

# **Introduction Opening sentence**

"Rejoice greatly O daughter of Sion. Shout aloud O daughter of Jerusalem. Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

Zechariah 9 9

## **Blessing of the Palm Crosses**

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 and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

#### All Amen

## Hymn: Ride on ride on in majesty

## **Litany from Psalm 118**

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever

## All Hosanna to God, hosanna in the highest

Let Israel say "His love endures forever" and all who fear God say "His love endures forever"

## All Hosanna to God, hosanna in the highest

With the Lord on our side, what can we fear? What can humankind do?

#### All Hosanna to God, hosanna in the highest

We shall triumph over those who surround us and stand in confidence in the Lord our God

### All Hosanna to God, hosanna in the highest

The Lord is our strength and our might. The Lord has become our salvation

## All Hosanna to God, hosanna in the highest Hosanna to God, hosanna in the highest

## **Opening Prayer**

Humble and riding on a donkey we greet you. Acclaimed by crowds and carolled by children we cheer you. Moving from the peace of the countryside to the corridors of power we salute you Christ our Lord. For you are giving the beast of burden a new dignity. You are giving majesty a new face. You are giving those who long for redemption a new song to sing. With them, with heart and voice, we shout

#### All Hosanna, blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord

## **Confession and Absolution**

O Lord, who on this day entered the rebellious city that later rejected you: we confess that our wills are as rebellious as Jerusalem, that our faith is often more show than substance, that our hearts are in need of cleansing

All Have mercy on us son of David, saviour of our lives. Help us to lay at your feet all that we have and all that we are, trusting you to forgive what is sinful, to heal what is broken, to welcome our praises, and to receive us as your own.

May the saviour of us all have mercy upon you, forgive what you have done and who you have been. May He bring you home again, and impart within you a new song of joy and celebration.

#### All Amen

Hymn: My Jesus, my saviour

## Ministry of the Word

Merciful God, as we enter Holy Week, turn our hearts again to Jerusalem and to the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Stir up within us the gift of faith that we may not only praise Him with our lips but may follow Him in the way of the cross.

#### All Amen

## A Reading from Philippians 2 5-11

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

## Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark 11 1-11

## All Glory to you O Lord

## Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

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.

This is the gospel of the Lord

#### All Praise to you O Christ

#### Reflection

words by Linda Munt and Nick Fawcett based on his book No Ordinary man vol. 2

## Hymn: Meekness and Majesty

#### Intercessions

The response to "Let us pray to the Lord" is "Lord have mercy" and the prayers conclude with

All Holy God
Holy and strong
Holy and immortal
Have mercy upon us

(the Trisagion)

All Our Father, which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done in earth,
As it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive them that 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.

## Closing words and blessing

Amen.

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships, so that you may live deep within your heart. May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, and the exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace. May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer with pain, rejection, starvation, and war so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and to turn their pain into joy. And may God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world so that you can do what others claim cannot be done.

And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you, upon your homes and all whom you love, now and always.

All Amen

Hymn: All glory laud and honour