

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



**The Blessing of Palms and The Parish Eucharist
for Palm Sunday
13th April 2025**

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 Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, Why are you untying it? just say this: The Lord needs it.' So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, 'Why are you untying the colt?' They said, 'The Lord needs it.' Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

'Blessed is the king
who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest heaven!'

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, order your disciples to stop.'
He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.'

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 Luke.

Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. They began to accuse him, saying, '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.' Then Pilate asked him, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' He answered, 'You say so.' Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, 'I find no basis for an accusation against this man.' But they were insistent and said, 'He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.'

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, '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.'

Then they all shouted out together, 'Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!' (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, 'Crucify, crucify him!' A third time he said to them, '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.' 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, '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?'

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, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.']] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!' The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' 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, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, '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.' Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

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, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.' Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, 'Certainly this man was innocent.' 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.

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

From heav'n you came, helpless babe,
entered our world, your glory veiled;
not to be served but to serve,
and give your life that we might live.

*This is our God, the Servant King,
he calls us now to follow him,
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King.*

There in the garden of tears,
my heavy load he chose to bear;
his heart with sorrow was torn.
"Yet not my will but yours," he said.

Come see his hands and his feet,
the scars that speak of sacrifice,
hands that flung stars into space,
to cruel nails surrendered.

So let us learn how to serve,
and in our lives enthrone him;
each other's needs to prefer,
for it is Christ we're serving.

Graham Kendrick b.1950

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

O dearest Lord, thy sacred head
with thorns was pierced for me;
O pour thy blessing on my head
that I may think for thee.

O dearest Lord, thy sacred hands
with nails were pierced for me;
O shed thy blessing on my hands
that they may work for thee.

O dearest Lord, thy sacred feet
with nails were pierced for me;
O pour thy blessing on my feet
that they may follow thee.

O dearest Lord, thy sacred heart
with spear was pierced for me;
O pour thy Spirit in my heart
that I may live for thee.

Henry Ernest Hardy 1869-1946
Tune: Albano

Notices

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

The Community Fridge takes place every Sunday from 4-5pm at the Parish Church.

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.

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.

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.*

Holy Week. Details of the Holy Week services can be found below. Please note the time changes to the usual weekly

pattern. Canon Richard Peers will be leading us through Holy Week.

Pilgrimage. The Diocese of Bangor has recently created a pilgrimage route known as Llwybr Cadfan. This goes from Tywyn to Bardsey (Ynys Enlli) to reproduce the medieval Southern pilgrimage way to that holy island. The Northern route passes through St. Asaph and has been in existence for some years now (keep any eye out for pilgrims!). Dave Bradley from the Parish Church plans to walk Llwybr Cadfan over 9 days from April 22nd. He would welcome fellow walkers, especially on Saturday 26th for the eight and a half mile walk from Porthmadog to Criccieth. Contact Dave if interested – email: davebradley80@hotmail.co.uk
Tel: 07876732922

Mission Area Social Evening. This will take place on Friday 2nd May from 6.30pm onwards. Hog Roast, Fun Quiz, Live Music & Bar at the Neuadd Owen Village Hall in Cefn. Tickets £12. Please contact 01745 540345 or email: cefnchurch@outlook.com
The evening will give people from our 3 churches chance to get to know one another better.

Cathedral Choir will be giving a pre-tour concert before their trip to Finland. This will take place on Saturday 10th May at 7pm in the Cathedral. No charge butb there will be a retiring collection.

The Week Ahead

14th Monday of Holy Week

9am Morning Prayer

6pm Evening Prayer

7pm Holy Eucharist & Address

15th Tuesday of Holy Week

9am Morning Prayer

6pm Evening Prayer

7pm Holy Eucharist & Address

16th Wednesday of Holy Week

9am Morning Prayer

6pm Evening Prayer

7pm Holy Eucharist & Address

17th Thursday – Maundy Thursday

8am Morning Prayer

11am Diocesan Chrism Eucharist

5pm Evening Prayer

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

10pm Compline

18th Friday – Good Friday

9am Morning Prayer

10am All-Age Liturgy *at the Parish*

Church

1.30pm Solemn Good Friday Liturgy

19th Saturday – Easter Eve

9am Morning Prayer

7pm Solemn Vigil and 1st Eucharist of
Easter

20th Sunday – EASTER DAY

9.30am The Parish Eucharist

11am The Cathedral Eucharist

3.30pm Solemn Choral Evensong