



St John the Divine

Eucharist service

Palm Sunday

2nd April 2023

WELCOME!

Welcome to our worship and community life at St John the Divine, and to our live-streamed service, linked from our parish website: www.stjohndivine.org.au



John Coburn 'Paradise Garden'

The Blessing of Palms and Palm Crosses

The Eucharist of the Day

REETING

At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2.10–11

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

Hosanna in the highest.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Dear Friends in Christ, this morning begins the Great Week of the Christian Year. During Lent, we have been preparing by works of love and self-sacrifice for the celebration of the Lord's death and resurrection. With Christians throughout the world, we come together this week to call to mind, and to express in word and action, the Easter mystery: our Lord's Passover from death to life. Christ entered in triumph into the Holy City to complete his work as Messiah: to suffer, to die and to rise to new life. Today we commit ourselves to walk the way

of the cross, so that, sharing his sufferings, we may be united with him in his risen life. So, let us begin our journey as we hear the story of the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.

READING **Matthew 21.1-11**

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, 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. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, "The Lord needs them." And he will send them immediately.' This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, '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.' The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 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!

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

BLESSING OF PALMS AND PALM CROSSES:

Sovereign God, we thank you for these branches and crosses of palm.

RESPONSE: Hosanna is he who comes in the name of the Lord

By your blessing may they be for us signs of the victory of your Son.

RESPONSE: Hosanna is he who comes in the name of the Lord

May we who carry them in his name ever hail him as our Messiah

RESPONSE: Hosanna is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

May we follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

PROCESSION INTO THE CHURCH

ON ENTERING THE CHURCH

Palms are laid at the front of the altar on the floor

Opening Hymn: TIS 333 - All Glory Laud and Honor

Tune: ST. THEODULPH, Meter: 76.76 D CCL No

632290

Refrain:

**All glory, laud, and honor,
to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.**

**Thou art the King of Israel,
thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's name comest,
the King and Blessed One.**

(Refrain)

**The company of angels
are praising thee on high,
and we with all creation
in chorus make reply.**

(Refrain)

**The people of the Hebrews
with psalms before thee went;
our prayer and praise and anthems
before thee we present.**

(Refrain)

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

(Refrain)

**Thou didst accept their praises;
accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest,
thou good and gracious King.**

(Refrain)

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

Merciful God, as we enter this holy week and gather at your house of prayer, turn our hearts again to Jerusalem, to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, that, united with Christ and all the faithful, we may one day enter in triumph the city not made with hands, the new Jerusalem, eternal in the heavens, where, with you and the Holy Spirit, Christ lives in glory forever. **Amen.**

**God of all,
you gave your only-begotten Son to take the form of a
servant,
and to be obedient even to death on a cross:
give us the same mind that was in Christ Jesus,
that sharing in his humility,
we may come to be with Him in glory,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one
God,
now and forever. Amen.**

Confession:

Let us affirm our trust in God's mercy, and confess that we need forgiveness.

Lord God, you created this world, and made us in your own image. Forgive us when we turn away from you.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord God, through your Son you overcame evil and death. Rescue us from slavery to sin.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord God, by your Spirit, you restore us to fellowship with you and with one another. Breathe your love and freedom into our lives.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you your sins, and keep you in life eternal.

Amen.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God,
of your tender love towards us

you sent your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ,

to take upon him our flesh,

and to suffer death upon the cross,

that all should follow the example of his great humility:
mercifully grant

that we may both follow the example of his patience,

and also be made partakers of his resurrection;

through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Isaiah 50.4-9a

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? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 31.9-18

⁹ Have mercy upon me, O Lord, for I am in trouble:

my eye wastes away for grief,

my throat also and my inward parts.

¹⁰ For my life wears out in sorrow,

and my years with sighing:
**my strength fails me in my affliction,
and my bones are consumed.**

¹¹ I am become the scorn of all my enemies:
**and my neighbours wag their heads in
derision.**

¹² I am a thing of horror to my friends:
**and those that see me in the street shrink
from me.**

¹³ I am forgotten like one dead and out of mind:
I have become like a broken vessel.

¹⁴ For I hear the whispering of many:
and fear is on every side;

¹⁵ While they plot together against me:
and scheme to take away my life.

¹⁶ But in you, Lord, have I put my trust:
I have said 'You are my God.'

¹⁷ All my days are in your hand:
**O deliver me from the power of my enemies
and from my persecutors.**

¹⁸ Make your face to shine upon your servant:
and save me for your mercy's sake.

Philippians 2.5-11

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.

Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn: *TIS 348 - Ride on, ride on in majesty*
Tune: WINCHESTER NEW 88.88 CCL No 632290

**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 wingèd 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!**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A reading from the holy gospel of St Matthew 26:1-5
Jesus said to his disciples, 'You know that after two days
the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be
handed over to be crucified. 'Then the chief priests and
the elders of the people gathered in the palace of the
high priest, who was called Caiaphas, and they conspired
to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. But they said, 'Not
during the festival, or there may be a riot among the
people.'

This is the gospel of the Lord
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Homily: 'PARADISE GARDEN'

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I ask you to affirm as yours the faith of the Church.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven
and earth.**

Do you believe in God the Son?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who
was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin
Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On
the third day he rose from the dead;**

**he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right
hand of the Father; from there he will come to
judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the
communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the
resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith: We believe in one God: Father, Son and
Holy Spirit.**

INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray for the peace of Jerusalem, and for all the nations of the world. We pray for enemies to be reconciled and for justice to be done.

God of grace,
Hear our prayer

We pray for the world in which we live, for peace and harmony among all people. Bring healing and wholeness to the sick, to those who mourn and to all in need.

