

**St John's Anglican Church
Halifax St Adelaide**



**THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION
(Palm Sunday)**

COMMEMORATION OF THE LORD'S ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM

Hosanna to the Son of David.
Blessed is the one 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 the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

✠ 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.

The priest introduces the celebration.

Dear sisters and brothers, since the beginning of Lent until now we have prepared our hearts by penance and charitable works. Today we, together with the whole Church, herald the beginning of the celebration of our Lord's Passion and Resurrection. For it was to accomplish this mystery that he entered his own city of Jerusalem. Therefore, with all faith and devotion, let us commemorate the Lord's entry into the city for our salvation, following in his footsteps, so that by his grace, being made partakers of the Cross, we may have a share also in his Resurrection and his life.

LITURGY OF THE PALMS

The people hold up their palms while this prayer of blessing is said.

Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, sanctify ✠ these branches with your blessing, that we, who follow Christ the King in exultation, may reach the eternal Jerusalem through him. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

¶ THE PALM GOSPEL – Matthew 21.1–11

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Matthew.

✠ **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

¹When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, ² '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. ³If anyone says anything to you, just say this, "The Lord needs them." And he will send them immediately.'

⁴This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, ⁵‘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.’

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them.

⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The 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!’

¹⁰When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, ‘Who is this?’

¹¹The crowds were saying, ‘This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.’

For the gospel of the Lord,
praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

¶ THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

The priest says

Dear brothers and sisters,
like the crowds who acclaimed Jesus in Jerusalem,
let us go forth in peace.

¶ HYMN *All glory, praise and honour
to you, redeemer, king,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.*

**Thou art the king of Israel,
and David's royal son,
who in the Lord's name comest
the king and blessed one.**

**The company of angels
are praising you on high,
and we and all creation
exultant make reply.**

**The people of the Hebrews
with palms before you went.
Our praise and prayer and anthems
before you we present.**

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

**Their praises you accepted:
accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest,
thou good and gracious king.**

LITURGY OF THE PASSION

¶ SENTENCE

At the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. *Philippians 2:10–11*

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

¶ CONFESSION

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God,
though we have rebelled and wandered far off.

Let us then ask for mercy, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
strengthen us to love and obey you
in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

¶ ABSOLUTION

Almighty God,
who has promised forgiveness
to all who turn to him in faith:
✠ pardon you and set you free from all your sins,
strengthen you in all goodness
and keep you in eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

¶ KYRIE

Lord, have mercy	Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy	Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy	Lord, have mercy.

¶ TRISAGION

**Holy God,
holy and mighty,
holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

¶ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Everlasting God,
in your tender love for the human race
you sent your Son to take our nature,
and to suffer death upon the cross:
in your mercy enable us to share
in his obedience to your will
and in the glorious victory of his resurrection;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

¶ FIRST READING – Isa 50.4–9a – A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The servant of the LORD said:

- ⁴ The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens –
wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught.
- ⁵ The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backwards.
- ⁶ I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.
- ⁷ The Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
- ⁸ he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.
- ⁹ It is the Lord GOD who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

For the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

¶ **PSALM 31.9–16** – *The reader and congregation say alternate verses.*

- 9 Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble;
my eye is consumed with sorrow,
and also my throat and my belly.
- 10 **For my life is wasted with grief,
and my years with sighing;
my strength fails me because of affliction,
and my bones are consumed.**
- 11 I have become a reproach to all my enemies
and even to my neighbours,
a dismay to those of my acquaintance;
when they see me in the street they avoid me.
- 12 **I am forgotten like the dead, out of mind;
I am as useless as a broken pot.**
- 13 For I have heard the whispering of the crowd;
fear is all around;
they put their heads together against me;
they plot to take my life.
- 14 **But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord.
I have said, 'You are my God.**
- 15 My times are in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.
- 16 **Make your face to shine upon your servant,
and in your loving-kindness save me.'**

¶ **SECOND READING – Phil 2.5–11** – A reading from the letter to the Philippians.

