

Common Worship - **Morning Prayer Readings** -Church of England
The Palm Sunday

FIRST READING **Zechariah 9.9–12**

A reading from the book of the prophet Zechariah, chapter 9.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!
Lo, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall command peace to the nations;
his dominion shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.
As for you also,
because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.
Return to your stronghold,
O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you...
...double.

For the Word of the LORD.

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SECOND READING **Luke 16.19–end**

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke, chapter 16.

"There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day.

And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, who was covered with sores

and longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores.

The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham.

The rich man also died and was buried.

In Hades, where he was being tormented,

he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side.

He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me,

and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue;

for I am in agony in these flames.'

But Abraham said,

'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things;

but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony.

Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed,

so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so,

and no one can cross from there to us.'

He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house –

for I have five brothers – that he may warn them,

so that they will not also come into this place of torment.'

Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets;

they should listen to them.'

He said, 'No, father Abraham;

but if someone goes to them from the dead,

they will repent.'

He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets,

neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

For the Word of the LORD.