



St James C of E  
Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April  
2020  
Palm Sunday



# Worship Songs

click on the blue link – You Tube (you may need to skip the ads)

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dAiBntMtViY>



# Worship Songs

– click on the blue link – You Tube

All Glory, Laud and Honour

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=plc0cpQA2k>

## Psalm 118

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;  
his love endures forever.

Let Israel say:  
“His love endures forever.”

Open for me the gates of the righteous;  
I will enter and give thanks to the LORD.  
This is the gate of the LORD  
through which the righteous may enter.  
I will give you thanks, for you answered me;  
you have become my salvation.

The stone the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;  
the LORD has done this,  
and it is marvellous in our eyes.  
The LORD has done it this very day;  
let us rejoice today and be glad.

## Psalm 118

LORD, save us!

LORD, grant us success!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD.  
From the house of the LORD we bless you.<sup>[b]</sup>

The LORD is God,  
and he has made his light shine on us.  
With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession  
upto the horns of the altar.

You are my God, and I will praise you;  
you are my God, and I will exalt you.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;  
his love endures forever.

# Bible reading Matthew 21 New International Version (NIV)

## Jesus Comes to Jerusalem as King

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, 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. If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.”

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

“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.’”

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

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

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



Bible reading Matthew 21

The Triumphal Entry – Palm Sunday

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z-39h0xYqdE>

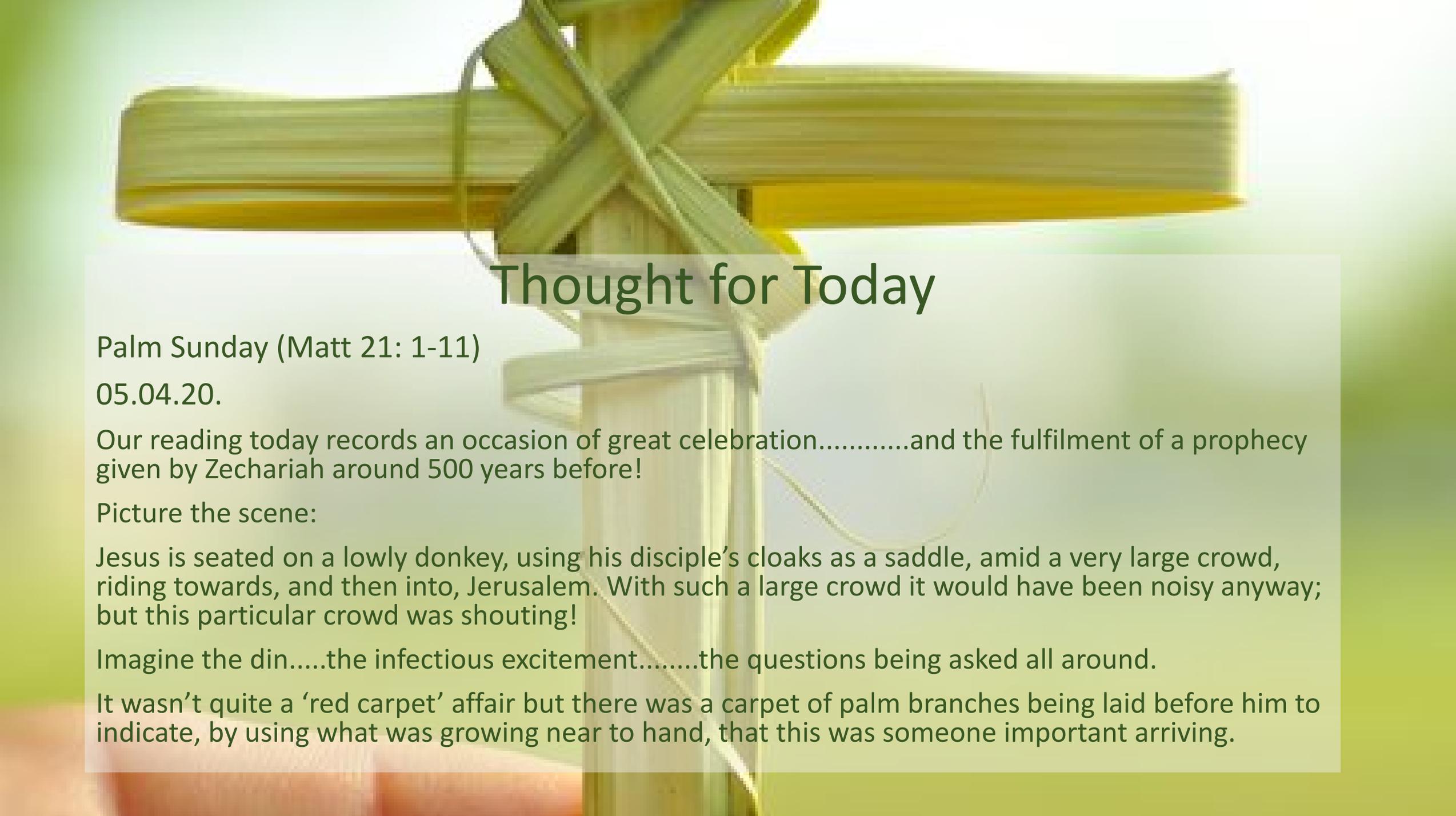


# Worship Songs

– click on the blue link – You Tube

King of Kings Majesty

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SnuRIdNwiwg>



## Thought for Today

Palm Sunday (Matt 21: 1-11)

