

**Blackford Church
Palm Sunday Service
10th April 2022**



WELCOME

**Meekness
and
Majesty**



***The Triumphal
Entry***

Welcome to our Palm Sunday Order of Service.

Call to worship

We look for an all-powerful king,
but Jesus confidently comes among us
as an ordinary commoner.

How extraordinary!

Are we still looking for God in the wrong places?



A gathering prayer

Wonderful God,
thank you that you meet us
right here where we are sitting –
in the ordinary stuff and activities of this day.

As we journey through Holy Week,
may we recognise you in Christ Jesus,
be empowered to live like him –
to live into the preciousness of the life
that you sustain in us. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As crowds greet Jesus as he rides into Jerusalem on a donkey, our opening hymn on this Palm Sunday is "Make Way"

Make way, make way
For Christ the King
In splendour arrives
Fling wide the gates and welcome Him
Into your lives

*Make way! (Make way!)
Make way! (Make way!)
For the King of kings
(For the King of kings)
Make way! (Make way!)
Make way! (Make way!)
And let His kingdom in*

And those who mourn with heavy
hearts
Who weep and sigh
With laughter, joy and royal crown
He'll beautify

We call you now to worship Him
As Lord of all
To have no gods before Him
Their thrones must fall!

Graham Kendrick
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He comes the broken hearts to heal
The prisoners to free
The deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance
The blind shall see

Our Bible reading is from the gospel of Matthew Chapter 21
reading verses 1 – 11

Jesus Comes to Jerusalem as King

1 As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. 3 If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."

4 This took place to fulfil what was spoken through the prophet: 5 "Say to Daughter Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'" 6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. 7 They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. 8 A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!” “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Hosanna in the highest heaven!”¹⁰ When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?”¹¹ The crowds answered, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

Our next hymn is “Ride on, ride on in Majesty”

Ride on! ride on in majesty!

Hark! all the tribes hosanna cry;

O Savior meek, pursue thy road

with palms and scattered garments strowed.

Ride on! ride on in majesty!

Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh;

the Father on his sapphire throne

expects his own anointed Son.

Ride on! ride on in majesty!

In lowly pomp ride on to die;

O Christ, thy triumphs now begin

o'er captive death and conquered sin.

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, and reign.

Ride on! ride on in majesty!

The angel-squadrons of the sky

look down with sad and wondering eyes

to see the approaching sacrifice.

Prayer

A prayer of approach

Living God, we bring you our
'hosannas' –

for you are an almighty God.

We bring you our 'alleluias' –

for you are a wonderful God.

We bring you our dreams –

for you are a faithful God.

We bring you our discipleship –

for you are an encouraging God.

We bring you our hearts –

for you are a loving God

in whom we can trust. Amen.

A prayer of adoration

Lord of power and humility,

the crowd roared,

their spirits soared –

for you were a king.

Their king.

They longed for your rule,

though you rode on a mule –

for you were a king.

Their king.

And here today,

as we worship and pray,

we adore you as king.

Our King! **Amen.**

We sing the hymn “Meekness and Majesty”

**Meekness and majesty manhood and deity
In perfect harmony the Man who is God
Lord of eternity dwells in humanity
Kneels in humility and washes our feet
O what a mystery meekness and majesty
Bow down and worship for this is your God
This is your God**

**Father's pure radiance perfect in innocence
Yet learns obedience to death on a cross
Suffering to give us life
Conquering through sacrifice
And as they crucify prays Father forgive
O what a mystery meekness and majesty
Bow down and worship for this is your God
This is your God**

**Wisdom unsearchable God the invisible
Love indestructible in frailty appears
Lord of infinity stooping so tenderly
Lifts our humanity to the heights of His throne
O what a mystery meekness and majesty
Bow down and worship for this is your God
This is your God
This is your God**

Graham A. Kendrick

Prayer

A prayer of confession

We are sorry, Lord Jesus, for the moments
when our hosannas are loud but lacking in love,
when we chase the lure of worldly power,
but miss the signs of heavenly glory
when we choose popularity over integrity,
when we would silence those who speak the truth
and are silent when we could speak out.
Forgive us, and inspire our steps as we follow you to the Cross...
and beyond.

