

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



**The Blessing of Palms and The Parish Eucharist  
for Palm Sunday  
29<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

*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 Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, "The Lord needs them." And he will send them immediately.' This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

'Tell the daughter of Zion,

Look, your king is coming to you,

humble, and mounted on a donkey,

and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

'Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, 'Who is this?' The crowds were saying, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.'

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.

*Tune: Winchester New*

## **The Passion Gospel**

*Please STAND*

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

Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus said, 'You say so.' But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him, 'Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?' But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, 'Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?' For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgement seat, his wife sent word to him, 'Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.' Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them, 'Which of the two do you want me to release for you?' And they said, 'Barabbas.' Pilate said to them, 'Then what should I do with Jesus who is

called the Messiah?' All of them said, 'Let him be crucified!' Then he asked, 'Why, what evil has he done?' But they shouted all the more, 'Let him be crucified!'

So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, 'I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.' Then the people as a whole answered, 'His blood be on us and on our children!' So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.'

Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, 'You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.' In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, 'He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, "I am God's Son." ' The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, 'Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?' that is, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, 'This man is calling for Elijah.' At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, 'Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him.' Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over

Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, 'Truly this man was God's Son!'

*After the Reading*

The Passion of the Lord.

## **The Address**

*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 the Lord's 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 *singing*:

**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.

**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.

**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.

**St Mary's Cefn.** The next services at St Mary's are as follows:

5<sup>th</sup> April: 9.30am Easter Day Eucharist

19<sup>th</sup> April – 9.30am Holy Eucharist

**Help!** We need help with opening and closing the church for events. If you can help with this please speak to Fr Rex or Linda Roberts. Thank you!

**Kentigern Guild** The next meeting is on Wednesday 8th April at 2.30pm, at the Parish Church. The Rev. Nia Williams will speak about The Life of a Services Chaplain.

## The Week Ahead

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

10am Holy Eucharist *at the Parish*

*Church*

### 31<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of Holy Week

6pm Holy Eucharist *at the Parish Church*

### 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of Holy Week

10.30am Holy Eucharist *at the Parish*

*Church*

The Cathedral is closed to the public today!

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday – MAUNDY THURSDAY

11am The Royal Maundy Service

Admission by invitation only!

5pm Evening Prayer

6pm 'The Six' Agape Meal *at the Parish*

*Church*

7pm Choral Eucharist of the Last Supper

& Watch of Prayer

10pm Compline

**3<sup>rd</sup> Friday – GOOD FRIDAY**

9am Morning Prayer

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

1.30pm Solemn Good Friday Liturgy

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

9am Morning Prayer

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

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday – EASTER DAY**

9.30am The Parish Eucharist

9.30am Holy Eucharist *St Mary's Cefn*

11am The Cathedral Eucharist

3.30pm Solemn Choral Evensong

Contact:

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Parish Church Website:

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