**PALM SUNDAY 28 March 2021**

Of the Passion of the Lord

**INTRODUCTION** Today we begin Holy Week, the week in which Christ died. Our liturgy this week invites us to follow Jesus every step of the way, beginning with his triumphant entry into Jerusalem. The pain of our compassion with Jesus at Calvary will give way to the hope and joy of Easter. Jesus Christ is not dead and gone. He is risen, strong and powerful, alive in himself, and alive in us. (Pause)

 Please stand as we begin our celebration of Eucharist.

**PENITENTIAL ACT** Lord Jesus, you were lifted up to draw all people to yourself: Lord, have mercy.

 You shouldered the cross, to bear our suffering and sinfulness: Christ, have mercy.

 You open for your people the way from death into life: Lord, have mercy.

 May almighty God have mercy on us,

 forgive us our sins,

 and bring us to everlasting life.

 Amen.

**INTRODUCTION TO** Despite rejection, Isaiah does not abandon his call.

**FIRST READING**

(Is 50:4-7)

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

**INTRODUCTION TO** Jesus made himself lowly and was exalted.

**SECOND READING**

(Phil 2:6-11)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless

(Phil 2:8-9) glory!

 Christ became obedient for us even to death

 dying on the cross.

 Therefore God raised him on high

 and gave him a name above all other names.

 Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

**GOSPEL**  The Passion.

(Mk 14:1 – 15:47)