

Sunday 24 March 2024



Christ entering Jerusalem, Giotto, Scrovegni Chapel, Padua

# Palm Sunday Procession and Eucharist

Presider  
Revd Dr Sam Wells

The Passion Narrative  
Enacted by members of St Martin's  
Sunday International Group, the  
Nazareth Community and the  
Congregation of St Martin's

With Djavan Van De Fliert as Jesus  
and Freya Turton as Mary Magdalene

The Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields

Directed by  
Jennifer Sterling

Organist  
Richard Sutton

## Welcome

Our welcomers are available to assist with any of the following access information. Toilet access is available, please ask a welcomer.

**Welcome** whether you are joining us today in our building or online. Our cameras focus on those who are leading our service, but if you are in the building and would like to ensure that you are not caught on camera, please sit beyond the pillars on the south of the church (to the right as you enter).

**Welcome** if you are disabled, unwell, have experiences of dementia, physical, sensory, cognitive or mental health issues, or are neurodivergent. The order of service is online or large print copies are available. The hearing loop works best on the south side of the church. Step-free access to church is via the ramp on the north side, and to the Crypt and Hall via lifts in the NW porch and Pavilion.

**Welcome** to babies, children and young people. We understand that young children make noise. If your baby becomes upset during the service, you are welcome to go to the back of church if needed to settle — or to our children's church room. We support breastfeeding in services; we also have a room allocated if preferred. We have children's church groups during the service (currently alternate weeks) and a monthly group for teenagers after Sunday morning worship.

**Welcome** to anyone with a need of safeguarding. If you would like to reach our safeguarding team, you can email [safeguarding@smitf.org](mailto:safeguarding@smitf.org)

**Welcome** to all experiences of race, culture and language. At the Lord's Prayer all are invited to bring the gift of our first language to our worship. Our 1.30pm is in Cantonese: our welcomers are happy to help where they can if you are new to English. You are also very welcome if you are LGBTQIA+.

**Welcome** if you are agnostic or are from a faith tradition different from Christianity.

**Welcome** if you are wary of faith. **Welcome** if you're exploring. **Welcome** if you are here to support someone else. If you would like to explore what you believe in a friendly and non-judgemental group, our Being With Courses run throughout the year online and in the building. Email [being-with@smitf.org](mailto:being-with@smitf.org) for more details.

**You are welcome to share our meal with God.** When we come to Holy Communion, we receive bread in the form of a wafer, then wine from a common cup. Non-alcoholic wine and gluten-free wafers are available in the south aisle. If you need to receive in your seat please let a welcomer know and the ministers will come to you. If you do not want to or cannot receive bread or wine for whatever reason you are welcome to let the priest know you would like to receive a simple prayer for blessing, or to stay in your seat. We welcome your ideas and help for us to become a more welcoming community.

**We are glad you are here.**

# The Procession

Anthem Hosanna to the son of David *Weelkes*

Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, thou that sittest in the highest heavens. Hosanna in excelsis Deo.

*Matthew 21, Luke 19*

## Words of Welcome

Look how Christ comes among us: gentle, humble, riding on a donkey.

*All* **Hosanna to the Son of David.**

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

*All* **Hosanna in the Highest.**

Dear friends in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing by works of love and self-sacrifice for the celebration of our Lord's death and resurrection. Today we come together to begin this solemn celebration in union with the Church throughout the world. Christ enters his own city to complete his work as our Saviour, to suffer, to die, and to rise again. Let us go with him in faith and love, so that, united with him in his sufferings, we may share his risen life.

*The people hold up palms and branches while this prayer is said by the presider.*

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.

*All* **Amen.**

The Palm Gospel John 12: 12-16 *read by Revd Angela Sheard*

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

*All* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, 'Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—the King of Israel!'

Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: 'Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!'

His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*All* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Let us go forth, praising Jesus our Messiah.

