Worship for Sunday 5th April PALM SUNDAY

Helen and Sassi have gathered resources for our worship You might like to check out these links and start creating PALM BRANCHES AND PALM CROSSES (from The Vine)ready for Sunday morning.

WELCOME...

...to worship on Palm Sunday. We hope you have all had time to make your own Palm Branch or Palm Cross. Palm Sunday has fallen on the 1st Sunday of the month this year – so we hope you will all enjoy this service for 'All Ages'.

We are here to travel with Jesus during Holy Week and we start with his entry into Jerusalem on a donkey.

PRAYER

Eternal God, we come during this time of turmoil and uncertainty to sit with you for a while.

Creator God, we come as spring emerges from winter and thank you for the beauty of creation that surrounds us.

Loving Jesus, in your life, death and resurrection you teach us the way that we should live our lives.

Saviour Jesus, you give us the promise of abundant and eternal life.

Jesus the Good Shepherd, you have gifted your Holy Spirit, the Comforter to be with us and to be our guide.

Father, Son & Holy Spirit we worship you.

Amen

THE STORY

The story of Palm Sunday appears in all 4 gospels. This video uses the Gospel of Luke as it's inspiration.

A reminder of that pivotal moment at the beginning of Holy Week.

The Triumphal Entry

TIME TO SING

Let's join the crowd in Jerusalem with our palm branches and crosses.

We sing Make way, make way for Christ the King

READINGS

Matthew 21 v 1 - 11 (NIV) Philippians 2 v 3-8 (Contemporary English Version)

REFLECTING ON PALM SUNDAY

How is a day that happened over 2000 years ago relevant to us today? Sassi has prepared a video for us to think about that question.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YSHiepF25kc

PRAYER

We spend a moment before God.

Saviour, trusted friend, who brings hope and light to the world we ask your forgiveness for all that has been done that might have hurt someone else this week and all that has been left un-done that Jesus asked us to do for someone else this week.

Loving God, help us to leave our own needs and wants behind, especially in this time of difficulty for the world. We acknowledge that you are the one true light and dedicate ourselves to you again.

Amen

A THOUGHT TO TAKE AWAY AND PONDER

Jesus's entry into Jerusalem was a pivotal point in his ministry on earth. It marked the beginning of a cascade of events that led to Jesus demonstrating God's complete, sacrificial love for the world.

The corona virus pandemic is forcing us all to take another look at what life could be like. What might 'letting go of our egos' look like?

Perhaps there is a clue in the reading from Philippians:

Don't be jealous or proud, but be humble and consider others more important than yourselves. ⁴ Care about them as much as you care about yourselves ⁵ and think the same way that Christ Jesus thought

How can you and I best display our love to others? At the moment that may be to heed government advice and phone neighbours and friends in friendship. And in the future....?

PRAYER FOR THE WORLD

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. **Romans 8 v 26**

Lord, we do not know where to start in bringing all that is on our hearts and minds at this time. There is so much to pray for it seems overwhelming. Help us to trust in your love for your world. Help us to say the prayers that your Holy Spirit brings into our minds. For you are our God and we are your people.

We ask your blessing...

... on those who feel vulnerable in any way,

...and comfort for those in deep distress,

...and your wisdom for those in authority.

We ask these prayers in the name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour,

Amen

TIME TO SING

Brother, sister, let me serve you, Let me be as Christ to you

FINAL PRAYER