

Service for Palm Sunday



St Laurence Church, Downton

28 March 2021

Preparation

Call to Worship

Humble and riding on a donkey,
we greet you;

Acclaimed by crowds,
we cheer you;

moving from the peace of the countryside
to the corridors of power,
we salute you: Christ our Lord.

You are giving the beast of burden
a new dignity;

you are giving majesty
a new face;

you are giving those who long for redemption
a new song to sing.

With them, with heart and voice, we shout:
Hosanna!

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

Church of Scotland

The Team Rector introduces the service

Hymn: Ride on, ride on in majesty
(St Martin's Voices)

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 wingèd squadrons of the sky
look down with sad and wondering eyes
to see the approaching sacrifice.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
The 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.

Henry Hart Milman (1791-1868)

Blessing of the Palms:

Hosanna to the Son of David.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Behold your king comes to you, O Zion,
meek and lowly, sitting upon an ass.

Ride on in the cause of truth
and for the sake of justice.

Your throne is the throne of God, it endures for ever;
and the sceptre of your kingdom is a righteous sceptre.

You have loved righteousness and hated evil.

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness above your fellows.

Hosanna to the Son of David.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

We hold up our palms 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 is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Prayer:

Holy God, we are caught in the tension of
light and shadow, death and resurrection.

You spoke the world into being,
you illuminated the universe by your very speech,
then filled the void with life.

Indeed, you have filled the void of darkness and death,
the empty promises of the abyss,
with new life and new creation.

We look to you in the space
between the world and the Kingdom,
longing for the fulfilment of your word
in the work of the Holy Spirit
and the reign of Christ, our Creator and King.

Amen.

Thomas Turner

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings:

Philippians 2:5-11

Mark 11:1-11

After each reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Music: Hosanna to the Son of David - Thomas Weelkes
(*St Martin's Voices*)

Prayers

We are led in a time of prayer

This response is used:

Let us pray to the Lord,
Lord have mercy.

The Lord's Prayer is said:

Trusting in the compassion of God
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.**

Conclusion

The Collect

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.**

Blessing:

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

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.

May the Spirit,
who strengthens us to suffer with Christ
that we may share his glory,
set your minds on life and peace.

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

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.