



THE CATHEDRAL AND METROPOLITICAL CHURCH OF CHRIST, CANTERBURY

# The Liturgy of Palm Sunday



13<sup>th</sup> April 2025

10.45am

Yeomanry Memorial, High Street and Nave

# Welcome to Canterbury Cathedral for this Service

The Choral Setting is  
Jean Langlais (1907-91), Messe solennelle

Please ask the priest if you require a gluten-free communion wafer.

## Livestreaming

This service will be livestreamed and you may be seen on camera, although we will not deliberately take any close-ups of the congregation.

By attending you agree to be seen in this way.

If you have any concerns please speak to a member of the clergy

At today's service we welcome two donkeys from the John Graham Centre in Blean and thank the staff for loaning them to us.

Cover Image: *The Entry into Jerusalem*  
window in the Chapel of St Gregory, South East Transept.



**THE COLLECTION** is an opportunity to give generously to Canterbury Cathedral in response to God's generosity, and there are many ways to give regularly.

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Please ensure that mobile phones are switched off. No form of visual or sound recording, or any form of photography, is permitted during Services.  
Thank you for your co-operation.



An induction loop system for the hard of hearing is installed in the Cathedral. Hearing aid users should adjust their aid to T.



**Large print** orders of service are available from the stewards and virgers. Please ask.

# Commemoration of the Lord's Entry into Jerusalem

## The Greeting

*The Canon Treasurer in the High Street and the Reverend Sara Bimson in the Nave of the Cathedral greet the people*

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

**And also with you.**

## Introduction

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.

*The people hold up their palms while this prayer of blessing is said*

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, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
now and for ever. **Amen.**

## The Palm Gospel      Luke 19.28-40

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" just say this: "The Lord needs it."' So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, 'Why are you untying the colt?' They said, 'The Lord needs it.' Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus

on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

'Blessed is the king

who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven,

and glory in the highest heaven!'

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, order your disciples to stop.' He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*At the Yeomanry Memorial, the choir sings*

Hosanna filio David:

benedíctus qui venit in nomine  
Domini.

Rex Israel: Hosanna in excelsis.

*Hosanna to the son of David:*

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

*O King of Israel: Hosanna in the highest.*

*Words:* Antiphon for Palm Sunday

*Music:* Tomás Luis de Victoria (c. 1548-1611)

**The Procession** *for those in the High Street*

Let us go forth, praising Jesus our Messiah.

***Those who have had their palms blessed in the High Street*** now  
*make their way to the cathedral or their own parish churches.*

***The congregation in the Nave*** waits for the arrival of the procession

*Once all have gathered the Nave procession will begin as we stand to  
sing*



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

<sup>1</sup>Thou art the King of Israel,  
Thou David's royal Son,  
Who in the Lord's name comest,  
The King and blessed one:

<sup>2</sup>The company of angels  
Are praising thee on high,  
And mortals, joined with all things  
Created make reply:

<sup>3</sup>The people of the Hebrews  
With palms before thee went:  
Our praise and prayer and anthems  
Before thee we present:

<sup>4</sup>To thee before thy passion  
They sang their hymns of praise:  
To thee now high exalted  
Our melody we raise:

<sup>5</sup>Thou didst accept their praises,  
Accept the prayers we bring,  
Who in all good delightest,  
Thou good and gracious King:

Words: St Theodulph of Orleans (c 750-821)  
tr. J.M. Neale (1818-66)

Tune: ST THEODULPH

AM 159

*Remain standing*

## The Collect

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

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.**

*Sit*

# The Liturgy of the Word

# The Epistle

## Philippians 2.5-11

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.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Stand to sing



We sing the praise of him who died,  
of him who died upon the cross;  
the sinner's hope let men deride,  
for this we count the world but loss.

2Inscribed upon the cross we see  
in shining letters, 'God is Love';  
he bears our sins upon the Tree;  
he brings us mercy from above.

3The cross! it takes our guilt away:  
it holds the fainting spirit up;  
it cheers with hope the gloomy day,  
and sweetens every bitter cup.