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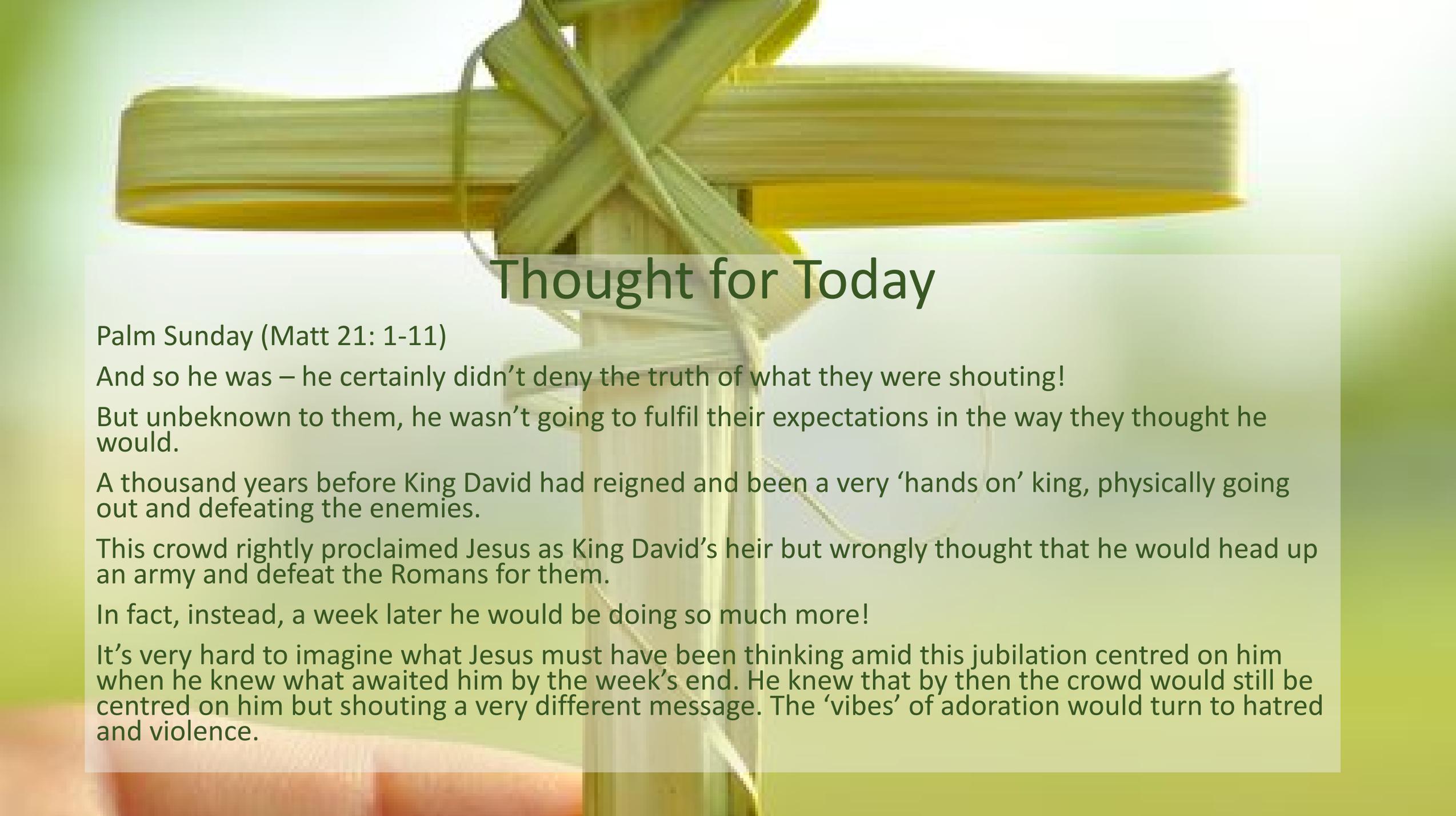
Our reading today records an occasion of great celebration.....and the fulfilment of a prophecy given by Zechariah around 500 years before!

Picture the scene:

Jesus is seated on a lowly donkey, using his disciple's cloaks as a saddle, amid a very large crowd, riding towards, and then into, Jerusalem. With such a large crowd it would have been noisy anyway; but this particular crowd was shouting!

Imagine the din.....the infectious excitement.....the questions being asked all around.

It wasn't quite a 'red carpet' affair but there was a carpet of palm branches being laid before him to indicate, by using what was growing near to hand, that this was someone important arriving.



## Thought for Today

Palm Sunday (Matt 21: 1-11)

And so he was – he certainly didn't deny the truth of what they were shouting!

