

# Palm Sunday

## LITURGY OF THE PALMS

Readings for Year B

### INTROIT HYMN

- Ride on, ride on in majesty!**  
**Hark, all the tribes hosanna cry;**  
**Thy humble beast pursues his road**  
**With palms and scattered garments**  
**strowed.**
- Ride on, ride on in majesty!**  
**In lowly pomp ride on to die;**  
**O Christ, thy triumphs now begin**  
**O'er captive death and conquered sin.**
- Ride on, ride on in majesty!**  
**The wingèd squadrons of the sky**  
**Look down with sad and wond'ring eyes**  
**To see the approaching sacrifice.**
- Ride on, ride on in majesty!**  
**Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh;**  
**The Father on his sapphire throne**  
**Awaits his own anointed Son.**
- Ride on, ride on in majesty!**  
**In lowly pomp ride on to die;**  
**Bow thy meek head to mortal pain,**  
**Then take, O God, thy power, and reign.**

In the name of the Father, and of ✠ the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

*All respond: Amen.*

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

*The priest introduces the Palm Sunday Liturgy.*

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing by works of love and self-sacrifice for the celebration of our Lord's death and resurrection. Today we come together to begin this solemn celebration in union with the Church throughout the world. Christ enters his own city to complete his work as our Saviour, to suffer, to die, and to rise again. Let us go with him in faith and love, so that, united with him in his sufferings, we may share his risen life.

*The people hold up their palms to be blessed.*

God our Saviour, whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah to suffer and to die: bless ✠ these palms, that they may be for us signs of his victory; and 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 is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The people and their palms are sprinkled with holy water.*

### PALM GOSPEL

*Mk 11.1-11*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no-one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.'" And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. And some of those standing there said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go. And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!"

And he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. And when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The priest introduces the PALM PROCESSION.*  
Let us go forth, praising Jesus our Messiah.

*All follow, singing the PROCESSIONAL HYMN.*  
*This hymn may be curtailed or repeated as necessary.*

**R/. All glory, laud and honour  
To thee, Redeemer, King,  
To whom the lips of children  
Made sweet hosannas ring.**

1. **Thou art the King of Israel,  
Thou David's royal Son,  
Who in the Lord's name comest,  
The King and blessed One. R/.**
2. **The company of angels  
Are praising thee on high,  
And mortal men and all things  
Created make reply. R/.**
3. **The people of the Hebrews  
With palms before thee went;  
Our praise and prayer and anthems  
Before thee we present. R/.**
4. **To thee before thy passion  
They sang their hymns of praise;  
To thee, now high exalted,  
Our melody we raise. R/.**
5. **Thou didst accept their praises,  
Accept the prayers we bring,  
Who in all good delightest,  
Thou good and gracious King. R/.**
6. **Do thou direct our footsteps  
Upon our earthly way,  
And bring us by thy mercy  
To heaven's eternal day. R/.**
7. **Within that blessed City  
Thy praises may we sing,  
And ever raise hosannas  
To our most loving King. R/.**

*All remain standing for the COLLECT.*

Almighty and everlasting God, who in your tender love towards mankind sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

*Isa 50.4-9a*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backwards. I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting. But the Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame. He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me. Behold, the Lord God helps me; who will declare me guilty?

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*from Ps 31*

**R/.** My trust is in you, O Lord: you are my God.  
*(All repeat)*

Be gracious to me, O Lord,  
for I am in distress;  
my eye is wasted from grief,  
my soul and my body also. **R/.**

For my life is spent with sorrow,  
and my years with sighing;  
my strength fails me because of my misery,  
and my bones waste away. *R.*

I am the scorn of all my adversaries,  
a reproach to my neighbours,  
an object of dread to my acquaintances;  
those who see me in the street flee from me. *R.*

I have passed out of mind like one who is dead;  
I have become like a broken vessel.  
I hear the whispering of the crowd, fear is all  
around;  
they scheme together to take away my life. *R.*

But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord.  
I have said, 'You are my God.  
Rescue me from the hand of my enemies,  
and in your loving kindness save me.' *R.*

SECOND READING *Php 2.5–11*

A reading from the letter of Paul to the  
Philippians.

