

Palm Sunday  
Going Up To The Altar  
Luke 19:28-40



Mott Hill, Glastonbury

## 1. Opening the Gate

**Psalms 118:19** Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD. **20** This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it. **21** I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. **22** The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. **23** This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. **24** This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**25** Save us, we pray, O LORD! O LORD, we pray, give us success! **26** Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD! We bless you from the house of the LORD. **27** The LORD is God, and he has made his light to shine upon us. Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar!

**28** You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you. **29** Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

## 2. The Altar of Atonement

**Exodus 30:1** "You shall make an altar on which to burn incense; you shall make it of acacia wood. **2** A cubit shall be its length, and a cubit its breadth. It shall be square, and two cubits shall be its height. Its horns shall be of one piece with it. **3** You shall overlay it with pure gold, its top and around its sides and its horns. And you shall make a molding of gold around it. **4** And you shall make two golden rings for it. Under its molding on two opposite sides of it you shall make them, and they shall be holders for poles with which to carry it. **5** You shall make the poles of acacia wood and overlay them with gold. **6** And you shall put it in front of the veil that is above the ark of the testimony, in front of the mercy seat that is above the testimony, where I will meet with you. **7** And Aaron shall burn fragrant incense on it. Every morning when he dresses the lamps he shall burn it, **8** and when Aaron sets up the lamps at twilight, he shall burn it, a regular incense offering before the LORD throughout your generations. **9** You shall not offer unauthorized incense on it, or a burnt offering, or a grain offering, and you shall not pour a drink offering on it. **10** Aaron shall make atonement on its horns once a year. With the blood of the sin offering of atonement he shall make atonement for it once in the year throughout your generations. It is most holy to the LORD."

### 3. The Mercy Of The King

**1 Kings 1:49** Then all the guests of Adonijah trembled and rose, and each went his own way. **50** And Adonijah feared Solomon. So he arose and went and took hold of the horns of the altar. **51** Then it was told Solomon, "Behold, Adonijah fears King Solomon, for behold, he has laid hold of the horns of the altar, saying, 'Let King Solomon swear to me first that he will not put his servant to death with the sword.'" **52** And Solomon said, "If he will show himself a worthy man, not one of his hairs shall fall to the earth, but if wickedness is found in him, he shall die." **53** So King Solomon sent, and they brought him down from the altar. And he came and paid homage to King Solomon, and Solomon said to him, "Go to your house."

**1 Kings 2:23** Then King Solomon swore by the LORD, saying, "God do so to me and more also if this word does not cost Adonijah his life! **24** Now therefore as the LORD lives, who has established me and placed me on the throne of David my father, and who has made me a house, as he promised, Adonijah shall be put to death this day." **25** So King Solomon sent Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and he struck him down, and he died.

**Romans 3:21** But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. **22** This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, **23** for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, **24** and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. **25** God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished —

**1 John 2:1** My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense — Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. **2** He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

**1 John 4:9** This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. **10** This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

### 4. Approaching The King

**Hebrews 4:14** Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. **15** For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are — yet was without sin. **16** Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.