

This Sunday we will be trying out the new arrangements for how the Church will operate when it reopens on Easter day and subsequently. Along with the email service that we will be sending out as usual, those who wish to attend Church personally will need to contact Pauline in the normal way by the Friday before the Sunday service to book one of the limited places. However as the service takes place in Church we will also be sending it out on Zoom so those people who would like to participate in the actual service, but for personal reasons feel that they can't be physically present, will also be "present" – virtually speaking! We think that these new arrangements are going to work okay, but we are giving it a trial run the Sunday to see how it goes. So please bear with us if there are some minor glitches on the way.

Technically, we are going to try the new arrangements almost to destruction. I designed this service for Palm Sunday as a very interactive service with lots of congregational participation – whether in person at Church, or via Zoom. May I thank all the people who have agreed to read for me not only set passages for Palm Sunday, but also a number of quotations taken from elsewhere which I hope will illustrate key themes for us. And to extend the participation I'd like to suggest that you equip yourself – whether in person or on Zoom – with a suitable palm to waive at appropriate points. You can cut a piece of foliage from the garden, or if you would like to do a bit of craftwork you can get a newspaper, roll it up and secure it with Sellotape at the bottom, then use a pair of scissors to cut down from the top of the roll and then, by pulling up the inside you will make a floppy palm. I leave it up to you if you want to colour it or add any further decoration. Of course, you can make your Palm in any way that you choose