

*Mount Eliza Anglican Church
Palm Sunday Holy Communion
5 April 2020*

GREETING

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. **Hosanna in the highest.**
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

OPENING PRAYER

Merciful God,
as we enter this holy week
turn our hearts again to Jerusalem,
to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ,
that, united with Christ and all the faithful, we may one day enter in triumph the city not made with hands, but the new Jerusalem, eternal in the heavens, where, with you and the Holy Spirit, Christ lives in glory forever. Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God,
who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith:
pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and everlasting God,
of your tender love towards us
you sent your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ,
to take upon him our flesh,

and to suffer death upon the cross,
that all should follow the example of his great humility: mercifully grant
that we may both follow the example of his patience,
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING - Zechariah 9:9-13

PSALM 118:1-2, 19-29

GOSPEL READING - Matthew 21:1-17

SERMON - [AUDIO](#) AND/OR [PDF](#)

INTERCESSIONS - provided by Kel Taylor

Heavenly Father, as we commence Holy Week help us to truly understand the sacrifice Jesus made for us and help us to remain steadfast in our faith through this testing period. As we reflect on that first triumphant entry into Jerusalem which Jesus took on Palm Sunday, may we be inspired by his courage, sacrifice and deep love for us all - a love which cost him his life. As we enter Holy Week may you strengthen us with the assurance that you are with us now and always through our mortal lives and from death to resurrection.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, healer and friend, come and care for all of us through the danger and uncertainty of the coronavirus epidemic. To those who are sick, bring healing. To those who are displaced, isolated, or cut off from family, friends or work, bring comfort and companionship. We pray that you will work with and protect all medical staff as they care for the sick. We ask that you give skill and faithful research to scientists as they search for treatments, prevention and a cure. To public health authorities, give wisdom to decide the best ways to manage both this crisis and our anxieties. When communities are fearful, give a calm spirit, and kindness to neighbours and strangers. Through this testing time, and through all the risks we face together, teach us once again how we can love one another as you have loved us.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we remember those in our community and beyond who are suffering through no fault of their own. We pray for the vulnerable, the abused and the lonely. While many millions of people worldwide search desperately for a secure place to call home for their families, may we give grateful thanks for our own safe havens which we often take for granted. As we approach the joyous season of Easter may we remember with love and compassion those who, for whatever reason, will be apart from loved ones this Easter.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we pray for your church and for all who preach the Gospel and minister in your name. We ask for your continued blessing and guidance on our ministry team here in Mt Eliza – our Vicar Jennie, our lay Ministers Sam and Libby and our wardens and parish council. Be with them and guide them through this challenging period.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, we give thanks for the life and work of those members of our parish community who have gone before us in the faith of Jesus Christ and whose anniversaries fall at this time: Harry Macdonald, Annie Cole, David Constantine, David Weir and Barbara Petry.

Be with those who mourn, comfort them in their sorrow and strengthen their faith in you. May your spirit guide them in the day and give them peace at night.

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

Grant what we have asked in faith we may by your grace receive through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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.
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.**

GREETING OF PEACE [PRIEST]

We are the body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.

Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.

Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.

HOLY COMMUNION – PART 4 VIDEO

O loving God, in union with Christian people throughout the world and across the centuries gathered to make Thanksgiving, hearing your holy Word and receiving the Precious Body and Blood of your dear Son, we offer you praise and thanksgiving. Even though we are dispersed from tasting the Bread of Heaven and drinking the Cup of Salvation we pray that you will unite us with all the baptised and with your Son who gave his life for us.

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.

Almighty God, good Father to us all, your face is turned towards your world. In love you gave us Jesus your Son to rescue us from sin and death.

Therefore, we lift our voices to praise you, saying,

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

And now we thank you for these gifts of

bread and wine; may we who receive them,
as Jesus said, share his body and his blood.

On the night he was betrayed, he took
bread and gave you thanks.
He broke the bread and gave it to his
friends, and said, 'Take and eat. This is my
body given for you. Do this in
remembrance of me.'

After supper he took the cup and gave you
thanks. He shared the cup with them and
said, 'This is my blood poured out so that
sins may be forgiven. Do this in
remembrance of me.'

**Christ has died,
Christ has risen,
Christ will come again.**

You have gathered us together to feed on
Christ and to remember all he has done for
us: Fill us with your Spirit
that we may follow Jesus in all we do and
say, working for justice and bringing your
peace to this world that you have made.
Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ
our Lord.

**Blessing and honour and glory and power,
are yours forever and ever. Amen**

THE BREAKING AND SHARING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

As this broken bread was once many grains,
which have been gathered together and
made one bread:
**so may your Church be gathered
from the ends of the earth into your
kingdom.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God our help and strength,
through these holy mysteries confirm our
faith that by the death and resurrection of
your Son we may walk in the way of
salvation.

Father,
**we offer ourselves to you as a living
sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit to
live and work to your praise and glory.**

BLESSING

Christ our Saviour draw you to himself,
that you may find in him crucified a sure
ground for faith, a firm support for hope,
and the assurance of sin forgiven,
and the blessing of God almighty, the
Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be
upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

We go in peace of Christ. **Amen.**