God of all that is,
your power is both mighty and vulnerable,
and you both judge and forgive.
Your son is both King and servant,
and he both teaches and serves.
You hear our words and you understand our silence
and you both accept and inspire.
Loving God,
thank you for this day,
for this journey,
and for your Son who draws us closer to you. **Amen.**

A prayer of praise and thanksgiving

Lord Jesus,
you journeyed to Jerusalem many times,
as a child and as a man,
touching many lives along the way as you taught and healed and challenged.
Thank you for inviting us to journey with you today,
for showing us the depth of your courage and the power of your love.
Thank you, Lord,
for being our King and Saviour – and our friend.
You are worthy of all our praise. **Amen.**



Prayers of intercession

On this Palm Sunday, as we hold the cross in our hand, we focus on the humility of Jesus.

Lord Jesus, thank you that you came in humility to show us what love is really like.
Thank you for the example you have given us. Teach us how to love like you do. We pray for all those we are called upon to love: our families, friends, colleagues and neighbours. We remember especially, any who we have been asked to pray for...

We think particularly of one person that we spend time with. Show us one special thing we can do for them this week.

Blessed is the King who comes in God's name,
May he bring blessings to his people.

We pray for all those in our world who are downtrodden, forgotten, unloved and homeless. We pray for refugees and all those fleeing pain, war or persecution, particularly the people of Ukraine. May they all know you especially close to them this week.

Blessed is the King who comes in God's name,
May he bring blessings to his people.

As we remember that you came in humility, we pray for the world's leaders and rulers. We ask you to give them humility and wisdom. Give them listening ears and open hearts and a deep desire to put others first.

Blessed is the King who comes in God's name,

May he bring blessings to his people.

Now, we hold our cross in front of us.

Lord Jesus, go ahead of us this week into all that we do. We think now of the places where we know we are going this week. We acknowledge our feelings about each situation and ask you to be there with us. We know there might also be unexpected places or people who will cross our path this week. Make us gracious in every situation we face.

Blessed is the King who comes in God's name,

May he bring blessings to his people.

Lord Jesus, we thank you that you went willingly to the cross for us. Without your amazing act of love we would not be here today. Thank you for your goodness and self-sacrifice. Give us the courage to tell our friends and neighbours about what you have done for us so that, one day, every knee will bow and every tongue confess that you are Lord.

Blessed is the King who comes in God's name,

May he bring blessings to his people.

We hold our cross high.

Lord Jesus, risen in glory, thank you for all the joys that we have in our lives. Thank you for sunny days, blossom on the trees, blue skies and birdsong. Thank you for everyone who has made us smile this week. We think now of two amazing things or people that make our lives richer and deeper.

Blessed is the King who comes in God's name,

May he bring blessings to his people.

As we walk with you through the darkness of Good Friday to the triumph of Easter, help us to learn something new about you this week that will spur us on to a deeper relationship with you.

We ask all these prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Blessed is his name. Amen.

Our final hymn is “All Glory, Laud and Honour”

**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**

**The company of angels
Are praising thee on high,
And mortal men and all things
Created make reply**

**The people of the Hebrews
With palms before thee went;
Our praise and love and anthems
Before thee we present**

**To thee, before thy passion,
They sang their hymns of praise;
To thee, now high exalted,
Our melody we raise**

**Thou didst accept their praises;
Accept the love we bring,
Who in all good delightest,
Thou good and gracious King**

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, ca. 760-821

Intimations

Our Holy Week Services

**Thursday 14th April - Maundy Thursday
Communion at Ardoch Parish Church – 7pm**

**Friday 15th April - Good Friday
At Blackford Parish Church
The Open and Shut Case of Easter from 2pm – 4pm
Good Friday Service – 7pm
Hot Chocolate Youth Group – 7.45pm**

Sunday 17th April – Easter Day

“Sunrise Service” at the Old Church on the hill, Blackford – 8am

(Followed by bacon rolls, etc in the church)

Blackford Parish Church - Easter Day Service – 10am