

**All-together worship – Palm Sunday – 28<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

Make way, make way  
For Christ the King  
In splendour arrives  
Fling wide the gates and welcome Him  
Into your lives

*Make way! (Make way!)  
Make way! (Make way!)  
For the King of kings  
(For the King of kings)  
Make way! (Make way!)  
Make way! (Make way!)  
And let His kingdom in*

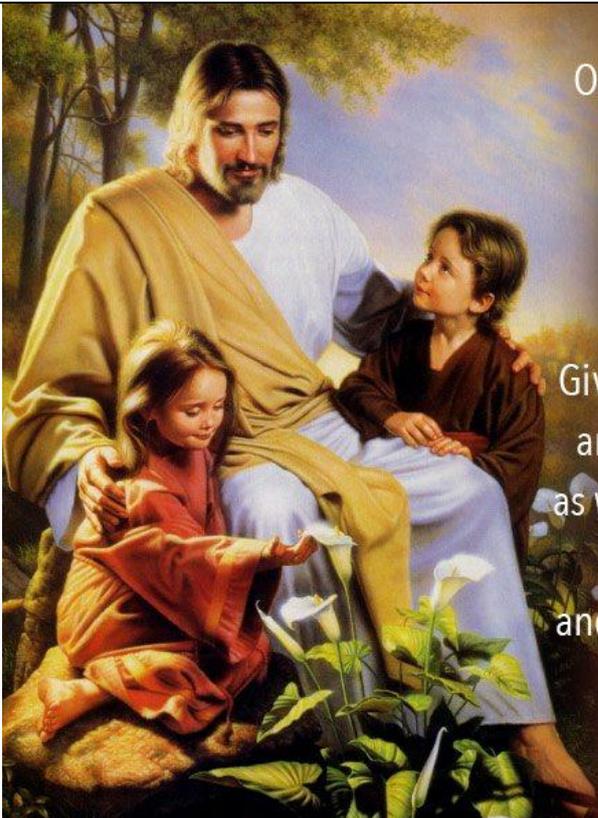
He comes the broken hearts to heal  
The prisoners to free  
The deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance  
The blind shall see

And those who mourn with heavy hearts  
Who weep and sigh  
With laughter, joy and royal crown  
He'll beautify  
We call you now to worship Him  
As Lord of all  
To have no gods before Him  
Their thrones must fall!



*Graham Kendrick  
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**Welcome** to our Palm Sunday All-together Worship.  
How are you? Are you Walking Together through Easter?  
Today we will be thinking about Jesus' walk towards Easter on that first Palm Sunday.



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.  
Amen!

For thine  
is the  
kingdom,  
and the  
power,  
and the  
glory,  
forever.  
Amen.

## Bible reading

Mark 11: 1-11 - Caught up in the celebration

**11** As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, <sup>2</sup> saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. <sup>3</sup> If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ say, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.’”

<sup>4</sup> They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, <sup>5</sup> some people standing there asked, “What are you doing, untying that colt?” <sup>6</sup> They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. <sup>7</sup> When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. <sup>8</sup> Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. <sup>9</sup> Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted, “Hosanna!<sup>[a]</sup>”

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”<sup>[b]</sup>

<sup>10</sup> “Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!”

“Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

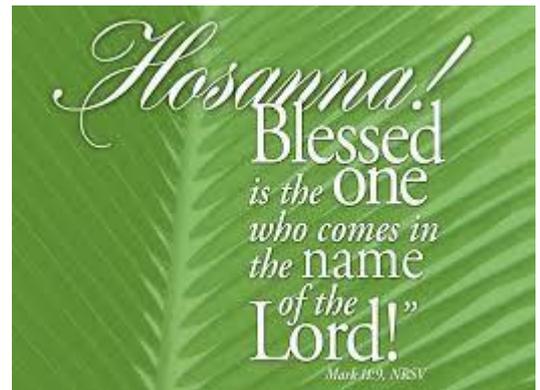
<sup>11</sup> Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple courts. He looked around at everything, but since it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve.

## Song - Hosanna in the Highest

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest, (2X)  
Lord, we lift up your name, with our hearts full of praise,  
Be exalted, O Lord, my God,  
Hosanna in the highest!

Glory, glory, glory to the King of kings! (2X)  
Lord, we lift up your name, with our hearts full of praise,  
Be exalted, O Lord our God,  
Hosanna in the highest!