Have this mind among yourselves, which is  
yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was  
in the form of God, did not count equality  
with God a thing to be grasped, but made  
himself nothing, taking the form of a servant,  
being born in the likeness of men. And being  
found in human form, he humbled himself by  
becoming obedient to the point of death, even  
death on a cross. Therefore God has highly  
exalted him and bestowed on him the name  
that is above every name, so that at the name  
of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven  
and on earth and under the earth, and every  
tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to  
the glory of God the Father.

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

ACCLAMATION

*Php 2.8,9*

***Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.***  
Christ humbled himself and became obedient  
unto death, even death on a cross:  
therefore God has highly exalted him, and given  
him the name that is above every name.  
***Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.***

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*We remain standing for the long Passion  
Reading; but if you may find this difficult, you  
are advised to sit from the start.*

PASSION READING *Mk 14.32–15.39*

*The congregation are asked to join in **clearly**  
with the parts ▶ shown like this.*

*Evangelist*

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Mark.

Jesus went with his disciples to a place  
called Gethsemane. And he said to them:

*Jesus*

Sit here while I pray.

*Evangelist*

And he took with him Peter and James and  
John, and began to be greatly distressed  
and troubled. And he said to them:

*Jesus*

My soul is very sorrowful, even to death.  
Remain here and watch.

*Evangelist*

And going a little farther, he fell on the  
ground and prayed that, if it were possible,  
the hour might pass from him.

*Jesus*

Abba, Father, all things are possible for  
you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not  
what I will, but what you will.

*Evangelist*

And he came and found them sleeping,  
and he said to Peter:

*Jesus*

Simon, are you asleep? Could you not  
watch one hour? Watch and pray that you  
may not enter into temptation. The spirit  
indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

*Evangelist*

And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they did not know what to answer him. And he came the third time and said to them:

*Jesus*

Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? It is enough; the hour has come. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand.

*Evangelist*

And immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign:

*Judas*

The one I will kiss is the man. Seize him and lead him away under guard.

*Evangelist*

And when he came, he went up to him at once and said:

*Judas*

Rabbi!

*Evangelist*

And he kissed him. And they laid hands on him and seized him. But one of those who stood by drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. And Jesus said to them:

*Jesus*

Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. But let the Scriptures be fulfilled.

*Evangelist*

And they all left him and fled.

And a young man followed him, with nothing but a linen cloth about his body. And they seized him, but he left the linen cloth and ran away naked.

And they led Jesus to the high priest.

And all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes came together. And Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he was sitting with the guards and warming himself at the fire. Now the chief priests and the whole Council were seeking testimony against Jesus to put him to death, but they found none. For many bore false witness against him, but their testimony did not agree. And some stood up and bore false witness against him:

*Witnesses*

We heard him say, "I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands."

*Evangelist*

Yet even about this their testimony did not agree. And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus:

*High Priest*

Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?

*Evangelist*

But he remained silent and made no answer. Again the high priest asked him:

*High Priest*

Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?

*Jesus*

I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.

*Evangelist*

And the high priest tore his garments and said:

*High Priest*

What further witnesses do we need? You have heard his blasphemy. What is your decision?

*Evangelist*

And they all condemned him as deserving death. And some began to spit on him and to cover his face and to strike him, saying to him:

*Elders*

Prophecy!

*Evangelist*

And the guards received him with blows.

And as Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came, and seeing Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said:

*Servant*

You also were with the Nazarene, Jesus.

*Evangelist*

But he denied it, saying:

*Peter*

I neither know nor understand what you mean.

*Evangelist*

And he went out into the gateway and the cock crowed. And the servant girl saw him and began again to say to the bystanders:

*Servant*

This man is one of them.

*Evangelist*

But again he denied it. And after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter:

*Bystanders*

Certainly you are one of them, for you are a Galilean.

*Evangelist*

But he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear:

*Peter*

I do not know this man of whom you speak.

*Evangelist*

And immediately the cock crowed a second time. And Peter remembered how Jesus had said to him, "Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." And he broke down and wept.

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole Council. And they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate. And Pilate asked him:

*Pilate*

Are you the King of the Jews?

*Jesus*

You have said so.

*Evangelist*

And the chief priests accused him of many

things. And Pilate again asked him:

*Pilate*

Have you no answer to make? See how many charges they bring against you.