Hymn

- 1 Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
Hark, all the tribes hosanna cry:  
O Saviour meek, pursue thy road  
with palms and scattered garments strowed.**
- 2 Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die:  
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin  
o'er captive death and conquered sin.**
- 3 Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
The wingèd squadrons of the sky  
look down with sad and wondering eyes  
to see the approaching sacrifice.**
- 4 Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
The last and fiercest strife is nigh:  
the Father on his sapphire throne  
awaits his own anointed Son.**
- 5 Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die;  
bow thy meek head to mortal pain,  
then take, O God, thy power and reign.**

*Henry Milman (1791-1868)*

Prayers on Trafalgar Square

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem; may they prosper who love you. Peace be within your walls.

*Luke 13 and Psalm 122*

A prayer for the city and nation

A prayer for the world

A prayer for our church and the Church throughout the world

Hymn

- 1 Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,  
first-begotten from the dead,  
thou alone, our strong defender,  
liftest up thy people's head.  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
Jesu, true and living bread.**
- 2 Here our humblest homage pay we,  
here in loving reverence bow;  
here for faith's discernment pray we,  
lest we fail to know thee now.  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
thou art here, we ask not how.**
- 3 Though the lowliest form doth veil thee  
as of old in Bethlehem,  
here as there thine angels hail thee,  
branch and flower of Jesse's stem.  
Alleluia, alleluia  
we in worship join with them.**
- 4 Paschal Lamb, thine offering, finished  
once for all when thou wast slain,  
in its fullness undiminished  
shall for evermore remain,  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
cleansing souls from every stain.**
- 5 Life-imparting heavenly manna,  
stricken rock with streaming side,  
heaven and earth with loud hosanna  
worship thee, the Lamb who died,  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
risen, ascended, glorified.**

*George Hugh Bourne (1840-1925)*

# The Gathering in Church

*Words of welcome and introduction.*

## The Greeting

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

*All* **And also with you.**

Visit us Lord, by your Holy Spirit.

*All* **Though in many places, we are united as one body.  
Though from many backgrounds, we share one hope.**

*Please sit.*

## Prayer of Preparation

*All* **Father of glory, holy and eternal,  
look upon us now in power and mercy.  
Overcome our weakness by your strength,  
transform our blindness through your radiance,  
and in your Spirit draw us to that love  
shown and offered to us by your Son,  
our Saviour, Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

The Palm Gospel John 12: 12-16 *on p.1-2 of this booklet read  
by Huw Mathias*

*Silent prayer is kept, awaiting the procession from Trafalgar Square.*

*Please stand at the procession's arrival.*

Look how your king comes to you. He is gentle, he is humble, he is riding on a donkey. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

*All* **Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna! Hosanna to the Son of David.**

*After this hymn there will be Children's Church for very young children or any who might find the passion play distressing. Please gather during the hymn.*



Processional Hymn *beginning with the chorus*

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

- 1 **Thou art the King of Israel,  
thou David's royal Son,  
who in the Lord's name comest,  
the King and blessed one.  
*All glory, laud, and honour...***
- 2 **The company of angels  
are praising thee on high,  
and mortals joined with all things  
created make reply.  
*All glory, laud, and honour...***
- 3 **Thou didst accept their praises:  
accept the prayers we bring,  
who in all good delightest,  
thou good and gracious King.  
*All glory, laud, and honour...***
- 4 **Thy sorrow and thy triumph  
grant us, O Christ, to share,  
that to the holy city  
together we may fare:  
*All glory, laud, and honour...***
- 5 **For homage may we bring thee  
our victory o'er the foe,  
that in the Conqueror's triumph  
this strain may ever flow:  
*All glory, laud, and honour...***

*St Theodulph of Orleans (d. 821), tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866)*

Collect

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.

