



St Peter's
Leckhampton Parish Church

Holy Communion



Palm Sunday

CCLI Licence 513132 MRL Licence 513149

The service begins in the garden at the church cottages.

Greeting

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

And also with you.

Introduction

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing by words 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 Blessing of the Palms

All hold up their palms or branches.

God our Saviour,
whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah to suffer and to die;
bless these palms †

Let them be for us a sign 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

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

At the end of the reading:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

The Procession of Palms

Let us go forth, praising Jesus our Messiah...

We process up to church singing:

***All glory, laud, and honour
to thee, Redeemer, King!
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.***

**Thou art the King of Israel,
thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's Name comest,
the King and Blessed One.**

Chorus

**The company of angels
are praising thee on high;
and mortal men and all things
created make reply.**

Chorus

**The people of the Hebrews
with palms before thee went;
our praise and prayer and anthems
before thee we present.**

Chorus

**To thee before thy passion
they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee, now high exalted,
our melody we raise.**

Chorus

**Thou didst accept their praises;
accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest,
thou good and gracious King.**

Chorus

Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit †
Amen.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Welcome

Please sit.

Notices and any banns of marriage are read.

Some words of welcome are given.

We Say Sorry

Let us quietly reflect on those things we have done wrong:

Silence is kept.

For turning away from you, and ignoring your will for our lives.

Lord, have mercy:

Organ introduction *mp*

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, Ky - ri - e e -

lei - son, Ky - ri - e e - lei - - - son.

For behaving just how we wish and not thinking of you.

Christ, have mercy:

Organ introduction *mf*

Chri - ste e - lei - son, Chri - ste e -

lei - son, Chri - ste e - lei - - - son.

For failing you by what we do, think or say.

Lord, have mercy:

Organ introduction *mp*

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.

We Are Forgiven

We are assured of God's forgiveness:

Almighty God have mercy on you,
forgive you your sins †
and bring you to everlasting life,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

The Collect

Let us pray together:

**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.**

First Reading

Please remain seated for the reading, then at the end:

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Please stand to sing.

The Passion Gospel

Mark 14.32-15.39

Hear the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

*Please sit for the passion drama and join in with the parts in **bold**.*

Part I: Jesus Prays in Gethsemane

Narrator: They went to a place called Gethsemane; and Jesus said to his disciples,

Jesus: 'Sit here while I pray.'

Narrator: He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them,

Jesus: 'I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.'

Narrator: And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said,

Jesus: 'Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.'

Narrator: He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter,

Jesus: 'Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.'

Narrator: And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. He came a third time and said to them,

Jesus: 'Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.'

Part 2: The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus

- Narrator: Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying,
- Judas: 'The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard.'
- Narrator: So when he came, he went up to him at once and said,
- Judas: 'Rabbi!'
- Narrator: and kissed him. Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to them,
- Jesus: 'Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled.'
- Narrator: All of them deserted him and fled. A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.

Part 3: Jesus before the Council

- Narrator: They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. Many gave false testimony against, but it did not agree. Others stood to give false testimony against him, saying,
- Witnesses: 'We heard him say, "I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands."'**
- Narrator: But even on this point their testimony did not agree. Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus,

High Priest: 'Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?'

Narrator: But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him,

High Priest: 'Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?'

Jesus: 'I am; you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power coming with the clouds of heaven.'

Narrator: Then the high priest tore his clothes and said,

High Priest: 'Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?'

Narrator: All of them condemned him as deserving death. Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him,

Crowd: 'Prophecy!'

Narrator: The guards also took him over and beat him.

Part 4: Peter Denies Jesus

Narrator: While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said,

Servant girl: 'You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth.'

Narrator: But he denied it, saying,

Peter: 'I do not know or understand what you are talking about.'

Narrator: And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed. And the servant-girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders,

Servant girl: 'This man is one of them.'

Narrator: But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter,

Servant girl: 'Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean.'

Narrator: But he began to curse, and he swore an oath,

Peter: 'I do not know this man you are talking about.'

Narrator: At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, 'Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.'

Narrator: And he broke down and wept.

Part 5: Jesus before Pilate

Narrator: As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him,

Pilate: 'Are you the King of the Jews?'

Jesus: 'You say so.'

Narrator: Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again,

Pilate: 'Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.'

Narrator: But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Part 6: Pilate Hands Jesus over to Be Crucified

Narrator: Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them,

Pilate: 'Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?'

Narrator: For he realised that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again,

Pilate: 'Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?'

Narrator: They shouted back,

Crowd: '**Crucify him! Crucify him!**' [LOUD]

Pilate: 'Why, what evil has he done?'

Narrator: But they shouted all the more:

Crowd: '**Crucify him! Crucify him!**' [LOUDER]

Narrator: So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Part 7: The Soldiers Mock Jesus

Narrator: Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him,

Soldiers: '**Hail, King of the Jews!**'

Narrator: They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

Part 8: The Crucifixion of Jesus

Narrator: They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, 'The King of the

Jews.’ And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying,

Passers by: ‘**Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!**’

Narrator: In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying,

Priests: ‘He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.’

Narrator: Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

Part 9: The Death of Jesus

Narrator: When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o’clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice,

Jesus: ‘Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?’

