

Take up our cross...

*With reflections from Rev. Fadi Diab,
Rector of St Andrew's, Ramallah
Morning Worship from Emmanuel*



Welcome

Led by Revd. Nick Davies

The Lord be with you
And also with you

*Steve Bullock introduces St Andrew's Ramallah
and Revd. Fadi Diab...*



HYMN: 'The Kingdom of God'

The kingdom of God is justice and joy,
for Jesus restores what sin would destroy;
God's power and glory in Jesus we know,
and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

The kingdom of God is mercy and grace,
the captives are freed, the sinners find place,
the outcast are welcomed God's banquet to
share, and hope is awakened instead of despair.

The kingdom of God is challenge and choice,
believe the good news, repent and rejoice.
His love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross
our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss.

God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal,
in Jesus begun, in heaven made whole;
the heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call,
and all things cry glory to God all in all.

Prayers of Confession

A moment of silent reflection

Suffering God, we are blind to your love made
perfect in our human weakness:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

Challenging God, we evade your call and are deaf
to your words:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Life giving God, help us to turn from death and
embrace your abundant life:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May the God of love bring *us* back to himself,
forgive *us our* sins, and assure *us* of his eternal
love in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Prayer for today

Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of
Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's
sufferings, and by following in his Way come to
share in his glory; through Jesus Christ our
Lord. **Amen**

Reading: Mark 8.31-end

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Taking up the Cross in Ramallah *Reflections from Revd. Fadi Diab*



HYMN: *'This is our God'*

From heaven you came helpless babe
Entered our world, your glory veiled
Not to be served but to serve
And give Your life that we might live

*This is our God, The Servant King
He calls us now to follow Him
To bring our lives as a daily offering
Of worship to The Servant King*

Come see His hands and His feet
The scars that speak of sacrifice
Hands that flung stars into space
To cruel nails surrendered
This is our God...

So let us learn how to serve
and in our lives in thrown him;
each other's need to prefer,
for it is Christ with serving.
This is our God...

Taking up the Cross in Cheltenham *Reflections from Revd. Fadi Diab*



HYMN: 'Will you come and follow me'

Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown?
Will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you
and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you
and you in me?

Will you love the "you" you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you
and you in me?

Lord your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In Your company I'll go
where Your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you
and you in me.

Prayers

We will use this response between our prayers...

Your Kingdom come
Your will be done

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven
Hallowed be your name,
Your Kingdom come, your will be done,
On earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins
As we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil.
For the Kingdom, the power and the glory
Are yours now and forever. Amen

Notices

Led by Rev. Nick Davies

Blessing

God give you grace to deny yourself, take up
your cross and follow him and the blessing of
God Almighty the father the son and the Holy
Ghost be amongst you and remain with you now
and forever more. Amen

HYMN: 'Lift High the Cross'

*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.*

Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,
our King victorious, Christ the Son of God:
Refrain

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
your death has brought us life eternally: *Refrain*

Let every race and every language tell of him
who saves our souls from death and hell: *Refrain*

For thy blest cross which doth for all atone
creations praises rise before thy throne: *Refrain*

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen

