

**Eglwys Sant Asa Llanelwy  
St Asaph Parish Church**



**The Blessing of Palms and The Parish Eucharist  
for Palm Sunday  
24<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

*At the beginning of the Eucharist please STAND and turn to face the back of the Church*

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

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The Priest greets the people*

Grace and peace be with you:

**and keep you in the love of Christ.**

Dear friends 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.

*All hold up their Palm Cross as this prayer of blessing is said*

God our Saviour, whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah to suffer and to die, ✠ bless these palms and let them 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 lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*A Gospel account of the Lord's entrance into Jerusalem is proclaimed*

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint 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 priest addresses the people in these words*

Let us go forth, praising Jesus our Messiah.

*Please hold up your Palm Cross at the beginning of the hymn and in each refrain*

*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.  
*All glory, laud and honour ...*

The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went:  
Our prayer and praise and anthems before thee we present.  
*All glory, laud and honour ...*

To thee before thy Passion they sang their hymns of praise:  
To thee now high exalted our melody we raise.  
*All glory, laud and honour ....*

Thou didst accept their praises, accept the prayers we bring,  
Who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King.  
*All glory, laud and honour ...*

*Text: St. Theodulph of Orleans (d. 821); Translated J.M. Neale (1818-66)  
Melody by M. Teschner, (c.1613); Adapted and harmonised by J.S. Bach*

*The Eucharist continues with the Collect of the Day and the Liturgy of the Word*

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.**

## **Isaiah 50. 4-9a**

*Please SIT*

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The servant of the Lord said:

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.

The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backwards.

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.

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; he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.

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. :

For the Lord of the Lord:

**Thanks be to God.**

*All remain seated to sing the hymn*

Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
Hark, all the tribes hosanna cry,  
Thy humble beast pursues his road  
With palms and scattered garments strowed.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
In lowly pomp ride on to die,  
O Christ thy triumph now begin  
O'er captive death and conquered sin.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!  
Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh;  
The Father on his sapphire throne  
Awaits his own anointed Son.

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.

## **The Passion Gospel**

*Please STAND*

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Mark.

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' He answered him, 'You say so.' Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again, 'Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.' But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them, 'Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?' For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again, 'Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?' They shouted back, 'Crucify him!' Pilate asked them, 'Why, what evil has he done?' But they shouted all the more, 'Crucify

him!' So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him. They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, 'The King of the Jews.' And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, 'Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!' In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, 'He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.' Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, 'Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?' which means, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, 'Listen, he is calling for Elijah.' And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, 'Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.' Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, 'Truly this man was God's Son!'

*After the Reading*

The Passion of the Lord.

**The Homily**

*Please SIT*

## **The Affirmation of Faith**

*Please STAND*

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

**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 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.**

## **Intercessions**

*Please SIT*

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.**

## **THE PEACE**

*PLEASE STAND*

Christ is our peace. He has reconciled us to God in one body on the cross.  
We meet in his name and share his peace.

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

## Hymn

My song is love unknown, my Saviour's love to me,  
love to the loveless shown, that they might lovely be.  
O who am I, that for my sake  
my Lord should take frail flesh, and die?

He came from his blest throne, salvation to bestow;  
but men made strange, and none the longed-for Christ would know.  
But O, my Friend, my Friend indeed,  
who at my need his life did spend.

Sometimes they strew his way, and his sweet praises sing;  
resounding all the day hosannas to their King.  
Then "Crucify!" is all their breath,  
and for his death they thirst and cry.

They rise, and needs will have my dear Lord made away;  
a murderer they save, the Prince of Life they slay.  
Yet cheerful he to suffering goes,  
that he his foes from thence might free.

Here might I stay and sing: no story so divine;  
never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine!  
This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise  
I all my days could gladly spend.

*Samuel Crossman 1624-1683*  
*Tune: Love unknown*

## The Prayer over the Gifts

Lord, may the suffering and death of Jesus,  
your only Son, make us pleasing to you.  
Alone we can do nothing,  
but may this perfect sacrifice win us your mercy and love.  
We make our prayer in the name of Jesus the Lord. **Amen.**



# 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, holy,  
Holy, holy, Lord God Almighty.  
And we lift our hearts before you  
as a token of our love.  
Holy, holy, holy, holy.**

**Gracious Father, gracious Father,  
Blessed is the one who comes to us in your name.  
And we lift our hearts before you  
as we give you thanks and praise.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

All praise and thanks to you, true and living God,  
Creator of all things, Giver of life.  
You formed us in your own image;  
but we have marred that image and fall short of your glory.

We give you thanks  
that you sent your Son to share our life;  
you gave him up to death that the world might be saved,  
and you raised him from the dead  
that we might live in him and he in us.

Sanctify with your Spirit this bread and wine, your gifts to us,  
that they may be for us the body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
On the night he was betrayed, he took bread,  
and when he had given 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 when he had given 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.**

As he has commanded us, Father,  
we remember Jesus Christ, your Son.  
Proclaiming his victorious death,  
rejoicing in his resurrection  
and waiting for him to come in glory  
we bring to you this bread, this cup.

