



Holy Communion

Palm Sunday



Newbury, St George & St John



Welcome to St George's

Welcome to St George's Church and to today's celebration of Holy Communion. This service is for everyone, and we hope that if you are new or visiting you will feel included and welcomed.

Children are always welcome at St George's and no one is too young to come to church. During all services there is a toddlers' area with books and soft toys, and at 9.30am on Sundays in term time we offer groups for primary and secondary age children. Please ask one of the welcome team for more information.

All are warmly invited to come for coffee after the 9.30am service.

It might also be helpful to know that -

- A hearing loop is in operation for hearing aid users.
- Gluten-free communion wafers are available. Speak to one of the welcome team.
- Toilets are in the entrance lobby.



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PALM SUNDAY

Commemoration of the Lord's entry into Jerusalem

The Gathering

Before the service the people assemble at the Falkland Memorial and palm crosses and service booklets are distributed.

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.

In the name of the Father
and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Dear friends 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 palm crosses while this prayer 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 and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Amen.

Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures for ever.

**Let Israel now proclaim
'His mercy endures for ever.'**

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord.

**This is the gate of the Lord;
the righteous shall enter through it.**

I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

**The stone which the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.**

This is the Lord's doing;
and it is marvellous in our eyes.

**This is the day that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

Come, O Lord, and save us we pray.
Come, Lord, send us now prosperity.

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;
we bless you from the house of the Lord.**

The Lord is God; he has given us light;
**Bind the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar.**

You are my God and I will thank you;
you are my God and I will exalt you.

**O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
his mercy endures for ever.**

The president addresses the people.

Let us go forth, praising Jesus our Messiah,
as did the crowds who welcomed him to Jerusalem.

Procession begins.

*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 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.

Do thou direct our footsteps
upon our earthly way,
and bring us by thy mercy
to heaven's eternal day.

Within that blessed City
thy praises may we sing,
and ever praise hosannas
to our most loving King.

On arrival at the church the procession waits quietly outside the entrance. The president announces the 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 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
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, thy power, and reign.

The Confession

God shows his love for us
in that, while we were still far away, Christ died for us.
Let us then show our love for him
by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**

The presiding priest says the Absolution.

May the God of love and power
forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,
and raise you to new life
in Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Collect

Let us pray.

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.

Hymn

Gospel Reading

We listen to one of the Gospel accounts of the Lord's entry into Jerusalem.

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

At the end:

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

Sermon

The Creed

We stand to affirm our faith.

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

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

Prayers of Intercession

This response may be used

Lord in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.

At the end:

Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

The Peace

We stand for the introduction of the Peace.

Christ is our peace.

He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The peace of God may be shared by greeting those around us and saying: 'Peace be with you'.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Hymn

During the hymn members of the congregation bring forward the offerings of money, bread, wine and water.

Taking of the Bread and Wine

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.

With this bread that we bring

We shall remember Jesus.

With this wine that we bring

We shall remember Jesus.

Bread for his body, wine for his blood,
gifts from God to his table we bring.

We shall remember Jesus.

The Eucharistic Prayer (Prayer D)

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Life up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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.**

Father of all, we give you thanks for every gift
that comes from heaven.

To the 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.

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

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.

This is our song.

Hosanna in the highest.

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food;
he took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said:
This is my body, given for you all.
Do this in remembrance of me.

Bells are rung

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.

Bells are rung

This is our story.

This is our song.

Hosanna in the highest.

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.

This is our song.

Hosanna in the highest.

Send your Spirit
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:

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

Amen

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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 President breaks the consecrated bread, saying

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

We sing or say:

**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,
have mercy on us.**

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

Giving of Communion

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.**

The presiding priest and people receive communion.

The body of Christ. **Amen.**
The blood of Christ. **Amen.**

All are warmly invited to come forward. We welcome those who are not baptised, or who do not wish to receive communion, to come and receive a prayer of blessing.

During the distribution of communion, hymns may be sung.

Post Communion Prayer

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.

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.
Amen.**

The Dismissal

Notices

Hymn

The Blessing

Christ crucified draw you to himself,
to find in him a sure ground for faith,
a firm support for hope,
and the assurance of sins forgiven;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

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

You are warmly invited to coffee in the hall
after the 9.30am Sunday service.



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