



Connect News

Sunday 29th March 2026

Palm Sunday



Palm Sunday is the opening act of the most important week in our Christian calendar. For three years Jesus the new Rabbi from Nazareth has been teaching, preaching, healing and proclaiming that the Kingdom of God has come near. As evidence of that proclamation the water has been turned into wine, the hungry have been fed, the lame - walk, the blind - see and the dead have been raised from the grave. Jesus popularity has grown and many now hail him as their new king, possibly even the promised Messiah. But this popularity and the challenges he brings to the establishment is rocking the status quo of Jewish and Roman society. Those in power are seeking ways to discredit Jesus ministry and in the background plotting his demise.

Everyday people are on the crying out, longing for change, longing to welcome in the promised Messiah who will save and redeem them. The people have waited a long time on the promises made by their forefathers and the prophets of old. Will the promise ever come true?

Then Jesus comes riding on a Donkey. Its not the image of a conquering president of peace with ships, armies and missiles at his command. It is the image of a Servant King. It is the image of a promised Messiah as recorded in the prophecy of Zechariah "See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey." The symbolism is not lost on the people and they rejoice and shout "Hosanna".

People of God let us rejoice again, let us lift up our voice of praise and once more declare that "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord". For this Jesus is our Lord and Saviour, our Redeemer and our friend, who calls us to follow him and to live out his commandments until he comes again.

Welcome

Hosanna to the Son of David

Hosanna to the prince of peace

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessing of the Palms

Loving God, we thank you for Jesus,
for the love and passion with which he came into this world
to offer himself up as our sacrificial lamb,
that we might be forgiven and redeemed
through the cross of Christ.

May these palms be blessed by you
and remind us of your love for each one of us.

Encouraging us to take up our cross
and acknowledge your Son as our Lord and Saviour.

Amen

*As we sing our opening hymn of worship we welcome you to come forward and to
receive a palm cross in memory of God's love for you.*

Hymn

**ALL GLORY, LAUD, AND HONOUR TO THEE, REDEEMER, KING!
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.**

Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's Name comest, the King and Blessed One.

The company of angels are praising thee on high;
and mortal men and all things created make reply.

The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;
our praise and prayer and anthems before thee we present.

To thee before thy passion they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King.

Prayer of Confession

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

**God our Father,
we confess to you and to our fellow members in the body of Christ
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed,
and in what we have failed to do.**

We are truly sorry.

**Forgive us our sins,
and deliver us from the power of evil.**

**For the sake of your Son who died for us,
Jesus Christ our Lord.**

God, who is both power and love,
forgives us and frees us from our sins,
he heals and strengthen us by his Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Collect

Almighty God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon himself our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Reading of the Prophecy of Zechariah 9 v9-10

Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem!
See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious,
lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

I will take away the chariots from Ephraim and the war-horses from Jerusalem, and the battle-bow will be broken.

He will proclaim peace to the nations. His rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth.

Hymn **LIFT UP YOUR HEADS to the coming King;**
Bow before Him and adore Him, sing
To His majesty, let your praises be
Pure and holy, giving glory to the King of kings.

Lift up your hands, let Hosannas ring
Wave your branches, shout his praises, sing
Blessed is he who comes who comes in the name of the Lord
For He is holy, the lamb of glory, the King above all kings.

Gospel Reading Matthew 21 v1-11

Hear the Gospel of our Lord according to John
Glory to Christ our Saviour.

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go to the village ahead of you, and there you will find a donkey tied up with her colt. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.'

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

The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

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!'

'Hosanna in the highest heaven!'

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, 'Who is this?' The crowds answered, 'This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.'

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.
Praise to Christ our Lord.

Sermon

Hymn **ALL HAIL THE LAMB, enthroned on high;**
His praise shall be our battle cry.
He reigns victorious, forever glorious,
His name is Jesus, He is the Lord.

Prayers of Intercessions

The Peace

We meet in Christ name
Let us share his peace

Hymn **BEHOLD THE LAMB WHO BEARS OUR SINS AWAY,**
Slain for us, and we remember
the promise made that all who come in faith
find forgiveness at the cross
So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of peace around the table of the king

The body of our saviour Jesus Christ,
torn for you, eat and remember;
the wounds that heal, the death that brings us life
paid the price to make us one.
So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of love around the table of the king

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin,
shed for you, drink and remember,
He drained death's cup that all may enter in
to receive the life of God.
So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice
as a sign of our bonds of grace around the table of the king

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise,
to respond and to remember,
our call to follow in the steps of Christ
as His body here on earth
As we share in His suffering, we proclaim Christ will come again
And we'll join in the feast of heaven around the table of the King

Offering

Let us present our offerings to the Lord:

**Generous God, accept the offering of your people
for the work of your Kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

In Christ your Son enemies are reconciled,
debts forgiven and strangers made welcome.

Your spirit frees us to live as sons and daughters in our Father's house.

