



**LIVESTREAMED MORNING PRAYER:**

**A SERVICE OF THE WORD**

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

**The Sixth Sunday in Lent:**

**Palm Sunday**



**Organ prelude:** Valet will ich dir geben, BWV 735 J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

*The Dean welcomes the online congregation*

#### **THE GREETING**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. *Romans 5:8*

#### **PROCLAIMING AND RECEIVING THE WORD**

“Hosanna to the Son of David, Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.”

Behold your king comes to you, O Zion, meek and lowly, riding on a donkey.

Ride on in the cause of truth and for the sake of justice. Your throne is the throne of God, it endures for ever; and the sceptre of your kingdom is a righteous sceptre.

You have loved righteousness and hated evil.

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above all others.

**Hosanna to the Son of David.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

#### **THE GOSPEL OF PALM SUNDAY: Mark 11:1-11**

When Jesus and his disciples 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!

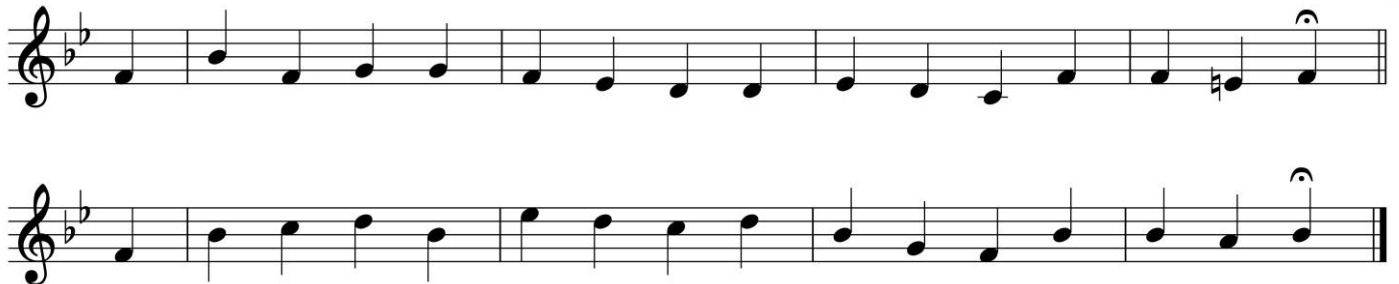
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

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.

**HYMN: ICH 238\***



**Ride on, ride on in majesty,  
hark! all the tribes 'Hosanna' cry;  
O Saviour meek, pursue thy road  
with palms and scattered garments strowed.**

**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:  
thy last and fiercest strife is nigh;  
the Father on his sapphire throne  
awaits his own anointed Son.**

**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.**

*Words: Henry H. Milam (1791-1868) based on Matthew 21:8-9; Zechariah 9:9*

*Tune: WINCHESTER NEW Melody adapted from Musikalisches Hand-Buch (Hamburg, 1690) by William Henry Havergal (1793-1870)*

**PENITENCE**

Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

*Silence is kept.*

Lord Jesus Christ, we confess we have failed you as did your first disciples.

We ask for your mercy and your help.

When we take our ease, rather than watch with you: Lord forgive us.

**Christ forgive us.**

When we bestow a kiss of peace, yet nurse enmity in our hearts: Lord forgive us.

**Christ forgive us.**

When we strike at those who hurt us, rather than stretch out our hands to bless: Lord forgive us.

**Christ forgive us.**

When we deny that we know you for fear of the world and its scorn. Lord forgive us

**Christ forgive us. Amen.**

**CANTICLE:** Jesus, Saviour of the world

Jesus, Saviour of the world, **come to us in your mercy:**

**we look to you to save and help us.**

**By your cross and your life laid down you set your people free:**

**we look to you to save and help us.**

**When they were ready to perish you saved your disciples:**

**we look to you to come to our help.**

**In the greatness of your mercy, loose us from our chains,**

**forgive the sins of all your people.**

**Make yourself known as our Saviour and mighty Deliverer;**

**save and help us that we may praise you.**

**Come now and dwell with us Lord Christ Jesus:**

**hear our prayer and be with us always.**

**And when you come in your glory:**

**make us to be one with you and to share the life of your kingdom. Amen.**

*The choir sings the **ST MARK PASSION:** (Mark 14:32-15:41) Music by Orlande de Lassus (c.1530-94)*

*Chorus*

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

*Evangelist*

At that time, they went to a place called Gethsemane and Jesus said to his disciples:

*Christ*

Sit here while I pray.

