

# A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Spiritual Communion

## Palm Sunday – March 28, 2021



ANGLICAN  
DIOCESE OF  
NIAGARA

**Prelude:** Chorale Prelude on St. Anne (H. Willan)

### The Gathering of the Community

*Words of welcome and introduction.*

**Bishop:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**All:** **And also with you.**

**Bishop:** Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord

**All:** **Hosanna in the highest!**

**Bishop:** Dear friends in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing for the celebration of our Lord's paschal mystery. On this day our Lord Jesus Christ entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph. The people welcomed him with palms and shouts of praise, but the path before him led to self-giving, suffering, and death. 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.

### The Collect

**Bishop:** Let us pray.

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. **Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN:** Ride on, ride on in majesty! (Common Praise #182)

1. Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
Hark! all the tribes hosanna cry;  
O Savior meek, pursue thy 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 winged squadrons of the sky  
look down with sad and wond'ring eyes  
to see th'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 pow'r and reign.

## The Liturgy of the Word

### A Reading: Isaiah 50.4-9a

Reader: 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 awakens— awakens 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.

Reader: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### The Gospel: Mark 11:1-11

Reader: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

**All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Reader: 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.

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### The Sermon – The Very Reverend Tim Dobbin

*Words of reflection or teaching are offered.*

## The Prayers of the People

*The response in the prayers is:*

One: Lord in your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

## Confession and Absolution

Bishop: Dear friends in Christ,  
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;  
God welcomes sinners and invites us to this holy table.  
Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

*Silence is kept.*

Bishop: Most merciful God,

**All: we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us,  
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Bishop: Almighty God have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in eternal life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## The Peace

Bishop: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

### The Prayer over the Gifts

Bishop: Gracious God,  
the suffering and death of Jesus, your only Son,  
makes us pleasing in your sight.  
Alone we can do nothing, but through his sacrifice,  
may we receive your love and mercy.

**All: Amen.**

## The Eucharistic Prayer

Bishop: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Bishop: Lift up your hearts in adoration.

**All: We lift them to our God.**

Bishop: Let us give thanks to the Living God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Bishop: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth;  
we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who for our sins was lifted high upon the cross,  
that he might draw the whole world to himself.  
By his suffering and death, he became the source of eternal salvation  
for all who put their trust in him.

Therefore with all the host of heaven who gather around your throne and the Lamb, we raise  
our voices to proclaim the glory of your name:

**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.**

One: We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us  
in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and  
above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and  
Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand  
before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness,  
out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord  
Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his  
disciples, and said,

“Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks,  
he 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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, Father, according to his command,

**All: we remember his death,  
we proclaim his resurrection,  
we await his coming in glory;**

Bishop: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Bishop: As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,

**All: Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

Bishop: "I am the bread which has come down from heaven," says the Lord.

**All: Give us this bread for ever.**

Bishop: "I am the vine, you are the branches."

**All: May we dwell in Christ, as Christ lives in us.**

Bishop: The gifts of God for the People of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### **Invitation to Spiritual Communion**

Bishop: Dear friends, I invite you in this moment, wherever you may be, to receive Christ, in communion with the saints, and the gathering of God's people, unseen and yet present with us now.

Many are made one.

Bishop: We receive you Lord Jesus Christ,  
**All: we welcome your presence in us,  
and together proclaim our love for you;  
with our hearts, minds, our souls and our strength,  
with the saints we worship you,  
with the angels we adore you,  
with your whole Church we proclaim your reign.  
Come to us, though many, and make us one in you. Amen.**

Bishop: I invite you in the silence of your own hearts  
or using one or more of the prayers in the service sheet  
to make your own act of Communion with Christ.

*Silence is kept during which time the congregation prays one or more of the following prayers of reception.*

## **Prayers of Reception**

**One: I worship and adore you, Lord Jesus Christ,  
present in bread and wine, and present in your people,  
who are gathered in spirit.  
In this moment I join with them to receive you in my heart, and in our community.  
May you, enthroned on the altar, be now enthroned in my heart,  
may you, present in bread and wine, feed and renew my soul,  
may you, who gives yourself to us again,  
fill us with grace, and heavenly blessing.  
Even as I am fed, may my hunger for you  
and for your reign of justice and peace increase,  
that I may, with your Spirit, work for that day  
when your kingdom shall come on earth as it is heaven. Amen.**