Narrator: which means, ‘My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?’ When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

Passers by: ‘**Listen, he is calling for Elijah.**’

Narrator: And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying,

Soldier: ‘Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.’

Narrator: Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said,

Centurion: ‘Truly this man was the Son of God!’

This is the Passion of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

We Affirm our Faith

Please stand.

Let us declare our faith in God:

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family in heaven and earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

We Pray for Others

Please sit or kneel.

After each prayer, this or another response is used:

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our Prayer

Then, at the end:

Merciful Father
**Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

We Share Christ's Peace

“God is love and those who live in love live in God, and God lives in them.”

(1 John 4.16)

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Let us share with each other a sign of Christ's peace.

We all exchange a greeting of peace.

Please stand to sing, during which the altar is prepared.

We Celebrate

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Lift up your hearts
We lift them to the Lord



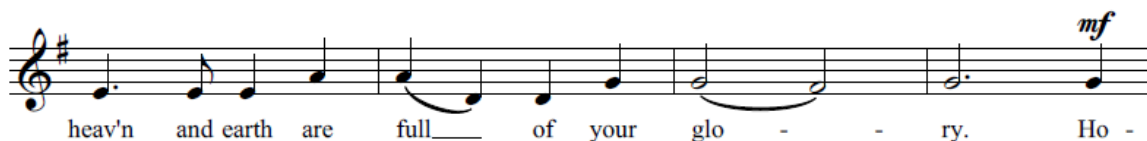
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
It is right to give thanks and praise

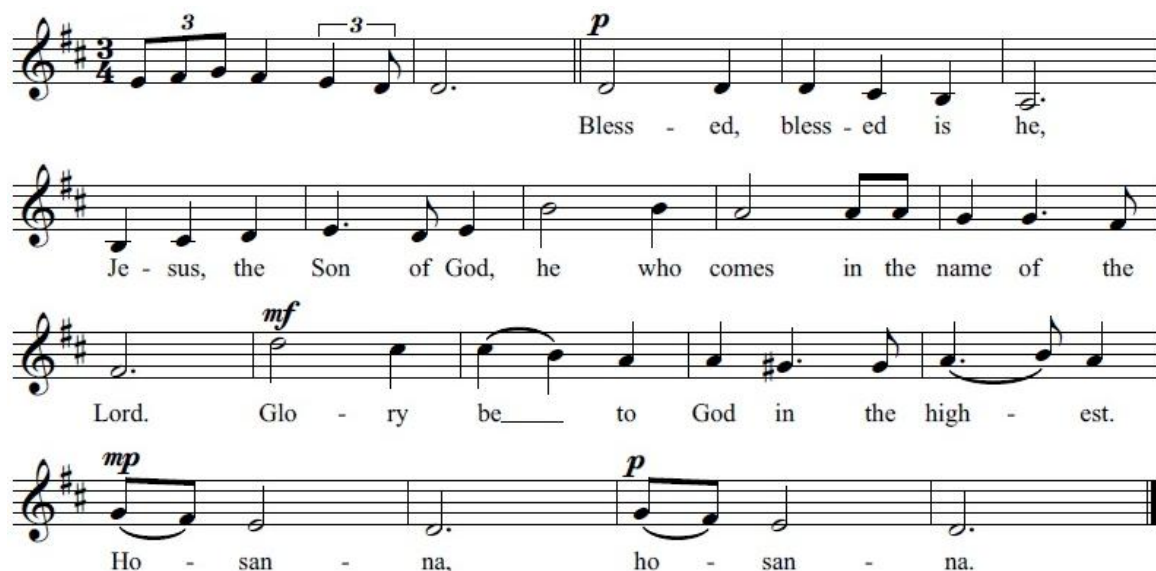
It is indeed right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

Organ introduction





Lord, you are holy indeed,
the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ †

Who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

*‘Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.’*

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:

*‘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.’*

Great is the mystery of faith:

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

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send your Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Please sit or kneel.

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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.
Lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

We Sing

We join with the angels in singing the Agnus Dei, meaning 'Lamb of God':

Organ introduction

Je - sus Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us. Je - sus
Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us. Je - sus, Lamb of God, bear-er of our sins,
Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us. Je - sus, Lamb of God, re -
deem-er of the world, Je - sus, Lamb of God, grant us peace.

Invitation to Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world,
blessed are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

The Communion

All are invited to come forward to receive Holy Communion.

You are very welcome to make your own decision as to whether to receive the bread alone or the bread and the wine.

Dipping the bread in the chalice is no longer allowed.

If you would prefer a blessing, please keep your hands down and your head bowed.

The choir will sing an anthem.

Post Communion Prayer

We pray together:

**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.**

Final Hymn

Please stand to sing.

The Blessing

This or another blessing is used:

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness
to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him.

And the blessing of God almighty:
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit †
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

We Are Sent

We are sent into the world to share God's love:

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

The choir, servers and clergy depart.

An organ voluntary is played.

Please feel free to get up and leave your seats at any time.

There is no collection during the service, but you can make an offering as you leave.

Please come to the Church Cottages for refreshments.



Please leave this booklet in the church.