

Liturgy of the Palms with Ante-Communion for The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday (Year B)

From the 1979 Book of Common Prayer pages 351-360, 406-407 and Enriching Our Worship 1 pages 50-56.

In the absence of a bishop or priest, all that is described herein, except for the concluding blessing, may be said by a deacon, or, if there is no deacon, by a lay reader. Adapt instructions about standing, kneeling, etc., as seems appropriate for your space.

The Liturgy of the Palms

When circumstances permit, the congregation may gather at a place apart from the church, so that all may go into the church in procession. In an online environment, it may be desirable to encourage people to begin at one location in order to move to their usual space to engage in worship at home.

The branches of palm or of other trees or shrubs to be carried in the procession may be distributed to the people before the service, or after the prayer of blessing.

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

Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.

Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

Presider 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. **Amen.**

Here a Deacon or other person appointed reads one of the following

Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16

The Presider then says the following blessing

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right to 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 proclaimed as King of kings by those who spread their garments and branches of palm along his way. Let these branches 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 lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The following or some other suitable anthem may then be sung or said

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 branches in their hands, and appropriate hymns, psalms, or anthems are sung, such as the hymn “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.**

The service continues with the Salutation and Collect of the Day

The Collect of the Day

The Presider says to the people

The Lord be with you. *or* God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

People **Amen.**

The Lessons

The Revised Common Lectionary Year B is on page 901-911 of the Book of Common Prayer or at www.lectionarypage.net

(Palm Sunday Readings for Year B are Isaiah 50:4-9a, Psalm 31:9-16, Philippians 2:5-11, and Mark 14:1-15:47.)

The people sit. The Lessons, as appointed, are read, the Reader first saying

A Reading (Lesson) from _____.

A citation giving chapter and verse may be added.

After each Reading, the Reader may say

The word of the Lord. *or* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

or the Reader may say Here ends the Reading (Epistle).

Silence may follow

A Psalm, hymn, or anthem may follow each Reading.

The Passion Gospel is announced in the following manner

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

The customary responses before and after the Gospel are omitted.

The Passion Gospel may be read or chanted by lay persons. Specific roles may be assigned to different persons, the congregation taking the part of the crowd.

The congregation may be seated for the first part of the Passion. At the verse which mentions the arrival at Golgotha (Mark 15:22) all stand.

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed may be omitted when the Liturgy of the Palms is used.

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he
is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic
and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

or the following

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic
and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

The Prayers of the People

Prayer is offered with intercession for

The Universal Church, its members, and its mission

The Nation and all in authority

The welfare of the world

The concerns of the local community

Those who suffer and those in any trouble

The departed (with commemoration of a saint when appropriate)

See the forms beginning on page 383 of The Book of Common Prayer or the following may be used.

Deacon or other Leader: In this season of repentance and service, let us pray to God for the needs of all believers and of all peoples everywhere, saying “Lord, hear our prayer.” (or “God, hear our prayer.”)

Leader: For the holy churches of God in every place, for Michael our Presiding Bishop, for Carlye our Bishop, for all lay leaders and clergy, and for the unity of all.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer** or **God, hear our prayer.**

Leader: For the spirit of true repentance, that God may mend the places of brokenness in our lives and in our world.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer** or **God, hear our prayer.**

Leader: For all those who await the Sacrament of Confirmation, that we may soon gather again to celebrate their commitment to the life of Christ.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer** or **God, hear our prayer.**

Leader: For the world and its leaders, for Joe/Joseph our President, Phil our Governor, [_____ our Mayor]; for our nation and its people.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer** or **God, hear our prayer.**

Leader: For all those who continue to suffer during this pandemic, for all victims of COVID-19, including those we name now . . . , for all who are sick and for those who are dying.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer** or **God, hear our prayer.**

Leader: For all those providing care at this time, for doctors, nurses, staff, technician, for social workers, counselors, therapists, for all first responders and for all essential workers, that you may safeguard them as they work on our behalf.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer** or **God, hear our prayer.**

Leader: For research scientists and lab technicians; in thanksgiving for the vaccines; for all those continuing to work to improve prevention and treatment for this illness; for healing and restoration.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer** or **God, hear our prayer.**

Leader: For all who suffer from violence and discrimination rooted in white supremacy and racial injustice; for all those who benefit from systems of oppression, whether by intention or by circumstance; that all may be called to the vision of reconciliation and love that heals wounds of division and hatred.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer** or **God, hear our prayer.**

Leader: For all victims of violence, for those in danger and need, for the oppressed; for all those who face these concerns, now magnified; for those who suffer for any reason, for all other illnesses, for all those we name now . . . , we pray.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer** or **God, hear our prayer.**

Leader: For all the blessings of this life, for those you would name here . . . , and for all those we love.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer** or **God, hear our prayer.**

Leader: For all those who mourn, for those who grieve, separated at the last hour from their loved one; for those who face death without the consolation of family at their side; for all those who have died, including those we name now . . . , we pray.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer** or **God, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Remembering the saving work of your Son Jesus, through his life, death, and resurrection, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

People: **To you, O gracious God.**

The following or some other concluding Collect is said by the Presider Leader

Gracious Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church. Fill it with all truth, in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in any thing it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ your Son our Savior. **Amen.**

A hymn or anthem may then be sung, and the offerings of the people received.

This would be an appropriate time to give electronically.

The Lord's Prayer

The Presider then says

And now, as our Savior
Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say,

As our Savior Christ
has taught us,
we now pray,

People and Celebrant

**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,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

People and Celebrant

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Service may conclude with one of the following three choices:

The Grace

The Presider, lay or ordained, may say this or the Peace

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen. *2 Corinthians 13:14*

or

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you. *or* The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

or

The Blessing

The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, may bless the people using these Solemn Prayer over the People, or other words

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**