

Eglwys St Ffagan, Aberdâr
St Fagan's Church, Aberdare

ORDER FOR THE HOLY EUCHARIST
SUNDAY 13TH APRIL 2025
PALM SUNDAY

ORDER OF SERVICE

THE GATHERING

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Grace and peace be with you:
and keep you in the love of Christ.

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.

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 while this prayer is said by the priest

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.

THE PALM GOSPEL

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St John:

Glory to you, O Lord.

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, 'Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord - the King of Israel!' Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: 'Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!' His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him.

(John 12. 12-16)

This is the Gospel of the Lord:

Praise to you, O Christ.

THE PROCESSION

Let us go forth, praising Jesus our Messiah.

All sing the following hymn as the procession makes its way to church. The hymn can be repeated until all are assembled in church.

*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 prayer 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 prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE COLLECT

Let us pray:

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.**

All sit

FIRST READING

Paul writes that Jesus 'emptied himself' and 'took the form of a slave'. His death on the cross leads to his exaltation. We are to have the same mind set as him, and live lives of humble service to others.

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. *(Philippians 2.5-11)*

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

PSALM

All say together

Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am in distress; my eye wastes away from grief, my soul and body also. For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing; my strength fails because of my misery, and my bones waste away. I am the scorn of all my adversaries, a horror to my neighbours, an object of dread to my acquaintances; those who see me in the street flee from me. I have passed out of mind like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel. For I hear the whispering of many – terror all around! – as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life. But I trust in you, O Lord; I say, ‘You are my God.’ My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors. Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love. *(Psalm 31. 9-16)*

All stand

PASSION GOSPEL

The congregation joins in with the parts marked in bold type.

N = Narrator; X = Christ; S = Synagoga (various parts); C = Congregation

Narrator: The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Luke.

N The assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying,

C **We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king.**

N Then Pilate asked him,

S Are you the king of the Jews?

N He answered,

X You say so.

N Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds,

S I find no basis for an accusation against this man.
N But they were insistent and said,
C **He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.**
N When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. And when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies. Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them,
S You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him.
N Then they all shouted out together,
C **Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!**
N (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting,
C **Crucify, crucify him!**
N A third time he said to them,
S Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him.
N But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished. As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of

the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said,

X Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?

N Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said,

X Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.

N And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying,

C **He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!**

N The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying,

C **If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!**

N There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.' One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying,

S Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!

N But the other rebuked him, saying,

S Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.

N Then he said,

S Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

N He replied,

X Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.

N It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said,

X Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.

N Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said,
S Certainly this man was innocent.
N And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

(Luke 23.1-49)

This is the Passion of the Lord.

All sit

SERMON

All stand to say

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.

All sit

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

During which the following response may be used

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

At the end

Merciful Father:

accept these prayers, for the sake of your son, our saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

All say

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

All stand

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

THE PEACE

The priest introduces the peace and then says

The peace of the Lord be with you always: **and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace; after which we sing the following hymn

At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess him King of Glory now.
'Tis the Father's pleasure we should call him Lord,
who from the beginning was the mighty Word:

At his voice creation sprang at once to sight,
all the angel faces all the hosts of light,
thrones and dominations, stars upon their way,
all the heavenly orders in their great array.

In your hearts enthrone him; there let him subdue
all that is not holy, all that is not true:
crown him as your captain in temptation's hour;
let his will enfold you in its light and power.
Truly, this Lord Jesus shall return again,
with his Father's glory, with his angel train;
for all wreaths of empire meet upon his brow,
and our hearts confess him King of Glory now.

THE THANKSGIVING

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink. **Blessed be God for ever.**

EUCCHARISTIC 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 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.

All sit

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.

Let us proclaim 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 is kept

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, we boldly 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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The priest breaks the consecrated bread and says:

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.

AGNUS DEI

All sing

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.

THE COMMUNION

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.

All come forward to the altar to receive Holy Communion or a blessing.

COMMUNION HYMNS

1. Ride on! ride on in majesty!

Hark! all the tribes hosanna cry;

O Saviour meek, pursue thy road

with palms and scattered garments strowed.

2. 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

3. Ride on! ride on in majesty!

The angel-squadrons of the sky

look down with sad and wondering eyes
to see the approaching sacrifice.

4. Ride on! ride on in majesty!

Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh;
the Father on his sapphire throne
expects his own anointed Son.

5. 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

1. My God, and is thy table spread,
and does thy cup with love o'erflow?
Thither be all thy children led,
and let them all thy sweetness know.

2. Hail, sacred feast which Jesus makes!
Rich banquet of his flesh and blood!
Thrice happy all who here partake
that sacred stream, that heav'nly food.

3. What wondrous love! What perfect grace,
for Jesus, our exalted host,
invites us to this special place

4. O let thy table honoured be,
and furnished well with joyful guests;
and may each soul salvation see,
that here its sacred pledges tastes.

who offer least and need the most.

We keep a time of silence after the hymns.

All remain seated for the notices; then all stand

THE SENDING OUT

Give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious:
his love is everlasting.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

All say together:

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.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

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

Christ crucified draw you to himself, the sure ground of faith, the firm support for hope and the assurance of sins forgiven, 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.

All sing the final hymn (sing twice) when the collection will be taken

You are the King of Glory,
you are the Prince of Peace,
you are the Lord of heaven and earth,
you're the Son of righteousness.
Angels bow down before You,
worship and adore,
for you have the words of eternal life,
you are Jesus Christ the Lord.
Hosanna to the Son of David!

Hosanna to the King of Kings!
Glory in the highest heaven,
for Jesus the Messiah reigns.

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