



# Wychwood Benefice

Service of Holy Communion  
Palm Sunday

## Greeting

*We say together*

**Hosanna to the Son of David, the King of Israel.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

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 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 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 is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## **Procession**

## **Hymn**

## **Confession**

God shows his love for us in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Let us then show our love for him by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

O God, you know my foolishness and my sins are not hidden from you: Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Let not the floods overwhelm me nor the depths swallow me up; let not the pit shut its mouth upon me: Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Hear me, O Lord, as your loving kindness is good; turn to me as your compassion is great:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

May the Father forgive *you* by the death of his Son and strengthen *you* to live in the power of the Spirit all *your* days. Amen.

## **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 in the way of the cross, which is the path of glory. Amen.

## **Reading**

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Hymn**

## **Gospel**

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory. Christ humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and given him the name that is above every name.

**Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*and at the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Anthem**

## **Sermon**

## **Creed**

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.  
**Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God, but made himself nothing. Taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness. He humbled himself and was obedient to death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God has raised him on high, and given him the name above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

### **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  
**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

## **Offertory Hymn**

### **The Eucharistic Prayer**

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. Amen.

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*:

**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.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood;

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.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross;

we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious

ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom,

and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord. Jesus Christ is Lord:

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free.**

**You are the Saviour of the world.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence  
of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit,  
inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of  
your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

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

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray;  
**Our Father in heaven...**

### **Breaking of the Bread**

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

### **Agnus Dei**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.**

## **Giving of Communion**

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin 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.**

## **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.

**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.**

## **Hymn**

### **The Blessing**

May the Father, who so loved the world that he gave his only Son, bring you by faith to his eternal life. Amen.

May Christ, who accepted the cup of sacrifice in obedience to the Father's will, keep you steadfast as you walk with him the way of his cross. Amen.

May the Spirit, who strengthens us to suffer with Christ that we may share his glory, set your minds on life and peace. Amen.

And the blessing...

### **The Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**