St Hilda's Ashford



Palm Sunday

This service is being live streamed via the St Hilda's facebook page <u>https://www.facebook.com/StHildaAshford/</u>

Palm Sunday marks the moment in the story of Jesus Christ when the journey of his ministry finally reaches Jerusalem. As Jesus entered the city, his way was marked by the laying of palm branches across his path as he rode on the back of the donkey – a sign of respect and honour fit for a king. Jesus was greeted like a celebrity!

This moment also brings us to the start of the climax of events that culminate in Jesus' eventual Passion and Death.

This service is also referred to as

The Commemoration of Our Lord's Entry into Jerusalem

THE GATHERING

Processional Hymn

All glory, laud and honour To thee, Redeemer, King To whom the lips of children Make sweet hosannas ring.

Thou art the King of Israel, Thou David's royal Son, Who in the Lord's name comest, The King and blessèd One.

The company of angels Are praising thee on high, And mortal men and all things Created make reply.

The people of the Hebrews With palms before thee went; Our praise and prayer and anthems Before thee we present.

To thee before thy passion They sang their hymns of praise; To thee now high exalted, Our melody we raise.

Thou didst accept their praises, Accept the prayers we bring, Who in all good delightest, Thou good and gracious King.

Do thou direct our footsteps Upon our earthly way, And bring us by thy mercy To heaven's eternal day. Within that blessèd City Thy praises may we sing, And ever raise hosannas To our most loving King.

[St. Theodulph of Orleans tr. J. M. Neale]

If you have a palm cross do hold it.

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

All and also with you.

Introduction

Dear brothers and sisters 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 their palms while this prayer is said by the president.

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 lives and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

All Amen.

The Palm Gospel – Luke 19: 28 – 40

All

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the king

who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven,

and glory in the highest heaven!"

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Let us go forth, praising Jesus our Messiah.

The people process out around the curtilage of the church, holding the palm crosses.

The Collect

Let us pray for a closer union with Christ in his suffering and in his glory.

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.

Old Testament Reading - Isaiah 50: 4-9a

The servant of the LORD said: 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. The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backwards. 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. 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; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. 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.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading - Philippians 2: 5-11

Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Passion Reading - Luke 23: 1 – 49

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king." Then Pilate asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" He answered, "You say so." Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no basis for an accusation against this man." But they were insistent and said, "He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place." When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies.

Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him."

Then they all shouted out together, "Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!" (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!" A third time he said to them, "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him." But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [[Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent." And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Prayers of Intercession

For forgiveness for the many times we have denied Jesus, let us pray to the Lord.

All Lord, have mercy.

For grace to seek out those habits of sin which mean spiritual death, and by prayer and self-discipline to overcome them, let us pray to the Lord.

All Lord, have mercy.

For Christian people, that through the suffering of the present time there may grow a rich union in Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

All Lord, have mercy.

For those who make laws, interpret them, and administer them, that our common life may be ordered in justice and mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

All Lord, have mercy.

For those who have the courage and honesty to work openly for justice and peace, let us pray to the Lord.

All Lord, have mercy.

For those in the darkness and experiencing the agony of isolation, that they may find support and encouragement, let us pray to the Lord.

All Lord, have mercy.

For those who, weighed down with hardship due to the virus, failure, or sorrow,

feel that God is far from them,

let us pray to the Lord.

All Lord, have mercy.

For those who are tempted to give up the way of the cross, let us pray to the Lord.

All Lord, have mercy.

That we, with those who have died in faith due to the virus, may find mercy in the day of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

All Lord, have mercy.

Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.

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

All and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn

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.

At his voice creation sprang at once to sight, All the angel faces, all the hosts of light, Thrones and dominations, stars upon their way, All the heavenly orders, in their great array. 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.

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.

In your hearts enthrone him; there let him subdue All that is not holy, all that is not true; He is God the Saviour, he is Christ the Lord, Ever to be worshipped, trusted and adored.

Brothers, this Lord Jesus shall return again, With the Father's glory, with his angel train; For all wreaths of empire meet upon his brow, And our hearts confess him King of glory now.

[Caroline Noel]

Taking of the Bread and Wine

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.

All Glory to you, O God, for ever.