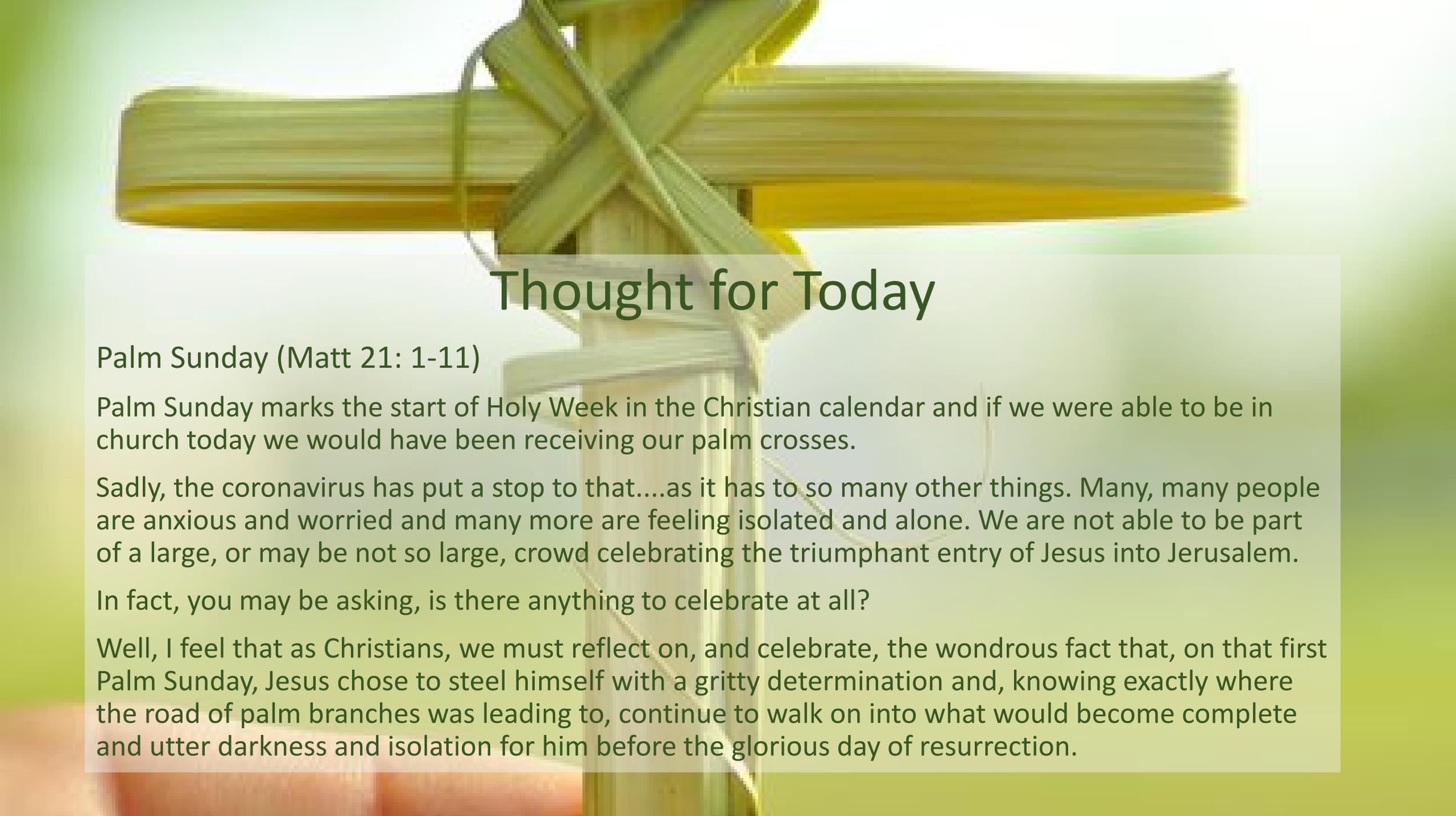
But unbeknown to them, he wasn't going to fulfil their expectations in the way they thought he would.

A thousand years before King David had reigned and been a very 'hands on' king, physically going out and defeating the enemies.

This crowd rightly proclaimed Jesus as King David's heir but wrongly thought that he would head up an army and defeat the Romans for them.

In fact, instead, a week later he would be doing so much more!

It's very hard to imagine what Jesus must have been thinking amid this jubilation centred on him when he knew what awaited him by the week's end. He knew that by then the crowd would still be centred on him but shouting a very different message. The 'vibes' of adoration would turn to hatred and violence.