*Evangelist*

But Jesus made no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the feast he used to release for them one prisoner for whom they asked. And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the insurrection, there was a man called Barabbas. And the crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do as he usually did for them. And he answered them:

*Pilate*

Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?

*Evangelist*

For he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered him up. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead. And Pilate again said to them:

*Pilate*

Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?

*Crowd*

► **Crucify him!**

*Pilate*

Why, what evil has he done?

*Crowd*

► **(louder) Crucify him!**

*Evangelist*

So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.

And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him. And they began to salute him:

*Soldiers*

► **Hail, King of the Jews!**

*Evangelist*

And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.

And they compelled a passer-by, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. And they brought him to the place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. And they crucified him and divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. And it was the third hour when they crucified him. And the inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews."

And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left. And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads:

*Crowd*

► **So! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!**

*Evangelist*

So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another:

*Elders*

He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe.

*Evangelist*

Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.

And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice:

*Jesus*

Eloï, Eloï, lema sabachthani?

*Evangelist*

Which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" And some of the bystanders hearing it said:

*Bystanders*

Behold, he is calling Elijah.

*Evangelist*

And someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying:

*Bystander*

Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.

*Evangelist*

And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last.

*(All keep silence awhile.)*

*Evangelist*

And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said:

*Centurion*

Truly this man was the Son of God!

*Evangelist*

There were also women looking on from a distance, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. When he was in Galilee, they followed him and ministered to him, and there were also many other women who came up with him to Jerusalem.

And when evening had come, since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the Sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the Council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate was surprised to hear that he should have already died. And summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the corpse to Joseph. And Joseph bought a linen shroud,

and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud and laid him in a tomb that had been cut out of the rock. And he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph saw where he was laid.

This is the Passion of the Lord.

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*The INTERCESSIONS are introduced, and all kneel. This response is made to each petition:*

∩. Let us pray to the Lord.

℣. **Lord, have mercy.**

*The priest concludes the Intercessions.*

Lord God, be near to your people in their need, and through the suffering and death of your Son Jesus Christ may we receive your mercy, forgiveness and love.

**Holy God,**

**holy and strong,**

**holy and immortal,**

**have mercy upon us.**

## LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

*All stand as the priest introduces the PEACE.*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

OFFERTORY HYMN— **78**

*The people unite their prayers with the priest, who says the PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS.*

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

Lord, through the suffering of your only-begotten Son, may we be reconciled to you; so that we, who merit nothing by our deeds, may by your compassion receive the fruits of this one perfect sacrifice; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*The PREFACE follows.*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

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

*All kneel. After the Consecration, all acclaim:*

Jesus Christ is Lord:

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection**

**you have set us free.**

**You are \* the Saviour of the world. (\*repeat)**

*The Eucharistic Prayer continues, and ends:*

... for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## RITE OF COMMUNION

*The priest introduces the LORD'S PRAYER.*

**Our Father, who art in heaven,**

**hallowed be thy name;**

**thy kingdom come;**

**thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation;**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,**

**the power and the glory,**

**for ever and ever. Amen.**

*The priest breaks the Host; AGNUS DEI is sung.*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace.**

*The priest gives the* COMMUNION INVITATION.  
Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*Holy Communion is distributed.*

COMMUNION HYMN— **269**

*The priest says the* POST-COMMUNION *prayer.*  
Lord Jesus Christ, you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant, and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation: give us the mind to follow you, and to proclaim you as Lord and King, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

## CONCLUSION

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

May the Father, who so loved the world that he gave his only Son, bring you by faith to his eternal life. **Amen.**

May Christ, who accepted the cup of sacrifice in obedience to the Father's will, keep you steadfast as you walk with him the way of his cross. **Amen.**

May the Spirit, who strengthens us to suffer with Christ that we may share his glory, set your minds on life and peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN— **86**

*The service may be followed by the* ANGELUS.  
V. The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary:  
R. **And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.**  
Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;  
blessed art thou among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
**Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners, now,  
and at the hour of our death.**

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord:  
R. **Be it unto me according to thy word.**  
Hail Mary ...

V. And the Word was made flesh:  
R. **And dwelt among us.**  
Hail Mary ...

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God:  
R. **That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

Let us pray. Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts; that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ, your Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by his Passion and Cross ✠ be brought to the glory of his Resurrection; through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

24.3.24