

Sunday Worship At Home: 05-04-2020
Palm Sunday

Opening Prayer

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

Confession

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

Song: Blessed is the king who comes
(CCLI Song # 1023047)

Blessed is the King who comes
In the name of the Lord
Blessed is the King who comes
In the name of the Lord

Peace in heaven and glory in the highest
When mouths stay closed
The stones will cry out

Majestic is the King who comes
In the name of the Lord
Majestic is the King who comes
In the name of the Lord

Peace in heaven and glory in the highest
When mouths stay closed
The stones will cry out

Triumphant is the King who comes
In the name of the Lord
Triumphant is the King who comes
In the name of the Lord

Peace in heaven and glory in the highest
When mouths stay closed
The stones will cry out

Reading

Luke 19:28-40

Reflection: The Kingdom Comes – Sue Jackson

So here we are the third week into a new way of meeting, and I can't help but reflect on how different things looked at the beginning of the year when I'd made my New Year resolutions. One was to read my Bible in a Year every day. (working progress), pray more (not enough to date), thank God and praise Him for who He is, go to bed earlier (mostly...), another one was to see more of my family and friends... To meet for coffee to say yes to gatherings and celebrations. I have now started dreaming of when we will all gather again, what a celebration that will be!

In our passage today we see the people gathered on that first Palm Sunday, Praising God laying down their garments and waving their palm branches and recognising who Jesus is and proclaimed him to be the promised King who will bring deliverance, A Saviour for everybody!

Predicted more than 500 years before it happened, Zechariah 9:9 says:

*"Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion!
Shout, Daughter Jerusalem!
See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious,
Lowly and riding on a donkey,
On a colt, the foal of a donkey".*

And so today we too celebrate the entry of King Jesus into Jerusalem, albeit very different to the original planning meeting for this year! It was a day that marked the beginning of an incredible week. A week that would see Jesus cheered then arrested, tried then crucified. But as that week came to an end, another week began, just as the previous week had begun.. With a celebration!

Whilst we're not gathering together physically, the invitation to meet and worship Jesus our King was for everyone then and is for everyone today!

I must admit to finding it hard to have a celebratory mindset as I write this, so I found this quote from J John this week helpful:

"We are Easter people living in a Good Friday world", and because of that we can join in with the celebration and lift our voices to worship Jesus, our Saviour, even when we are in this uncertainty, and not able to gather together and wave our palm branches in unison.

Just as this prophecy was fulfilled when Jesus came to earth, so the prophecies of his second coming are just as certain to come true.

As we begin Holy Week, even in this time apart, but together, our voices can join with the people of Jerusalem some 2000 years ago:

"The whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!".

Let us pray.

Father God, Thank you for this day that you have made. I pray that as we reflect on Palm Sunday and this Holy Week, we can lift our eyes and worship and follow Jesus our Saviour, our King, in all circumstances. Amen.

Song: Blessed Assurance

(CCLI Song # 2645094)

Blessed assurance Jesus is mine
O what a foretaste of glory divine
Heir of salvation purchase of God
Born of His Spirit washed in His blood

*This is my story this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long
This is my story this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long*

Perfect submission perfect delight
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy whispers of love

Perfect submission all is at rest
I in my Savior am happy and blest
Watching and waiting looking above
Filled with His goodness lost in His love

Affirmation of faith

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,
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

- Pray for wisdom and protection for the LVA staff as they navigate a new way of working and make their PSHE lessons available to schools and students in the coming months
- Pray for Riverbank as they provide supplies for vulnerable families through the food and hygiene banks and for finances at a difficult time
- Pray for Kick as their coaches act as key workers delivering education for the children of other key workers, and for financial sustainability in the current climate

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

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

Amen.

Song: Only My Jesus

(CCLI Song # 7104058)

With whom shall I walk through these troubles

With whom shall I stand in the dark

Oh let it be only my Jesus

And only the strength in His arms

With whom shall I face my tomorrows

With whom shall I conquer my fears

Oh let it be only my Jesus

Who will not abandon me here

I will sing, I will sing

I will sing of His steadfast love

I will sing I will sing

Of only my Jesus

To whom shall the glory be given

To whom shall the whole of earth bow

Oh let it be only my Jesus

Worthy to wear ev'ry crown

Of whom shall I sing in the twilight

As my earthly breath starts to fade

Oh let it be only my Jesus

Still on my tongue be His praise

Still on my tongue be His praise

Oh, still on my tongue be His praise

Closing Prayer

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.