

During the Covid19 Outbreak whilst worship services are suspended worship services will be in print and digital form. Please use these services as appropriate for your need and know that you are connected with countless others worshipping God in different places- but as one body.

WELCOME

Welcome wherever you are and whoever you are worshipping with. We may be separated for now-but we are together in spirit.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Today is the day called Palm Sunday. It is a day when we remember the entry of Jesus to Jerusalem- the day beginning Holy week.

This Autumn day is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Our hearts are glad as we rejoice in the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Give thanks to the Lord whose steadfast love endures forever.
And let us join together and worship God

SONG TiS 333 All glory praise and honour

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e9VnLNh5YY8> music and lyrics

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

You are the king of Israel and David's royal son,
now in the Lord's name coming, 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 your 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 take pleasure, our good and gracious king.

PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ,

we praise you with heart and life and voice, not only with outward signs such as palm branches or the occasional “Hosanna”, but with lives truly turned towards you.

It seems such a distance from this present-day Palm Sunday in the strangest of times in Australia to that day when you entered Jerusalem with the shouts of the crowd ringing in your ears. Welcomed as a king, yet riding on a lowly donkey. Greeted with cheers and acclamations which were so soon to turn to jeers and condemnation!

For many of us, we would love to be part of a cheering crowd- yet we stay behind closed doors, trying to keep others and ourselves safe.

From this side of the resurrection, we confidently believe that we could never have been part of the jeering crowd - but would we, if we had been there?

(a short time of silence)

Lord Jesus Christ, when our words and actions reflect a reluctance to confess you publicly as Lord of our lives and when we hide our faith behind closed doors all of the time, not just in this time of pandemic

Please forgive us.

When we fear that humbling ourselves would be seen by others as weakness, or some kind of defect in our character

Please forgive us.

When we have betrayed your love for us through our lack of love for you, for others, and for ourselves:

Please forgive us.

When we find ourselves glossing over the events of your passion and death because we look forward to Easter as a time to enjoy holidays and have fun and indulge in hot cross buns and Easter eggs.

Please forgive us.

Lord Jesus Christ, fix your mind in us; and remake us in your likeness; empty us of all that hinders us from following you to where pain and suffering, exploitation and injustice exist.

***Gracious and loving God, empower us with the Holy Spirit so that our lives continually glorify you and our tongues forever confess Jesus as Lord.
Amen***

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Jesus went to the cross, not out of shame, nor out of guilt. He went with gentleness and humility and great love. Through the cross he has gained our forgiveness. He comes to us time and time again seeking us out and calling us by name.

Hear his words of forgiveness and love: Your sins are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

STORY https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gdUw_E-tGjE&t=7s Jesus triumphant entry into Jerusalem

SONG **TiS 724** **Hosanna**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p8xHr8krAll> Music and words (karaoke style)

Hosanna , Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest!
Lord we lift up Your name
With hearts full of praise
Be exalted, oh Lord my God!
Hosanna in the highest!

Glory, Glory, Glory to the King of Kings!
Glory, Glory, Glory to the King of Kings!
Lord we lift up Your name
With hearts full of praise
Be exalted , oh Lord my God!
Glory to the King of Kings.

Hosanna , Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest!
Lord we lift up Your name
With hearts full of praise
Be exalted, oh Lord my God!
Hosanna in the highest!

Be exalted, oh Lord my God!
Hosanna in the highest!

READING

Philippians 2: 5-11

⁵In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross!

⁹Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

This is the word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God

Matthew 21: 1-11

21 ¹As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.”

⁴This took place to fulfil what was spoken through the prophet:

⁵“Say to Daughter Zion, ‘See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’”

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!”

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

“Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹⁰ When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?”

¹¹ The crowds answered, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

This is the word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God

SERMON *From humility to victory*

SONG **TiS 231 At the name of Jesus**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r4d4UXSjXig> Music and lyrics

1. At the name of Jesus
every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess him
King of Glory now:
this the Father's pleasure
that we call him Lord,
who from the beginning
was the mighty Word.

2. Humbled for a season
to receive a name
from the lips of sinners
unto whom he came,
faithfully he bore it
spotless to the last,
brought it back victorious
when from death he passed.

3. In your hearts enthrone him,
there let him make new
all that is not holy,
all that is not true;
He is God the Saviour
he is Christ the Lord,
ever to be worshipped,
trusted and adored.

4. When this same Lord Jesus
shall appear again

in his Father's glory,
there with him to reign:
then may we adore him,
all before him bow,
and our hearts confess him
king of Glory now.

Words Caroline Maria Noel/Music John Michael Brierley C.C.L.I. No. 237097

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of all times and places, we come before you in this time and place. We are frightened yet faith-full. We are anxious yet at peace. We are living in a time that is so uncertain with changes coming every day. We live with the bombardment of media telling us more about Covid 19- and whilst we are made more anxious by watching and listening- we can't help listening and watching.

We pray for the Prime Minister, Premiers and leaders of this country. In a time when we need leadership we thank you for the decisions and strength we need and ask you to continue to strengthen all leaders across our nation to lead well. We pray for people who are employers, all who have lost jobs and all who have kept jobs. May you be with us all.

We pray for the other country in the world. We pray for their leaders as well- so that no one is left behind in this pandemic which has swept the world.

We come with great thanksgiving for the medical staff across this world. May you protect them, give them strength and courage, and may you keep them well.

We pray for all who are affected by the illnesses and health impact of both Covid 19 and all who are ill from other means. We pray for those who are in hospitals for many reasons, and for those who are waiting for surgery- wondering when they can receive the surgery they need.

We give thanks for the economic support for those who are working and have either lost jobs- or are now reliant on the job-keeper wage. We give thanks for the support for the charities now struggling to provide food, clothing and shelter for those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

We pray for your strength to prevent the rise of domestic and family violence because of the extraordinary circumstances. May your peace prevail in every household.

God of Palm Sunday, please endower each of us with the courage and humility of Christ, that his love at work in us may enable us to do much better than seems humanly possible. May his hands take even that which is twisted or scarred, and shape it for a greater purpose and sublime glory. For we ask this in His name,

Amen.

...And now, let us join with the Christians of all nations in the prayer Jesus taught his disciples as we say

***Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins,
As we forgive those who sin against us.***

***And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
Forever and ever, Amen.***

OFFERING

During the time of suspension, we encourage everyone to continue to offer your gifts of money. This money is used for ministry which continues, even when we cannot see it. Please use the envelopes which have been provided or see the newsletters for electronic payments.

Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna! Bless these gifts and our lives, O God, for we offer them in the name of Jesus, our Lord. He emptied himself that we might be filled. He humbled himself that we might be lifted up. We pray that these gifts be used to proclaim the gospel which fills lives that are empty and lifts up those who need help. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of the Lord be with you
And also with you

SONG **TiS 348 Ride on ride on in majesty**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MD9rMkIS1yw> Music and lyrics

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 on to 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!

Words Henry Hart Milman/Music adapted by William Henry Havergal C.C.L.I. No. 237097

BENEDICTION

Go into the world in peace,
embraced by the steadfast love of God,
blessed by the humility and courage of Jesus Christ
and filled with the immeasurable power of the Holy Spirit.