

St Matthew's 10.45am Sunday 24th March 2024

Service Leader: Rev Jim Trood

Preacher: Mr Jimm Rennie

Theme: Palm Sunday

Welcome to St Matthew's. Please join us for tea or coffee after this service. Children leave for Children's Church after the All Together song, returning at midday.

Please place any financial gifts in the bags which will be passed around during our offertory song. If you prefer you may use the contactless machine at the back of church or donate via the church website.

Welcome & Notices

Opening Words

Praise the name of the Lord;
ascribe greatness to our God.

Lord, open our lips
and we shall praise your name.

Song

Give thanks to the Lord, our God and King:
his love endures forever,
For he is good, he is above all things,
his love endures forever,
sing praise, sing praise.



With a mighty hand and an outstretched arm,
his love endures forever,
for the life that's been reborn,
his love endures forever,
sing praise, sing praise,
sing praise, sing praise.

For ever, God is faithful,
for ever God is strong,
for ever God is with us,
for ever, for ever.

From the rising to the setting sun,
his love endures forever;
by the grace of God we will carry on,
his love endures forever.
Sing praise, sing praise,
sing praise, sing praise.

Saying Sorry (Confession)

When the Lord comes,
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.
Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.



O King enthroned on high,
filling the earth with your glory:
holy is your name, Lord God almighty.
In our sinfulness we cry to you to take our guilt away,
and to cleanse our lips to speak your word,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Forgiveness (Absolution)

Almighty God,
who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive us our sins,
open our eyes to God's truth,
strengthen us to do God's will
and give us the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



All Together Talk

All Together Song

My God is so big, so strong and so mighty
there's nothing that he cannot do.
My God is so big, so strong and so mighty
there's nothing that he cannot do.



The rivers are his,
the mountains are his,
the stars are his handiwork too.
My God is so big,
so strong and so mighty
there's nothing that he cannot do.

My God is so big, so strong and so mighty
there's nothing that he cannot do.
My God is so big, so strong and so mighty
there's nothing that he cannot do.

He's called you to live
for him every day
in all that you say and you do.
My God is so big,
so strong and so mighty
there's nothing that he cannot do.

Sung Worship (*Distribution of the palm crosses*)

Make way, make way, for Christ the king
In splendour arrives.
Fling wide your gates and welcome him
Into your lives.



Make way! Make way!
For the king of kings.
Make way! Make way!
And let his kingdom in.

He comes the broken hearts to heal,
The prisoners to free;
The deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance,
The blind shall see.

And those who mourn with heavy hearts,
Who weep and sigh,
With laughter, joy and royal crown
He'll beautify.

We call you now to worship him
As Lord of all.
To have no gods before him,
Their thrones must fall.

There must be more than this:

O Breath of God, come breathe within.

There must be more than this:

Spirit of God, we wait for You.

Fill us anew, we pray;

fill us anew, we pray.



Consuming fire, fan into flame
a passion for Your name.

Spirit of God, fall in this place.

Lord, have Your way,

Lord, have Your way with us.

Come like a rushing wind,

Clothe us in power from on high.

Now set the captives free;

Leave us abandoned to Your praise.

Lord, let Your glory fall,

Lord, let Your glory fall.

Children leave for their groups.

Intercessions (Ben Butterfield)

These responses 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.**



Collect

True and humble king,
hailed by the crowd as Messiah:
grant us the faith to know you and love you,
that we may be found beside you
on the way of the cross,
which is the path of glory. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

**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.**



1st Bible Reading - Psalm 118: 19-end p.617 (Jane Francis)



¹⁹ Open for me the gates of the righteous;
I will enter and give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰ This is the gate of the LORD
through which the righteous may enter.

²¹ I will give you thanks, for you answered me;
you have become my salvation.

²² The stone the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;

²³ the LORD has done this,
and it is marvellous in our eyes.

²⁴ The LORD has done it this very day;
let us rejoice today and be glad.

²⁵ LORD, save us!
LORD, grant us success!

²⁶ Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD.
From the house of the LORD we bless you.

²⁷ The LORD is God,
and he has made his light shine on us.

With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession
up to the horns of the altar.

²⁸ You are my God, and I will praise you;
you are my God, and I will exalt you.

²⁹ Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his love endures for ever.

[at the end]

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



11 As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, ² saying to them, ‘Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³ If anyone asks you, “Why are you doing this?” say, “The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.”’

⁴ They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, ⁵ some people standing there asked, ‘What are you doing, untying that colt?’ ⁶ They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. ⁷ When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. ⁸ Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. ⁹ Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted,

‘Hosanna!’

‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!’

¹⁰ ‘Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!’

‘Hosanna in the highest heaven!’

¹¹ Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple courts. He looked around at everything, but since it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve.

[at the end]

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon (Jimm Rennie)



Affirmation of faith *(from the Athanasian Creed)*

We proclaim the Church's faith in Jesus Christ.

**We believe and declare that our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Son of God, is both divine and human.**

God, of the being of the Father,
the only Son from before time began;
human from the being of his mother, born in the world;
**fully God and fully human;
human in both mind and body.**

As God he is equal to the Father,
as human he is less than the Father.
**Although he is both divine and human
he is not two beings but one Christ.**

One, not by turning God into flesh,
but by taking humanity into God;
**truly one, not by mixing humanity with Godhead,
but by being one person.**

For as mind and body form one human being
so the one Christ is both divine and human.
**The Word became flesh and lived among us;
we have seen his glory,
the glory of the only Son from the Father,
full of grace and truth.**

Offertory Worship

Be Thou my vision O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art
Thou my best thought, by day or by night
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.



Be Thou my wisdom, Thou my true word
I ever with Thee, Thou with me, Lord
Thou my great Father and I Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise
Thou mine inheritance now and always
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, my vict'ry won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, what-ever be-fall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Offertory Prayer



Blessing

Keep us, Father, in this community of faith,
the Church of your Son Jesus Christ,
and help us to confess him as Messiah and Lord
in all we say and do.

We ask this in his name. **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.