

Order of Service – 24/3/2024, Palm Sunday

Opening Verse

“Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Mk 11:9

Greeting

Cath

The peace of Christ be with you all.

Welcome to this ecumenical service to celebrate Palm Sunday. Welcome also to those of you on the live stream and to our friends from Brunswick Baptist and the Salvation Army.

This service has quite a few moving parts, so at 10am we are going to gather out on the steps where members of the local Anglican and Catholic churches will join us for a procession around to their church and into the garden at the Anglican church.

If you are not able to walk that distance, please feel free to remain here in the church for the 20-30 mins we'll be away (you could even tune into the livestream). We'll all return here after the ecumenical procession to conclude our service. Please stay for Morning Tea in the hall.

It's probably best to take your belongings with you when we go on the procession.

Call to worship

Steph, Josh, Cath

Let's begin our worship recalling Psalm 118, please join the responses in bold

This is the day that God has made;
let us rejoice and be glad!

Let us give thanks to the HOLY ONE, who is good;
and whose steadfast love endures forever!

O God, open the gates of our
hearts and minds today,
**that we may enter into your presence,
giving thanks and praise.**

Song: We will rejoice and be glad

Bible carried in during song

*This is the day that God has made
We will rejoice and be glad!
This is the day that God has made
We will rejoice and be glad!*

*Singing halle-lu,
singing halle-lu,
singing halle - lu
We will rejoice and be glad!*

*Singing halle-lu,
singing halle-lu,
singing halle - lu
We will rejoice and be glad!*

Acknowledgement of Country

Cath / Brunswick Baptist

To be offered by the young people at Brunswick Baptist

Introduction

Cath

Over the past five weeks of Lent here at BUC we've been asking the question what are we turning towards and what are we turning away from. Today is a significant turning point in the story of Easter. Today we mark Jesus' provocative entry into the city of Jerusalem and the stage is set for the events that take place next week which lead to Jesus' death and finally to resurrection and celebration on Easter day.

But today on Palm Sunday, the crowds cry Hosanna which means "Save Us Now" a word that comes to us from Psalm 118. So lets come before God now in a time of confession.

Prayer of Confession and Word of Grace

Cath

As we offer these prayers, I'll ask those who have things to come and lay them down as we also prepare the path, and set the scene for palm Sunday.

Holy God,
we give thanks that Jesus' journey
into Jerusalem on palm Sunday
paves the way for us to have new life

We remember all who waved palm branches (place palms)

or laid an outer garment on the ground for Jesus, (lay cloth, coats)

We remember the people oppressed by Rome, looking for a saviour, a warrior
to restore Israel to its former glory,

God, we come humbly into your presence,
asking you to save us.

**Hosanna, blessed is the one who comes
in the name of our Lord.**

Blessed is the one who comes
in the name of our God!

God's word of healing grace and peace is poured out for us all:
Our sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God

Intergenerational Reflection

Cath

Reflection

Pete

Offering with Song: We Are One in the Spirit, AoV1.130

Cath

We offer our gifts for God's mission in the world as we sing 'We are one in the Spirit'.

The offering will be made in two parts. The bowls will come around for the Uniting Church congregation while we are singing. The offering for Baptist congregation will be made in the bowls/bags in the Gathering Space after the song. We will dedicate the offerings together in that

space before we move out on to the steps to meet our neighbours. Please remain seated for the first couple of verses and then I will invite you to stand.

1. *We are one in the Spirit,
We are one in the Lord,
We are one in the Spirit,
We are one in the Lord,
And we pray that all unity
May one day be restored.*

*And they'll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love,
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.*

2. *We will walk with each other,
We will walk hand in hand,
We will walk with each other,
We will walk hand in hand,
And together we'll spread the news
That God is in our land.*

3. *We will work with each other,
We will work side by side,
We will work with each other,
We will work side by side,
And we'll guard each one's dignity
And save each one's pride.*

4. *All praise to the Father,
From who all things come,
And all praise to Christ Jesus,
God's only Son,
And all praise to the Spirit,
Who makes us one.*

SONG: [They'll know we are Christians](#), © 1996 F.E.L. Publications. All rights reserved. Used by permission, from [As One Voice vol 1](#), Willow Connection, Reproduced with permission under ONE LICENCE # 604502

Offering Dedication

Cath

Let us pray
God of peace,
You show us through Jesus how to love our neighbour
bless the gifts that we offer,
Bless them that they may be used to bring the good news to the poor
to create space for compassion
and the building of peace for all.
Amen

Congregation moves out the front at this point to the steps of the church, joins with Anglicans and Catholics.

A word about Bert and Francesca and introducing Murphy and Linda

THE GREETING

The Lord be with you...

