

St Mary's Church, Walkley



The Church on the Road:
Inclusive, Eucharistic, a safe place to be with God

Palm Sunday Eucharist

24th March 2024

Welcome to St Mary's Church, Walkley

**President: The Revd Canon Dr Alan Billings
Churchwarden on duty: Vicky**

The Gathering

We stand.

President 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.

The Greeting

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

All **and also with you.**

President 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.

President God our Saviour,
whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah to suffer
and to die;
let these palms 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 is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Palm Gospel: Mark 11. 1 - 11

Minister Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Minister When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been

ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, “Why are you doing this?” just say this, “The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.” ’ They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, ‘What are you doing, untying the colt?’ They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,
‘Hosanna!

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

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!’

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Minister This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

President Let us go forth, praising Jesus our Messiah.

We remain standing to sing hymn number 11 as we process into the church, please follow the server and cross.

The Collect

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

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.

All **Amen.**

We sit.

The Reading: Philippians 2. 5 - 11

A reading from the Letter to the Philippians.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Reader This is the word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

The Gradual Hymn

We stand and we sing.

We sit as we read the narrative of Christ's passion together. Please join in with the text in bold, the parts of the Disciples, Priests, Scribes, Soldiers, Bystanders, Passers-by, Witnesses, Crowd.

The Gospel Reading: Mark 14. 1 - 15. 47

Evangelist Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.
Christ humbled himself and became obedient unto death,
even death on a cross.
Therefore God has highly exalted him
and given him the name that is above every name.
All **Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

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

It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; for they said,

Priests **Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.**

Evangelist While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. But some were there who said to one another in anger,

Disciples **Why was the ointment wasted in this way? For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor.**

Evangelist And they scolded her. But Jesus said,

Jesus Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.

Evangelist Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. When they heard it, they were greatly pleased, and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to him,

Disciples **Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?**

Evangelist So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them,

Jesus Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks, Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.

Evangelist So the disciples set out and went to the city, and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

When it was evening, he came with the twelve. And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said,

Jesus Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me.

Evangelist They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another,

Disciples **Surely, not I?**

Jesus It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.

Evangelist While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said,

Jesus Take; this is my body.

Evangelist Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it.

Jesus This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.

Evangelist When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. And Jesus said to them,

Jesus You will all become deserters; for it is written,
'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.'
But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.

Evangelist Peter said to him,

Peter Even though all become deserters, I will not.

Jesus Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.

Peter Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.

Evangelist And all of them said the same.

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples,

Jesus Sit here while I pray.

Evangelist He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them,

Jesus I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.

Evangelist And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.

Jesus Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.

Evangelist He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter,

Jesus Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Evangelist And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. He came a third time and said to them,

Jesus Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.

Evangelist Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign:

Judas The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard.

Evangelist So when he came, he went up to him at once and said,

Judas Rabbi!

Evangelist and kissed him. Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to them,

Jesus Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled.

Evangelist All of them deserted him and fled.

A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.

They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire.

Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. Some stood up and gave false testimony against him.

Witnesses **We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.'**

Evangelist But even on this point their testimony did not agree. Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus,

High priest Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?

Evangelist But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him,

High priest Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?

Jesus I am; and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.

Evangelist Then the high priest tore his clothes and said,

High priest Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?

Evangelist All of them condemned him as deserving death. Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him,

Scribes **Prophecy!**

Evangelist The guards also took him over and beat him.

While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said,

Servant-girl You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth.

Evangelist But he denied it:

Peter I do not know or understand what you are talking about.

Evangelist And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed. And the servant-girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders,

Servant-girl This man is one of them.

Evangelist But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter,

Bystanders **Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean.**

Evangelist But he began to curse, and he swore an oath,

Peter I do not know this man you are talking about.

Evangelist At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, 'Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.' And he broke down and wept.

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,

Pilate Are you the King of the Jews?

Jesus You say so.

Evangelist Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again,

Pilate Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.

Evangelist 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,

Pilate Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?

Evangelist 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,

Pilate Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?

Crowd **Crucify him!**

Pilate Why, what evil has he done?

Crowd (louder) **Crucify him!**

Evangelist 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,

Soldiers **Hail, King of the Jews!**

Evangelist 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.

Passers-by **Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!**

Evangelist In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves.

Priests **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.**

Evangelist 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,

Jesus Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?

Evangelist which means, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?'
When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

Bystanders **Listen, he is calling for Elijah.**

Evangelist And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying,

Bystander Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.

