

Morning Prayer – PALM SUNDAY - April 5th

*Families might gather, taking turns serving as “Leader” and others responding with words in **bold print**, or the entire service is said by one person, knowing that others are praying in the same way in their own locations.*

All are encouraged to venture into our own yards, where green things are beginning to re-emerge, filled with the promise that new life is waiting, through the winter, for its appointed time to burst forth. Cut whatever greenery is available to you, from a tree or hedge, or even a few blades of new grass, if that is what is available to you. These branches, not imported palms, will be processed this year - only as far as our front door, and then back in again- as a gesture of care for ourselves and for our neighbours, following the way of Jesus as this current crisis asks of us.

A candle may be lit, to set apart this time of prayer.

Lord, open our lips **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**
O God, make speed to save us. **O Lord, make haste to help us.**
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Christ became obedient unto death: **O come, let us worship.**

Jubilate - Psalm 100 (Inclusive Language Psalter)

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands;
 serve the Lord with gladness and come into the divine presence with a song.
Know this: the Lord, the Lord, is God;
 the One made us and to whom we belong;
 we are God’s people, the sheep of God’s pasture.
Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving;
 go into these courts with praise;
 give thanks to God and call upon the name of the Lord.
For the Lord is good, whose steadfast love is everlasting;
 and whose faithfulness endures from age to age.

Christ became obedient unto death: **O come, let us worship.**

The Proclamation of the Word/Procession of Cut Branches

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

Dear friends in Christ,
during Lent we have been preparing
for the celebration of our Lord's paschal mystery.
On this day our Lord Jesus Christ
entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph.
The people welcomed him with palms and shouts of praise,
but the path before him led to self-giving, suffering, and death.
Today we greet him as our King,
although we know his crown is thorns and his throne a cross.
We follow him this week from the glory of the palms
to the glory of the resurrection
by way of the dark road of suffering and death.
United with him in his suffering on the cross,
may we share his resurrection and new life.

Let us pray.
Assist us mercifully with your help,
Lord God of our salvation,
that we may enter with joy into the celebration of those mighty acts
whereby you give us life and immortality;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Zechariah 9:9-12 *New Revised Standard Version*

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!
Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the warhorse from Jerusalem;
and the battle-bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations;
his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.
As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.
Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 (*Inclusive Language Psalter*)

1 Give thanks to the Lord who is good; the mercy of the Lord endures for ever.
2 **Let Israel now proclaim, "The mercy of the Lord endures for ever."**
19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them;
 I will offer thanks to the Lord.
20 **"This is the gate of the Lord; those who are righteous may enter."**
21 I will give thanks to the Lord who answered me and has become my salvation.
22 **The same stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.**
23 This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes.
24 **On this day the Lord has acted; we will rejoice and be glad in it.**
25 Hosannah, Lord, hosannah! Lord, send us now success.
26 **Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord;
 we bless you from the house of the Lord.**
27 God is the Lord and has shined upon us; form a procession with branches
 up to the horns of the altar.
28 **"You are my God, and I will thank you; you are my God, and I will exalt you."**
29 Give thanks to the Lord who is good; the mercy of the Lord endures for ever.
**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
 as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

Matthew 21:1-11 *New Revised Standard Version*

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, "The Lord needs them." And he will send them immediately.' This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

'Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you,

 humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, 'Hosanna to the Son of David!

 Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!'

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, 'Who is this?' The crowds were saying, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.'

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Response to the Word

It is right to praise you, almighty God,
for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us
through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Hebrews acclaimed Jesus as Messiah and King,
with palm branches in their hands, crying,
Hosanna in the highest.

May we also, carrying these emblems, go forth to meet Christ
and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life;
who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

Here, Cut greenery, of whatever sort is available to you, might be placed so that it is visible to the community- in a window, or outside your door. Not Palestinian palms, but Ontario Cedar, or boxwood, or pine... declaring that we, too, make our cry "Hosanna, Hosanna, Save us, Save us".

Affirmation of Faith

Hear, O Israel,
the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God
with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.
This is the first and the great commandment. The second is like it:
Love your neighbour as yourself.
There is no commandment greater than these.

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbours, and for all those who are alone.

For this community, our country, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the gospel, and all who seek the truth.

For Anne our Archbishop, and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in the world.

For our own needs and those of others.
Silence. people may add their own petitions.
Hear us, Lord; **For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.
Silence. people may add their own thanksgivings
We will exalt you, O God; **And praise your name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all those who have died in the peace of Christ, and for those whose faith is known to you alone, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.
Silence. The people may name their remembered dead
Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them; **Who put their trust in you.**

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.
Silence for reflection.

Have mercy upon us, most merciful God;
**in your compassion, forgive us our sins, known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honour and glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins,
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect for Palm Sunday

Holy and immortal God,
as we enter into this holy week turn our hearts to Jerusalem,
so that, united with Christ and all the faithful,
we may enter the city not made with hands,
your promised realm of justice and peace, eternal from age to age. **Amen.**
A Prayer Book for Australia (1995) alt.

The Lord's Prayer

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour 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. Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing
through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

If a candle was lit, it is extinguished now

*This service is assembled from resources found in the Book of Alternative Services, Published by
the Anglican Church of Canada.*

*And from ALTERNATIVE COLLECTS FOR YEARS A, B & C OF THE REVISED
COMMON LECTIONARY AND SEASONAL PRAYERS OVER THE GIFTS AND AFTER
COMMUNION Prepared by the Liturgy Task Force, Faith, Worship, and Ministry Committee
Of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada and found online at
<https://www.anglican.ca/wp-content/uploads/Alternative-RCL-Collects-Final-2019.pdf>*

*The Psalms are drawn from the Inclusive Language Psalter, commended for use by the Council
of General Synod, March 2019 and found online at [https://www.anglican.ca/wp-
content/uploads/GS2016-Liturgical-Psalter-2016-05-04.pdf](https://www.anglican.ca/wp-content/uploads/GS2016-Liturgical-Psalter-2016-05-04.pdf)*