Welcome to BUC our friends from:

St Ambrose
Brunswick Baptist
Christ Church
Salvation Army

We begin this morning the Great Week of the Christian Year. During Lent, we have been preparing for the celebration of our Lord's death and resurrection, by prayer and works of love and self-denial. Today we come together with the Church throughout the world to call to mind, and to express in word and action, our Lord's Passover from death to life, which is the centre of the Easter mystery.

Today we greet him as our King, although we know his crown is thorns and his throne a cross. We follow him this week from the glory of the palms to the glory of the resurrection by way of the dark road of suffering and death. United with him in his suffering on the cross may we share his resurrection and new life.

Bible Reading – Mark 11:1-11

Lieutenant Alison Templar

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it.

If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.' "

They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it.

Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields.

Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Song sung out on BUC steps NO WORDS ON SCREEN

SONG: All Glory Laud and Honour (tune TIS333 words AHB250)

*Refrain: 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.*

Refrain

2. *The company of angels are praising thee on high;
and mortal men and all things created make reply.*

Refrain

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

Refrain

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

Refrain

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

Refrain

Procession ...

Song sung during the procession NO WORDS ON SCREEN

SONG: Sanna, sannanina

Sanna sannanina, sanna, sanna, sanna. (x2)

Sanna, sanna, sanna, sannanina, sanna, sanna, sanna. (x2)

SONG: Sanna sannanina, traditional South African, from Voices United, PUBLIC DOMAIN

Blessing of the Palm CROSSES AND BRANCHES

Fr Russell Goulbourne

Let us pray

Blessed are you Almighty God, whose son Jesus Christ entered in triumph into the holy city this day to complete his work as our Messiah.

✠ May these crosses and branches be signs of the victory of your Son.

May we who carry them in his name ever hail him as our king, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen

Song sung in Anglican Courtyard (accompanied by BUC musicians)

NO WORDS ON SCREEN

SONG: Ride on, ride on (TIS348)

1. *Ride on, ride on in majesty;
hark, all the tribes hosanna cry!
O Saviour, meek, pursue your road
with palms and scattered garments strowed.*
2. *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.*
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;
your 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 your meek head to mortal pain,
then take, O God, your power and reign!*
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THE INTERCESSIONS AND LITANY

Mark Payne

Let us pray

Merciful God, as we enter this holy week and gather at your house of prayer, turn our hearts 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 for ever.

Amen

For Christian communities everywhere following the way of the cross this week;
that the passion of Christ may sustain our faith and enliven our witness to the world ...

Let us pray to the living God

Lord hear our prayer

For the nations of the world, and for the peace of Jerusalem:
that the kingdom of Christ may come with true peace and the forgiveness of our enemies ...

Let us pray to the living God

Lord hear our prayer

For the endangered earth where our carelessness and waste threaten the environment:
that the Spirit of Christ may teach us how to care for the earth, and revive our delight in creation ...

Let us pray to the living God

Lord hear our prayer

For all people who are hungry, homeless and outcast from the world: that the love of Christ may teach us hospitality hope, and care for the least of our sisters and brothers ...

Let us pray to the living God

Lord hear our prayer

For all who deny their faith or betray their friends:
that the forgiveness of Christ may come to them with healing and love ...

Let us pray to the living God

Lord hear our prayer

For all preparing to die:
that the light of Christ may shine on them both now and in the day of resurrection ...

Let us pray to the living God

Lord hear our prayer

POEM

Charmaine Chang

The Poet Thinks about the Donkey, by Mary Oliver

On the outskirts of Jerusalem
the donkey waited.

*How horses, turned out into the meadows,
leap with delight!*

*How doves, released from their cages,
clatter away, splashed with sunlight!*

But the donkey, tied to a tree as usual, waited.
Then he let himself be led away.
Then he let the stranger mount.

Never had he seen such crowds!
And I wonder if he at all imagined what was to happen.
Still, he was what he had always been: small, dark, obedient.

I hope, finally, he felt brave.

I hope, finally, he loved the man who rode so lightly upon him, as he lifted one dusty hoof and stepped, as he had to, forward.

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THE DISMISSAL

Fr Russell

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen

Song sung in Anglican Courtyard (accompanied by BUC musicians)

NO WORDS ON SCREEN

SONG: The King of Glory Comes (TIS279)

*Refrain: The King of glory comes, the nation rejoices,
open the gates before him, lift up your voices*

1. *Who is the King of glory, how shall we call him?
He is Immanuel, the promised of ages.*

Refrain

2. *In all of Galilee, in city or village,
he goes among his people curing their illness.*

Refrain

3. *Sing then of David's son, our Saviour and brother;
in all of Galilee was never another.*

Refrain

4. *He gave his life for us, the pledge of salvation;
he took upon himself the sins of the nation.*

Refrain

5. *He conquered sin and death; he truly has risen,
and he will share with us his heavenly vision.*

Refrain

Congregation returns to BUC

Re-gathering in the church.

