

The Parish Churches of Elstead, Thursley,  
Shackleford and Peper Harow  
Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2020  
Palm Sunday



**Revd Hannah writes:**

This pew sheet comes with warm greetings. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

This Sunday we start the journey together through Holy Week to Easter Day. The path takes us through the heart of the Christian faith and offers us again a chance to pray, reflect, worship and grow in personal knowledge and understanding of the message of Jesus Christ, which he both told in sayings and parables, and acted out in his suffering, death and resurrection.

So that we can all share this journey, we will be providing simple reflections and liturgies for use at home.

I have been reflecting this week on the word “different” and how differently we are being forced to live. Our usual routines of getting up, leaving the house and commuting to work or school or to meet family and friends has changed. Accepting these differences can be frightening but differences can offer opportunities to try new things and live in an altered way.

When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, he was presenting kingship in a different way. The people of the first century were used to a king riding into a city on a mighty steed. People were encouraged to cheer for a conquering king out of necessity and fear. The people who cheered as Jesus rode from the Mount of Olives to Jerusalem were raising their voices in hopeful expectation. This man, Jesus, who had spoken so many times of the Kingdom of God coming near, could be the Messiah and he could be riding into the city to overthrow the ruling authorities. Jesus was offering something different and as we see through Holy Week, he was coming as a servant king. This is not what the people would have wanted. They wanted a conquering hero. The journey from elation on Palm Sunday to desolation on Good Friday as Jesus died on the cross must have been a rollercoaster of emotions for the disciples and the crowd who cheered Jesus’ arrival only a few days earlier. We can take the same journey in the week ahead as we think about how Jesus expressed his servant-heart leadership, encouraging us to love God and love others. By washing the disciple’s feet, we are encouraged to serve our communities. In the garden he prayed “not mine will but yours be done”, he knew he would be sacrificially giving up his life on a cross.

So, as we come to terms with our “new normal” we have the chance this week to embrace once again the difference Jesus offers for our lives in his life, death and resurrection. I hope you will embrace this difference so that it might become part of your new normal.

## **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April readings -**

### **First Reading** Isaiah 50:4-9a

God blesses us with the gifts we need, such as fortitude and resolve.  
However hard things may get, if we stay true to God, God will help us.

### **Second Reading** Philippians 2:5-11

Paul exhorts his readers to imitate Christ, who in humility took the form of a slave, being born in human likeness and obedient to God's will. Therefore, Christ is exalted above all others.

### **Gospel** Matthew 21: 1-11

Having commanded two of his disciples to untie a donkey and bring it to him, Jesus rides into Jerusalem as the crowds' praise and glorify him.

## **Prayer Pointers**

### **Our concerns:**

We pray for our family, friends and neighbours who are feeling worried, isolated or alone. We pray they will know God's peace.

We pray for those who are recovering from Covid 19 and those are still ill. We also pray for those struggling to cope with financial pressures because of the virus.

### **Christians far and wide :**

We pray for fellow Christians across the world who will be journeying through Holy Week this week, but will have to be doing so differently.

### **Diocesan Cycle of Prayer**

Pray for Youth and Children's volunteers and Workers in our parishes

Pray for David Welch (Head of Mission Enabler Team), and all staff working for the benefit of children and young people in the diocese.

Pray for our Mission Enabler (Youth) when the current vacancy is filled,

Please pray for Revd Rebekah Clark, Associate Minister LSMP, St Mary of Bethany (New Posting)

### **Anglican Cycle of Prayer**

Melbourne (Australia) The Most Revd Philip Leslie Freier

West Missouri (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Revd Martin Field

### **Our nation and our world:**

Pray for families whose home are not places of sanctuary but are places of violence and fear

Pray for our National leaders who are leading us through the present crisis.

Pray for the NHS and all the medical staff caring for people affected by COVID -19

Pray that nations will work together to find a vaccine

Climate concerns across the world.

### **Our neighbours:**

Organists, our Choir and Music Group.

A sense of corporate responsibility for all church activities.

All who live in Uplands (Brook), Thursley and Silver Birches Way, Elstead.

The Thursley Horticultural Society.

**For those who are unwell and those who have gone to their rest in you.**

### **Prayer for strength**

Dear Lord,

I come before you and ask for Your strength within me.

A strength not of the world but of Your kingdom.

To refrain from judgement and feast on love.

To push out greed and hold tight to joy.

To dispel pride and rise with humility.

To quell anger and rest in self-control.

To shun greed and rest in giving.

To turn from power and embrace service.