*Or*

**One: Come Lord Jesus and make in my heart your dwelling place and home.  
I seek to love you with all my heart, mind, soul and strength,  
and so, through your presence in bread and wine  
I receive you afresh and praise you for you are my God.  
As you fill me, so may my love for you and for all your people,  
rise and overflow, that with joy and thanksgiving,  
I may serve you in the world you love. Amen.**

*Or*

**One: Jesus, I believe that you are present with us in the sacrament of bread and wine.  
I love you and I desire your presence afresh in my life.  
Since I cannot now receive the bread and wine of the altar,  
come spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace you and unite myself to you; never let me be separated from you.<sup>1</sup>**

*Or*

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<sup>1</sup> Based on a prayer by St. Alphonsus Maria de' Liguori

**One:** Holy Jesus we receive you in this moment,  
giving you thanks and praise that you make yourself present  
to all your people in the bread and wine of the Eucharist.  
Transform our hearts that we may shine as your light in dark places;  
*Where there is hatred, let us sow love;*  
*Where there is injury, pardon;*  
*Where there is doubt, faith;*  
*Where there is despair, hope;*  
*Where there is darkness, light;*  
*Where there is sadness, joy.*  
And this all, in love for you. Amen.

*Or*

**One:** O Loving God, in union with Christian people throughout the world  
and across the centuries gathered to make Eucharist,  
hearing your holy Word and receiving the Precious Body and Blood of your dear Son,  
I offer you praise and thanksgiving.

Even while separated from tasting the Bread of Heaven and drinking the Cup of Life,  
I pray that you will unite me with all the baptised  
and with your Son who gave his life for us.  
Come Lord Jesus, dwell in me and send your Holy Spirit  
that I may be filled with your presence.

Jesus, as the hem of your garment, touched in faith,  
healed the woman who could not touch your body,  
so may the soul of your servant be healed,  
for though I cannot receive you in the sacrament I can,  
through this offering of my prayer, receive you in my heart;  
grant this for Christ's sake. Amen.<sup>2</sup>

*Prayers recommended for use by children:*

**One:** Holy Jesus, thank you for loving us,  
and thank you for the holy bread and wine  
that reminds us that you are always with us.  
Come and live in our hearts, so we may know your love,  
and love others too. Amen.

*Or*

**One:** Jesus, you remind us in bread and wine that you are near to us.  
Bring me nearer to you every day, and let me carry you in my heart,  
to share your love with the world you made. Amen.

*Or*

**One:** Lord Jesus, thank you that you are always with me,  
I pray that you would remind me to welcome you to share every day with me.  
Thank you for loving me. I want to say that I love you too. Amen.

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<sup>2</sup> Adapted from a service of Spiritual Communion, Diocese of Chelmsford, Church of England

Or

**One: Jesus, I want to follow you: to see you more clearly;  
love you more dearly; and follow you more nearly.  
So come into my heart, so that we may share life together. Amen.**

*After a time of prayer, we sing together....*

**COMMUNION HYMN:** O God, Unseen Yet Ever Near (Common Praise #52)

1. O God, unseen yet ever near,  
thy presence may we feel;  
and, thus inspired with holy fear,  
before your table kneel.
2. Here may your faithful people know  
the blessings of your love,  
the streams that through the desert flow,  
the manna from above.
3. We come, obedient to thy word,  
to feast on heav'nly food;  
to eat the body of the Lord,  
our drink his precious blood.
4. O living bread, enduring vine  
Your words shall we obey  
and go, renewed with strength divine,  
rejoicing on our way.

### **Prayer After Communion**

Bishop: Let us pray.

Father of all,

**All: we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off,  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared you love,  
gave us grace and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who receive Christ's presence,  
live his risen life and bring life to others,  
and may we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.<sup>3</sup>**

*Closing remarks and announcements.*

### **The Blessing**

Bishop: The peace of God which passes all our understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God  
and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,  
and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you, this day and always.

**All: Amen.**

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<sup>3</sup> Adapted from Common Worship, Church of England, Holy Communion Order One.



## **CLOSING HYMN: All Glory, Laud, and Honor (Common Praise #180)**

*Refrain:* All glory, laud, and honor  
to you, 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  
is praising thee on high;  
and we with all creation  
in chorus 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*

### **Dismissal**

**One:** Having received Christ by faith, let us go to live in that faith,  
transformed by hope and proclaiming God's love.

**All:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude:** Chorale Prelude on "CWM Rhondda"