4It makes the coward spirit brave,  
and nerves the feeble arm for fight;  
it takes its terror from the grave,  
and gilds the bed of death with light

5The balm of life, the cure of woe,  
the measure and the pledge of love,  
the sinner's refuge here below,  
the angels' theme in heaven above.

# The Passion

*Remain standing as the Passion is sung  
(if you prefer to sit, please feel free to do so)*

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke

Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying, 'We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king.' Then Pilate asked him, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' He answered, 'You say so.' Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, 'I find no basis for an accusation against this man.' But they were insistent and said, 'He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.'

When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies.

Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them, 'You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him.'

Then they all shouted out together, 'Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!' (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting, 'Crucify, crucify him!' A third time he said to them, 'Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him.' But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, 'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, "Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed." Then they will begin to say to the mountains, "Fall

on us"; and to the hills, "Cover us." For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [[ Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.']] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!' The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.' Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, 'Certainly this man was innocent.'

plainchant, choruses by Orlande di Lassus (c. 1532-94), ed. & arr. Robert Quinney (b. 1976)

*All sit and silence is kept*

## **Prayers of Intercession**

*The response is*

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

*And at the end*

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

## **The Liturgy of the Sacrament**

### **The Peace**

*Stand*

*The President says*

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.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*Members of the congregation greet one another.*

*Remain standing to sing*

**The Offertory Hymn** *during which the table is prepared and the gifts of the people are gathered and presented. If you would prefer to give electronically, please use the QR code.*



My song is love unknown,  
my Saviour's love to me,  
love to the loveless shown,  
that they might lovely be.  
O, who am I,  
that for my sake  
my Lord should take  
frail flesh, and die?

<sup>2</sup>He came from his blest throne,  
salvation to bestow;  
but men made strange, and none  
the longed-for Christ would know.  
But O, my Friend,  
my Friend indeed,  
who at my need  
his life did spend!

<sup>3</sup>Sometimes they strew his way,  
and his sweet praises sing;  
resounding all the day  
hosannas to their King.  
Then 'Crucify!'  
is all their breath,  
and for his death  
they thirst and cry.

<sup>4</sup>They rise, and needs will have  
my dear Lord made away;  
a murderer they save,  
the Prince of Life they slay.  
Yet cheerful he  
to suffering goes,  
that he his foes  
from thence might free.

<sup>5</sup>Here might I stay and sing:  
no story so divine;  
never was love, dear King,  
never was grief like thine!  
This is my Friend,  
in whose sweet praise  
I all my days  
could gladly spend.

*The President says*

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. **Amen.**

## **The Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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.**

It is indeed right and just,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For as the time of his passion and resurrection draws near  
the whole world is called to acknowledge his hidden majesty.

The power of the life-giving cross  
reveals the judgement that has come upon the world  
and the triumph of Christ crucified.

He is the victim who dies no more, the Lamb once slain, who lives for  
ever, our advocate in heaven to plead our cause, exalting us there to  
join with angels and archangels, for ever praising you and singing:

*The choir sings*

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus,  
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.  
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.  
Hosanna in excelsis.

*Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.*

Benedictus qui venit  
In nomine Domini.  
Hosanna in excelsis.

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

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, 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.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.  
So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice  
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**Dying you destroyed our death,  
rising you restored our life:  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Lord of all life,  
help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.  
Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*The President says*

As we join our prayers with the Church Universal, so we say,  
each in our own language, the prayer that Jesus 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.**

*Notre Père...*

*Vater Unser...*

*Onze Vader...*

*Padre Nuestro...*

*Ojcze Nasz...*

*Baba Yetu...*

*E to matou Matua...*

*Ein Tad...*

*Remain standing for*

## **Breaking of the Bread**

*The President breaks the consecrated bread, saying*

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

*The President says*

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.  
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

**Most merciful Lord, your love compels us to come in.  
Our hands were unclean, our hearts were unprepared;  
we were not fit even to eat the crumbs from under your table.  
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation,  
and share your bread with sinners.  
So cleanse and feed us  
with the precious body and blood of your Son,  
that he may live in us and we in him;  
and that we, with the whole company of Christ,  
may sit and eat in your kingdom.  
Amen.**