- 5 Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
6 who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
7 but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
8 he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death –
even death on a cross.
- 9 Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name that is above every name,
10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
11 and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

For the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory.

Christ became obedient for us even to death, death on a cross.

Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all names.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory.

Hear the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

¹¹ Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus said, 'You say so.'

¹² But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. ¹³ Then Pilate said to him, 'Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?' ¹⁴ But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed. ¹⁵ Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted.

¹⁶ At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. ¹⁷ So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, 'Whom do you want me to release for you, Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?' ¹⁸ For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over.

¹⁹ While he was sitting on the judgement seat, his wife sent word to him, 'Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.'

²⁰ Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed.

²¹ The governor again said to them, 'Which of the two do you want me to release for you?'

And they said, '**Barabbas.**'

²² Pilate said to them, 'Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?'

All of them said, '**Let him be crucified!**'

²³ Then he asked, 'Why, what evil has he done?'

But they shouted all the more, '**Let him be crucified!**'

²⁴ So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, 'I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.'

²⁵ Then the people as a whole answered, '**His blood be on us and on our children!**'

²⁶ So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

²⁷ Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. ²⁸ They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, ²⁹ and after twisting some

thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, '**Hail, King of the Jews!**'

³⁰ They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. ³¹ After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

³² As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. ³³ And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), ³⁴ they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it.

³⁵ And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; ³⁶ then they sat down there and kept watch over him.

³⁷ Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.'

³⁸ Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁹ Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, ⁴⁰ '**You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.**'

⁴¹ In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying,

⁴² '**He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him.** ⁴³ **He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, "I am God's Son."**'

⁴⁴ The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

⁴⁵ From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ⁴⁶ And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, 'Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?'

that is, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?'

⁴⁷ When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, '**This man is calling for Elijah.**'

⁴⁸ At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. ⁴⁹ But the others said, '**Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.**'

⁵⁰ Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last.

⁵¹ At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. ⁵² The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had

fallen asleep were raised. ⁵³ After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many.

⁵⁴ Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, **'Truly this man was God's Son!'**

At the end of the reading of the Passion, silence is kept for reflection.

¶ SERMON

¶ **NICENE CREED** Let us together affirm the faith of the Church in the words of the Nicene Creed:

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge
the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

¶ GREETING OF PEACE

Christ 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.



¶ OFFERTORY PRAYER

Blessed are you Lord God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.
Accept and use our offerings for your glory
and for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who became obedient even unto death, even death on a cross.

He offered the one true sacrifice for sin,
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

The tree of defeat became the tree of victory;
where life was lost, there life has been restored.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

**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.**

Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of your creation,
this bread and wine,
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,
we who eat and drink them
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;
and when he had given you thanks
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks
he gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Drink from this, all of you.
This is my blood of the new covenant
shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:
proclaiming his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming again,
we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit,
unite us in the body of your Son,
and bring us with all your people
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father,
in songs of never-ending praise.

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to 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.
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.**

¶ THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

As this broken bread was once many grains,
which have been gathered together to make one bread:
**so may your Church be gathered
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.**

All receive holy communion.

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

God of mercy,
may we who have shared in this holy meal
know your forgiveness in our lives,
bring your reconciliation to others,
and be a sign of your wholeness in this broken world.

Most loving God,
**you send us into the world you love.
Give us the grace to go thankfully and with courage
in the power of your Spirit.**

¶ THANKSGIVING HYMN

**Ride on, ride on in majesty;
hark, all the tribes hosanna cry.
O Saviour, meek, pursue your road
with palms and scattered garments strowed.**

**Ride on, ride on in majesty,
in lowly pomp ride onto die;
O Christ, your 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;
your 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 your meek head to mortal pain,
then take, O God, your power and reign!

¶ BLESSING

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

¶ DISMISSAL

Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