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, to the King of kings! (2X)  
Lord, we lift up your name, with our hearts full of praise,  
Be exalted, O Lord our God,  
Hosanna in the highest



So? What was it like? Can you imagine the news headlines?

Breaking news – **Disruption in Jerusalem!**

No social distancing going on there!

Here are some eye witness reports of how it might have happened...

## H – Holy

## Family - Mum, Dad & Teenager

M - Yes we were there!

D - We'd come up to Jerusalem for the Passover.

T - It's my first visit to Jerusalem. It was well busy too!

D - Loads of people about.

T - I was so excited and there was talk of a king coming!

M - Some people had been there all night sleeping at the side of road waiting.

D - We wanted to get a good view

T - And they made me collect palm branches to wave

M - Somebody said that the king would be the greatest king that's ever been seen.

T - I wondered if the king would come riding on a stallion?

M – with diamonds shining on his helmet and a golden sword?  
 D - We wondered if he'd have lots of soldiers.  
 T - I thought there would be a band and trumpets?  
 M - And then we heard him coming and everyone shouted Hosanna!  
 T - But I couldn't hear a band.  
 D - and we couldn't hear the soldiers marching.  
 M - And then he came and he was riding on a donkey!  
 T - And he just had a bunch of 12 men with him - all scruffy.  
 M – He couldn't have been a king then.  
 T - There must be a mistake.  
 D - No there is no mistake. I might not have seen many kings but there's something special about this man.  
 M – It was Jesus the one everyone is talking about; you know the one who does all the healings and tells all those great stories. It was him!  
 T – He was smiling at everyone. Even the Romans!  
 D – Yes! Jesus – the one. The **Holy** one!  
 T – But why did the people cheer if he wasn't a king?  
 M - Didn't you hear the crowd? They shouted Hosanna to the **Holy** one!  
 D - That's the word to describe him - **Holy**.

**O – One and Only**

**2 followers of Jesus (children)**

1 - We've been fans of Jesus for a long time.  
 2 - Don't you mean friends of Jesus?  
 1 - Friends, yes friends.  
 2 - We love him!

Hosanna Jesus!  
 He's the best.  
 Hosanna Jesus!  
 We are blest!

1 - He's our Hero.  
 2 - He's our **one and only**.  
 1 - We followed him ever since we were little.  
 2 - very little – teeny tiny.  
 1 - Jesus said, "**Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.**"  
 2 - He's our friend.  
 1 - So, we've been following him ever since. We can't wait for the kingdom of Heaven!  
 2 - Sounds nice doesn't it?  
 1 - Kingdom!  
 2 Of Heaven!

Jesus is our **One and only!**

**S – Saviour**

**Mary and Martha**

Martha – I can't believe how many people were there!  
 Mary - If we had one word to describe Jesus it would be **Saviour**.  
 Martha - The crowd were right to shout Hosanna because God saves! Jesus saves!  
 Mary – Our brother Lazarus was ill.  
 Martha – He was so sick that we sent for Jesus.  
 Martha – We waited.  
 Mary - We waited and prayed and looked.  
 Martha - But, Jesus didn't come and Lazarus died.  
 Mary – Four days later Jesus came,

Martha – but, it was too late!

Mary - I fell at his feet and said, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”

Martha – We took Jesus to the tomb.

Mary – Jesus wept and asked us to open up the tomb. We didn’t want to.

Martha – The smell would be awful – but we did it anyway.

Mary – How could we refuse Jesus? He said believe and see God’s Glory.

Martha – and we did and Lazarus came out – all wrapped in his grave clothes.

Mary - We had to come today and shout Hosanna – because it’s true – Jesus saves!

Martha – He’s our **Saviour!**

### **A – Agitator**

### **Tree Inspectors**

Well, if you ask me, this Jesus fella is a right **agitator**. Yesterday there were loads of people coming into the city for the Passover, when all of a sudden they started grabbing the branches off the trees and slinging them onto the ground.

The whole place was awash with palm leaves.

I wouldn’t mind but it’s our job to look after the trees.

We are Arboreal Administrators

We are the Jerusalem Tree Inspectors.

Jerusalem used to have lush green palm trees and now all we’ve got is a load of big twigs!

It’ll take ages for them to grow back.

Some people even spread their cloaks on the ground to welcome him.

