

Order of Service for Palm Sunday, 5th April 2020

Before you start the service, go outside and find a small branch from your garden to represent a Palm branch. If you want to take a 'selfie' of you and your branch, you can post it on our Facebook page or email to curate.westof7@gmail.com and we will post it for you.

Preparation

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.

O Lord, open our lips

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Give us the joy of your saving grace

And sustain us with your life-giving Spirit.

Dear brother 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 have come together to begin the 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.

Hold up your branch as we pray

God our Saviour,

Whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as

Messiah to suffer and to die:

Let these branches 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

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

Matthew 21:1-11

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Collect

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.

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

Christ humbled himself and became obedient to death, even death on a cross.

Therefore God has highly exalted him and given him the name that is above every name.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 27:11 - 27:56

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Reflection

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the Virgin Mary,
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,
He is seated at the right hand of the Father;
And he will come 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.**

Let us bring to the Father our prayers of intercession
Through Christ who gave himself for the life of the world.

Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us to love our neighbour, and to care for those in need as if we were caring for you. In this time of anxiety, give us strength to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick, and to assure the isolated of our love, and your love, for your name's sake.

Amen.

God of compassion be close to those who are ill, afraid, or in isolation. In their loneliness, be their consolation; in their anxiety, be their hope; in their darkness, be their light; through him who suffered alone on the cross, but reigns with you in glory, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

We pray especially at this time for all in our community who care for the sick and elderly in their homes, in hospital, hospice or in care and residential homes. We thank you for those who care for their neighbour and friend, those who administer online social media groups, and those who give their time to help others.

Amen.

In the sure and certain hope of the Resurrection to eternal life, we commend to God's merciful compassion all who have recently died, especially victims of Covid 19. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

We remember all families bereaved at this time that they may know the comfort and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world;

Lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,
That we may know eternal peace
Through the shedding of our Saviour's blood.
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**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.**

**May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
And the love of God,
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
Be with us all evermore.
Amen.**