**The Holy Eucharist**

**Palm Sunday**

**1 The Gathering**

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In the name of the Father, and of the Son,

and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

From God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,

our triumphant Messiah: grace and peace be with you.

**And also with you.**

*The Bishop introduces the service.*

Dear friends in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing 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 in triumph into 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 Bishop invites us to call to mind our sins.*

Lord Jesus, you transformed the tree of the cross

into the tree of our salvation.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you suffered for us, leaving us an example

that we might walk in your ways.

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you embraced the wood of the cross,

burdened with our sins,

that dead to sin we might live in your peace.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,

have mercy on you and set you free from sin,

strengthen you in goodness

and keep you in eternal life;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

*Silence*

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 your Son our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**2 The Proclamation of the Word**

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***The First Reading***  ***Philippians 2:5-11***

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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

***The Gospel Reading Matthew 21:1-11***

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, ‘Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, “The Lord needs them.” And he will send them immediately.’ This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, ‘Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’ The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, ‘Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!’ When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, ‘Who is this?’ The crowds were saying, ‘This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.’

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

**THE SERMON**

**AN AFFIRMATION OF THE FAITH**

*The Nicene Creed*

**We believe in one God,**

**the Father, the almighty,**

**maker of heaven and earth,**

**of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,** **the only Son of God,**

**eternally begotten of the Father,**

**God from God, Light from Light,**

**true God from true God, begotten, not made,**

**of one Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven;**

**by the power of the Holy Spirit**

**he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,**

**and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**

**he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again**

**in accordance with the Scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,**

**and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,**

**who with the Father and the Son** **is worshipped and glorified,**

**who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,**

**and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**3 The Intercession**

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*After each petition:*

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*After the final petition:*

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers**

**for the sake of your Son,**

**our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**4 The Peace**

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Once we were far away from God,

but now in union with Christ Jesus

we have been brought near

through the shedding of his blood.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**5 The Thanksgiving**

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We celebrate together the gifts and grace of God.

**We take this bread, we take this wine**

**to follow Christ's example**

**and obey his command.**

**THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

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 our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy  
at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise,  
holy Father, heavenly King, almighty, everlasting God,  
through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord.

Who, bearing the human likeness, humbled himself

and in obedience accepted death,

even death on a cross.

He was lifted up from the earth

that he might draw all people to himself.

Therefore with angels and archangels  
and with all the company of heaven  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and saying:

**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.**

Hear us, heavenly Father,  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
Through him accept our sacrifice of praise,  
and grant that, by the power of your Spirit,  
these gifts of bread and wine

may be for 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 from this, all of you;  
for 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 in glory.**

Therefore, Father,  
remembering the saving death and resurrection of your Son  
we offer to you in thanksgiving this bread and this cup,

your gifts to us,  
and we thank you for counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send your Holy Spirit upon all of us  
who share this bread and this cup.  
Strengthen our faith, make us one  
and welcome us and all your people

into the glorious kingdom of your Son.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit  
all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father,  
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Silence

Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom

and teach us to pray:

**Our Father who art in heaven,**

**hallowed be thy name,**

**thy kingdom come,**

**thy will be done,**

**on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,**

**the power and the glory,**

**for ever and ever. Amen.**

**6 The Communion**

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We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body**

**for we all share in one bread.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:**

**have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:**

**have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:**

**grant us peace.**

Jesus is the Lamb of God

who takes away the sins of the world.

Happy 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.**

**A Prayer of Spiritual Communion**

In union, O Lord with the faithful at every altar of your Church,

where the Holy Eucharist is being celebrated,

I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving.

I present to you my soul and body

with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you.

And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,

I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.

I unite myself to you,

and embrace you with heart and mind and soul.

Let nothing ever separate you from me.

May I live and die in your love. **Amen.**

**7 The Sending Out**

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Give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious:

**his love is everlasting.**

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. **Amen.**

**Eternal God,  
comfort of the afflicted and healer of the broken,  
you have fed us at the table of life and hope:  
teach us the ways of gentleness and peace,  
that all the world may acknowledge  
the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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 of God almighty,

the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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