



Note

To contact the church please email office@stokepogeschurch.org or phone 01753 642331. Please do not come to the office in person; we are all working at home.

Welcome to our Palm Sunday Service

A Reading together from Psalm 118: v 19 -21

19. Open for me the gates of the righteous; I will enter and give thanks to the Lord.

20 This is the gate of the Lord through which the righteous may enter.

21 I will give you thanks, for you answered me; you have become my salvation.

A prayer of confession

**Lord Jesus, you came to change the world,
Forgive us, when we find change too difficult - and we give up.**

**Lord Jesus, you came to serve, not to be served.
Forgive us when we put ourselves and our needs before those of others.**

**Lord Jesus, you came to bring peace,
Forgive us when we cause more fights, more trouble more friction than peace.**

**Loving father, who shows mercy to all who sincerely turn to you
Thank you for forgiving us our sins, in Jesus name
Amen**

Song: Jesus hope of the Nations

Jesus, hope of the nations, Jesus, comfort for all who mourn
You are the source of Heaven's hope on earth

Jesus, light in the darkness, Jesus, truth in each circumstance
You are the source of Heaven's light on earth

In history, You lived and died, You broke the chains, You rose to life

You are the hope living in us
You are the rock in whom we trust
You are the light shining for all the world to see

You rose from the dead conquering fear
Our Prince of Peace drawing us near
Jesus our hope, living for all who will receive
Lord, we believe

(repeat from the top)

Lord, we believe
Lord, we believe
Lord, we believe

Songwriters: Brian Robert Doerksen

Hope Of The Nations lyrics © Integrity's Hosanna! Music, Mechanical Copyright Protection Society Ltd

A Reading together from Psalm 118: v 28 -29

28 You are my God, and I will praise you; you are my God, and I will exalt you.

29 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

Song: Forever (Give Thanks To The Lord Our God and King)

Give thanks to the Lord, our God and King
His love endures forever
For He is good, He is above all things
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise

With a mighty hand and outstretched arm
His love endures forever
For the life that's been reborn
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise, Sing praise, sing praise

Forever, God is faithful. Forever, God is strong
Forever, God is with us. Forever and ever

From the rising to the setting sun
His love endures forever
And by the grace of God, we will carry on
His love endures forever
Sing praise, sing praise, Sing praise, sing praise

Forever, God is faithful. Forever, God is strong
Forever, God is with us. Forever and ever
Forever, God is faithful. Forever, God is strong
Forever, God is with us. Forever and ever. Forever

His love endures forever
(x4)

Sing praise, sing praise Sing praise, sing praise

Forever, You are faithful Forever, You are strong
Forever, you are with us. Forever and ever.
(x4)

Written by: Chris Tomlin
Lyrics © CAPITOL CHRISTIAN MUSIC GROUP

Today's Reading: Matthew Chapter 21: verses 1 -11
Read by Simon McDowell

Jesus comes to Jerusalem as King

1 As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, **2** saying to them, 'Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring

them to me. **3** If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.'

4 This took place to fulfil what was spoken through the prophet:

5 'Say to Daughter Zion, "See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey,

and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'" (a)

6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. **7** They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. **8** A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. **9** The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

'Hosanna to the Son of David!'

'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!'[b]

'Hosanna in the highest heaven!'

10 When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, 'Who is this?'

11 The crowds answered, 'This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.'

(a) Zech. 9:9

(b) Psalm 118:25,26

Talk

Simon Edwards

Prayers

Lead by Richard Beckingsale and the Wetherall family

Response today:

The Lord hears our prayer

Thanks be to God

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: Lord I Lift Your Name on High

Lord I lift your name on high
Lord I love to sing your praises
I'm so glad you are in my life
I'm so glad you came to save us

You came from heaven to earth, to show the way
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky
Lord I lift your name on high

(repeat from the top)

You came from heaven to earth, to show the way
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky
Lord I lift your name on high

Lord I lift your name on high
Lord I love to sing your praises
I'm so glad you are in my life
I'm so glad you came to save us

You came from heaven to earth, to show the way
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky
Lord I lift your name on high

Lord I lift your name on high (x4)

Songwriters: Rick Doyle Founds. Lord I Lift Your Name on High lyrics © Universal Music Publishing Group, Capitol Christian Music Group

Final Prayer

**Jesus, I journey with you today, as you journey with me
Let me go where you go. Amen**

Song: I am a Christian

I am a Christian and my name is Pilgrim
I'm on a journey but I'm not alone
Jesus is with me
And He goes before me
And His love surrounds me
He's leading me home

One step at a time for now
Just keep your feet on the ground
Don't lose your way
Chasing the crowd
Here's where your road begins
Don't stop, don't settle in
Just tell yourself there's something more than this
Just tell yourself there's something more than this

Everybody say
I am a Christian and my name is pilgrim
I'm on a journey but I'm not alone
Jesus is with me and He goes before me
And His love surrounds me
He's leading me home
Walk on, Walk on (traveler), Walk on, Walk on

Head high, keep your eyes above
Don't think of giving up
He brought you this far
He won't stop now
Don't ever run away
No matter what you face
Don't be afraid 'cause He will not back down
Yeah remind yourself that He is with you now
And say

I am a Christian and my name is Pilgrim
I'm on a journey but I'm not alone
Jesus is with me and He goes before me
And His love surrounds me
He's leading me home

Walk on Walk on Walk on Walk on (traveler)
Walk on Walk on Walk on Walk on (Christian)

Walk on in your weakness
Walk on through the night
Walk on in the darkness
'Till you see the light
Remember who's with you
Remember He's strong
And when you are weary
He'll carry you on
(repeat)

Everybody say
I am a Christian and my name is Pilgrim
I'm on a journey but I'm not alone
Jesus is with me and He goes before me
And His love surrounds me
He's leading me home
Walk on Walk on Walk on Walk on (Christian)
Walk on Walk on Walk on Walk on

by Newsong
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Going Deeper

Every year at this time, Jerusalem was filled with pilgrims arriving for the Passover. It would have been a chaotic time, more like a demonstration or a march than a pilgrimage walk. The inevitable strains on law and order would have drawn in extra soldiers to keep the peace, which only heightened the pilgrims' hopes for freedom. When Jesus and his followers went on this pilgrimage, this was a clear moment when Jesus' disciples may have anticipated him acting differently. Would he turn the stones of popular expectation into the bread of political freedom? Was he willing to risk everything to show the crowds who he was? Instead he entered the city as a peacemaker, on a donkey, hungry only for righteousness and mercy. A man and his followers coming into the city on a donkey would have been a tiny part of this chaos. Would he have even been noticed? What would the Romans and bystanders have thought of this? As some were shouting 'Hosanna to the Son of David', would they have been heard above the noise of the crowds?

But Jesus was making a peaceful statement about the kind of king, prophet and leader he was. The reading from Isaiah foreshadows Jesus' suffering by reminding us that a prophet's vocation is costly. Would we, as a community of faith, rejoice and celebrate Jesus coming to us as this kind of king?

Questions for Reflection

When have you been in a large crowd at something special?

When might you feel as if you are going in the opposite direction to the 'crowd'?

What evidence is there that your church community is 'on the move'?



A personal prayer

Jesus, I journey with you today
as you journey with me.
Let me go where you go.
Amen.

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