

Highcliffe and Bransgore Methodist Churches

My Dear Friends,

We join the thronging and exuberant crowds at Jerusalem's East Gate to welcome Jesus in his triumphal entrance -there is no social distancing here. We are using the account of the entry to Jerusalem from John's gospel 12: 12-36.

Together we begin this most holy of weeks, 7 days which, if you are open to its message, changes the world (and us) forever. This weeks video marks the one year anniversary of our first ever worship video -Palm Sunday 2020. Janine reads the traditional words for the beginning of a Palm Sunday service, Angela reads the gospel lesson and Diana closes with a blessing. I am privileged to be your preacher. We will sing together, led by our music group, "Blessed be your name" to remind us of the shouts of the crowd and we conclude with Graham Kendrick singing, "Meekness and Majesty." The Bible study for Holy Week is adapted from a resource provided by FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students).

Be blessed as we enter this Holy Week of 2021. My prayer is that, by the power of the Holy Spirit, this past year of separation has given us all a renewed hunger to encounter God's Word in fresh and exciting new ways. The result being our full and active participation with Jesus and serving his Church in its mission to the world. This morning let us wave our palm crosses and shout our Hosannas, God Saves!

Phillip