The 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 indeed right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. For as the time of his passion and resurrection draws near the whole world is called to acknowledge his hidden majesty. The power of the life-giving cross reveals the judgement that has come upon the world and the triumph of Christ crucified. He is the victim who dies no more, the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever, our advocate in heaven to plead our cause, exalting us there to join with angels and archangels, for ever praising you and singing:

 All 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.

> We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: *Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;* do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: 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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

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

> Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with The Blessed Virgin Mary, St Hilda, and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Standing at the foot of the cross, and as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

All 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.

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

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

Agnus Dei

We say.

All Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us. Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.

Giving of Communion

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

All Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The people and president receive communion.

Communion Hymns

Lord Jesus Christ, You have come to us, You are one with us, Mary's Son; Cleansing our souls from all their sin, Pouring your love and goodness in; Jesus, our love for you we sing, Living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, Now and every day Teach us how to pray, Son of God. You have commanded us to do This in remembrance, Lord, of you: Into our lives your power breaks through, Living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, You have come to us, Born as one with us, Mary's Son; Led out to die on Calvary, Risen from death to set us free, Living Lord Jesus, help us see You are Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, I would come to you, live my life for you, Son of God. All your commands I know are true, Your many gifts will make me new, Into my life your power breaks through, Living Lord. [Patrick Appleford © Words and music: 1960 Josef Weinberger Ltd] Glory be to Jesus, Who, in bitter pains, Poured for me the life-blood From his sacred veins.

Grace and life eternal In that blood I find; Blessed be his compassion, Infinitely kind.

Blest through endless ages Be the precious stream, Which from endless torment Doth the world redeem.

Abel's blood for vengeance Pleaded to the skies; But the blood of Jesus For our pardon cries.

Oft as it is sprinkled On our guilty hearts, Satan in confusion Terror-struck departs.

Oft as earth exulting Wafts its praise on high, Hell with terror trembles, Heaven is filled with joy.

Lift ye then you voices; Swell the mighty flood; Louder still and louder Praise the precious Blood.

[Italian (author unknown) tr. Edward Caswall]

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 Faithful God, may we who share this banquet glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, our salvation, life and hope, who reigns as Lord now and for ever. Amen.

Notices

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 almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ.

All Thanks be to God.

Recessional Hymn

Ride on, ride on in majesty! Hark, all the tribes hosanna cry, Thy humble beast pursues his road With palms and scattered garments strowed.

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.

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! Thy 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 thy meek head to mortal pain, Then take, O God, thy power, and reign.

[Henry Milman]

The ministers and people depart.

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SERVICE TIMES Wednesday 13th April 11am

Sunday 17th April 9.30am

Details of the Holy Week services are later in the notices

The Sunday service is livestreamed and can be viewed later our Facebook page

Please remember in your prayers this week:

THE SICK:James BedfordRobb ClarkeAnn ConsidineJulia CowleyMichael DixonAnna ElwellJack EverettPeter GarnerEileen GilbertRay GreenwoodJuilet GriffithAlison GriffithsVicky HallJean Iddiols

Jane Johnson Pat Kyle Pauline Lewis Chris Maddock Mrs McCammon Libby Mills Raymond Nation Pat Parish Peggy Pinfold Elizabeth Savill-Burgess Delphine Scrivener Riley Shaw Emily Smith Elsie Stone Roy Stone Rev. Peter Taylor Carla Wells Sheila West Philip Willerton Chick Wilson Peter Wilson Jo Wood Erin Izzy Nic Baby Reuben Bob Margaret

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

Joan Harden

George Nicholas

THOSE IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOK THIS WEEK

Patricia June Shelley Daphne Alvira Downie Emma Cooke David Campbell Herbert Chandler Peter John Murray Jamet Mills Valerie Patricia Taylor Alan Charles Fuller Gwendoline L Humphrey Kate Turner

Please pray for our ALMA twin parish, Holy Cross Murrupula, who have suffered after cyclone Gumba

NOTICES

The Parish Office is available by phone weekdays 9am – 5pm Visitors by appointment only

Church Opening

St Hilda's is open for public worship services.