*Sit as the President and other ministers begin*

## **The Distribution of Communion**

*Please come up for Communion as directed by the stewards. All who are regular communicants in their own tradition are welcome to receive the sacrament. If you are not a communicant, you are welcome to come forward at this point in the service to receive a blessing, keeping your hands to your sides. Please ask the priest if you **need a gluten-free host**.*

*We request that **you do not intinct (dip) your host in the wine** but either take a sip from the cup or remain with your head bowed. This is for the reasons of good hygiene.*

*If you wish to receive communion in your seat, please let a steward know this.*

*We keep a **prayerful silence** during Communion to allow others to prepare to receive the sacrament or pray afterwards.*

*During Communion, the choir sings the Agnus Dei*

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

*Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.*

## Prayer after Communion

*The President says*

*Let us pray.*

*Stand to pray in silence, before the President says*

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.**

*All then say*

**Faithful God,  
may we who share this banquet  
glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
our salvation, life and hope,  
who reigns as Lord now and for ever. Amen.**

## The Dismissal



All for Jesus, all for Jesus,  
this our song shall ever be;  
for we have no hope, nor Saviour,  
if we have not hope in thee.

<sup>2</sup>All for Jesus, thou wilt give us  
strength to serve thee, hour by hour,  
none can move us from thy presence  
while we trust thy love and power.

<sup>3</sup>All for Jesus, at thine altar  
thou wilt give us sweet content;  
there, dear Lord, we shall receive thee  
in the solemn sacrament.

<sup>4</sup>All for Jesus, thou hast loved us;  
all for Jesus, thou hast died;  
all for Jesus, thou art with us;  
all for Jesus, crucified.

<sup>5</sup>All for Jesus, all for Jesus,  
this the church's song must be,  
till, at last, we all are gathered  
one in love and one in thee.

## Blessing

*The President says*

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

May Christ,  
who accepted the cup of sacrifice  
in obedience to the Father's will,  
keep you steadfast as you 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 your minds on life and peace. **Amen.**

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

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

*All remain standing as the choir and clergy depart*

## Organ Voluntary

**Tea and coffee will be served in the Clagett Auditorium following this morning's Eucharist. All are very welcome.**

**Kindly supported by the Friends of Canterbury Cathedral.**

**To find out more about the Friends visit:  
[www.canterbury-cathedral.org/support-us/friends](http://www.canterbury-cathedral.org/support-us/friends)**

## **Holy Week and Easter – Special Services**

### Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week

5.30pm - Holy Week Reflection: Living with Hope - Quire

### Maundy Thursday

11.00am – Chrism Eucharist, with Renewal of Ordination Vows – Nave

7.30pm – Liturgy of Maundy Thursday, with Stripping of the Sanctuary and Watch - Quire

### Good Friday

10.00am – Family Service for Good Friday - Nave

12 noon - Preaching of the Cross: Prayers and Passion - Nave

1.45pm – Liturgy of Good Friday - Nave

7.30pm - A Concert of Music for Holy Week by Candlelight - Quire

### Holy Saturday

7.30pm – The Easter Vigil and First Eucharist of Easter – Chapter House, Nave and Quire

### Easter Day

8.10am – Sung Eucharist – Quire  
(Broadcast Live on Radio 4)

11.00am – Sung Eucharist – Nave

5.30pm – Solemn Evensong - Quire

## **Safeguarding : Do you need to talk?**

**Are you concerned about the safety of a child, young person or vulnerable adult?**

**Or is there something that you would like to discuss that affects you?**

A safeguarding concern is anything that may impact the safety and wellbeing of a child, young person or vulnerable adult; if they are being neglected, harmed or at risk of being harmed by others or themselves, and are in need of protection. To report a non-emergency safeguarding concern please scan the QR code and complete our online form or email [safeguarding@canterbury-cathedral.org](mailto:safeguarding@canterbury-cathedral.org)

TO REPORT AN EMERGENCY SAFEGUARDING CONCERN PLEASE

CONTACT THE CATHEDRAL CONSTABLES OFFICE:



Located by the main entrance to the Precincts, Christ Church Gate.

Alternatively, please call 01227 866237



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Produced by the Music & Liturgy Department:  
precentor@canterbury-cathedral.org  
01227 865281

[www.canterbury-cathedral.org](http://www.canterbury-cathedral.org)