*Evangelist*

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

*Christ*

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

*Evangelist*

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

*Christ*

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

*Evangelist*

He came and found them sleeping and he said to Peter:

*Christ*

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

*Evangelist*

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:

*Christ*

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.

*Evangelist*

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.

*Evangelist*

So when he came, he went up to him at once and said:

*Judas*

Rabbi!

*Evangelist*

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. Jesus said to them:

*Christ*

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.

*Evangelist*

All of them deserted him and fled. A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth and ran off naked. 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. For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying:

*Chorus*

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'.

*Evangelist*

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?

*Evangelist*

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?

*Evangelist*

Jesus said:

*Christ*

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

*Evangelist*

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?

*Evangelist*

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

*Chorus*

Prophesy, prophesy!

*Evangelist*

The guards also took him over and beat him. While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girl of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said:

*Chorus*

You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth.

*Evangelist*

But he denied it, saying:

*Peter*

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

*Evangelist*

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:

*Chorus*

This man is one of them.

*Evangelist*

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

*Chorus*

Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean.

*Evangelist*

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

*Peter*

I do not know this man you are talking about.

*Evangelist*

At this 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". And he broke down and wept. 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?

*Evangelist*

He answered him:

*Christ*

You say so.

*Evangelist*

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.

*Evangelist*

But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed. Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barrabas 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?

*Evangelist*

For he realized 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?

*Evangelist*

They shouted back:

*Chorus*

Crucify him! Crucify him!

*Evangelist*

Pilate asked them:

*Pilate*

Why? What evil has he done?

*Evangelist*

But they shouted all the more:

*Chorus*

Crucify him! Crucify him!

*Evangelist*

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

*Chorus*

Hail, King of the Jews!

*Evangelist*

They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him and knelt down in homage to him. They stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. They compiled a passerby 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:

*Chorus*

Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross.

*Evangelist*

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

*Chorus*

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.

*Evangelist*

Those who were crucified with him also taunted him. 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:

*Christ*

Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?

*Evangelist*

which means:

*Christ*

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

*Evangelist*

When some of the bystanders heard it, they said:

*Chorus*

Listen, he is calling for Elijah.

*Evangelist*

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

*Bystander*

Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.

*Evangelist*

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 God's Son!

*Evangelist*

There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene and Mary, the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the Sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expecting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.

Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus saw where the body was laid.

### **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, **the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

**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.**

Show us your mercy, O Lord,  
**and grant us your salvation.**

O Lord, save the Queen  
**and grant her government wisdom.**

Let your ministers be clothed with righteousness  
**and let your servants shout for joy.**

O Lord, save your people  
**and bless those whom you have chosen.**

Give peace in our time, O Lord,  
**and let your glory be over all the earth.**

O God, make clean our hearts within us  
**and renew us by your Holy Spirit.**

### **COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Almighty and everlasting God, who, in your tender love towards the human race, sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: Grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



## **LENTEN COLLECT**

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remissions and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **PRAYERS**

Let us stand with Christ in his suffering and offer our prayers in his holy name:

For forgiveness for the many times we have denied Jesus, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For grace to seek out those habits of sin which mean spiritual death, and by prayer and self-discipline to overcome them, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For Christian people, that through the suffering of disunity there may grow a rich union in Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who make laws, interpret them, and administer them, that our common life may be ordered in justice and mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who still make Jerusalem a battleground, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who have the courage and honesty to work openly for justice and peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those in the darkness and agony of isolation at home or in nursing home, that they may find support and encouragement, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those weighed down by hardship, exhaustion, or grief, who feel that God is far from them, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who are tempted to give up the way of the cross, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

That we, with those who have died in faith, may find mercy in the day of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Holy God, **holy and strong, holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.**

## **A PRAYER DURING THIS TIME OF CORONAVIRUS**

O Heavenly Father, who by your Son Jesus Christ has taught us the glory of self-sacrifice and service: bless all who care for the sick, and those suffering from or recovering from Coronavirus. Stand with those who grieve. Give your strength to all who, though exhausted, work in hospitals and nursing homes, and those who give care in the community. Guide all who seek to understand the new variants of the infection, and those who are administering the vaccines. Give wisdom to those who have responsibility in church, politics and society for leading a way out of the current Lockdown. This we ask in the name of the one who spent himself in service of others with no thought for himself, even our Lord, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**HYMN: ICH 249\***



