



PALM SUNDAY

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS



ANGELICAN CHURCH
IN NORTH AMERICA

YEAR A

When circumstances permit, the Congregation may gather at a place apart from the church, so that all may go into the church in procession. Palms or other branches to be carried in the procession may be distributed to the people as they arrive, or after the prayer of blessing.

The following or some other suitable anthem is said or sung.

Celebrant Hosanna to the Son of David, the King of Israel.

All **Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Celebrant then greets the people and gives a brief introduction, inviting them to participate in the celebration using these or other similar words

Dear brothers and sisters, from the beginning of Lent until now we have been preparing our hearts by repentance and self-sacrifice. Today, with the whole Church, we herald the beginning of the celebration of the Paschal Mystery. On this day our Lord Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem and was welcomed as King with palms and shouts of praise. Today we greet him as our King, though we know his crown was a crown of thorns, and his throne a Cross.

Therefore, I invite you to follow our Lord this Holy Week, from his triumphal entry, through his suffering and death, to the glory of his resurrection.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with your spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

All standing, the Deacon or Priest reads the Triumphal Entry Gospel, first saying

Deacon The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Matthew 21:1-11

Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.” ⁴ This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

⁵ “Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’”

⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. ⁸ Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” ¹⁰ And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?” ¹¹ And the crowds said, “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Celebrant then says the following blessing

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with your spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

We praise you, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he

entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was hailed as King by those who spread their garments and branches of palm along his way. Sanctify these branches with your blessing, we humbly pray, that they may be for us signs of his victory. Grant that we who bear them in his Name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The opening anthem may be repeated.

Celebrant Hosanna to the Son of David, the King of Israel.

All **Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Refrain

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re - deem - er, King!
to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.

1 Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,
2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels is prais - ing thee on high;
3 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;

Repeat Refrain

1 who in the Lord's Name com - est, the King and Bless - ed One.
2 and we with all cre - a - tion in cho - rus make re - ply.
3 our praise and prayers and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent.

The stanzas may be sung by choir alone or alternately by contrasted groups; all sing the refrain.

THE PROCESSION

Deacon Let us go forth in peace.

People In the name of Christ. Amen.

During the procession all hold palms or branches, and appropriate hymns or anthems are sung, such as “All glory, laud and honor” and Psalm 118:19-29. At a suitable place, the procession may halt while the following, or some other appropriate Collect, is said.

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the Cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

4 **To thee before thy passion
 they sang their hymns of praise;
 to thee, now high exalted,
 our melody we raise.**

Refrain

5 **Thou didst accept their praises;
 accept the prayers we bring,
 who in all good delightest,
 thou good and gracious King.**

Refrain

In the absence of a bishop or priest, the preceding service may be led by a deacon or lay reader.

Sources: The Liturgy of the Palms is from the Book of Common Prayer (2019). The Collect of the Day is taken from the Book of Common Prayer 2019. The Psalm verses are taken from the New Coverdale Psalter of the BCP 2019. Scripture quotations are taken from The ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.