## Thought for Today

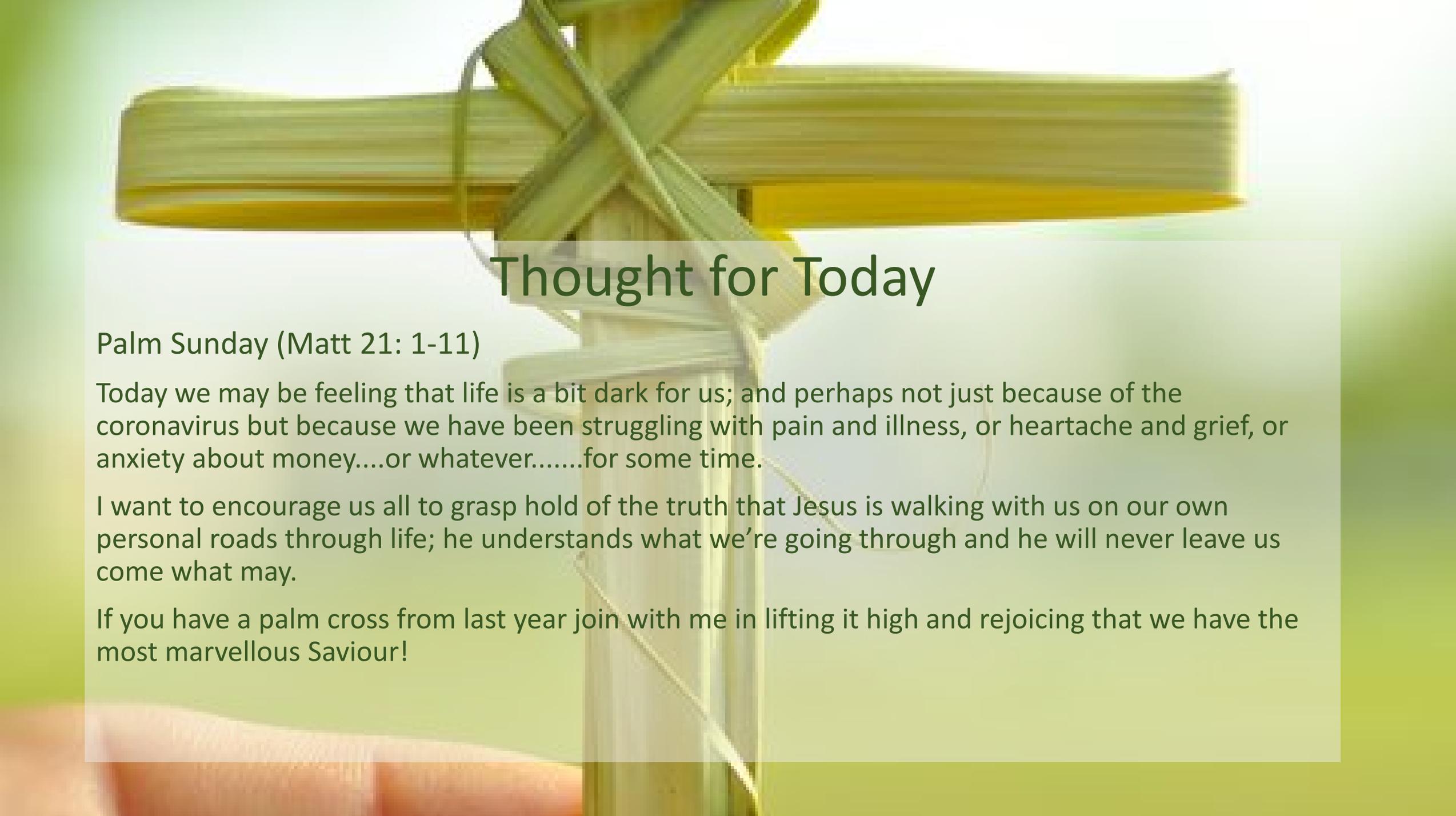
Palm Sunday (Matt 21: 1-11)

Palm Sunday marks the start of Holy Week in the Christian calendar and if we were able to be in church today we would have been receiving our palm crosses.

Sadly, the coronavirus has put a stop to that....as it has to so many other things. Many, many people are anxious and worried and many more are feeling isolated and alone. We are not able to be part of a large, or may be not so large, crowd celebrating the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.

In fact, you may be asking, is there anything to celebrate at all?

Well, I feel that as Christians, we must reflect on, and celebrate, the wondrous fact that, on that first Palm Sunday, Jesus chose to steel himself with a gritty determination and, knowing exactly where the road of palm branches was leading to, continue to walk on into what would become complete and utter darkness and isolation for him before the glorious day of resurrection.



## Thought for Today

Palm Sunday (Matt 21: 1-11)

Today we may be feeling that life is a bit dark for us; and perhaps not just because of the coronavirus but because we have been struggling with pain and illness, or heartache and grief, or anxiety about money....or whatever.....for some time.

I want to encourage us all to grasp hold of the truth that Jesus is walking with us on our own personal roads through life; he understands what we're going through and he will never leave us come what may.

