

Palm Sunday 5th April 2020

Service at Home for Christ Church Ramsbottom, Edenfield Methodist Church and Bolton Road Methodist Church

Welcome to our third Service at Home.

Remember that you'll need your Bible.

Also remember that you need to mouse click next to where it says "Watch" and "Song" to see a video play, which means that you need to be connected to the Internet and if there is more than one of you, you both need to be able to see the screen and hear the sound. You may need to hold down the 'control' key on your keypad (labelled ctrl) while clicking the mouse in order to go to the link. If you click on the 'YouTube playlist' at the beginning of the service, you will find all the 'online' elements of the service together, alternatively, you can just click on the individual links as you go along.

YouTube playlist: [Service at Home Palm Sunday](#)

Watch: [Welcome and lighting of the Lent cross](#)

Today we are nearly at the end of our Lenten journey as Jesus arrives in Jerusalem. This coming Holy week, we remember that Jesus will face the reality of the cross, as well as triumphing over it. Let us think for a moment about Jesus' entry into Jerusalem riding on a donkey, his disciples and friends around him; the crowds shouting and waving and laying their cloaks on the road to make a path for him, caught up in the excitement of the moment.

Let us pray:

Lord Jesus, we will hear today how you came to Jerusalem, welcomed as a king. You knew that the people who welcomed you that day would abandon you by the end of the week. We are sorry for the times we have turned against you and found it difficult to say that you're our friend. Help us to grow closer to you and stronger in our faith. Amen.

Song: [Ride on in Majesty](#)

Say the following prayer out loud, perhaps with other members of your household, or silently in your head.

Dear Lord Jesus, I worship you because you came to this world to die in pain for me so that I could have eternal life. I worship you because, despite your majesty, you humbled yourself and became a sacrifice for me so that I can receive forgiveness for my sins.

Lord, I'm sorry for when I'm disobedient. When I consider what you did for me, I'm sorry that I sometimes let you down and don't do things for you.

Lord, I bring to mind the things that I've done wrong and the things I've not done that I should have done. I confess these things to you now.....

<Time of quiet>

Lord, forgive me.

I thank you that I've been completely forgiven because of what you've done for me.

Lord, I know that you're everywhere. I know that you're always with us even when we are by ourselves in our homes. Lord, help me to become aware of your presence here with me now by the Holy Spirit.....

<Time of quiet>

Open my heart to your love. Open my mind to what you want to tell me. Amen.

Say the Lord's prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name;
Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Song: [So will I \(100 billion times\) by Hillsong](#)

and/or

Song: [Jesus Christ I think upon your sacrifice](#)

Let's now pray for others.....

For your friends and family who are ill or having problems.

For those feeling frightened, lonely, bored or frustrated.

For those affected by the Coronavirus in other ways.

Pray for those helping others.....

For health workers – for wisdom, strength and their own protection.

For the volunteers who are helping the most vulnerable.

Pray for the work being done to stop the virus.....

For governments around the world to make the right decisions.

For work being done to produce extra medical equipment, vaccine and treatments.

Pray for our churches.....

That we'll seize opportunities that God gives us to serve our neighbours and to shine in the darkness.

Pray for yourself.....

Lift all your worry, troubles and illness to God now and receive His healing, comfort and peace.

Song: [You Never Let Go by Matt Redman](#)

Read the following two passages:

Matthew 21 verses 1 to 11

Matthew 26 verses 17 to 75

Watch: [What a week \(a monologue by Peter\) read by Ben Connor](#)

Song: [I will offer up my life by Matt Redman](#)

Watch: [A sermon reflecting on the events of Holy Week](#)

This tells us that to become a stronger disciple we should:

- Truly believe that Jesus is the Son of God who died for us on a cross and rose again from the dead, which will give you the same unshakeable faith that Peter had.
- Think of the times that we've let Jesus down in the past and ask him to forgive us and to give us a fresh start. And ask Jesus for a fresh commissioning as his disciple.
- Pray to be filled with the Holy Spirit so that we receive the same gifts, courage and energy that the first disciples had, so that we too can go and fearlessly tell people about Jesus and perform miracles.

Reflect on each one of these points and offer your own prayers to God.

Listen to what God says to you in reply.

<Time of quiet>

Song: [You make me brave \(crashes over me\)](#)

A final prayer:

Lord, make me strong in the days ahead. Make my faith unshakeable.
Protect me and pour out your blessings upon me.

In the name of God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Song: [And can it be](#)