruelty and fear,  
we bring before you our lack of love.

Christ, have mercy.

*All* **Christ, have mercy.**

*Minister* Jesus, son of David, you were ready to walk  
the way of the cross, obedient to the end,  
we bring before you our lack of faith.

Lord, have mercy.

*All* **Lord, have mercy.**

## Absolution

*President* May God who loved the world so much  
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour  
forgive you your sins  
and make you holy to serve him in the world,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

## The Collect

*President* Let us pray for grace to walk in the way of the cross.

*Silence is kept.*

*President* 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.

*All* **Amen.**

*We listen to God speaking through the Scriptures.*

### New Testament Reading

Philippians 2:5-11 (NRSV)

*Read by Peter Mattingley, St Faith's Church, Shellingford*

*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.

*Reader* This is the word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

### Hymn

Can you hear the donkey  
Trotting on her way  
She's going to Jerusalem  
This very special day

Can you hear the children  
Trotting by her side  
As she gives King Jesus  
This very special ride

Hosanna to King Jesus  
Hosanna to the King  
Wave your branches,  
Raise your voices  
Dance along and sing  
Hosanna to King Jesus  
Hosanna to the King  
Lay your coat to make a path  
Of welcome for the King

Can you hear the donkey? [www.outoftheark.com](http://www.outoftheark.com)  
*Sung by the Waltham St Lawrence Junior Choir*  
*Directed by Fiona Penn, with Simon Shaw*

## **The Passion Reading**

Mark 14:1-15:47 (NRSV)

*A dramatic reading by parishioners from the  
United Benefice of Shiplake with Dunsden and Harpsden cum Bolney\**

*Reader* 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.

*Philippians 2:8,9*

*All* **Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; for they said, 'Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.'

While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of pure nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. But some were



there who said to one another in anger, 'Why was the ointment wasted in this way? For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor.' And they scolded her. But Jesus said, 'Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.'

Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. When they heard it, they were greatly pleased, and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to him, 'Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?' So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, "The Teacher asks, Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?" He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.' So the disciples set out and went to the city, and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

When it was evening, he came with the twelve. And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said, 'Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me.' They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another, 'Surely, not I?' He said to them, 'It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.'

While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, 'Take; this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks, he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. 'This is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.'

When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. And Jesus said to them,

‘You will all become deserters; for it is written, “I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.”’

But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.’ Peter said to him, ‘Even though all become deserters, I will not.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.’ But he said vehemently, ‘Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.’ And all of them said the same.

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, ‘Sit here while I pray.’ He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them, ‘I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.’ And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, ‘Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.’ He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, ‘Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.’ And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. He came a third time and said to them, ‘Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.’

Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, ‘The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard.’ So when he came, he went up to him at once and said, ‘Rabbi!’ and kissed him. Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to them, ‘Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled.’ All of them deserted him and fled.

A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.

The guards took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes assembled. Peter had followed at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire.

Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying, ‘We heard him say, “I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.”’ But even on this point their testimony did not agree. Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, ‘Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?’ But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him, ‘Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?’ Jesus said, ‘I am; and “you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power”, and “coming with the clouds of heaven.”’

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, ‘Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?’ All of them condemned him as deserving death. Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him, ‘Prophesy!’ The guards also took him over and beat him.

While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said, ‘You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth.’ But he denied it, saying, ‘I do not know or understand what you are talking about.’ And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed. And the servant-girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders, ‘This man is one of them.’ But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, ‘Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean.’ But he began to curse, and he swore an oath, ‘I do not know this man you are talking about.’ At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, ‘Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.’ And he broke down and wept.

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, ‘Crucify him!’ Pilate asked them, ‘Why, what evil has he done?’ But they shouted all the more, ‘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, ‘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, ‘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, ‘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. 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!'

There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where the body was laid.

*Reader*            This is the Passion of the Lord.

## **Reflection**

Rev'd Canon Sally Lodge  
Team Rector, Benefice of New Windsor

*After the sermon we keep silence together for a few moments before affirming our faith together in the words of the Creed.*

## **The Creed**

*President*            Let us affirm our faith in God.

*All*                    **We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and  
the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.**

## Prayers of Intercession

*Led by members of the Wednesday Prayer Group  
Holy Trinity, Bray*

*We bring ourselves to a place of quiet and stillness as we pray; you may like to adopt a prayer posture with your hands open or to focus your gaze on the cross you had blessed at the start of the service.*

*The response to the prayers is:*

*Intercessor*     Let us pray to the Lord.  
*All*                **Lord, have mercy.**

*At the end we say:*

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

## The Peace

*President*        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.

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

*Christians have shared a sign of peace since the very earliest days of the Church.  
Although we are separated by distance, we are one Body of Christ; the Spirit moves  
among us as we share Christ's peace.*

## Preparation of the Table

*President*        Jesus, true vine and bread of life,  
ever giving yourself that the world might live,  
let us share your death and passion:  
make us perfect in your love.  
*All*                **Amen.**

## The Eucharistic Prayer

*President* The Lord be with you.  
*All* **And also with you.**

*President* Lift up your hearts.  
*All* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*President* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*All* **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*President* Almighty God, good Father to us all,  
your face is turned towards your world.  
In love you gave us Jesus your Son  
to rescue us from sin and death.  
Your Word goes out to call us home  
to the city where angels sing your praise.  
We join with them in heaven's song:

**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.**

*President* Father of all, we give you thanks  
for every gift that comes from heaven.  
To our darkness Jesus came as your light.  
With signs of faith and words of hope,  
he touched untouchables with love  
and washed the guilty clean.