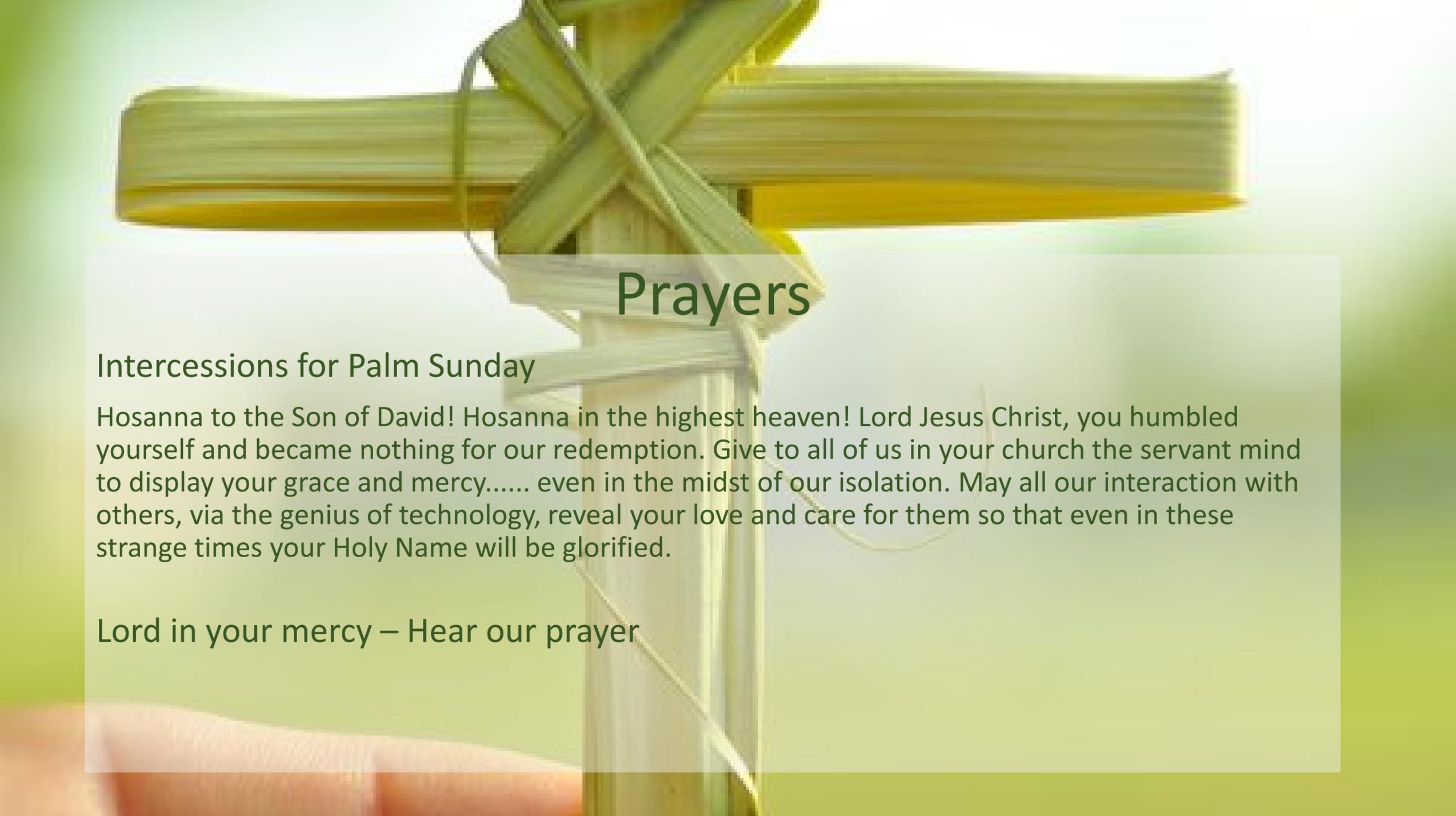
If you have a palm cross from last year join with me in lifting it high and rejoicing that we have the most marvellous Saviour!

# Palm Sunday Activity

E	S	Y	C	S	A	O	K	S	E
C	G	E	L	E	N	C	O	L	T
L	N	K	O	H	N	E	O	E	N
O	I	N	A	C	A	C	H	V	U
A	S	O	S	N	S	P	O	I	O
K	S	D	M	A	O	I	L	L	M
S	E	O	T	R	H	A	I	L	P
L	L	N	P	B	U	V	E	A	O
I	B	K	O	R	E	T	V	G	R
V	A	E	Y	S	A	N	S	E	P