We are no longer operating a ticket booking system for services, however, it will remain in place for Church events for catering purposes. Masks are optional.

Following the teaching of 'Loving thy Neighbour' - If you feel unwell, we ask that you do not attend so that we can maintain the health and safety of all who attend the services.

Good Friday Children's Workshop

On Good Friday, April 15th from 12noon until 3pm there will be a Children's Workshop including craft, music and worship in the Church Hall. The children need to bring a packed lunch in a clearly named container – we will provide drinks. Children under 5 should be accompanied by an adult. Please ensure all children have an up to date identification form detailing current emergency contacts. To enrol please go to the web site and follow the link.

Christine Taylor and the Junior Church team

Easter Lilies

We will be having our traditional display from Easter Sunday, if you would like to purchase a lily in memory of a loved one please complete the form which can be found at the rear of the church and return it to the parish office by Palm Sunday (today).

The flower team will be arranging the Easter lilies in Church on Easter Saturday, 16th April, from 9.30am. We would be grateful for any greenery you can spare from your gardens and if you would like to help arrange the lilies but are not on the flower team we would love to see you, many hands make light work as the saying goes. You can contact Pauline on 01932 785327 if you have any questions.

If you previously dedicated a lily or sponsored a poppy during the Covid lockdown then the money already given for these is being transferred to dedicate a lily in this display.

Feed my Sheep – Tuesday 26th April 2.30pm – 4pm

The theme is Prayers and Praying.

Ambling through Acts course

(7:30pm on the first Thursday of each month)

Led by Fr Steve, a study of the Acts of the Apostles will entail a close reading of the text. We will see the unfolding story of the beginnings of the church through the eyes of the writer, try to discern his purposes, discover new things, and learn that though the context has changed, human nature remains much the same. Hence, the struggles of those first followers may find resonances in our own day as we live out our individual lives of discipleship and participate together in the life of the church. Everyone is very welcome to attend. There will be refreshments at the end. We will finish by saying Compline (Night Prayer) together round about 9pm. I hope to see you there. Please bring a bible – ideally the NRSV, but any version will do.

<u>Community Lunch – every Wednesday</u>

Join us for the Community Lunch at midday. If you are able to come forward and help, even once a month, please do liaise with Bobbie.

Bible Study – every Wednesday

Bible Study group meet in Church at 7.30pm. All welcome.

Food Bank Donations

Please use the wooden chest at the rear of the Church to place any donations for the local food bank, such as tinned and dried goods and toiletries.

Paving Slabs needed

If anyone has any spare slabs that could be used in the Memorial Garden, please see Paula Gething.

Pilgrimage to Westminster Abbey – Date TBC

A parish pilgrimage is being arranged to Westminster Abbey, please sign up on the sheet at the rear of the Church or contact the office. A date will be arranged if we have enough interest.

St Hilda's News

The next issue will be in April. We are still looking for a new editor(s) to take over.

Sponsor a church chair

It is not too late to sponsor a chair or a trolley as we would still like purchase more.

If you can help, please complete the form at the rear of the Church.

- £90 covers the cost of a chair
- £225 covers the cost of a stacking trolly

Easter Services at St Hilda's



CHURCHES TOGETHER WALK OF WITNESS - 10.40am (meet at St Hilda's to walk into Ashford. Service at 11am)

The Cross of Christ choral devotion to be held on Good Friday will start at 1.45pm

Contact Information

<u>Vicar</u>

Fr Joseph Fernandes

vicar@sthilda.org Vicarage 01784 254237 Parish Office 01784 253525 Mobile 07999 053433

Licenced Lay Ministers

Carolyn Clarkcarolyn@sthilda.orgRosalyn Youngrosalyn@sthilda.org

Churchwardens

Bobbie Bedford Frances Forsbrey

PCC Secretary

Denise Buttigieg

PCC Treasurer Darran Buttigieg

Parish Administrator Denise Buttigieg

Church Hall Bookings

Chris Davenport

01784 252170

<u>The Parish Office:</u> St Hilda's Church, Stanwell Road, Ashford, Middlesex TW15 3QL Telephone: 01784 253525 Email: <u>office@sthilda.org</u>

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Charity Number: 1134119 CCLI: 708985

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