This is his story.

*All* **This is our song:  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*President* The crowds came out to see your Son,  
yet at the end they turned on him.  
On the night he was betrayed  
he came to table with his friends  
to celebrate the freedom of your people.



This is his story.

*All*            **This is our song:  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*President*     Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food;  
he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said:  
This is my body, given for you all.  
Jesus then gave thanks for the wine;  
he took the cup, gave it and said:  
This is my blood, shed for you all  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this in remembrance of me.

This is our story.

*All*            **This is our song:  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*President*     Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup,  
we celebrate the cross  
on which he died to set us free.  
Defying death he rose again  
and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.

This is our story.

*All*            **This is our song:  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*President*     Send your Spirit on us now  
that by these gifts we may feed on Christ  
with opened eyes and hearts on fire.  
May we and all who share this food  
offer ourselves to live for you  
and be welcomed at your feast in heaven  
where all creation worships you,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

*All*            **Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

*President* In times of hope, in times of trouble,  
in times of sorrow, in times of praise,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

*All* **Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is 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.**

## Breaking of the Bread

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

## Invitation to Communion

*President* God's holy gifts for God's holy people.  
*All* **Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
in the glory of God the Father.**

*The president receives the bread and wine on behalf of the community as we make our 'spiritual communion'; taking time to notice God's presence with us and trust that, as we desire communion with God, God will meet us in our hearts by faith.*

*There are no special words or actions required for this; only true desire, lively faith and genuine love. If you find it helpful you may wish to use the following prayer, or simply listen to the music and meditate upon God's love for you.*

Lord, you stand at the door of my heart and knock. You wait for me and only I can let you in. I believe and trust in you and ask you now to fill me with your presence. Feed me with your body and unite me in your blood, that I may be your blessing to a world in need. Amen.

## Music During Communion

I will worship, with all of my heart,  
I will praise you, with all of my strength  
I will seek you, all of my days  
I will follow, all of Your ways.

I will give You all my worship  
I will give You all my praise  
You alone I long to worship  
You alone are worthy of my praise.

I will bow down, hail You as King  
I will serve You, give You everything  
I will lift up my eyes to your throne  
And I will trust You, I will trust You alone

I Will Worship

*Sung by the Worship Group of St Mary's, Chipping Norton*

*Words by David Ruis © 1991 Shade Tree Music*

## Prayer after Communion

*President* Let us pray.

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.

*All* **Amen.**

## Blessing and Dismissal

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

*All* **Amen.**

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

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

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

*President* Go in the peace of Christ.  
*All* **Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn

*With thanks to Revd Ross Meikle and family for their  
Palm Procession to Redlands Parish Church, Reading*

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!  
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.

*Ride on, ride on in majesty*  
*Sung by the Waltham St Lawrence Virtual Voices,*  
*Musical Director Simon Shaw, Organist Dr Camilla Jarnot*  
*Words: Henry Hart Milman (1791-1868)*  
*Music from Musikalisches Handbuch (1690)*

*With thanks to Revd Ross Meikle and family for their Palm Procession to*  
*Redlands Parish Church, Reading*

*With huge thanks to all our contributors:*

*The Rt Revd Alan Wilson, Bishop of Buckingham; Revd Canon Sally Lodge, Team Rector, Benefice of New Windsor; the Choir of Christ Church Cathedral, directed by Stephen Darlington; Revd Jeremy Goulston, Assistant Area Dean, Vale of the White Horse; Peter Mattingley, St Faith's Church, Shellingford; the Waltham St Lawrence Junior Choir, directed by Fiona Penn, with Simon Shaw; parishioners from the United Benefice of Shiplake with Dunsden and Harpsden cum Bolney; Members of the Wednesday Prayer Group, Holy Trinity, Bray; St Mary's Worship Team, Chipping Norton; Waltham St Lawrence Virtual Voices, with organist Dr Camilla Jarnot, directed by Simon Shaw; Revd Ross Meikle and family, Redlands Parish Church, Reading; Revd Mark Nelson and family, Winslow Benefice; and all who sent us their palm crosses last year.*

*Our lead liturgist this week was Dr Matthew Salisbury, Director of Studies and Lecturer in Music, University College, Lecturer, Worcester College. The producer was Revd Sarah Nesbitt, Assistant Curate, United Benefice of Shiplake with Dunsden and Harpsden. Church at Home is produced each week by Revd Charlotte Bannister-Parker, associate chaplain to the Bishop of Oxford; and Steven Buckley, director of communications; with the help of Emma Thompson, digital communications officer, and Mark Robinson of Digital Creative.*

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*\*Recorded within COVID guidelines*

# Locked down, open-hearted

Living life in all its fullness



Lots of people are asking deep questions of faith at this time. Come and See is an invitation to everyone and anyone who feels adrift in this pandemic, whether or not they know anything about the Christian faith.

[oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see](https://oxford.anglican.org/come-and-see)