Evangelist 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,

Centurion Truly this man was God's Son!

Evangelist There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where the body was laid.

This is the Passion of the Lord.

We keep silence.

We stand.

The Creed

President Let us declare our faith in God,

All **We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

We sit or kneel.

The Prayers of Intercession

Intercessor Let us pray to the Lord.
All **Lord, have mercy.**

All **Holy God,
holy and strong,
holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.**

We stand.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

President Once we were far off,
but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near
through the shedding of Christ's blood,
for he is our peace.

Ephesians 2.13,14

President The peace of the Lord be always with you
All **and also with you.**

Minister Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We remain in our seats, sharing the peace through waves to those around us.

The Offertory Hymn

We stand and we sing as the altar is prepared. If you would like to support St Mary's, donations can be made after the service at the back of church using the collection plate or contactless card giving station.

The Eucharistic Prayer

President The Lord is here.

All **His Spirit is with us.**

President Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

President Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

President It is indeed right and just,
our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For as the time of his passion and resurrection draws near
the whole world is called to acknowledge his hidden majesty.

The power of the life-giving cross
reveals the judgement that has come upon the world
and the triumph of Christ crucified.

He is the victim who dies no more,
the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever,
our advocate in heaven to plead our cause,
exalting us there to join with angels and archangels,
for ever praising you and saying:

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

President Accept our praises, heavenly Father,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and as we follow his example and obey his command,
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us his body and his blood;
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you 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.

All **To you be glory and praise for ever**

President In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
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.

All **To you be glory and praise for ever**

President Therefore, heavenly Father,
we remember his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross;
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;
we look for the coming of your kingdom,
and with this bread and this cup
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Minister Jesus Christ is Lord:

All **Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

President Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love
and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **To you be glory and praise for ever.**

President Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

All **Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.**

We sit or kneel.

The Lord's Prayer

President Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

All **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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

President Every time we eat this bread
and drink this cup

All **we proclaim the Lord's death
until he comes.**

The Agnus Dei may be said as the bread is broken.

All **Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

The Giving of Communion

President Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

All **Most merciful Lord,
your love compels us to come in.
Our hands were unclean,
our hearts were unprepared;
we were not fit
even to eat the crumbs from under your table.
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation,
and share your bread with sinners.
So cleanse and feed us
with the precious body and blood of your Son,
that he may live in us and we in him;
and that we, with the whole company of Christ,
may sit and eat in your kingdom.
Amen.**

The president will give instructions on how to come forward for communion and on returning to our seats. All are welcome to come to front for the bread and wine or a blessing. If you would like a blessing please keep your arms folded across your chest at you approach the front.

We are now able to receive the wine as well as the bread. The president will dip the wafer in the wine before giving it to you. Gluten free wafers are available, please ask at the altar. During the distribution we sing and music is played.

The Prayer after Communion

President Let us pray.

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.

All **Amen.**

All **Faithful God,**
may we who share this banquet
glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
our salvation, life and hope,
who reigns as Lord now and for ever. Amen.

The Notices

We stand.

The Blessing

President May the Father,
who so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
bring us by faith to his eternal life.

All **Amen.**

President May Christ,
who accepted the cup of sacrifice
in obedience to the Father's will,
keep us steadfast as we walk with him the way of his cross.

All **Amen.**

President May the Spirit,
who strengthens us to suffer with Christ
that we may share his glory,
set our minds on life and peace.

All **Amen.**

President And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among us and remain with us always.

All **Amen.**

*We remain standing and we sing during which we turn to face the
back of church as the ministers process.*

The Dismissal

Minister Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Please be mindful of those who prefer to keep their distance from others at the moment.

For more information: stmaryswalkley.co.uk

If you would like to provide feedback on this service please speak a member of the Worship Group, Kath, Catherine, Janet or David. You can also email us worship@stmaryswalkley.co.uk



Holy Week Services:

Maundy Thursday - 28th March at 7:30pm

Maundy Thursday Eucharist of the Last Supper and Watch of the Passion.

Good Friday - 29th March at 12:00-2:00pm

Church open for private prayer and self-guided Stations of the Cross.

Good Friday – 29th March at 2:00pm

Good Friday service at the foot of the Cross.

Easter Eve – 30th March at 7:30pm

Easter Vigil and Service of Light.

Easter Day – 31st March at 10:30am

Easter Day Eucharist with Renewal of Baptismal vows.