PALM SUNDAY

THE LITURGY OF THE PALMS

Anglican Church in North America

Year B

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. Mark.

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

Mark 11:1-11a

Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at
the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples [2] 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. [3]
If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need
of it and will send it back here immediately.'" [4] And they went away and
found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. [5] And
some of those standing there said to them, "What are you doing, untying
the colt?" [6] And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go.
[7] And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he
sat on it. [8] And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread
leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. [9] And those who went
before and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he
who comes in the name of the Lord! [10] Blessed is the coming kingdom of
our father David! Hosanna in the highest!"

[11] And he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple.

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.**

The Procession

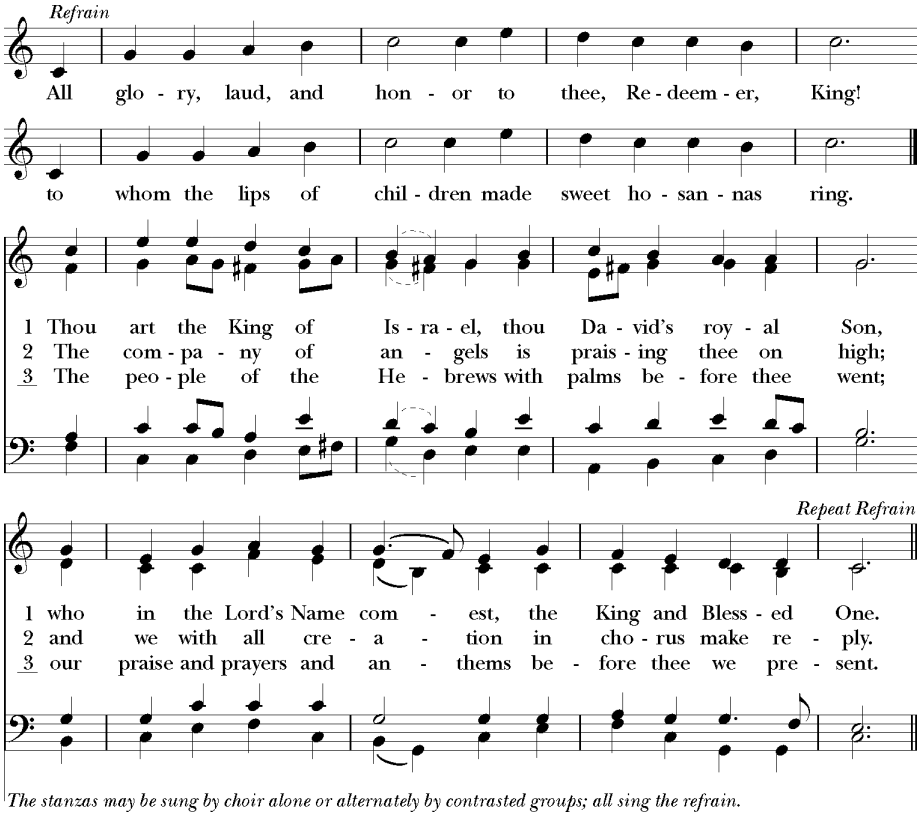
Deacon Let us go forth in peace.

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.**

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



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

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

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.