

The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

Congregational responses are in *bold italic* type.

“*” Indicates where you are invited to stand as you are able.

***Procession** (*please stand at the sound of the bell*)

***The Liturgy of the Palms**

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

Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

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.***

The worship leader then reads Mark 11:1-11. The priest then blesses the palm branches.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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 forever. ***Amen.***

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

Hosanna in the highest.

The priest will give brief instruction regarding the distribution of the palms.

***Collect of the Day**

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Let us pray...

The celebrant says the Collect. At the conclusion, all respond with “Amen”.

First Reading

At the conclusion of the reading:

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

Thanks be to God

Isaiah 50:40-9a

Psalm 31:9-16

Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; *
*my eye is consumed with sorrow,
and also my throat and my belly.*

*For my life is wasted with grief,
and my years with sighing; *
my strength fails me because of affliction,
and my bones are consumed.*

*I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors,
a dismay to those of my acquaintance; *
when they see me in the street they avoid me.*

*I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; *
I am as useless as a broken pot.*

*For I have heard the whispering of the crowd;
fear is all around; *
they put their heads together against me;
they plot to take my life.*

*But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. *
I have said, "You are my God.*

*My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.*

*Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me."*

Second Reading

Philippians 2:5-11

At the conclusion of the reading:

Here what the Spirit is saying to the Churches.

Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading

Mark 15:1-47

Prior to the reading:

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

You are invited to remain seated for the first part of the reading. At the verse which mentions the arrival at Golgotha, **all stand.**

~A period of silence is kept following the Passion reading. The service then continues with the Prayers of the People~

*Prayers of the People

After each petition ends in "Lord, in your mercy", all respond with "**hear our prayer.**"

*The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you

Please exchange a "no contact" sign of peace with those around you. Examples include a wave or a bow.

Announcements

Offertory

The table is now prepared for the Eucharist. Monetary offerings can be placed in the designated collection plate at the conclusion or worship.

**Once the table is prepared, all stand the following is said:*

Blessed are you O Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer. Fruit of the earth and the work of human hands, it will become for us the Bread of Life.

Blessed be God forever.

Blessed are you O Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and the work of human hands, it will become for us the Drink of Life.

Blessed be God forever.

*The Eucharist

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

It is right to give him thanks and praise

In this portion of the prayer, the Celebrant gives thanks to God the Father, for God's work in creation and revelation to God's people. Then follows the Sanctus, an angelic song of praise to God:

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**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.

The Celebrant now offers praise to God for God's work of salvation in the world through Jesus Christ. This act of praise recalls the events of Jesus' final meal with his disciples. It was at this meal where Jesus took the bread and the cup, blessed them as his Body and Blood, and gave them to his disciples. Then follows:

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant then calls for the Holy Spirit to be sent upon the gifts so "they may be Body and Blood of Christ," upon us gathered here, and upon the whole earth to bring all things into God's new creation. The Eucharistic prayer then concludes with the final doxology, all responding with AMEN.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

***The Lord's Prayer**

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

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.

***The Breaking of the Bread**

The Celebrant breaks the bread, followed by a period of silence. Then, the following is said

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

***The Invitation**

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

When receiving the Sacrament, hold out your hands flat to allow the worship leader to spray them with sanitizer. The priest will then "drop" the bread in a way that minimizes skin contact. At this time, only the bread will be offered.

If you do not wish to receive, simply cross your arms and the priest will offer a blessing. Additionally, you may pray the Prayer for Spiritual Communion found below:

Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life, until by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

(From Saint Augustine's Prayer Book, rev 2014., based on a prayer by St. Alphonsus de Liguori)

***Post-Communion Prayer**

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Prayer over the People and Dismissal**

The priest offers a prayer over the congregation. The dismissal follows.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The ministers and congregation then leave in silence.

Thank you for joining us today! After the dismissal, please remain at your seat until the altar party has walked down the center aisle. Additionally, please keep your interactions brief as you exit the worship space.