

ORDER OF SERVICE
28 March 2021
Palm Sunday

GATHER			
Hymn/Song	Hosanna, Hosanna	SIS 538	
Call to Worship (inc Psalm)			Rev Allan Smith
Prayer of Invocation	Rev Allan Smith		
Praise Time (10 mins)	The Heavens Shall Declare Glory to the King of Kings	TIS 746/P&W537/SCE 480 SCE 121	
Children's Prayer			Rev Allan Smith
Welcome & Visitors candles, Celebrations, Green Cards	Rev Allan Smith		
Prayer: Adoration, Confession, Declaration of Forgiveness	Rev Allan Smith		
Passing the Peace			
Song	Create in me a Clean Heart	TIS 712	
HEAR THE WORD			
Bible Readings	Is 50: 4-9a; Phil 2: 5-11; Jn 12: 12-16		
Message	<i>Jesus' entry into Jerusalem</i>		Rev Allan Smith
Song (Optional)	The Servant King	TIS 256/P&W 674/SCE 114	
RESPOND			
Affirmation of Faith	Affirmation of Faith: Palm Sunday		
Offering Dedication	Rev Allan Smith		
Notices & Concerns of the Church			
Prayers of the People	Rev Allan Smith		
Communion Song	Broken for me	SCE 58	
Communion	Rev Allan Smith & Elders		
Song (after Communion)	And Can it be	TIS 209	
BLESS			
Mission/Benediction	Rev Allan Smith		
Benediction/Going Out Song			

Preaching	Rev Allan Smith
Worship Introduction	Rev Allan Smith
Notices/Concerns of the Church & Prayers of the People	Rev Allan Smith
Praise Leader	
Piano	
Backup Singers	
Guitars	
Drums	
Sound System	
Data Operator	
Power Point Producer	
Bible Readings	
Offering Collectors	
Communion Bread	

Blessed is the kingdom of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

CALL TO WORSHIP *(from Psalm 118:1,2,19-29)*

Give thanks to the LORD, who alone is good;
whose steadfast love is everlasting!

Let the gates of righteousness be opened
that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.

This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Gracious and eternal God,
Let the silent mystery of your Spirit
surround, sustain and excite us.
**Transform our gathering to your glory,
and perfect our worship for your praise.
We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Let us worship God.

SONG [Hosanna, Hosanna](#)

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Help us, O Lord, to welcome your blessed son into our midst today with the same joy and hope that the people of Jerusalem received him with so long ago. May he abide with us and we with him. Help us to praise and adore both him and you, not just for a day, but for always. Amen.

SONGS [The Heavens Shall Declare](#)

Glory to the King of Kings (sorry, could not find a YouTube link)

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Steadfast Love: you hand us the palm branches, so we can wave them in hope; you steady us in the days when pain is stuck to the bottom of our lives, when fear is our constant companion. We empty ourselves so you might fill us with joy.

Humble Healer: When our mouths turn numb and we cannot speak our dreams, you tenderly caress our cheeks, leaning over to hear our faltering words. When our arms have grown weak from the burdens we carry, you take them from us, and strengthen us with your mercy. We empty ourselves so you might fill us with grace.

Voice of Wisdom: when death hovers so close we can feel it's cold breath, you come to us, the warm breath of resurrection pushing aside our fears. When we hesitate to walk into the unknown stretching before us, you tightly clasp our hands and teach us the first step. We empty ourselves so you might fill us with peace.

God in Community, Holy in One, we offer you our adoration and praise. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Justice and Mercy, we know that we have fallen silent when we should have spoken up. We have ignored the cries of the innocent and joined the crowds in calls of judgment. We have mistaken justice for revenge and have sought punishment to ease our pain.

Forgive us, God, for not seeing our own faults, our own sins, and for not holding ourselves responsible for our inaction and injustice. Restore us, God, to the ways Jesus taught us, to drop our stones and instead seek forgiveness and restoration. Call us into the paths of love and reconciliation, knowing your mercy extends to all of us, your grace is a gift, and there is nothing we can do to deserve or earn it.

Guide us into living into your forgiveness, peace and reconciliation, in the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

God has opened our ears and our hearts to know God's love and forgiveness. There is nothing we need to do other than love one another and love God, for all things come from God's love. Go forth, and know that you have been forgiven and you are restored to God, as we hear Christ's word of grace to us: Your sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

SONG [Create in me a Clean Heart](#)

BIBLE READINGS

[Isaiah 50:4-9a](#)

[Philippians 2:5-11](#)

[John 12:12-16](#)

SERMON [Jesus' entry into Jerusalem](#) [Sermon.mp3](#)

SONG [The Servant King](#)

OFFERING AND PRAYER

Bless these gifts and our lives, O God, for we offer them in the name of Jesus, our Lord. He emptied himself that we might be filled. He humbled himself that we might be lifted up. We pray these gifts be used to proclaim the gospel which fills lives that are empty and lifts up those who need help. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Eternal Father - grant unto us a humility like of Christ Jesus - and grant that we may ever obey and serve him by showing love for one another as he has shown love to us. Put in our minds and our hearts his eternal example and guide us in the way of peace.

Lord God - help us be ones who care for those who suffer –to remember that those who are afflicted are often innocent of wrong doing and that those who are persecuted are often without guilt or sin. Help us to have a heart of compassion, a tongue that utters words of forgiveness, and hands that perform works of healing. Assist us, O God, to be more expressive in our relationship with you - to show forth your boundless generosity through our own caring.

Grant us, O Lord, courage in our obedience to you and strength in our service. Make us ever mindful of the sin that leads to death and of the righteousness that leads to life. And help us trust - O God - not in ourselves - but rather in you.

Hear the prayers of our hearts and grant that we may always render to you the praise and honour due to your name.

This morning we pray especially for...

All these things we ask, most gracious God, in the name of our crucified redeemer, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

COMMUNION SONG [Broken for me](#)

SONG [And can it be](#)

WORD OF MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Go now and follow Christ in obedience.
Have the same mind as was in Christ Jesus;
Keep your ears open to God's teaching;
Be humble, even in the face of hostility
and do not turn back.

And may the grace...

Affirmation of Faith: Palm Sunday

In God we trust.
In the One who comes humbly among us,
taking on our humanity and breaking our idols,
in God we trust.

Riding a donkey and weeping over Jerusalem,
receiving shouts of praise from the common people,
gaining the enmity of the proud and the powerful,
in God we trust.

Riding to face a destiny foretold by prophets,
entering the holy city but with nowhere to lay his head,
coming to his own but his own not receiving him,
facing cruel death for the sake of those who love him not,
in God we trust.

This Palm Sunday Man,
this Passion Sunday God,
in God we trust.

HOLY COMMUNION: Lent 6 Palm Sunday Year B

The creation of the world was your doing
and is a marvel to our eyes.
Your prophets told of the coming one
who would teach your ways
and sustain us with your word.

Your son, Jesus, though one with you
gave up all he had,
taking on human flesh,
and walking the path of obedience
all the way to insult, betrayal and death,
trusting only in your vindication.

Though he was rejected by those who had cheered him,
you made him the cornerstone of new life
and raised him to the highest place of honour.
He has opened the gates of justice
and become our salvation,
so with shouts of joy we greet his appearing,
and proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord
to your glory forever.

And so we praise you...

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

WORD OF MISSION AND BENEDICTION