

PARISH OF ESHER
Christ Church, Esher with St George's, West End

The Eucharist on Palm Sunday



'So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, 'Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord - the King of Israel!'

John 12.13

Commemoration of the Lord's Entry into Jerusalem

The people gather outside the church.

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 heaven!

The Greeting

The president greets the people.

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you.

And also with you.

Introduction

The president introduces the celebration using these or other appropriate words:

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.

The people hold up palms or branches while this prayer is said by the president.

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.

The Palm Gospel

When the Gospel is announced the reader says:

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.

The Procession

Let us go forth, praising Jesus our Messiah.

*During the procession in to church all hold palms or branches,
and a hymn is sung.*

The Collect

After the procession, when all are in their places, the president introduces a period of silent prayer with the words:

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

The Collect is said, and all respond:

Amen.

The Liturgy of Word

Readings

Either one or two readings from scripture precede the Gospel reading. At the end of each, the reader may say:

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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.

*When the Passion is announced, the reader says:
The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.*

At the end:

This is the Passion of the Lord.

No response is made, and silence is kept.

Sermon

After the Sermon an anthem may be sung, or a piece of music played.

Prayers of Intercession

The president introduces the prayers:

We stand with Christ in his suffering.

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.

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

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The minister introduces the Peace.

Once we were far off, but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near through the shedding of Christ's blood, for he is our peace.

Ephesians 2.13

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Online Offertory

Thank you for your ongoing generosity to the Parish of Esher. Like most parishes there's been a real pressure on our income recently, so if you're in a position to do so, please consider supporting our mission and ministry. Donations can be made today or online – simply search 'Give a Little Parish of Esher' or click on this link: <https://givealittle.co/campaigns/d9f42eab-78e6-4ce8-880b-215b3f77c260>. Or to donate to our Parish bank account, please contact the Parish Office or Parish Treasurer for details and Gift Aid forms.

Preparation of the Table

The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed on it, while a piece of music is played.

The following prayer is used:

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.

Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and just,
our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For as the time of his passion and resurrection draws near
the whole world is called to acknowledge his hidden majesty.

The power of the life-giving cross
reveals the judgement that has come upon the world
and the triumph of Christ crucified.

He is the victim who dies no more,
the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever,
our advocate in heaven to plead our cause,
exalting us there to join with angels and archangels,
for ever praising you and singing:

Moderate speed
mp
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
mf heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. *f* Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Without hurrying
mp Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
f Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.
Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with [N and] all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

All sit or kneel.

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.**

Breaking of the Bread

The minister breaks the consecrated bread.

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.**

The Agnus Dei may be used as the bread is broken.

Not too slow

p Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on

mp us. Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

p Je - sus, re - deem - er of the world: _ grant us peace.

Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts
for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

*In line with the Church of England guidance on Spiritual Communion
at this time of the Coronavirus (see separate document for guidance),
I invite you to pray:*

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits you have given me,
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly, day by day.

Amen.

after the Prayer of St Richard of Chichester

During the distribution, music may be sung or played.

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept.

The post communion prayer is said, then all say together:

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your 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 may be given at this point.

A closing hymn is sung.

The Blessing

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

Amen.

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.

Amen.

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

Amen.

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.

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