- MOUNT
- OLIVES
- VILLAGE
- DONKEY
- COLT
- CLOAKS
- BRANCHES
- HOSANNA
- SON
- BLESSINGS
- TURMOIL
- PROPHET



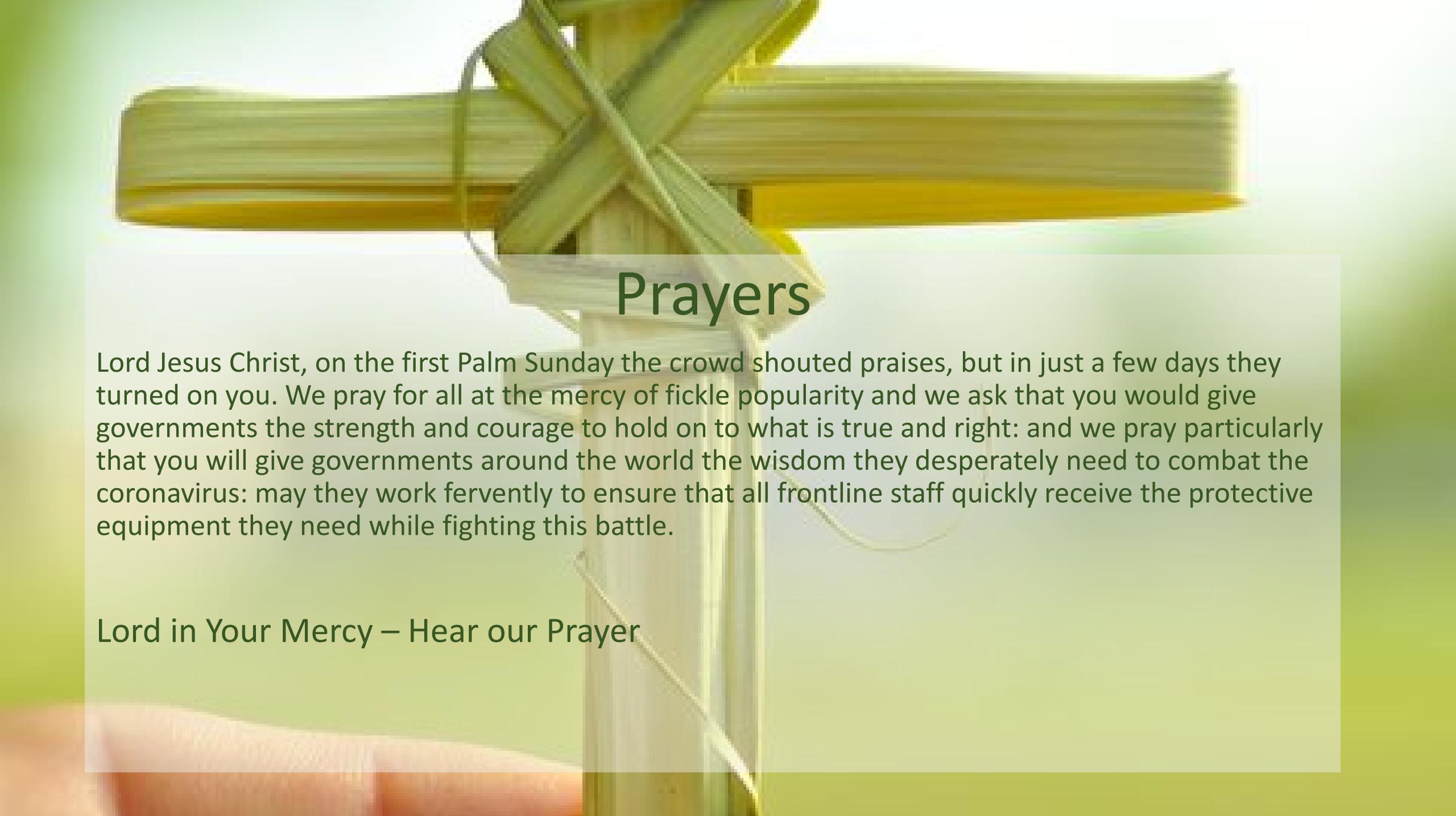


# Prayers

## Intercessions for Palm Sunday

Hosanna to the Son of David! Hosanna in the highest heaven! Lord Jesus Christ, you humbled yourself and became nothing for our redemption. Give to all of us in your church the servant mind to display your grace and mercy..... even in the midst of our isolation. May all our interaction with others, via the genius of technology, reveal your love and care for them so that even in these strange times your Holy Name will be glorified.

