1.THE SOLEMN ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Hosanna to the Son of David: blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel. Hosanna in the highest.

2. THE SIMPLE ENTRANCE **ANTIPHON**

Six days before the Passover, when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem.

the children ran to meet him; in their hands they carried palm branches and with a loud voice cried out: *Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!

O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory! Who is this king of glory? He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory.

*Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your

abundant mercy!

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God, who as an example of humility for the human race to follow

caused our Saviour to take flesh and submit to the Cross,

graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering

and so merit a share in his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the

Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:4-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied.

he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear.

For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away.

I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face

against insult and spittle.

The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint;

I know I shall not be shamed.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 21(22):8-9,17-20,23-24

Response:

My God, my God, why have you forsaken

1. All who see me deride me. They curl their lips, they toss their heads. 'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him; let him release him if this is his friend.' (R.)

Many dogs have surrounded me,

a band of the wicked beset me. They tear holes in my hands and my feet. I can count every one of my bones. (R.)

They divide my clothing among them. They cast lots for my robe. O Lord, do not leave me alone, my strength, make haste to help me! (R.)

I will tell of your name to my brethren and praise you where they are assembled. 'You who fear the Lord give him praise; all sons of Jacob, give him glory. Revere him, Israel's sons.' (R.)

SECOND READING

Philippians 2:6-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians.

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are, and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings

in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,

should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory:

Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high

and gave him the name which is above all names.

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

GOSPEL Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark 15:1-39

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God, the Father almighty. maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ. the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,

begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father:

through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

(all bow during the next three lines)

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,

and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified.

who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness

and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Through the Passion of your Only Begotten Son,

O Lord.

may our reconciliation with you be near at hand.

so that, though we do not merit it by our own deeds.

yet by this sacrifice made once for all, we may feel already the effects of your mercy. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourished with these sacred gifts. we humbly beseech you, O Lord, that, just as through the death of your Son you have brought us to hope for what we believe,

so by his Resurrection you may lead us to where you call. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Look, we pray, O Lord, on this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ did not hesitate to be delivered into the hands of the wicked and submit to the agony of the Cross. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

We thank you Father for the life and knowledge which you have made known to us through Jesus your Son. As this bread which we have broken was once scattered on the hillside and was gathered and became one again, so may your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom. For yours is the glory and the power through Jesus Christ our Lord.

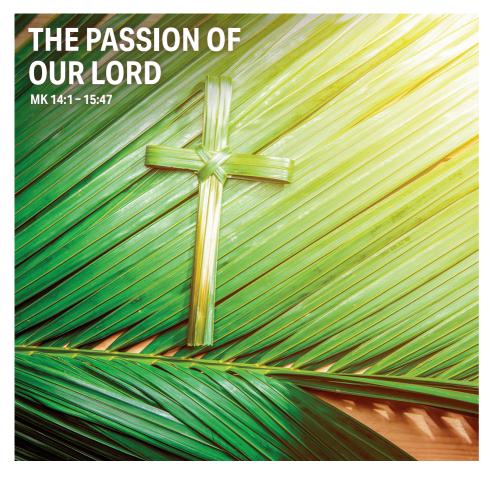
(The Didache 2nd century)

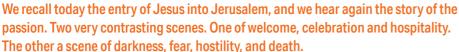




THE WORD

Year B • 24 March 2024 • Colour: Red • Psalter Week 2





Some might say that Jesus could have taken a detour and avoided Jerusalem. If he knew what lay before him, would it not have been better to travel to a safer destination? The great statement from Denis McBride might help: "Love does not demand the cross; but in the life of Jesus, love ends up on the cross. Love chooses not to avoid the suffering that emerges from its commitment." And so, Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a donkey. He doesn't disguise himself but instead he heads a parade. In doing so, he's confronting the powerful, the religious leaders that seek to persecute him.

Our second reading today should be read in conjunction with the Passion. The reading is often called The Christ Hymn, and St. Paul uses the opportunity to detail the life of Jesus from his existence before all time, right the way through to his passion, death, resurrection and ascension. The account is detailed and poetic and looks to the cross not as a single moment, but as a summary of the entire mystery that is Christ.



"Every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." (St. Paul)

DC

This week, we take an opportunity to read the second reading once again. Keep in mind the large audience St. Paul was writing to. *The Christ Hymn* seeks to teach us about the life and ministry of Jesus.



REFLECT

he famous city of Herculaneum, near Naples, was buried by the eruption of the volcano Vesuvius in 79 AD. Only in recent times, excavators found a body on the shore. It was the body of a young woman who died trying to protect a child from the eruption. From her bones, they knew that she'd been undernourished from childhood and marked by heavy work. The experts concluded that she'd been a slave or a servant, there not being much difference in the ancient world between slaves and servants. This is an image very familiar to us when we read the Gospels. Slaves are commonplace. They serve table, they do the hard work, their labour is tiring, and their bodies are worn. It's interesting that on reading the Passion of Jesus Christ, our first impression is of a slave being handed over to be crucified. Except this slave would show the world kindness, compassion, love and mercy. Like the servant in Herculaneum, her last act was to wrap a child in her arms for protection and safety. Jesus, the slave, the servant and the healer, his last act would be to show the world the extent of God's love. This would ultimately get him killed. No one, not even his disciples, could fully comprehend Christ's message - That God so loved the world, he sent his only Son. So that the world might know his love.

LEARN

In his plan of salvation, God ordained that his Son should not only die for our sins, but should also "taste death", experience the condition of death, the separation of his soul from his body, between the time he expired on the cross and the time he was raised from the dead. (Cathechism 624)