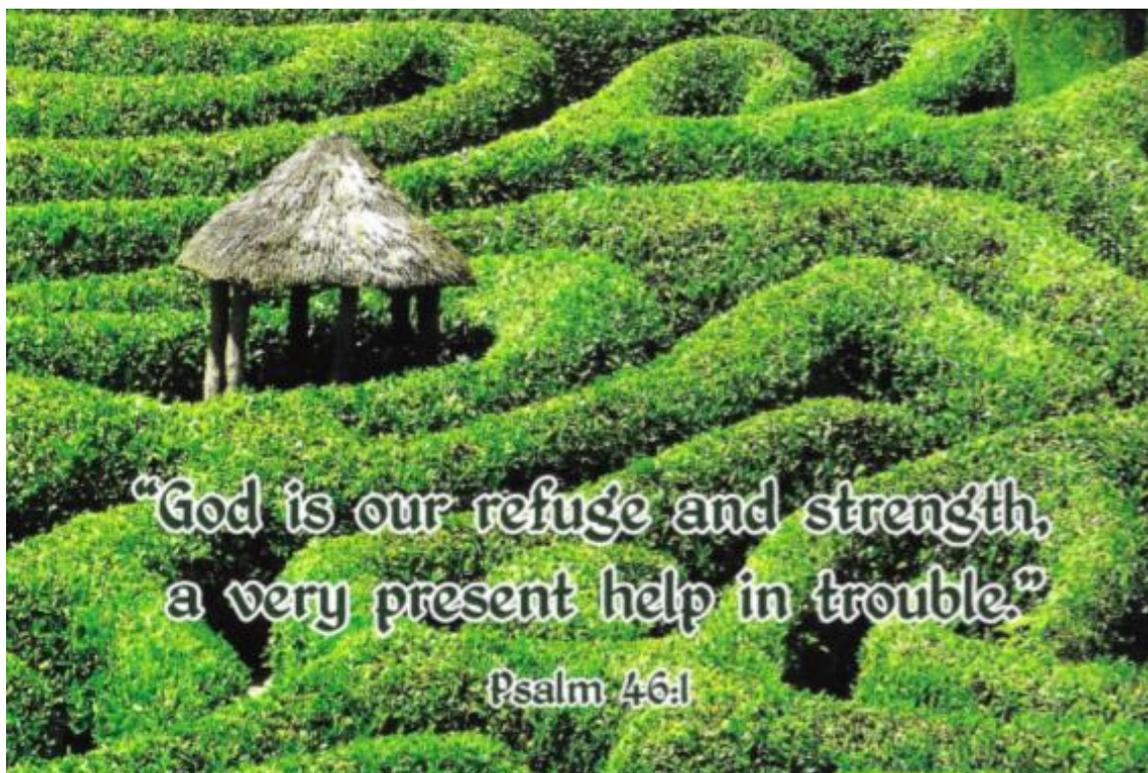
To let go of resentment and rest in peace.

To push through fear and walk forwards in grace.

To run with faith, soar with forgiveness, and allow your eternal strength to abide with me.

**Amen.**

(a contemporary prayer for strength from [www.lords-prayer-words.com](http://www.lords-prayer-words.com))



**Please keep those families affected by Domestic Abuse in your prayers.**

Whilst individuals, families and the country as a whole face increasingly difficult and uncertain times during the COVID-19 pandemic, it becomes even more important that we work together to ensure that those who may be vulnerable or at risk, get the vital support they need. Although inconvenient for many, the current government measures should increase our safety, but for victims of domestic abuse and their children, home can be a place of fear and often danger. We know that the risks will increase as 'social distancing', self-isolation, and as the financial impact of the pandemic becomes a reality. Perpetrators often attempt to isolate their partners from family, friends, work and community and the pandemic provides them with an increased ability to do so. We also know incidents of abuse increase as families are forced together, and during periods of economic instability. Domestic abuse charities are concerned that survivor's ability to seek support from services will become more difficult as perpetrators spend more time at home. We are therefore facing a complex and scary picture.

In this time of crisis South West Surrey Domestic Abuse Outreach Team would like to reassure survivors, other professionals and their communities that they are still here, but do need to take steps to ensure that whilst adhering to the governments guidelines around "social distancing" they can continue to safely deliver their core services. With immediate effect they have had to postpone all face to face work including group work. Until further notice SWSDAOS will provide outreach support via telephone, whilst working with partners in the voluntary and statutory sector to ensure the needs of survivors and children are considered and met.

SWSDAOS needs our communities more than ever to help them continue to provide life-saving support for survivors and children, so please consider doing the following:

- Please listen out for your neighbours and call for help if you think someone is at risk.
- If safe to do so, please reach out to anyone you believe is in an abusive relationship and encourage them to contact SWSDAOS for advice and support, in particular around safety planning during these times.
- If it is not safe for the survivors themselves to contact us then SWSDAOS are always willing to support friends, family and any professional, so they can safely pass information on.
- Please keep victims and children affected by domestic abuse in your prayers.

Above all be kind, survivors and children more than ever need to know that when they are ready you are there for them and that there is support available.