**All Amen.**

*Please sit.*

# The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ based on the Four Gospel Accounts

*Enacted by members of St Martin's International Group, the Nazareth Community, and the congregation of St Martin-in-the-Fields. The part of Jesus is played by Djavan Van De Fliert. Freya Turton sings On the willows (from Godspell) by Schwartz during the betrayal with Djavan.*

*Please join in with the passion narrative with the parts in bold after we reach the scene with Jesus before Pilate.*

*Pilate* Which of the two do you want me to release for you?  
*Narrator 1* And they shouted,  
*All* **Barabbas.**  
*Narrator 1* Pilate said to them,  
*Pilate* Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?  
*Narrator 1* All of them said,  
*All* **Let him be crucified!**  
*Pilate* Why, what evil has he done?  
*Narrator 1* But they shouted all the more,  
*All* **Let him be crucified!**  
*Pilate* Do you want me to crucify your king?  
*All* **We have no king but Caesar! We have no king but Caesar!**  
*Narrator 1* So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying,  
*Pilate* I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.  
*Narrator 1* Then the people as a whole answered,  
*All* **Let his blood be on us and on our children!**  
*Narrator 1* So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.  
*Pilate* Release Barabbas and have this Jesus flogged. Take him away and crucify your king. The people have decided!

*Music begins*

*Narrator 2* Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying,  
*All* **Hail, King of the Jews!**  
*Narrator 2* They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe. Then they led him away to crucify him.



*Freya Turton sings There is a green hill far away Bob Chilcott*

*Narrator 2* When they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they crucified him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read,

*All* **'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.'**

*The narrative of the cross continues. At the end of the narrative, O God I'm dying, Long live God, Prepare ye the way of the Lord (from Godspell) by Schwartz are sung.*

*Please stand.*

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*All* **And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All may exchange a sign of peace.*

*A collection will be taken for the work of this church during the following hymn. You are welcome to donate using:*

- cash in the collection bags filling in a Gift Aid envelope if applicable*
- select amount and tap the card machines brought by the stewards*
- by texting COLLECTION to 70450 to donate £10 (texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message).*
- by scanning the QR code to the right with your phone*



Offertory Hymn

- Crown him with many crowns,  
the Lamb upon his throne;  
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns  
all music but its own!  
Awake, my soul, and sing  
of him who died for thee,  
and hail him as thy matchless King  
through all eternity.**

*continued...*

- 2** Crown him the Virgin's Son,  
the God incarnate born,  
whose arm those crimson trophies won  
which now his brow adorn:  
Fruit of the mystic Rose,  
as of that Rose the Stem;  
the Root whence mercy ever flows,  
the Babe of Bethlehem.
- 3** Crown him the Lord of love;  
behold his hands and side,  
those wounds yet visible above  
in beauty glorified:  
no angel in the sky  
can fully bear that sight,  
but downward bends his burning eye  
at mysteries so bright.
- 4** Crown him the Lord of peace,  
whose power a sceptre sways  
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,  
and all be prayer and praise:  
his reign shall know no end,  
and round his piercèd feet  
fair flowers of paradise extend  
their fragrance ever sweet.

*A musical interlude may be played on the organ before the final verse is sung*

- 5** Crown him the Lord of years,  
the Potentate of time,  
creator of the rolling spheres,  
ineffably sublime.  
all hail, Redeemer, hail!  
For thou hast died for me;  
thy praise shall never, never fail  
throughout eternity.

*Matthew Bridges (1800-1894)*

## Preparation of the Table

### Taking of the Bread and Wine

*The table is prepared and bread and wine are received from the congregation and placed upon it. The financial gifts of the people are gathered and presented with the following prayer:*

Christ offers himself to us for the life of the world.

*All* **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.**

### Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

*All* **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

*All* **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*All* **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is our joy and destiny to praise you, Lord God, for in wondrous love you cast stars into space and in meek obedience your Son surrendered to cruel nails. With loving-kindness you called your people in Abraham, and in covenant with Moses you bound up your life in theirs. Through exile you stayed close to them, and in Jesus you came among them bearing the fullness of grace and truth. Your Son Jesus faced rejection, cruelty and death, yet in resurrection you exalted him, and in sending your Spirit you shed glory on all people. And so we rejoice with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, singing the song of your unending praise.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

5 God of power and might,

9 Heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho -

13 - san - na in the high - est.

