

PRAYER IN THE HOME

PALM SUNDAY

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, 19-29

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.**

25 Come, O Lord, and save us we pray.
Come, Lord, send us now prosperity.

26 **Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;
we bless you from the house of the Lord.**

27 The Lord is God; he has given us light;
link the pilgrims with cords right 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 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures for ever.

BIBLE READING - Matthew 21:1-11

¹ When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ² 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. ³ If anyone says anything to you, just say this, "The Lord needs them." And he will send them immediately.' ⁴ This took place to fulfil 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.'

⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷ they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ 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!'

¹⁰ When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, 'Who is this?' ¹¹ The crowds were saying, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.'

INTERCESSIONS & CLOSING PRAYER

Father, we pray for the worship and witness of your Church, local, national and international. Today, we pray especially for Christians who suffer persecution or live in dangerous circumstances.

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 pray against those who would seek to destroy the lives of others and ask that your ways would reign supreme.

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 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.