

Today is Palm Sunday and Christians all over the world are celebrating Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The crowds shouted Hosanna, a cry from psalm 118 meaning "Lord save us". Let's pray to our Lord and Saviour

Father God as your church gathers today around the world, we join with the crowds in Jerusalem and cry out Hosanna! Lord save us. Save us from being inwardly focused. Send us out to tell the story of your love this Easter. We pray that all those completing the Alpha course this week will know the joy, peace and life changing power of your Love. We pray that this Holy Week we will share the light and love of Jesus. Help us to understand and root deeply in our hearts your overwhelming love for us all. Speak your truth in a world of lies, shine your light in the darkness and may our lives reflect your love.

Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer

Lord Jesus, You are King of Kings, the Son of God the Messiah and yet you humbled yourself to death even death on a cross. Servant king we cry Hosanna! Lord save us. Save us from our pride and selfishness. As we seek to follow you turn our eyes and hearts to focus more on you and less on our own needs and desires. We pray for those in our community who are empty and poor, for those who struggle with the basic needs of daily life. For the poor in love, for those who need healing and hope in their lives, those who need justice and those who require mercy.

Let's take a moment of quiet prayer on behalf of our friends and family members who don't follow you. Hosanna! Lord save them

Pause 10 seconds

Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer

Holy Spirit, on this Palm Sunday, we lift the leaders of the nations to you at a time of global turmoil. Jesus entered Jerusalem at a time of political unrest, the Roman Empire had unimaginable power, but Your power over death and sin is greater. Thank you that the Kingdom of God is an everlasting one. We pray that your kingdom of peace and justice will come, and Your will, really will be done, in our church, homes, nation and worldwide. We pray for all those who have leadership over us, draw them closer to Jesus. May their leadership be characterised by wisdom and humility. Hosanna! Lord save them.

As we go into Holy Week may we share your message of hope. Assure us of your presence and everlasting love. May our eyes be fixed on Jesus the author and finisher of our faith. May we go in the power of the Spirit Amen.

Merciful father accept these prayers for the sake of your son, Jesus Christ. AMEN