Accept our sacrifice of thanks and praise.  
Restore and revive your people,  
renew us and all for whom we pray  
with your grace and heavenly blessing,  
and at the last receive us with all your saints  
into that unending joy promised by your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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**

Jesus taught us to call God Our Father,  
and so we have the courage to pray:

**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.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

*The priest breaks the bread*

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us your peace.**

*The priest invites the people to Holy 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.**

## **Hymn at the end of the Communion**

Here is love, vast as the ocean,  
loving kindness as the flood,  
when the Prince of life, our ransom,  
shed for us his precious blood.  
Who his love will not remember?  
Who can cease to sing his praise?  
He can never be forgotten  
throughout heaven's eternal days.

On the mount of crucifixion  
fountains opened deep and wide;  
through the floodgates of God's mercy  
flowed a vast and gracious tide.  
Grace and love, like mighty rivers,  
poured incessant from above,  
and heaven's peace and perfect justice  
kissed a guilty world in love.

*William Rees 1802-1883*  
*Tr. William Edwards 1848-1929*  
*Tune: Dim ond Iesu*

*Silence is kept*

## Post Communion

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.**

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, and  
the Son and the Holy Spirit be upon you this day and always. **Amen.**

The Eucharist is ended, and our holy week of remembrance has begun.  
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

## Final Hymn

See, Christ was wounded for our sake,  
And bruised and broken for our sin  
So by his sufferings we are healed  
For God has laid our guilt on him.

Look on his face, come close to him,  
But you will find no beauty there.  
Despised, rejected—who can tell  
The grief and sorrow he must bear?

Like sheep that stray, we leave God's path,  
To choose our own and not his will;  
Like sheep to slaughter he has gone,  
Obedient to his Father's will.

Cast out to die by those he loved,  
Reviled by those he came to save,  
See how sin's pride has sought his death,  
See how sin's hate has made his grave.

For on his shoulders God has laid  
The weight of sin that we should bear;  
So by his passion we have peace,  
Through his obedience and his prayer.

*Brian Foley 1919-2000*  
*Tune: Rockingham*

## Notices

**Refreshments.** Please do join us for refreshments after the service if you can.

**Praying for Growth.** Please pray for the growth and renewal of the Church here in this place. Here is the Leading Your Church into Growth Prayer:

*God of Mission,  
Who alone brings growth to your  
Church,  
Send your Holy Spirit to give  
Vision to our planning,  
Wisdom to our actions,  
Joy to our worship,  
And power to our witness.  
Help our church to grow in numbers,  
In spiritual commitment to you,  
And in service to our local community,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**The Community Fridge** takes place every Sunday from 4-6pm at the Parish Church. Please note the new time!

**Sunday Sheet.** Please take this sheet home with you for the notices for the week and to pray for what is happening in the life of our Church.

**Food4Thought** is taking a break. The last one for this session will take place of Maundy Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 12noon.

**Easter Flowers.** Donations for Easter Flowers are now being invited in memory of departed loved ones. Please use the envelopes which can be found on the table at the back of the Church. Thank you.

**Church Committee.** There are sheets at the back of the Church to make nominations for Peoples' Warden and for members of the Church Committee. The Annual Vestry Meeting will take place on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April after the Parish Eucharist.

**North Wales Pilgrims Way** was chosen for the next series of the BBC Pilgrimage programmes with 7 celebrities walking the route. The first of three programmes will be aired on Good Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 9pm.

**Organ Recitals.** This year's Organ Recital series begins on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 7.30pm. This recital will be given by Stephen Power, Director of Music at Brecon Cathedral. Retiring Collection. A warm welcome to all.

**Timely Reminder!** The clocks go forward for British Summer Time on Easter Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March!

**Holy Week.** Please note below changes to service times for Holy Week.

## The Week Ahead

### 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday – Palm Sunday

1.45pm Procession with Donkey from St Mary's Cefn to the Cathedral for  
3.30pm Choral Evensong

### 25<sup>th</sup> Monday of Holy Week

9am Morning Prayer  
6pm Evening Prayer  
7pm Holy Eucharist & Address

**26<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of Holy Week**

9am Morning Prayer

6pm Evening Prayer

7pm Holy Eucharist & Address

**27<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of Holy Week**

9am Morning Prayer

6pm Evening Prayer

7pm Holy Eucharist & Address

**28<sup>th</sup> Thursday – MAUNDY THURSDAY**

8am Morning Prayer

11am Chrism Mass followed by Lunch

5pm Evening Prayer

7pm Choral Eucharist of the Last Supper  
followed by Watch of Prayer

*This will last until 10pm. Please feel free  
to come and go as you please during this  
time*

10pm Compline (Night Prayer)

**29<sup>th</sup> Friday – GOOD FRIDAY**

9am Morning Prayer

10am All-Age Worship for Good Friday  
*at the Parish Church*

1.30pm Solemn Good Friday Liturgy

**30<sup>th</sup> Saturday – HOLY SATURDAY**

9am Morning Prayer

Church open for decoration for Easter

7pm Vigil & 1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist of Easter

**31<sup>st</sup> Sunday – EASTER DAY**

9.30am The Parish Eucharist *at the  
Parish Church*

9.30am Holy Eucharist *at St Mary's Cefn*

11am The Cathedral Eucharist

3.30pm Choral Evensong

Contact:

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Parish Church Website:

[www.stasaphparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.stasaphparishchurch.org.uk)