A brave thing to do as he was riding a young donkey at the time and you know what donkeys do when they’re nervous.

Let’s just say they won’t be wearing those coats again in a hurry.

That Jesus stirring up the crowd like that – a right **agitator!**

### **N - Not another messiah - Nazareth nuisance**

### **Soldiers**

1 - We were there – saw that fellow riding in on donkey as if he owned the place.

2 - I thought we were going to have a riot on our hands.

1 - All those people! Shouting! What were they shouting?

2 - Suzanna, I think – think they were calling Suzanna?

1 - No, it was Hosanna.

2 – What does that mean?

1 - God Saves.

2 – Oh yeah! Some scruffy bloke on a donkey against the might of the Roman army!

1 - As if he’s going to save them. These people – you know what I think?

2 - **Not another nuisance messiah?** Crikey, how many more are we going to have?

1 - This one’s that **Nazareth nuisance**.

2 - Well, if you ask me, this one’s asking for trouble coming here like that, getting the people all riled up, ripping the palm branches down and shouting.

1 - I was waiting for Sarge to give the order to charge.

2 - Well, it’s going to be a busy week, another one of their festivals.

1 - What’s this one?

2 - Passover

1 - Which I could Passover my duties.

2 - Never mind, we’re on crucifixion duty this week.

1 -That’s great, I’ve got some dice.

2 - Wonder if we’ll see this **Nazareth nuisance messiah** again?

1 – I bet we do – trouble that one!

2 - I quite fancy the look of his cloak.

**N - Nonconformist / nonviolent****Disciples - Peter & Thomas**

Peter – When he said we were going to Jerusalem – I thought he'd enter in triumph – on a great war horse.

Thomas – But, he sent us to get a donkey.

Peter – I thought we'd be an army.

Thomas – But he rode on a donkey.

Peter – Why do you think he did that?

Thomas – Because he wanted to show that he is a peaceful man. The Prince of Peace.

Peter – I suppose you're right. He's always been a **non-conformist**,

Thomas – and **non-violent**.

Peter – Did you see the way those soldiers looked at us.

Thomas – I thought we might have trouble.

Peter – Well you can't *deny* – Jesus was peaceful.

Thomas – I *doubt* anyone would say otherwise

**A – Authentic****donkey owner**

Wow! Yesterday was amazing.

It all started early when these men came and asked me for my donkey and colt.

I thought...what are they doing nosing around my donkeys

But then one of them said that the Lord needs them.

Well, I can't have people coming around demanding donkeys because a lord needs them. I need them. But, then they told me that it was Jesus. THE LORD!

Well, anything for Jesus.

I've never met anyone so **authentic** as him.

Jesus – a real Lord - the genuine article. **Authentic**

He can borrow my donkeys anytime!

**Prayer**

**Hosanna!** Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

**Holy** Jesus we praise your name.

**Our One and Only!**

**Saviour!**

**Agitator** – turning tables and lives upside down.

**Not another nuisance messiah** – but THE messiah.

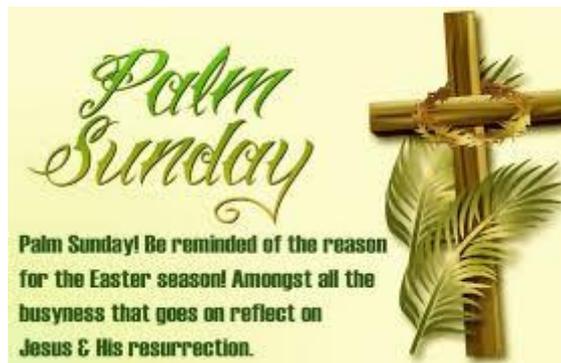
**Non-conforming and non-violent** – Peace maker!

**Authentic** – the real deal, Jesus the genuine!

Dependable, trustworthy and true.

Hosanna!

Amen



Well – we've seen the eye-witness reports of what it might have been like that day.

Perhaps you have other ideas of what it was like?

Whatever you or I may think – Jesus went there and the people shouted **Hosanna** – God Saves!

Jesus saves!

Jesus came to save us!

Can we make way and welcome him into our lives?

**A blessing** God bless us all.

May the spirit of this holy occasion, the warmth of the season make your heart bloom with joy and happiness.

Have a blessed Palm Sunday.

I hope Sunday is not the only day of the week you go to God; each Sunday is special but today more so... Happy Palm Sunday!