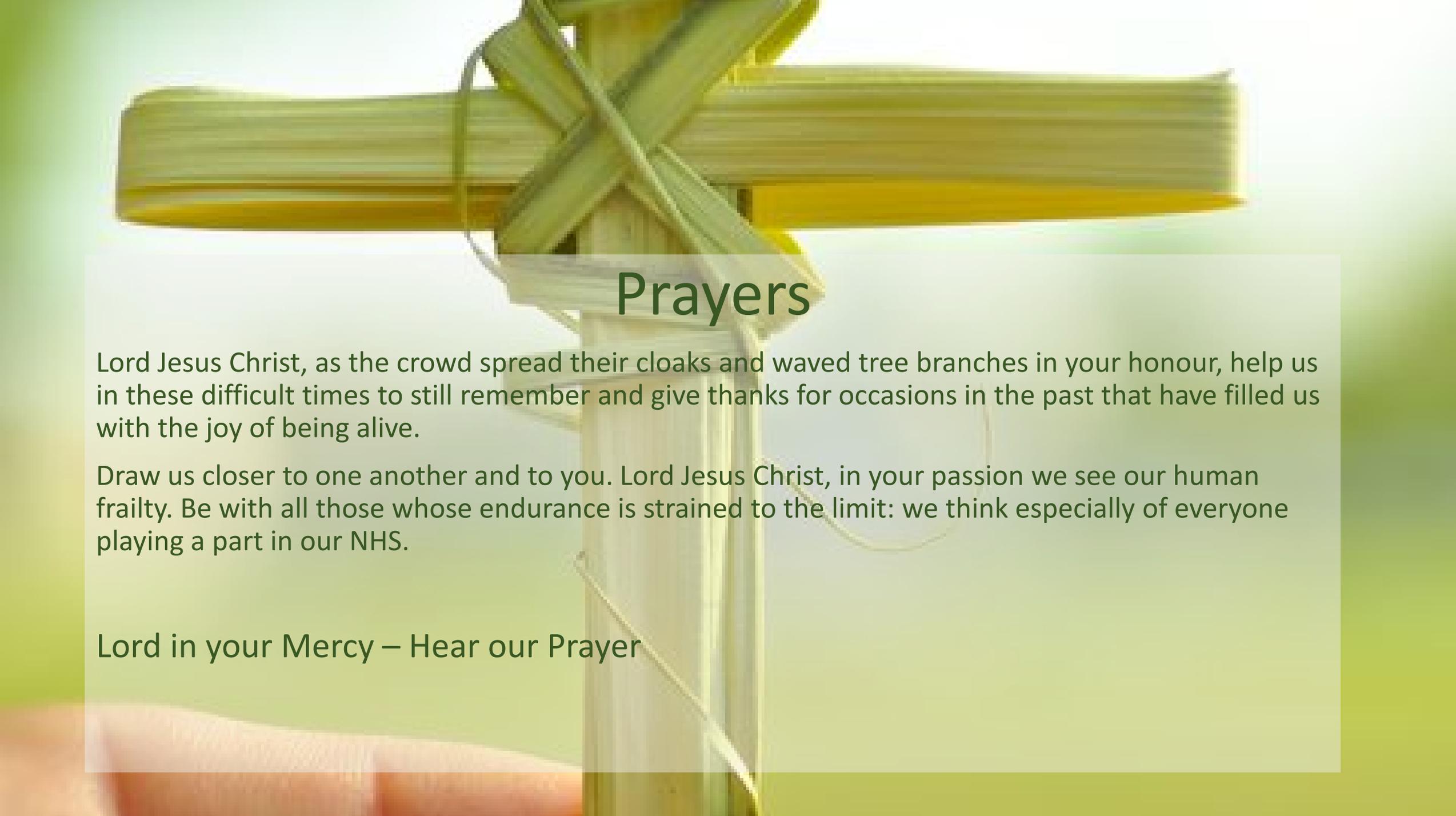
Lord in your mercy – Hear our prayer



# Prayers

Lord Jesus Christ, on the first Palm Sunday the crowd shouted praises, but in just a few days they turned on you. We pray for all at the mercy of fickle popularity and we ask that you would give governments the strength and courage to hold on to what is true and right: and we pray particularly that you will give governments around the world the wisdom they desperately need to combat the coronavirus: may they work fervently to ensure that all frontline staff quickly receive the protective equipment they need while fighting this battle.

Lord in Your Mercy – Hear our Prayer

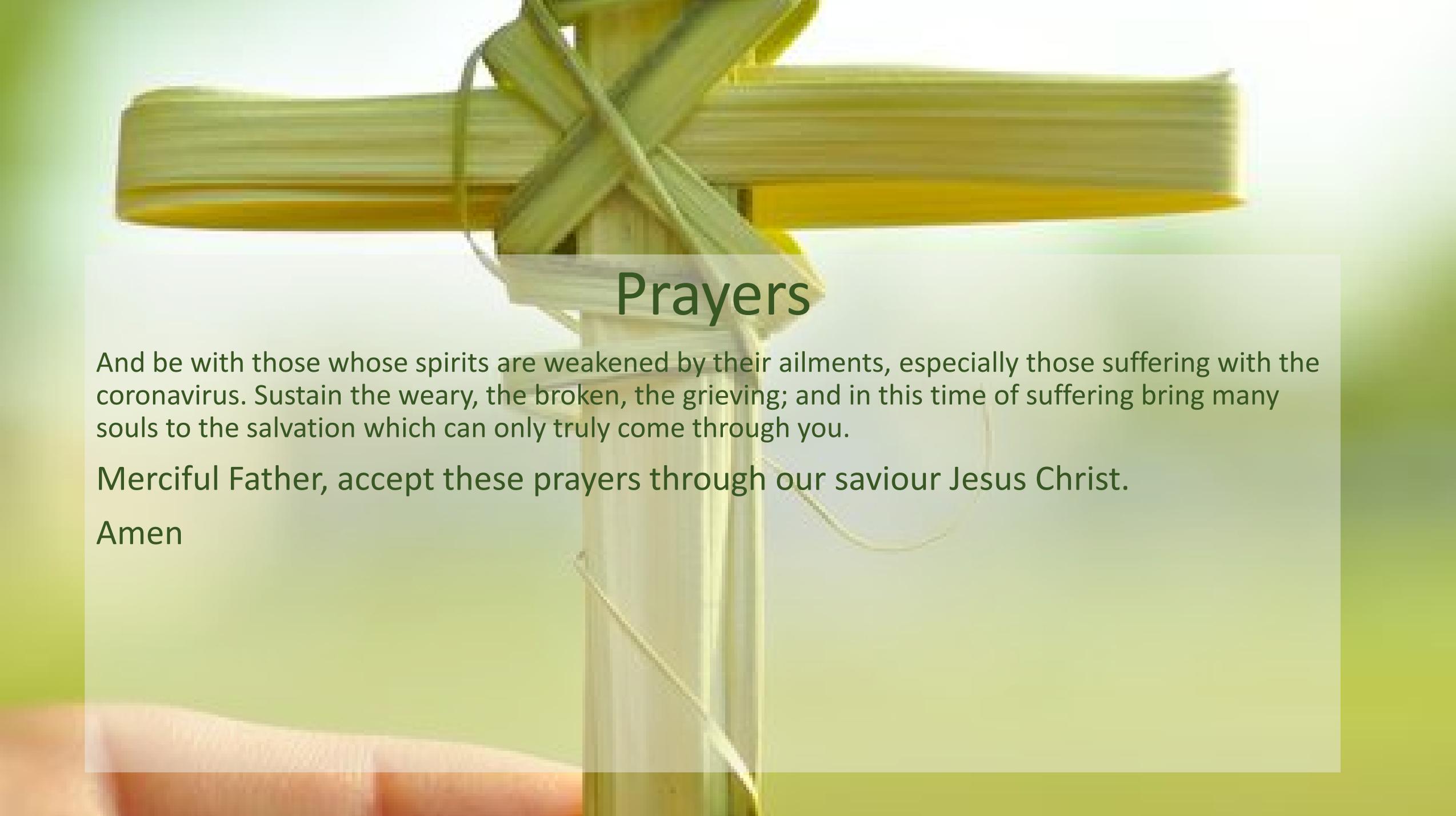


# Prayers

Lord Jesus Christ, as the crowd spread their cloaks and waved tree branches in your honour, help us in these difficult times to still remember and give thanks for occasions in the past that have filled us with the joy of being alive.

