

The Liturgy of Palm Sunday

29 March 2026 – 10am



The Procession and Blessing of Palms

The congregations gather on Seeley Parade where palms and branches are distributed to the people.

Before the procession begins the brass band will play.

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

THE 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 palms or branches while this prayer is said Fr Luke

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 PALM GOSPEL

We hear the story of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Luke 19. 28-40

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

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.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Let us go forth, praising Jesus our Messiah.

The crucifer, servers and choir will lead the procession, followed by children and their parents. The people follow behind, with priests and clergy moving off last. When we reach the bottom of Seeley Drive we sing the following hymn:

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| R All glory, laud, and honour
to thee, Redeemer, King!
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring | 1 <i>Thou art the King of Israel,
thou David’s royal Son,
who in the Lord’s name comest,
the King and blessed one: Refrain</i> |
| 2 <i>The company of angels
are praising thee on high,
and mortal men and all things
created make reply: Refrain</i> | 3 <i>The people of the Hebrews
with palms before thee went:
our praise and prayer and anthems
before thee we present: Refrain</i> |
| 4 <i>To thee before thy passion
they sang their hymns of praise:
to thee now high exalted
our melody we raise: Refrain</i> | 5 <i>Thou didst accept their praises,
accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest,
thou good and gracious King: Refrain</i> |
| 6 <i>Thy sorrow and thy triumph
Grant us, O Christ, to share,
that to the holy city
together we may fare: Refrain</i> | 7 <i>For homage may we bring thee
our victory o’er the foe,
that in the Conqueror’s triumph
this strain may ever flow: Refrain</i> |

We are all one in Christ Jesus. We belong to him through faith, heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you

Let us offer one another a sign of Peace

After we have shared the peace, members of St Margaret Clitherow process to their own church. We continue the procession to the corner of Dulwich Wood Federation Primary School and when we get there we sing:

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

Pastor Mawuli says...

Christ is our peace.

He has reconciled us to God

in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you

Let us offer one another a sign of Peace

After we have shared the peace, members of Kingswood Community Church process to their own church.

We continue the procession back to St Stephen's. On entering St Stephen's we listen to the choir singing Hosanna to the Son of David by David Halls, music available from the sidespeople, for those wishing to join in.