**When my love for Christ grows weak,  
when for deeper faith I seek,  
then in thought I go to thee,  
Garden of Gethsemane.**

**there behold His agony,  
suffered on the bitter tree:  
see his anguish, see His faith,  
Love triumphant still in death.**

**When my love for man grows weak,  
when for stronger faith I seek,  
Hill of Calvary, I go  
to thy scenes of fear and woe:--**

**And I praise with firmer faith  
Christ, who vanquished pain and death;  
and to Christ enthroned above  
raise my song of selfless love.**

*Words: John R. Wreford (1800-81) and Samuel Longfellow (1819-92)  
Tune: SONG 13 (2) Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)*

**THE BLESSING**

May Christ draw us to himself and grant that we find in his cross a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sins forgiven; and may the blessing of God almighty: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

**GOING OUT AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

Let us bless the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Organ Voluntary:** Valet will ich dir geben, BWV 736 *J.S. Bach (1685-1750)*

Choir: Ali Darragh (Soprano), India Chapman Webb (Alto), Matthew Quinn (Tenor), Matthew Owens (Bass)

Evangelist: Caolan Keaveney

Christ: Ethan Darby

Conductor and Organist: Matthew Owens

Belfast Cathedral

# Good Friday

## STAINER CRUCIFIXION

Good Friday 2 April  
7.30pm – 8.45pm

Stainer's Crucifixion is performed  
within a devotional service

**BELFAST CATHEDRAL CHOIR**

**OWEN LUCAS** tenor

**DAVID ROBERTSON** baritone

**JACK WILSON** organ

**MATTHEW OWENS** conductor

This service is open to the general public but, owing to continued Covid-19 restrictions, seating will be allocated upon request by emailing [admin@belfastcathedral.org](mailto:admin@belfastcathedral.org) or by telephoning 028 9032 8332 (10.00am – 4.00pm)

*Admission to this service is free; there will be a retiring collection*

[belfastcathedral.org](http://belfastcathedral.org)



**BELFAST  
CATHEDRAL**  
THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. ANNE



A Service of Evening Prayer for use at home is available for download from the cathedral website.

**HOLY WEEK SERVICES 2021**  
**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March to Good Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> – 1.00pm Livestreamed Service of the Word**  
**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April – 7.30pm Livestreamed Choral Eucharist for Maundy Thursday**

**FROM GOOD FRIDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> APRIL**  
**CONGREGATIONS ARE PERMITTED TO RETURN FOR “IN CATHEDRAL” WORSHIP**

Seating will be socially distanced. Face Coverings will be required.  
Please complete contact details for Track and Trace

**Good Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

**12 noon to 3pm** – The Seven Final Words of Jesus from the Cross  
Preacher – The Rt Revd Harold Miller, former Bishop of Down and Dromore.

**7.30pm** – A Good Friday Service Featuring the Choir of Belfast Cathedral singing Stainer’s  
**Crucifixion**

**Seats for the 7.30pm Good Friday service**  
**must be booked in advance by e-mailing [admin@belfastcathedral.org](mailto:admin@belfastcathedral.org)**

**EASTER SUNDAY – 4<sup>th</sup> APRIL**  
**11.00AM FESTIVAL CHORAL EUCHARIST FOR EASTER DAY.**  
**In Cathedral Congregation welcome.**

Under current restrictions most of the cathedral staff will also be “home working”.  
Cathedral Office staff will be on Annual Leave from Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> April.  
However, in case of pastoral emergency, please contact Rev. Janice Elsdon, the Dean’s Vicar or the Dean.

**Reflections for Holy Week and Easter Week**

Rev. Dr Ron Elsdon will continue his series of Holy Week and Easter Week Reflections,  
which will be posted daily Monday to Saturday on the cathedral website and Facebook pages.

Ron will consider the themes of  
Lament, Fear, Repentance, Thanksgiving, Perseverance and Hope  
as with the disciples of Jesus we journey towards and beyond the Resurrection of Easter Day.

With a few short minutes each day, we can each stop, pause, reflect and pray to make this  
different season of Lent into a Lent that makes a difference.

Additionally, the Dean has suggested using the following prayer on a daily basis over coming weeks:

*"God be in my head, and in my understanding. God be in mine eyes, and in my looking. God be in my mouth, and in my speaking. God be in my heart and in my thinking. God be at my end, and at my departing."*

**Please do not forget to make your FWO contributions to support the ongoing life and ministry of this cathedral.**