

Palm Sunday



Image taken from: pavement on the north side of Sagrada Familia, Barcelona.

You will need: a Cross, a Bible and the Spiritual Communion sheet.

You might like to make a Palm Cross using the instructions on the website www.westherefordteam.org.uk or join others around the nation putting a green leaf / plant in their window or on their door in place of a traditional Palm Cross.

You may also wish to have a candle lit as a sign of Christ's presence with you.

Youtube: Hosanna to the Son of David by Weelkes

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.

Hold your Cross whilst saying this prayer.

God our Saviour,
whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah
to suffer and to die;
let this Cross be for us a sign 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.
Through the same, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Palm Gospel

*Read: Matthew 21.1-11 or listen to a recording on the website
www.westherefordteam.org.uk*

'Procession'

Let us go forth in our hearts, praising Jesus our Messiah.

Hymn

***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: *Refrain:***

**2. The company of angels
are praising thee on high,
and mortal men and all things
created make reply: *Refrain:***

**3. The people of the Hebrews
with palms before thee went:
our praise and prayer and anthems
before thee we present: *Refrain:***

**4. To thee before thy passion
they sang their hymns of praise:
to thee now high exalted
our melody we raise: *Refrain:***

**5. Thy sorrow and thy triumph
grant us, O Christ, to share,
that to the holy city
together we may fare: *Refrain:***

*Words: St Theodulph of Orleans (c.750–821)
translated by John Mason Neale (1818–1866)*

Collect

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

Silence is kept.

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.

Reading

*Read: Philippians 2.5-11 or listen to a recording on the website
www.westherefordteam.org.uk*

The Passion Reading

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.

Read: Matthew 26.14 – 27.66 or listen to a recording on the website www.westherefordteam.org.uk

Keep a period of silence afterwards.

Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray.

For forgiveness for the many times we have denied Jesus, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For grace to seek out those habits of sin which mean spiritual death, and by prayer and self-discipline to overcome them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Christian people, that through the suffering of disunity there may grow a rich union in Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who make laws, interpret them, and administer them, that our common life may be ordered in justice and mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who still make Jerusalem a battleground, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who have the courage and honesty to work openly for justice and peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those in the darkness and agony of isolation,
that they may find support and encouragement,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who, weighed down with hardship, failure, or sorrow,
feel that God is far from them,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who are tempted to give up the way of the cross,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we, with those who have died in faith,
may find mercy in the day of Christ,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

A few moments of silence are kept before the prayers conclude

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

*Youtube: My Song is Love Unknown may be an appropriate hymn
for some reflection at this point.*

Continue on the Spiritual Communion Sheet at The Lord's Prayer

Prayer after Communion

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.

Hymn

To the tune Blaenwern, 'Love divine, all love's excelling'

**Lord of all, we seek your blessing
as we move on in this space.
Lead us onwards to your Passion
keep us always in your grace.
We today who sang, 'Hosanna!',
named you as our Lord and King;
through this week, keep us forever
in the shelter of your wing.**

**Friends with whom you shared your table
sold your life and ran away.
Left you in the hands of sinners
others shouted, 'Crucify!'
Make us sharers in your story,
ever onwards to the end.
Fill our hearts with your compassion
when our hearts elsewhere might tend.**

**In the days that lie before us
sin will show its darkest face.
Lack of justice, anger, hatred,
all will build at frightening pace.
As we stand beneath your Cross, Lord,
keep us ever in your sight.
Bring us through the Tomb's dark doorway
to your Resurrection light.**

Words: Christopher Johnson