God of grace,
Hear our prayer

We thank you for the ministry we have in your world and to each other in the household of faith. Hasten that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in Christ.

God of grace,
Hear our prayer

We give thanks for all faithful people who have walked your way throughout the ages, those who have loved us and those whom we have loved. Bring us with all the faithful to eternal rest in your presence

God of grace,
Hear our prayer

THE GREETING OF PEACE

God has made us one in Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you

Offertory Hymn: *TIS 141* – Praise to the holiest in the height

Tune: GERONTIUS CCL No 632290

**Praise to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise, --
in all his words most wonderful,
most sure in all his ways.**

**O loving wisdom of our God!
when all was sin and shame,
a second Adam to the fight
and to the rescue came.**

**O wisest love! that flesh and blood,
which did in Adam fail,
should strive afresh against the foe,
should strive and should prevail.**

**O generous love! that he who smote
in Man, for man, the foe,
the double agony in Man
for man should undergo;**

**And in the garden secretly,
and on the Cross on high,
should teach his brethren, and inspire
to suffer and to die.**

**Praise to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise, --
in all his words most wonderful,
most sure in all his ways.**

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 by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary and lived as one of us. Who became obedient unto death, even death on a cross, and rising to new life, 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. In baptism, you have united us to him and brought us out of darkness into light. You pour your Spirit upon us, filling us with your gifts, and calling us to serve you as a royal priesthood. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, forever praising you and singing:

**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.'

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.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

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 honor 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 forever. Amen.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

As this broken bread was once many grains, which have been gathered together and made one bread:

so may your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Happy are those who are called to his supper. Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us your peace.

The gifts of God for the people of God, come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

All are welcome to share with us in the circle of fellowship and communion with Jesus who told us to break bread and share wine in remembering him and celebrating the reality of his presence.

POST COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Gracious God,

you make us one family in Christ your Son,
one in the sharing of his body and his blood,
one in the communion of his Spirit.

Help us to grow in love for one another
and come to the full maturity of the body of Christ.

Father,

**we offer ourselves to you
as a living sacrifice**

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.**

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Go forth into the world in peace;

be of good courage;

hold fast that which is good;

render to no one evil for evil;

strengthen the faint hearted; support the weak;

help the afflicted;

give honour to all; love and serve the Lord,

rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;

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.

Dismissal Hymn: TIS 134 'Praise my soul the King of Heaven'

Tune: Praise, My Soul CCL No 632290

**Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
To his feet your tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Evermore his praises sing.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King!**

**Praise him for his grace and favour
To his people in distress.
Praise him, still the same as ever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.**

Alleluia, alleluia!
Glorious in his faithfulness!

Father-like he tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame he knows.
In his hand he gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Widely yet his mercy flows!

Angels, help us to adore him;
You behold him face to face.
Sun and moon, bow down before him,
Dwellers all in time and space.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace!

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NOTICES

Welcome to our Locum Vicars

Please welcome Rev'd Stewart Taplin who is our Locum Vicar for the next few months – with the exception of April 16, 23 & 30 when Rev'd Lawrence Anbalagan will be presiding.

Fr Stewart will be available on Sundays and Wednesdays, and as needed on other occasions. He can be contacted on 0402 080 366.

Nametags

Please remember to wear your nametags! We have become a bit relaxed about this recently, but it is of great assistance to our locums as well as newcomers. If you do not have a name tag or need a replacement, please let us know.

Synod Representatives - 2 members of the congregation are still needed - to be elected by April 22

Jams & Sauces for Sale

Roger & Jenny Heath have been busy making delicious jams and sauces which can be purchased after the services.

All profits go towards the parish.

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Sun 2nd April **Palm Sunday**
8.00 am Palm Liturgy - meeting in the Church Narthex
10.00 am Palm Procession and Sung Eucharist - meeting Corner of Wicklow & Toorak Avenues 8pm AA meeting

Mon 3rd April 10.30am AI Anon meeting

Tue 4th April 1pm AA meeting
5.30pm community meal: TDRM

Wed 5th April 10.00am Holy Communion and Bible reflection
5.30pm community meal: Winter Shelter
7.30pm NA meeting

Thu 6th April 11.00am Tarralla
10.30am AA meeting
6.00 pm Shared Meal
7.30 pm Sung Eucharist, Reserving of the Sacrament
7.30pm AA meeting

Fri 7th April 10am Holy Communion and Bible reflection

Sat 8th April 7am AA meeting
10.00am Tending Christ's Garden - Church working bee
10.30am Focus on Faith & Friendship – Lenten Study
7pm Lai Christian Church

Sun 9th April **Easter Day**
6.00 am Easter Vigil and new fire - followed by champagne breakfast
10.00 am Easter Eucharist
8pm AA meeting





EASTER & HOLY WEEK SERVICES

"THE GREAT DAYS OF HOLY WEEK"

THE SPIRITUAL SEASONS
OF JOHN COBURN

PALM SUNDAY – 2nd April *'Paradise Garden'*

8.00 am - Palm Liturgy in the Church Narthex

10.00 am - Palm Procession and Sung Eucharist

MAUNDY THURSDAY - 6th April *'Tree of Life'*

6.00 pm - Shared Meal

7.30 pm - Sung Eucharist, Reserving of the Sacrament

GOOD FRIDAY – 7th April *'Death & Transfiguration'*

10.00am - Service of the Passion

EASTER DAY - 9th April *'Resurrection'*

6.00 am - Easter Vigil and new fire,
followed by champagne breakfast

10.00 am - Easter Eucharist