



The Sunday Supplement

Issue 3: 4th April 2020

A Call to Worship

Jesus is coming!

From the mountainside, from the seaside,
from the homes of the rich and the company of the poor,
from the bedside of those who are sick,

Jesus is coming!

Along dusty roads, with a ragged band of travellers,
Jesus comes to Jerusalem, Jesus comes to worship.

Will we greet him with Hosannas?

Jesus is Lord, Behold the King of Kings

*Jesus is Lord
Behold the King of Kings exalted high
The name above all names
I sing His praise
The Lamb upon the throne
Who reigns in glory power and majesty*

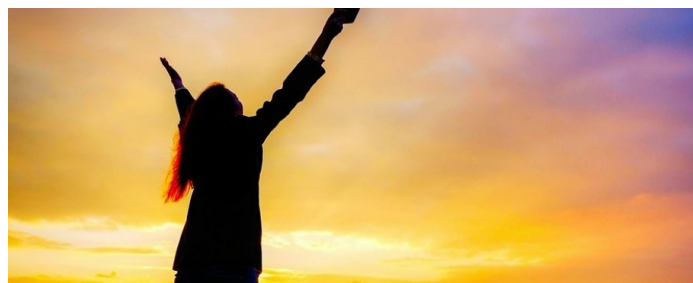
*This is my God
Behold His hands and side
The wounds of love that healed my
brokenness
What God is this
What kind of sacrifice would give so much
To gain a loveless soul*

*For me to live is Christ to die is gain
For Christ has died that I might gain His
life
He is my all my joy my righteousness
My hope of glory when He comes to reign*

*Yes suddenly my God shall come again
And every knee shall bow before His name
And He shall reign forever on the throne
And in His glory there I shall proclaim*

*Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Lord,
JESUS IS LORD!*

Daniel K. L. Chua



Prayers for our Church Family

Don't worry about anything, but pray about everything. With thankful hearts offer up your prayers and requests to God.
Philippians 4:6

COVID-19 is affecting everyone in Britain at this time. Those who are part of our church community are no exception. The challenges of daily life are different for us all but no-one is unaffected. As Christians we have the privilege of coming to God with our prayers and concerns for each other.

As part of the Body of Christ in this world our members are involved in all aspects of community life. The suggestions below may help as you pray for our work and witness in the current situation.

Healthcare

Pray for all medical staff and mental health working in the NHS

Give thanks for the care they provide in these difficult times

Remember support staff, many of whom are now working from home

Care homes

Pray for staff and residents in local care homes

Give thanks for the care and support offered to our elderly relatives and friends

Remember families with elderly relatives that they are unable to visit at this time

Community care and support

Pray for all affected by the closure of day care centres

Give thanks for all who work with people with special needs

Remember Christian ministers as they conduct funerals and support grieving families

Education

Pray for pupils and staff following the closure of local schools

Give thanks for the childcare now provided by schools to the children of keyworkers

Remember parents as they care for their children at home

Self-Isolation

Pray for those self-isolating due to health concerns or older age or possible

Give thanks for the neighbours and friends who offer support to those living alone

Remember everyone currently at home due to possible contact with COVID-19

Employment

Pray for those facing financial hardship while they are unable to work

Give thanks for those still working to provide essential services

Remember those under pressure to keep eservices running with fewer staff



Reading



Matthew 21:1-11

A Call to Respond

We have come to meet you today, Jesus.
We don't know quite what to expect.
We think we know what we need,
how you can meet our needs.
But we come humbly, laying our coats before you.
It's your call.
Reveal to us who you are,
how you can be a Saviour in our lives,
a Saviour in our world today.
Come Lord Jesus!



Something ventured

Palm Sunday 2020

*Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!*

Palm Sunday 2020 will have a very different feel. There seems so little to celebrate as we look ahead to Holy Week. COVID-19 daily claims more lives in Britain and across the world. Normal social contact is suspended. Our lives are on hold. How then can we rejoice with the crowd in Jerusalem?



The events of the first Palm Sunday took place just before the Passover. In Jewish homes, then as now, this feast is the annual remembrance of the events of the Exodus. For Moses and his people the escape from Egypt was truly something to celebrate. Their descendants continue to give thanks for their deliverance each year. Jesus and his friends arrived in Jerusalem on the first Palm Sunday where they planned to share in the meal that is central to the festival.

The story of the Exodus does have a dark side which is little acknowledged. As the Hebrew slaves fled, Egypt faced widespread sickness and death. Like people across the world in 2020 they lived through dark days as life became uncertain and precarious. This year, perhaps as never before, the suffering implicit in the Passover story resonates with our own situation.

As we begin the journey through Holy Week this year we recognise that before experiencing the joy of liberation God's people have always known the reality of suffering and death. Jesus faced that challenge bringing hope and peace to those who follow him. In the midst of all that we see around us we echo the words of the Palm Sunday crowd, trusting in God who raised Jesus from the dead.