We, who by Christ's power follow the way of the Cross,
sharing the joy of his obedience, now offer you our praise,
with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven
singing the hymn of your unending glory.

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
God of power and might.**

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving Father,
for Christ in whom the world is reconciled.

Lifted on the cross, his suffering and forgiveness
spanned the gulf our sins had made.

Through the dark struggle,
death was swallowed up in victory
that life and light might reign.

Before he was given up to suffering and death,
recalling the night of Israel's release,
the night in which the sons of Egypt died,
your Chosen One, himself the Firstborn, freely offered up his life.
At supper with his disciples
he took bread and offered you thanks.
He broke the bread, and gave it to them,
saying: 'Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you.'

After supper he took the cup,
he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying:
'Drink this, all of you.
This is my Blood of the new covenant;
it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

**We now obey your Son's command.
We recall his blessed passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.
Made one with him, we offer you these gifts
and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.**

Hear us, most merciful Father,
and send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and this wine,
that, overshadowed by his life-giving power,
they may be the body and blood of your son
and we may be kindled with the fire of your love
and renewed for the service of your Kingdom

**Help us, who are baptised
into the fellowship of Christ's Body
to live and work to your praise and glory;
may we grow together in unity and love
until at last, in your new creation,
we enter into our heritage in the company
of the Virgin Mary, the apostles, and prophets,
and of all our brothers and sisters
living and departed.**

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be to you,
Lord of all ages, world without end.
Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

The living bread is broken
for the life of the world
Lord, unite us in this sign.

Lord's Prayer

Let us pray together as our Lord taught us to pray

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.
Do not bring us to the time of trial
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours, now and for ever.
Amen.

Distribution

*All are welcome
to come and receive as we gather at our Lord's table*

Prayer after communion

Give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious
and his mercy endures forever.

**God of hope,
may we who have gathered around the table of our Lord,
live to praise and serve you with faith, hope and love. Amen**

Blessing

Christ crucified draw you to himself, to find in him
a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of
sins forgiven; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son
and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.
Amen

Hymn **RIDE ON, RIDE ON IN MAJESTY!**

In lowly pomp ride on to die!
O Christ, Thy triumphs now begin
O'er captive death and conquered sin.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Hark all the tribes 'hosanna' cry;
Thine humble beast pursues his road
With palms and scattered garments strowed.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh;
The Father on His sapphire throne
Awaits His own anointed Son.

Ride on, ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die!
Bow Thy meek head to mortal pain,
then take, O Christ, Your pow'r and reign.

The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen

Holy Week Services 2026

Monday 30th March to Friday 3rd April

Lasswade Bonnyrigg & Rosewell

Daily Prayer Reflections Monday to Friday 9am at the Pitcairn Centre

Evening Worship 7pm

Monday 30th March

Stations of the Cross at Our Lady

Tuesday 31st March

Rosewell Church

Wednesday 1st April

Lasswade Church

Maundy Thursday

St Leonard's Church

Good Friday

Cockpen & Carrington Church

Dalkeith Area

Palm Sunday Praise

6.30pm at St John's Church

Maundy Thursday

7pm at St Mary's Dalkeith

Good Friday Walk of Witness

Commencing at 10am from St Mary's

Early Easter Sunday

7.30am in the King's Park

followed by Breakfast in St John's



St Mary's Church
(Dalkeith Country Park)

in conjunction with
Edinburgh Dog & Cat Home

PET FOOD BANK

First Tuesday of every month
10am-12 Noon

Edinburgh Dog & Cat Home logo: A green square with 'Edinburgh' on the left, 'Dog & Cat' in the center, and 'Home' at the bottom. Below it is a white banner with 'LOVE WITHOUT LIMITS' and a small dog icon. To the right is a cartoon dog and cat. Below that is a small 'Dog & Cat Home' logo.

Out of Hours Entrance to Dalkeith Country Park

The park gates are normally open 7am to 7pm. Out with these hours your car needs to be on the ANPR List.

If you would like to be on this new list please email Fiona with your Name & Number plate ASAP!





Bluebell Walk & Lunch

Join us for a leisurely walk around the forest of Dalkeith Country Park on Friday 24th April.

We depart from St Mary's at 11am making our way through the estate working towards enjoying lunch at the Restoration Yard around 12.30pm

You can join us for the walk, the walk and lunch or just pop in for lunch
SIGN UP TODAY



Saturday 4th April

Join us for a Coffee and Chat at St Mary's from 10.30am
All Welcome



St Mary's
stmarysdalkeith.org.uk

St Leonard's
stleonardslasswade.org.uk

Find us on  **@StLandM**

Church Office & Rectory 11 Peacock Parkway Bonnyrigg EH193RQ

 0131 663 7000 or email  office.stlandm@gmail.com

Our Rector's Day off is usually a Monday

Both Churches are registered Charities

St Leonard's Episcopal Church: Lasswade SC014151

St Mary's Episcopal Church: Dalkeith SC001677