Musicians to "play us in" with whatever they like

Prayers of the People

Jenn and Jim

BUC (**Jim**): Today, Jesus rides a donkey into the holy city Jerusalem, a king coming to reign with humility, humanity and dignity. Let us pray for his peace in our world, our community, our lives.

BBC (**Jenn**): For all refugees around the world who seek a safe place to raise their families. May they find comfort, kindness, and solidarity. We pray for peace in Palestine, Israel, Ukraine, Russia and those places where violence and poverty take away the right to live in peace and with justice.

Lord hear our prayer.
Hosanna, bring them peace.

BUC: For more awareness in our community to embrace cultural diversity and respect for those who think differently.

Lord hear our prayer.
Hosanna, bring us peace.

BBC: For local councils and business.
That they make more sustainable and ethical decisions for the common

BUC: For the communion and unity of the diverse body of Christ
in Sydney Rd, Melbourne, Australia, and the rest of the world.

Lord hear our prayer.
Hosanna, bring us peace.

BBC: For people in our community who feel lonely, who don't know how
to face their depression or anxiety. May our churches be welcoming and safe places for them.

Lord hear our prayer.
Hosanna, bring us peace.

BUC: For the members of our churches that today are gathering.
May they experience your love, peace and mercies in their life challenges.

Lord hear our prayer.
Hosanna, bring them peace.

BBC: For the leadership teams of our churches that today are gathering.
May they serve you with integrity, humility, wisdom and love.

Lord hear our prayer.
Hosanna, bring them peace.

BUC: For the youth of this generation, may they find
purpose, meaning, joy, and connection in their pathways

Lord hear our prayer.
Hosanna, bring them peace.

BBC: For the ongoing search for justice, peace, and reconciliation
by the indigenous people of Australia and other parts of the world.
May we hear their wisdom to care for the land where we live, play and work.

Lord hear our prayer.
Hosanna, bring us peace.

BUC: Today as we look towards Jesus' coming death and resurrection we pray for eyes of faith to see God's purpose in suffering, we ask for hearts of hope to enter the possibilities of transformation, and lives of love to meet the risen reigning Christ in the needs of the world.

BBC: In the name of the blessed one who comes in the name of the Lord, Christ our brother and lover. Amen

Notices

Cath

- Morning tea in hall
- Holy Week Services
- Final Tuesday night discussion group.

Song: Many miles from home

led by Phil Hudson

Blessing and Sending

UCA, BBC and Salvos

Cath: Go in peace you poor in spirit,
you who mourn, you meek,
you hungry and thirsty ones –
Christ is with you.

Mark: Go in peace you merciful people,
you pure in heart, you peacemakers –
Christ is with you.

Alison: Go in peace you who
are reviled and persecuted
for seeking the good,
for following God's way –
Christ is with you.

Cath: Go with the blessing of the Source of Creation who prepares the way before you,

Mark: Go with the blessing of Jesus, the Child of Love, who humbly walks beside you,

Alison: Go with the blessing of the Holy Spirit who lifts up your feet along the way.

All: Amen.

Sending Song - Jesus is coming, SPP vs 1,2,4,5

1. *Jesus is coming. Pave the way with branches.
Jesus is coming. Hosanna!*

*Hosanna. Jesus is coming,
Hosanna to the Prince of Peace.
Hosanna. Jesus is coming,
Hosanna to the Prince of Peace.*
2. *Hope for the downtrod. Pave the way with branches.
Hope for the downtrod. Hosanna!*
4. *Debts are forgiven. Pave the way with branches.
Debts are forgiven. Hosanna!*

5. *Release for the captives. Pave the way with branches.
Release for the captives. Hosanna!*
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SONG: [Jesus is coming](#) from [Sing! Prayer and Praise](#) (132), Words and music Bret Hesla
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Thank yous

Thank you for joining us, and thank you to...

Liturgist:

Cath James
(Minister of the Word-
CYAA)

Reflection:

Peter Blair
(Olive Way Pastor)

Prayers of the People:

Jenn Garavito
(Brunswick Baptist)
Jim Kilpatrick
(Brunswick UC)

Images: Unsplash:

Jelena Lapina,
Tim Mossholder

Musicians:

Alistair Hunter
(co-ordinator)
Anthony Hinds
Jess Kvensakul
Sharm Blair
Mick Pope
Mikul Denison

Ecumenical Liturgy

Cath James
(Brunswick UC)
Alison Templar
(Salvation Army)
Russel Goulbourne
(Christ Church Anglican)
Mark Payne
(Brunswick Baptist)
Charmaine Chang
(St. Ambrose)

Postlude Song: [This is the day](#), from [New Century Hymnal](#), Pilgrim Press
(June 1996), USA, PUBLIC
DOMAIN

Musicians: Elaine Potter

Editing / Production:

Jane Allardice
Ray Cameron
Saide Cameron
James Clough
Alistair Hunter
Dave Miller
Mal Rowe

Closing Verse on Screen:

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God. Psalm 118:26