

Dear all,

We are now at the beginning of Holy Week – a week that ‘does what it says on the tin!’. It is a week that is the culmination of our Lenten discipline, the week that starts off so positively in Jesus being acclaimed king, but then, all too soon, sinks into sorrow, betrayal, suffering and death.

 **Priory Church**
Deeping St James
Services for
Holy Week & Easter



Monday 11th - Wednesday 13th April
 7.30pm Evening Prayer and Meditation

Thursday 14th April, Maundy Thursday
 7.30pm Holy Communion &
 Stripping the Altars, with vigil



Friday 15th April, Good Friday
 9.30am Children's Service, followed by crafts
 2.00pm Last Hour Meditation

Saturday 16th April, Holy Saturday
 4.00pm Meditation



Sunday 17th April, Easter Day
 5.30am Sunrise Service
 9.00am BCP Communion Service
 10.00am Holy Communion
 6.00pm Choral Evensong

Holy Week itself ends on Holy Saturday – a day of loss and desolation. It is all too easy to jump from Good Friday to Easter Day, and avoid the difficulty and pain of that day of dashed hopes and confusion... the day when everything seemed to fall apart for Jesus' followers.

It is important to say that God is in this place too. This is the experience of many in the world... in our community... in our family. Perhaps it speaks to something of our own experience too.

Yes, we do have that great 'spoiler alert!' We do know how the story ends – or rather, how it moves on to the next act. But let's take some time to go there. As we do, we will see, in the words of one of last Sunday's hymns, how deep the Father's love for me.

The lectionary readings for tomorrow are: Isaiah 50: 4-9a and Philipians 2: 5-11. There are 2 Gospel readings – The Palm Gospel, Luke 19: 28-40; and the Passion Gospel, Luke 22:14 - 23: end. The Psalm is Psalm 31: 9-16.

The hymns for the morning service are [All Glory, Laud and Honour \(Tune: St Theodulf - 6vv\) \[with lyrics for congregations\] - YouTube](#); [WINCHESTER NEW-RIDE ON, RIDE ON, IN MAJESTY - YouTube](#); [Graham Kendrick - Make Way Make Way - Lyric Video - YouTube](#)

Anglican Chant [Psalm 31 "In Thee, O Lord, Have I Put My Trust" - YouTube](#)

A modern take on a part of the Psalm [Psalm 31 \(Into Your Hand\) \(feat. Sarah Kroger\) - YouTube](#)

In late February 2022, the Chief Rabbi in Ukraine invited Christians to join Jews in praying Psalm 31 together. Here is a montage of images to reflect this.

[A Prayer for Ukraine: Psalm 31 - YouTube](#)

Anthems suggested for the lectionary readings include:

[Händel: Messiah - 34. Lift up your heads, o ye gates - Gardiner - YouTube](#)

[Lift up your heads O ye gates - YouTube](#) William Matthias

[Hosanna to the Son of David - Weelkes - YouTube](#)

[Hosanna to the Son of David - Gibbons - YouTube](#)

Also a modern version [Hosanna to the Son of David - Dan Schutte - YouTube](#)

[Ride On | Grayston Ives - YouTube](#)

[Ride On, King Jesus \(arr. A. Parker and R. Shaw\) - YouTube](#)

There are various events online for Holy Week. I would recommend a couple from St Paul's Cathedral.

Passion: A Good Holy Week: Stephen Cottrell (Archbishop of York) explores Holy Week from Palm Sunday to Good Friday, unpacking how the services illuminate the beauty and profundity of the Holy Week stories. (NB this was given some time ago, when he was Bishop of Chelmsford).

www.stpauls.co.uk/resources/passion-good-holy-week

or

Lucy Winkett's reflections take us on a pilgrimage through each day of Holy Week from Monday to Good Friday.

[We are Here: Holy Week | St Paul's Cathedral \(stpauls.co.uk\)](#)



Stay safe.

Blessings and love

Mark