**Anyone needing advice can ring the SWSDAOS helpline on [01483 898884](tel:01483898884)  
Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm**

Your call will be answered by a trained Domestic Abuse Support Worker. If they are unable to answer please leave a short message with safe contact details and a member of staff will ring you back.

SWSDAOS also have a 24 hour answerphone or you can email [swr@swsda.org.uk](mailto:swr@swsda.org.uk) .

**In an emergency dial 999**

## Everyday Faith Daily Reflections and other resources

The Church of England is publishing Daily Reflections and Prayer to help us find and follow God in our daily lives. To sign up go to: [www.churchofengland.org/everydayfaith](http://www.churchofengland.org/everydayfaith)

If you want to use daily morning or evening prayer as part of your week's routine, the Church of England provides a full daily version on its website under the title Daily Prayer. This is complete with the readings and collect for the day. You can find it at <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

The Church of England website also has a range of other readings, reflections and prayers to use, including services and items produced by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

The BBC has published its schedule of programmes for Holy Week and Easter on both radio and TV and you can see it at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/mediacentre/latestnews/2020/easter>

Our Cathedral is offering music and daily thoughts accessible from its website <https://www.guildford-cathedral.org/>

## Using Technology:



I have set up a YouTube channel and if you follow the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c35RQJHlsBQ>

You will see me leading the Palm Sunday Service of the Word on the following pages

For those who would like to explore it, there is a possibility of having a version of an Easter liturgy in a shared form through Zoom, which is a way of connecting normally for video conferencing. This is only for those who would like it: the Easter service works equally for use individually at home. If you would like to explore the Zoom option, please email [rector@stjameschurchelstead.org](mailto:rector@stjameschurchelstead.org)



## **Palm Sunday**

### **Spiritual Communion**

#### **For use at home during a period of self-isolation**

*If a household are praying together one person may act as leader and the others as the congregation and they join in the sections in **bold** type.*

*If alone, read all the words aloud.*

*You may want to light a candle before you begin, and have a bible, cross or crucifix to look at.*

*The structure of the Spiritual Communion deliberately follows that of the regular Sunday Eucharist, with an **Introduction, Bible Readings, Prayers** and, in the place of the Liturgy of the Sacrament, an **Act of Spiritual Reception**, in which we pray to be united with all who celebrate the Eucharist by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

#### **Introduction**

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.

#### **Hosanna to the Son of David.**

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

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

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, in our homes, 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.

## **Collect for Palm Sunday**

*Let us pray for a closer union with Christ in his suffering and in his glory.*

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 Reading:** Isaiah 50.4-9a

**New Testament Reading:** Philippians 2.5-11

**Gospel:** Matthew 21.1-11

## **Prayers**

*Spend a few moments praying for the people you know and love, the needs of the world and for an end to the current Pandemic. You may wish to use one or more of the following prayers.*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you entered Jerusalem in quiet humility,  
taking the form of a servant,  
even to the point of death on a cross,  
emptying yourself so that we might be filled.  
come again now  
**and establish your kingdom.**

Come afresh to our troubled world,  
with all its need,  
its tensions,  
its problems  
and its evil.  
Come again now  
**and establish your kingdom.**

Bring healing where there is division,  
love where there is hatred,  
hope where there is despair,  
joy where there is sorrow,  
confidence where there is fear,  
strength where there is weakness,  
healing where there is sickness,  
life where there is death.

Come again now

**And establish your kingdom.**

**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.**

### **Act of Spiritual Communion**

**In union, dear Father, with Christian people throughout the world and across the centuries gathered to make Eucharist, hearing your holy word and receiving the precious body and blood, I offer you praise and thanksgiving. Even though I am cannot taste the bread of heaven and drink the cup of life, I pray that you will unite me with all the baptised and with your Son who gave his life for us. Come Lord Jesus, dwell in me and send your Holy Spirit that I may be filled with your presence.**

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you have taught us  
that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters  
we do also for you:  
give us the will to be the servant of others  
as you were the servant of all,  
and gave up your life and died for us,  
but are alive and reign, now and for ever.

**Amen**

## Blessing and Dismissal

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.**



A red rectangular stamp with the word "EXTRA" in white, bold, uppercase letters. The stamp has a slightly distressed or ink-like texture.

Extra resources are being sent with the Pew sheet as a separate document as we journey with Christ through Holy Week.

A red rectangular stamp with the word "EXTRA" in white, bold, uppercase letters. The stamp has a slightly distressed or ink-like texture.

Extra resources are being sent with the Pew sheet as a resource for Christian Witness on Easter Sunday

### **And finally....**

Something to lift your spirits. The choir of Roedean School in South Africa joined their voices remotely to provide a lovely rendition of Hallelujah

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3y5IWWrYodI>

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