

# **HOLY COMMUNION**

## **Palm Sunday**



**St John's Church, Stoneleigh**

## **WE GATHER TOGETHER**

### **The Greeting**

**Hosanna to the Son of David, the King of Israel.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest!**

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you  
**And also with you**

*The people hold up palms or branches while this prayer is said*

God our Saviour,  
whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah  
to suffer and to die;  
let these palms be for us signs of his victory  
and grant that we who bear them in his name  
may ever hail him as our King,  
and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

## The 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.**

*Please stand*

## Hymn

*Please sit*

## Prayer of Confession

On Palm Sunday the crowds worshiped Jesus; on Good Friday they shouted for him to die. Let us, who also worship him, confess that we sometimes reject him, and ask his forgiveness.

Lord Jesus Christ, you come to us in peace, but we shut the door of our mind against you. In your mercy  
**Forgive us and help us.**

You come to us in humility, but we prefer our own proud ways. In your mercy  
**Forgive us and help us.**

You come to us in judgement, but we cling to our familiar sins. In your mercy  
**Forgive us and help us.**

You come to us in majesty, but we will not let you rule over us. In your mercy  
**Forgive us and help us.**

May the Father forgive you by the death of his Son and strengthen you to live in the power of the Spirit all your days.  
**Amen**

**The Collect** (*the special prayer for this week*)

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.  
**Amen.**

**WE LISTEN AND RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD**

*After the first Bible Reading*

This is the word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

*Please stand*

**Hymn**

*Please remain standing*

## **Gospel Reading**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to ....

**Glory to you O Lord**

*At the end of the Gospel*

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you O Christ**

*Please sit*

## **Sermon**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

*At the end*

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers**

**for the sake of your Son**

**our Saviour Jesus Christ**

**Amen**

*Please stand*

## **Declaration of Faith**

In the One who comes humbly among us, taking on our  
humanity and breaking our idols:

**In God we trust.**

Riding a donkey and weeping over His people,  
receiving shouts of praise  
from ordinary men and women,  
stirring up the proud and the powerful:

**In God we trust.**

Riding to face a destiny foretold by prophets,  
entering the holy city with nowhere to lay his head:

**In God we trust.**

Coming to his own but his own not receiving him,  
facing cruel death for the sake of all –  
those who loved him and those who did not.

**In God we trust.**

**This Palm Sunday Jesus, this Passion Sunday God,  
In God we trust.**

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

*Please remain standing*

### **The Peace**

Once we were far off,  
but now in union with Christ Jesus  
we have been brought near  
through the shedding of Christ's blood,  
for he is our peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you**

*Please greet those around you and offer a sign of peace*

### **Hymn**

*After the hymn please remain standing for*

## **The Prayer at the Preparation of the Table**

Jesus, true vine and bread of life,  
ever giving yourself that the world might live,  
let us share your death and passion:  
make us perfect in your love.  
**Amen**

*Please sit*

## **The Eucharistic Prayer – the Prayer of thanksgiving**

The Lord is here  
**His Spirit is with us**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God  
**It is right to give thanks and praise**

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,  
at all times and in all places  
to give you thanks and praise,  
holy Father, heavenly King,  
almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

And now we give you thanks  
because, for our salvation,  
he was obedient even to death on the cross.  
The tree of shame was made the tree of glory;  
and 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.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example  
and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood:

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them saying: Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection  
and glorious ascension;



we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup we make  
the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Christ is the bread of life:

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,  
until you come in glory.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit,  
inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and  
heaven, we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

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

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**Our Father,  
who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ

**Though we are many, we are one body  
because we all share in one bread**

### **Invitation to Communion**

Jesus is the Lamb of God  
who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed 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.**

### **Giving of Communion**

*Whether you are a regular member at St John's or a visitor, a child or an adult, EVERYONE is invited to come to the Lord's Table to receive the bread and the wine, or a blessing. If you are coming for a blessing, please keep your hands by your side. Our welcomers will indicate when it is time for you to come forward. Gluten free wafers and non-alcoholic wine are available. Please let us know when you come to Communion if you would like to receive either of these. If you would like us to bring Communion to you in your seat, please let one of our welcomers know.*

## **Prayer after Communion**

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant,  
and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation:  
give us the mind to follow you  
and to proclaim you as Lord and King,  
to the glory of God the Father.

**Amen.**

*Please stand*

## **Hymn**

### **WE LEAVE WITH GOD'S BLESSING**

#### **The Blessing**

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,  
to deny yourselves,  
take up your cross and follow him:  
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 the peace of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Church notices will be given and you are invited to stay for coffee  
and fellowship after the service.*

### Acknowledgements

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