

6th Sunday in Lent

Palm Sunday

'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.'

Zechariah 9 v 9

(a prophecy written about 500 years before Jesus was born)

'They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on.'

Matthew 21 v 7

Father God, your Word shows me that Jesus is your promised King and that His kingdom is eternal.

Please help me to recognise Jesus as King of my life. Help me to love Him and live in a way that honours Him, in obedience to your word.

Amen.

On Palm Sunday we remember Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a donkey, five days before He was crucified. Jesus wasn't being lazy! He did it to fulfil a prophecy that the King of Israel would enter Jerusalem on a donkey – He did it to show that He is God's promised King.

The crowds threw cloaks and palm-tree branches on the road as an act of respect to royalty. They shouted, 'Hosanna to the Son of David!', 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!', 'Hosanna in the highest heaven!'

'For God has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.'
Colossians 1 v 13-14

On Good Friday we'll find out why Jesus had to die on the cross.

Matthew 21

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.”

⁴ This took place to fulfil what was spoken through the prophet:

⁵ “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.’”

⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. ⁸ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ 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!”

¹⁰ When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?”

¹¹ The crowds answered, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”