



Sharing the Feast of Life Palm Sunday

*Introductory music is played while the people gather,
followed by welcome*

Call to worship

Let the women say:

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

Let the men say:

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

Let the children say:

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

Let all the people proclaim:

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

Opening hymn

During the hymn, palms are handed out by the children.

Blessing of the palms

God our Saviour, whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah to suffer and to die, let these palms 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 with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Amen.

Litany *[three voices]*

The prophet Zechariah called to the people:

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

Lo, your king comes to you;

Triumphant and victorious is he,

Humble and riding on a donkey,

On a colt, the foal of a donkey.

We said the day of our Lord will come tomorrow.

**Lord, have mercy,
have mercy upon us.**

The prophet Isaiah called to the people:

Go through, go through the gates,

Prepare the way for the people;

Build up, build up the highway,

Clear it of stones,

Lift up an ensign over the peoples.

The Lord has proclaimed

to the end of the earth:

Say to daughter Zion,

'See, your salvation comes;

his reward is with him,

and his recompense before him.'

So we waited to prepare the road for our Lord.

**Christ, have mercy,
have mercy upon us.**

The psalmist invited the people to sing:

The stone that the builders rejected

Has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing;
It is marvellous in our eyes.
This is the day that the Lord has made;
Let us be glad and rejoice in it.

The Lord is coming.
The Messiah rides in.
Will we notice?
Will we sing?
**Lord, have mercy,
have mercy upon us.**

Prayer for the Day

... after which the president sends the children out to Kids' Church.

Psalm 118.19–29

We say the refrain together:

**O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good:
His steadfast love endures for ever!**

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
That I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.
This is the gate of the Lord;
The righteous shall enter through it.

**O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good:
His steadfast love endures for ever!**

I thank you that you have answered me
And have become my salvation.
The stone that the builders rejected
Has become the chief cornerstone.

**O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
His steadfast love endures for ever!**

This is the Lord's doing;
It is marvellous in our eyes.
This is the day that the Lord has made;
Let us be glad and rejoice in it.

**O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good:
His steadfast love endures for ever!**

Save us, we beseech you, O Lord!
O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!

**O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good:
His steadfast love endures for ever!**

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
We bless you from the house of the Lord.
The Lord is God and he has given us light.
Bind the festal procession with branches,
Up to the horns of the altar.

**O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good:
His steadfast love endures for ever!**

You are my God and I will give thanks to you;
You are my God, I will extol you.

**O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good:
His steadfast love endures for ever!**

Palm Sunday Gospel

Before the Gospel reading the reader says:

The Gospel reading is from Luke chapter 19 verses 28–40.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end of the Gospel reading the reader says:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon or other reflection

Prayers of thanksgiving and intercession

Offertory hymn

We gather around the altar during the hymn. The children return and bring up the bread and wine, then join the circle.

The Peace

We join hands, and the president says:
Deep peace of the running wave to you;
Deep peace of the flowing air to you;
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you;
Deep peace of the shining stars to you;
Deep peace of the Son of Peace to you.

Amen.

The Communion (see *Lent liturgy pages 3-4*)

Prayer after Communion

**Holy God,
you have met us at this table,
embraced our brokenness,
named us 'beloved',
claimed us for eternity.**

**We thank you,
living, loving God.**

Kids' Church and the adult congregation may share what they have been doing.

Final hymn

Invitation

Dear friends in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing by works of love and self-discipline for the celebration of our Lord's death and resurrection. Today we enter into Holy Week 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.

Blessing

O Jesus, stretch forth your wounded hands over your people to heal and to restore, and to draw us to yourself and to one another in love.

Amen.

Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

We move into the café.

Notices