

# PRAYER IN THE HOME

PALM SUNDAY: 28 MARCH

## GATHERING

Let us light a candle to remember that God is with us.

The night has passed and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence is kept.*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,  
so may the light of your presence, O God,  
set our hearts on fire with love for you;  
now and for ever.

Hosanna to the Son of David.

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

## PRAYER OF PREPARATION

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.

## COLLECT for Palm Sunday

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.

## Psalm 118:1-2, 19-24

1 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
his mercy endures for ever.

2 **Let Israel now proclaim,  
'His mercy endures for ever.'**

19 Open to me the gates of righteousness,  
that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord.

20 **This is the gate of the Lord;  
the righteous shall enter through it.**

21 I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me  
and have become my salvation.

22 **The 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 **This is the day that the Lord has made;  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

## BIBLE READING John 12:1-15

## QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- Which word or phrase in this passage stands out for me?
- Have I seen something in the passage for the first time?
- How might I use this reflection as we enter Holy Week?

**SERMON** You can find this week's sermon at:

<https://stbcc.co.uk/sermons>

## **INTERCESSIONS & CLOSING PRAYER**

Father, we pray for the worship and witness of your Church, local, national and international. Today, we pray especially for churches in this country and across the world which are not able to meet together in person.

*Silence*

Lord, hear us: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Father, we pray for wisdom and integrity for world leaders, that they may use their gifts well and work together for the good of all nations. We ask for a spirit of generosity, that the richer countries of the world will support those who are poor in this time of pandemic.

*Silence*

Lord, hear us: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Father, we thank you for the beauty and diversity of our world. We are sorry for the damage being done to your Creation: please help us to be responsible stewards and do our part in caring for our planet.

*Silence*

Lord, hear us: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Father, we thank you for advances in medical knowledge, for both new treatments and the development of vaccines for coronavirus: we pray that you will continue to speed the work of the scientists and ask for good collaboration between them.

*Silence*

Lord, hear us: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Father, we pray for comfort and healing to all those who suffer in body, mind or spirit.

*We take a few moments to name anyone known to us who needs our prayers today.....*

*Silence*

Lord, hear us: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Merciful Father,  
**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Trusting in the compassion of God,  
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.**

Christ crucified draw you to himself,  
to find in him a sure ground for faith,  
a firm support for hope,  
and the assurance of sins forgiven.