



# THE WAIKATO CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST PETER

Te whare karakia matua o Pita Tapu ki Waikato

Dean The Very Rev'd Wendy Scott



## Dean's Message for Palm Sunday:

E te whanau a te Karaiti

Tēnei te mihi ki a tātou katoa, mo te māuiui Covid-19

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

As we prepare to enter into Holy Week the Palm Sunday is the gateway that leads directly to Jerusalem. There's so much symbolism in today's Gospel reading, I'm setting you a puzzle to follow. Read the scripture then follow this trail:

Zechariah 14.4, Zechariah 9.9-10, 2 Kings 9.13, Psalm. 25-26

It's good to see where these stories connect and how the Old Testament acts as an echo chamber as the writer of Matthew's Gospel is making sense of having witnessed Jesus' last week before his death and resurrection.

It seems that Lent was bigger event than any of us figured, I started Lent by saying I would sit in the ashes with Job as I contemplated this transition for us as a family. I'm not good at giving things up i.e. completely failed on coffee, chocolate etc, mainly because I'm forgetful. Yet this Lent we have all had to give up so much as we sacrifice our freedom for the lives of others. I reckon that's enough for us to reflect on for the next little bit.....

May God watch over you, keep you and those you love safe, and the blessing of Father, Son and Holy Spirit be yours.  
Arohanui, Wendy.

## Prayer resource for Palm Sunday 05.04.2020

Although we cannot gather as a congregation, let us be with each other in spirit in God's presence. As we continue to mark the significance of this holy season, let us pray for the world, for each other, and for ourselves.

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week, when we walk with Jesus as he begins the last stage of his path to the cross. Jesus and his disciples have been to Jerusalem on other occasions. This one is different. Jesus enters in triumph, with the trappings of kingship, and amidst the adulation and acclamations – the Hosannas – of the crowd.

*'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord'*  
Ps 118:26.

Slowly and carefully, read, two or three times, the following extracts from the Gospel for the Liturgy of the Palms, paying particular attention to any words or phrases which stand out for you.

### **Matt. 21:1-3, 7-9**

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them'".

[T]hey brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

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

## Exercise

Thinking about the phrases that struck you, imagine yourself in that crowd.

- Are you in the middle or on the edge?
- What are you feeling?
- Why do you think Jesus planned his entry into Jerusalem in this way?
- What do you want to ask him?

If you would like to read the Psalm and the Gospel in full, the references are:

- Ps 118:1-2, 19-29
- Matt. 21: 1-11

As a conclusion, pray this collect:

True and humble king, hailed by the crowd as Messiah: grant us the faith to know and love you, that we may be found beside you on the way of the cross, which is the path to glory.

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Traditionally on Palm Sunday we also celebrate the Liturgy of the Passion. The readings for that Liturgy are:

- Is 50:4-9;
- Ps 31:9-16;  
Phil 2:5-11;
- Matt: 26:14 – 27:66.

The collect for that Liturgy:

Almighty and ever living God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him 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.

I want to commend to you undertaking a daily rhythm of prayer at this time, it can help give you a sense of grounding for your day especially while we're in isolation. There are a number of options on the diocesan web site. If you don't have access, sitting quietly at 9am & 7pm, lighting a candle, reading the scriptures, (the daily readings are provided here for you, praying and giving thanks for the ways God has blessed your day.



Check out our Facebook and website for updated information

**St Peter's Cathedral,  
Hamilton  
[www.stpeter.org.nz](http://www.stpeter.org.nz)**

**Morning Prayer for the week commencing 6th April**

<p><b>Monday 6th April:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Psalm 41</li> <li>• Lamentations 1:1-12a</li> <li>• Luke 22:1-23</li> </ul>	<p><b>Tuesday 7th April</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Psalm 27</li> <li>• Lamentations 3:1-18</li> </ul>	<p><b>Wednesday 8th April:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Psalm 102</li> <li>• Wisdom 1:16 - 2:1, 2:12-22</li> </ul> <p><b>Or</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jeremiah 11:18-20</li> <li>• Luke 22:54-71</li> </ul>
<p><b>Thursday 9th April:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Psalm 42, 43</li> <li>• Leviticus 16:2-24</li> <li>• Luke 23:1-25</li> </ul>	<p><b>Friday 10th April:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Psalm 69</li> <li>• Gen 22:1-18</li> <li>• John 18 - 19 <b>Or</b></li> <li>• <b>Hebrews 10:1-10</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Saturday 11th April:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Psalm 142</li> <li>• Hosea 6:1-6</li> <li>• John 2:18-22</li> </ul>

**For our children:**

Check out the STRANDZ website: [www.strandz.org.nz](http://www.strandz.org.nz)