Draw us closer to one another and to you. Lord Jesus Christ, in your passion we see our human frailty. Be with all those whose endurance is strained to the limit: we think especially of everyone playing a part in our NHS.

Lord in your Mercy – Hear our Prayer

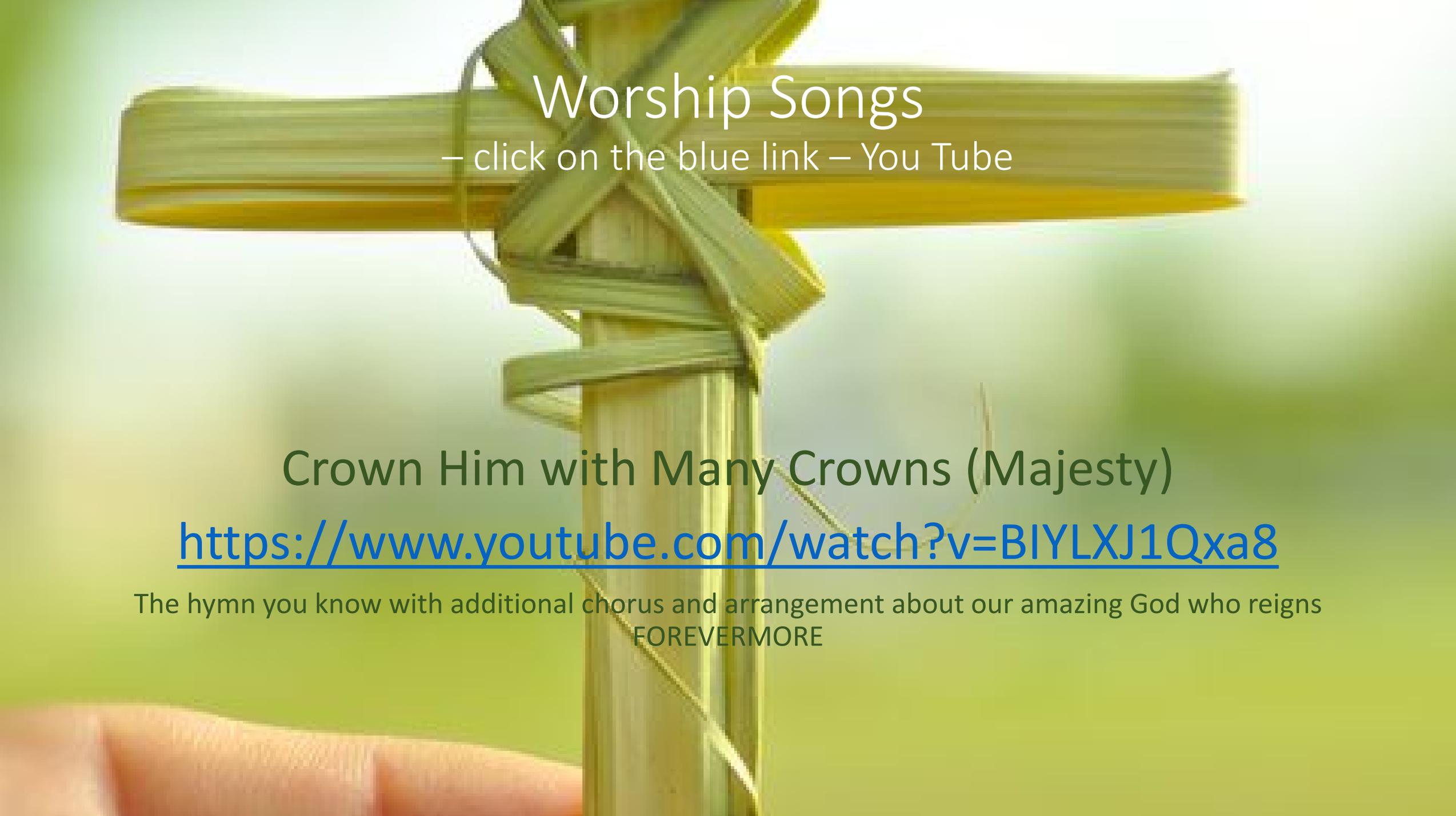


# Prayers

And be with those whose spirits are weakened by their ailments, especially those suffering with the coronavirus. Sustain the weary, the broken, the grieving; and in this time of suffering bring many souls to the salvation which can only truly come through you.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers through our saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen



# Worship Songs

– click on the blue link – You Tube

## Crown Him with Many Crowns (Majesty)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BIY LXJ1Qxa8>

The hymn you know with additional chorus and arrangement about our amazing God who reigns  
FOREVERMORE



# Worship Songs

– click on the blue link – You Tube

Come People of the Risen King

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9j07fbld3uY>



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