



Sunday 5th April 2020 – Palm Sunday

Dear friends, what follows is a service which you can use as a way to worship in your homes this Sunday (or any other day of the week).

If you have the Internet, you will find a video to accompany this sheet on YouTube from Sunday morning – go to 'Youtube' and search for Isle of Man Methodist Church and you will find it on our YouTube channel, along with a video for MAST Youth (teenagers) and MAST Kids (6-11yrs).

If you don't have access to the Internet or emails, and would like to receive this sheet by post each week, please let your local minister know and this will be arranged.

Our prayers are with you all,

Isle of Man Methodist Staff Team

Call to worship

As we come to worship you might like to have a time of silence and light a candle.

Then say these words:

Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Hymn: Ride on, ride on in majesty

Sing/ Read /pray / the words below:

- 1 Ride on, ride on in majesty !
Hark, all the tribes 'Hosanna ! ' cry ;
your humble beast pursues its 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,
expects 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.

Henry Hart Milman (1791–1868)

Reproduced from Singing the Faith Electronic Words Edition,
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Let us pray together

Lord Jesus, with the people of Jerusalem,
and with Christians the world over,
we acclaim you as our King.
If we had been there that morning
we would have spread our cloaks at your feet,
waved our palm branches over your head,
worshipped you as the Messiah.

As we worship you this day,
we offer ourselves in your service,
we adore you with our whole heart,
we worship you as our Saviour.

God of tender compassion,
be merciful and gracious to us.
Forgive us, we pray, for there are times ...
when we name the name of Jesus
while our actions betray him;
when we claim to be his disciples
while we disregard his teachings;
when we talk of grace and mercy
while we fail to forgive others.
God of tender compassion,
be merciful and gracious to us.
Forgive the sins of your people;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Today's Gospel Reading:

Matthew 21: 1-11

Find a Bible and read the above passage. If you do not have a Bible at home, ask your local minister who will gladly source one for you.

A time of reflection

Today's reading is full of excitement as Jesus rides into Jerusalem. Take time to once again read the gospel passage, this time slowly and prayerfully. Imagine yourself as part of the crowd – what do you see and hear?

What stands out for you from the passage?

If you could speak to Jesus as he got off the back of the colt what would you say to him? How do you think he might reply?

Take a time to sit quietly.

What is the Holy Spirit saying to you?

Prayers of Intercession

Holy and loving God,

We pray for all those who are giving of themselves sacrificially at this time. For NHS staff, carers working in homes, shop workers, refuse collectors, postal workers, those working on transport, in schools and politicians making difficult decisions.

Let us travel together in prayer and lighten the load.

We pray for those who are unwell with Covid 19 both at home and in hospital. We pray for those who are unwell with other things for whom getting treatment is especially difficult at this time. We pray for those who are nearing the end of their lives that they may receive the care they need.

Let us travel together in prayer and lighten the load.

We pray for those across the world whose lives were already precarious before the global pandemic but who will be in even greater danger. Especially those who are living in refugee camps with no permanent home to be safely inside.

Let us travel together in prayer and lighten the load.

We pray for all those who are worried at this time about their jobs, their businesses, their loved ones. And for those who are grieving and cannot attend a funeral.

Let us travel together in prayer and lighten the load.

We pray for those whose relationships are under great strain being confined together for this indefinite period of time. We pray for safe places of refuge for those fleeing domestic abuse and the homeless.

Let us travel together in prayer and lighten the load.

We pray for ourselves that we may be aware of your presence at this moment and that we might cast all our cares upon you. May we feel our load lightened as we know we travel with you and each other.

In the strong name of Jesus, our king who rode on a donkey into Jerusalem on the first Palm Sunday, and travels with each one of us today. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Hymn: At the name of Jesus

Sing/ Read /pray / the words below

- 1 At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess him King of Glory now.
'Tis the Father's pleasure
we should 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 Bore it up triumphant with its human light,
through all ranks of creatures to the central height,
to the throne of Godhead, to the Father's breast ;
filled it with the glory of that perfect rest.
- 4 In your hearts enthrone him; there let him subdue
all that is not holy, all that is not true ;
crown him as your captain in temptation's hour :
let his will enfold you in its light and power.
- 5 For this same Lord Jesus shall return again,
with his Father's glory, with his angel train ;
all the wreaths of empire meet upon his brow,
and our hearts confess him King of Glory now.

Caroline Maria Noel (1817–1877)

Reproduced from *Singing the Faith* Electronic Words Edition, number 317

A prayer of blessing

Christ crucified draw us to himself
that we may 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 upon us and remain with us always. Amen.

Some original materials by John E Staton,
adapted by the Isle of Man Methodist Staff Team