

## Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday - a week before the joyous celebrations of Easter, it has a joy of its own. You might remember past Palm Sunday processions (with or without a donkey), singing and waving palm crosses. Although we cannot do any of that this year, you might want to dust off an old palm cross, or make one of paper, and put it in your window. Maybe you would like to re-read the gospel accounts of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and imagine what it would have been like to be there.

Jesus and his disciples had made a long and dusty trek from Jericho to the Mount of Olives. At 2,600 ft., the Mount of Olives gives a breath-taking view over the city of Jerusalem. There would have been a large group of pilgrims heading to Jerusalem for the Passover festival. They would have known Jesus by reputation as a miracle worker, a teacher and perhaps a prophet sent by God. Two of the disciples brought a young donkey to Jesus and he rode slowly towards Jerusalem. Suddenly the crowd around began to chant verses from the Passover psalms, putting down leafy branches and cloaks onto the dusty road for Jesus to ride over them, greeting him and praising him:

*"Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna, hosanna in the highest!"*

When Jesus, on his colt, enters Jerusalem, into the cool shadow of the buildings and the busy streets, the crowd of pilgrims melts away – looking for food and somewhere to stay.

Trying to imagine ourselves there, what it would be like, how we would feel, can help bring the words of the Bible to life for us and Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter is a good time to give it a go. Jesus enters Jerusalem to complete his work as our Saviour; to suffer, to die, and to rise again. Let us go with him in faith and love.

*Sue Henwood.*



## Welcome to the Alcester Minster Group of Churches

**Sunday 28 March 2021**

**Palm Sunday**    *Red*

*"So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, 'Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord – the King of Israel!'"*

John 12 v 13

### Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,  
who in your tender love towards the  
human race  
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
to take upon him our flesh  
and to suffer death upon the cross:  
grant that we may follow the example of  
his patience and humility,  
and also be made partakers of his  
resurrection;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### Alternative Collect

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.

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### Ministry Team:

Rector: Revd Katie Cross: working remotely during March,  
email: [rector@alcesterminster.org](mailto:rector@alcesterminster.org)  
Revd Sue Henwood: Kinwarton Rectory, Spernal Lane, Great Alne  
Alcester B49 6HY Tel: 01789 488 344 email: [sue.henwood@live.co.uk](mailto:sue.henwood@live.co.uk)  
Revd Julian Davey: The Field House, Allimore Lane  
Alcester, B49 5PR Tel: 01789 764 640 email: [jw.davey@yahoo.com](mailto:jw.davey@yahoo.com)

### Children & Family Worker:

Beth Clarke email: [Beth.Clarke@Coventry.Anglican.org](mailto:Beth.Clarke@Coventry.Anglican.org) Tel: 0749 432 9638

### Administrator:

Tricia Berry (Monday – Friday 10.00am – 1.30 pm) Tel: 01789 509 278  
email: [administrator@alcesterminster.org](mailto:administrator@alcesterminster.org) Alcester Minster Office, Church House,  
17 Butter Street, Alcester, B49 5AL (Office Opening Hours 10.30 – 12.30pm)

**Alcester Minster website:** [www.alcesterminster.org](http://www.alcesterminster.org)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/AlcesterMinster](http://www.facebook.com/AlcesterMinster)

## Next week's services and events

**Sunday 28 March**                      **Palm Sunday**                      *Colour*  
Alcester                      10.00 am                      Morning Prayer  
**Church services are suspended in all other Minster churches in March**

**Tuesday 30 March**  
Via Zoom                      12.00 noon                      Minster Prayer Gathering

**Thursday 01 April**                      **Maundy Thursday**                      *Red/White*  
Alcester                      7.00 pm                      Evening Prayer  
**Friday 02 April**                      **Good Friday**                      *Hangings removed*  
Alcester                      9.30 pm                      Family Service  
Haselor                      2.00 pm                      Meditation  
Kinwarton                      2.00 pm                      Meditation

**Sunday 04 April**                      **Easter Sunday**                      *White/Gold*  
Haselor                      9.00 am                      Holy Communion  
Kinwarton                      9.00 am                      Holy Communion  
Alcester                      11.00 am                      Holy Communion  
Arrow                      11.00 am                      Holy Communion  
Great Alne                      11.00 am                      Holy Communion  
Weethley                      3.00 pm                      Holy Communion  
Coughton                      4.00 pm                      Holy Communion

**Please remember to reserve a place at any of the church services, to wear a face covering, unless exempt, and keep 2 metres distance. Thank you**

***Remember to reserve your place at ALL services.***

Maundy Thursday  
7 pm Evening Prayer at Alcester

Good Friday  
9.30 am Family Service at Alcester  
2.00 pm Meditation at Haselor  
2.00 pm Meditation at Kinwarton

Easter Sunday  
Please remember to check the time of the service you have reserved a place to attend.

*Some churches are full or almost full on Easter Sunday, please be ready to consider attending an alternative church.  
Thank you.*

## Readings for the week

<b>Today</b>	Hebrews 5 v 5 - 10 John 12 v 1 - 12 - 16 Psalm 42 v 1 - 11
Monday	Luke 22 v 1 - 23
Tuesday	Luke 22 [v 24 - 38] v 39 - 53
Wednesday	Luke 22 v 54 - 71
Thursday	Luke 23 v 1 - 25
Friday	John 18 v 1 - 19 v 42
Saturday	John 2 v 18 - 22



### Prayer

The Ministry Leadership Team would like you to pray for the following topics:

- 1. It is now about a year since the first lockdown began, pray for all those who are struggling with not being able to see family and friends, and give thanks for the technology that goes some way to help people feel connected to others.*
- 2. This time last year we were unable to be in church for Easter. This Palm Sunday let us rejoice that this year many will be able to worship together during Holy Week and on Easter Sunday.*

*Please ensure all mobile phones are switched OFF during the service. Visitors are invited to Gift Aid their offerings in the envelopes provided.*

Contact Tricia Berry (07840 284 294 or administrator@alcesterminster.org) by 6 pm on Tuesday to add notices of church activities to next week's notice sheet.

**REMEMBER CLOCKS GO FORWARD  
ON SATURDAY NIGHT, 27 MARCH**



Did you know that you can now 'LIKE' Alcester Minster on Facebook? Find details and pictures of events at [www.facebook.com/AlcesterMinster](http://www.facebook.com/AlcesterMinster). If you would like to submit event notices or photos to be published on the page then please email administrator@alcesterminster.org