Dear friend
I enclose virtual service sheets for Palm Sunday and for each day of Holy Week. The Holy weekday services are attached in pairs in case you want to print them double sided. Many thanks to Judith and Martin who have collaborated in preparation of these sheets.

I enclose some you tube clips of music for the week. There is a huge amount of marvellous music for this season, and I suggest picking just one or two pieces for each day of Holy Week to accompany the service; some of the pieces are quite long.

PALM SUNDAY
Hymn to sing along to; Ride on, ride on in majesty, a songs of Praise version with due pomp: https://youtu.be/VAh1lzSQ3P4

Orlando Gibbons' madrigalian Hosanna to the Son of David, with rolling score for singers: https://youtu.be/xy3NCeoe3OA

Thomas Weelkes setting is also fine, although overshadowed by the Gibbons (NB sung a tone higher than the rolling score): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FC2WTqIbp5Y

A more upbeat "Hosanna in the highest" sing by Vineyard Worship: https://youtu.be/SKHwBamBSPk

An organ postlude on All Glory Laud and Honour by Michael Burkhardt: https://youtu.be/eWSl3zhHif4

HOLY WEEK
The Passion chorale (Bach), O sacred head, sung by Gesualdo 6:
https://youtu.be/R_OBbjAfVrI?list=RDR_OBbjAfVrI

If you let the video run on, the group have recorded several other Lent and Passiontide hymns, all with great clarity – you can hear every word!
Crux fidelis, attributed to King João IV of Portugal or possibly a nineteenth century pastiche, but still a wonderful piece simlar in style to Portuguese music of the period here sung in lockdown by Sonoro choir: https://youtu.be/3uyMOzeS-Uk

Lotti's Crucifixus, sung by Tenebrae conducted by Nigel Short: https://youtu.be/89shqLBkDvw

or for those who would like to sing along, a richer interpretation of this fabulous piece by the Sixteen: https://youtu.be/8itDCBV-6wI

Woefully array'd, by the early Tudor composer William Cornysh is a wonderfully stark piece, here sung by Stile Antico, with rolling score – it's tricky to sing! https://youtu.be/UCNAKCxBuPg

There are various expressive settings of the Lamentations of Jeremiah, of which Tallis' is the best known. Here it is sung by the Tallis Scholars. Each Hebrew letter heading is decorated like an illuminated manuscript: https://youtu.be/Ul8Hx1Fi-e8
The setting by Alonso Lobo is also fine; here is part of it, the letter Heth, sung by Tenebrae: https://youtu.be/70gUPJS73Zc

And which Bach Passion to choose? Herewith the first chorus (Herr, unser Herrscher/ Lord and master in all lands, the gathering nations hail thee) of the St John Passion, sung/played by the young voices/ orchestra of the Netherlands Bach Society: https://youtu.be/FyeOPfg_6FE

With every blessing
Chris

SERVICE FOR PALM SUNDAY,28.03.21
HOLY WEEK BEGINS

The people of the Hebrews
with palms before thee went:
our praise and prayer and anthems
before thee we present.
(St Theodulph of Orleans, trans JM Neale)

CONFESSION
O Jesus, poor and abject, unknown and despised, have mercy upon me, and let me not be ashamed to follow you.
O Jesus, hated, calumniated and persecuted, have mercy upon me, and make me content to be as my master. *(John Wesley)*
I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you. O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.
(Psalm 118 vv21,28-29)

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 forever, **Amen.**

READINGS Zechariah 9.9-12, Psalm 118 vv 1-2, 19-end, Mark 11.1-11.

REFLECTION Celebrity status can be transient; in our own time we see how individuals are puffed up and then rejected by the media and a fickle public. The crowds that strew leafy branches on the ground shouted "Hosanna" (literally "save us now"), expecting a Messiah who would deliver them from the tyranny of Rome. As Samuel Crossman wrote; "then 'Crucify!' is all their breath, and for his death they thirst and cry".

Jesus' entry to Jerusalem on the back of a colt re-enacts the prophecy in Zechariah 9.9. This king would not arrive on a majestic warhorse, towering over the other people, but in humility, vulnerable, at their eye level. The exuberance of the crowd must have been painful, as he knew the fate in store for him.

Perhaps at around the same time, an eminent VIP entered the same city on a splendid horse, with military pomp and ceremony; he was the Roman Governor of Judaea, Pontius Pilate.

PRAYERS



Jesus, you rode into your city in triumph on this day, receiving the shouts and the welcome of many. Receive our welcome and our acclaim. Dear Master, we remember that many who claimed you as King on Sunday shouted "Crucify!" on Friday. Confirm our faith today that our love for you will never falter or turn to hatred but will remain constant now and forever.
(National Christian Education Council)

King of peace, we pray for the earthly rulers of this world, that they may govern justly and in humility. We pray for those regions governed by lust for power, fear, greed and corruption. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

We pray for those facing poverty, disease and deprivation around the world, those in the Middle East, Myanmar and elsewhere. We pray for all who are sick; especially, as we commemorate the anniversary of the first lockdown, we pray for those suffering long term effects of Covid, for all who have had treatment or investigations delayed because of it. Comfort those who mourn loved ones. Especially we pray for……
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

We say the **LORD'S PRAYER**
We share **THE GRACE**

FINAL PRAYER Lord Jesus Christ, you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant, and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation; give us the mind to follow you and to proclaim you as Lord and King, to the Glory of God the Father, **Amen**. *(Common Worship)*