17 Bles - sed is he, O bles - sed is he who

21 comes in the name of the Lord Ho -

25 - san - na in the high - est Ho -

29 san - na in the high - est.

Hosanna is our cry, Blessed One. Your Son comes on a donkey in your name. As Jesus entered Jerusalem to bear our sorrows and suffer for our sins, enter our hearts and confront our waywardness today. Send your Holy Spirit upon us, that we may be your Son's crucified and risen body. Send your Spirit upon this bread that it may be living bread, and on this wine that it may be the cup of salvation, that together they may be for us the body and blood of your son Jesus Christ. Who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying, 'Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.' After supper he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, 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.

Great is the mystery of faith.

*All* **Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

Humble God, your Son did not exploit his status but emptied himself. Pour out your Spirit on all who are exploited, in world or church, on all who are humbled, by state or employer or family member, on all who are emptied of hope, of faith, or of love. As you highly exalted your Son who had become a slave, highly exalt your children who suffer for righteousness, or grieve those they have cherished, or bend the knee to one who does not honour them. Fill the earth with your justice and peace, until every heart shall sing and every tongue confess that you are the joy of their desiring, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, ever one God, in all ages and forevermore.

*All* **Amen.**  
*Please sit or kneel.*

### The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray, each in our own preferred language.

*All* **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.**

### Breaking of the Bread

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup

*All* **We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again in glory.**

## Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world, have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God you take a - way the  
sin of the world, have mer - cy on us.  
Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the world,  
grant us peace

## Giving of Communion

Christ took our humanity and blessed it; and was broken for us that God's life may be shared. Come, enter the mystery of God's passion for us.

*Communicant members of all Christian Churches are invited to receive Holy Communion. Bread and wine are available in the central and side aisles. Gluten-free wafers and non-alcoholic wine are available in the south aisle. If you wish to receive Communion in your seat do let a steward know.*

## Communion Anthem Lift up your heads, O ye gates *Mathias*

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is this King of Glory? The Lord strong and mighty, The Lord mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is this King of Glory? The Lord of Hosts, He is the King of Glory.

*Psalm 24: 7-10*

*Silence is kept.*



## 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.

*All* **Amen.**

## The Dismissal

### Notices

*Please stand.*

### Blessing

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; and the blessing of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

*All* **Amen.**

## Thanksgiving Hymn

***Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred name.***

- 1** Come, let us follow where our Captain trod,  
our King victorious, Christ the Son of God: ***Refrain***
- 2** O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
as thou hast promised, draw us unto thee: ***Refrain***
- 3** Let every race and every language tell  
of him who saves our souls from death and hell: ***Refrain***
- 4** From farthest regions let them homage bring,  
and on his cross adore their Saviour King: ***Refrain***

*Michael Robert Newbolt (1874-1956) and George William Kitchin (1827-1912)*

## Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

*All* **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

## Organ Voluntary

*Prayers for healing are available at the altar rail after the service.*

Special thanks to Djavan Van De Fliert for playing the part of Jesus. He is currently appearing in *Les Miserables* playing Enjolras at the Sondheim Theatre.

## The Mysteries: Poetry and Bach This evening at 7.00pm

The poetry of Ruth Padel and cellist Adrian Bradbury playing Bach's sublime Cello Suites lead us into Holy Week and Easter. This evening is a hauntingly beautiful conversation or prayer between Bach, cello, poet and us. Ruth Padel is an award-winning poet. Her twelve poetry collections, shortlisted for all major UK prizes, include *Beethoven Variations*. Adrian Bradbury is a regular guest principal player with orchestras including BBC Symphony Orchestra, English National Opera and Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. All welcome.

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