



St EDWARD

KING & MARTYR

24 March 2024 / Palm Sunday

Welcome to St. Edward's!

We hope you are blessed by your time with us and we look forward to seeing you again. There is an Induction Loop in the Nave for those using a hearing aid and wheelchair access available at the West door. The toilet is available in the vestry, with an additional parent and child area for those with infants and toddlers if needed. Children are always welcome in service and will find books and activities in the back of the church.

Welcome & Greeting

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Introduction & Prayer

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.

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 Procession

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.

Let us go forth, praising Jesus our Messiah.

Hymn 60 – All Glory, Laud, and Honour

Preparation *(Please kneel or sit)*

(We have a moment of silence)

Hear the words of comfort our Saviour Christ says to all who truly turn to him:

Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. *Matthew 11.28*

God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. *John 3.16*

Hear what Saint Paul says:

This saying is true, and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1.15*

Hear what Saint John says:

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins. *1 John 2.1-2*

Confession & Absolution

Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Against you, you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight. Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect

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.

Old Testament Lesson (Isaiah 50.4-9a)

4 The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens – wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. 5 The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backwards. 6 I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. 7 The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; 8 he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. 9 It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

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



Psalm 118.1-2, 19-24 (*Please remain seated as the psalm is sung*)

- 1 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let Israel now proclaim, 'His mercy endures for ever.'
- 19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord.
- 20 This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have become my salvation.
- 22 The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes.
- 24 This is the day that the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and shall be forever. Amen.

Gospel (*We stand as we welcome the Gospel*)

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

Hear the holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St John (12.12-16). **Glory to you, O Lord.**

12 The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. 13 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!'

14 Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: 15 'Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!' 16 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.

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

Sermon 'Life in the Spirit: Moving Towards the Cross' – Mark Scarlata

Affirmation of Faith *(We stand to declare our faith together)*

Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God, but made himself nothing. Taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness. He humbled himself and was obedient to death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God has raised him on high, and has given him the name above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession *(Please kneel or sit for our intercessions)*

Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Peace *(We stand to share the peace)*

Since we are justified by faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us access to his grace. *Rom. 5.1-2*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Let us share with one another a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn 61 – Ride On, Ride On In Majesty

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 thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise, almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son. For in these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again. Through fasting, prayer, and acts of service you bring us back to your generous heart. Through study of your holy word you open our eyes to your presence in the world and free our hands to welcome others into the radiant splendour of your love. As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast with joyful hearts and minds we bless you for your mercy and join with saints and angels forever praising you and singing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son. On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; 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. So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Christ is the bread of life. **When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.**

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with all the saints to feast at your table in heaven. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer *(Please sit or kneel)*

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

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 forever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. **Though we are many, we are one body, because 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.

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

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 our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Giving of Communion *(All baptised believers are invited to receive communion here. Those who do not receive communion are invited to come forward for a blessing, with their hands downwards on the rail. If you require a gluten-free wafer, please raise one finger.)*

Prayer after Communion

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn 63 – My Song Is Love Unknown (*We stand to sing*)

Notices

Blessing

May Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; 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.

Notices

Upcoming Services:

Monday 25 March – 12.30pm BCP Holy Communion

Tuesday 26 March – 12.30pm BCP Holy Communion

Wednesday 27 March – 12.30pm BCP Holy Communion

Thursday 28 March (Maundy Thursday) – 5.30pm Holy Communion

Friday 29 March (Good Friday) – 12-2pm Meditations on the Seven
Last Words of Christ from the Cross
– 2-3pm Good Friday Service

Sunday 31 March (Easter Sunday) – 6:15am (BST) Sunrise Service
– 11am (BST) Holy Communion

Friday 5 April – 10.30am BCP Holy Communion

Sunday 7 April – 9am BCP Holy Communion
– 11am Holy Communion

British Summer Time Notice: Please note that BST begins at 1am on Sunday 31 March, when the clocks go forward 1 hour. This is especially important to take into account for those who are planning to attend our Easter sunrise service next Sunday.

Volunteering: Opportunities to serve the church through prayer, reading, and hospitality each week are shared via our weekly church email/blog, in addition to the sign-up sheet by the west door. Please do consider whether you can help serve in these ways.

Parish Giving: We are grateful for all of your gifts! Offerings may be given during the services or for Standing Orders, via BACS (Sort: 20-17-19 / Acc. No.: 30851477 / Acc. Name: St Edwards Church). There is also a SumUp machine by the door of the church for contactless giving: Power on, enter an amount, and tap your card.

Contact Details

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Church Staff

Vicar-Chaplain: Revd Dr Mark Scarlata
Associate Vicar: Revd Dr Matthias Grebe
Church Warden: Dr Paul Anderson
Church Administrator: Mr Peter Elliott

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