

## **A Service for Palm Sunday**

### **The Lord's entry into Jerusalem**

Words to be said are in this style: **All:** say these words.

*Instructions are in italics.*

*Palm leaves should be brought by the people into the church for this service. This service is intended to be used as part of another service – principally the Eucharist, or Simple Communion. This service may be conducted by those in minor orders, although having a priest present is to be preferred. The people are seated.*

### **The Call**

*The following anthem may be said, sung or intoned.*

**Leader:** Hosanna to the Son of David.

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

Behold your king comes to you, O Zion,

meeek and lowly, sitting on a donkey.

Ride on in the cause of truth

and for the sake of justice.

Your throne is the throne of God, it endures for ever;

and the sceptre of, your kingdom is a righteous sceptre.

You have loved righteousness and hated evil:

therefore God, your God, has anointed you

with the oil of gladness above your fellows.

Hosanna to the Son of David.

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

*The leader welcomes the people.*

**Leader:** The Lord be with you

**All:** and also with you.

**Leader:** My brothers and sisters in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing by works of love, prayer and self-sacrifice for the celebration of our Lord's death and resurrection. Today we come together to begin this solemn celebration of the Church throughout the world. Christ enters the Holy City to complete his work as our Saviour, to suffer, to die, and then 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.

*A hymn may be sung.*

### **Old Testament Reading**

*The reader announces:*

**Reader:** A reading from scripture, from the prophet Isaiah  
Isaiah 50.4-9a

**Reader:** This is the word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

**Reader:** A reading from the psalms, from Psalm 69:

*Psalm 69.1-3,7-9,21-23 which may be said, sung or intoned:*

- 1 Save | me, O | God:  
for the waters have come up | even | to my | throat.
- 2 I sink in the deep mire | where no | footing is:  
I have come into deep waters | and the | flood sweeps | over me.
- 3 I am weary with crying out my | throat is | parched:  
my eyes fail with | watching · so | long · for my | God.

**All:** Christ Jesus became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

- 7 For your sake have I | suffered · re|proach:  
and | shame has | covered · my | face.
- 8 I have become a stranger | to my | brothers:  
an alien | to my · mother's | sons.
- 9 Zeal for your house has | eaten · me | up:  
and the taunts of those who taunt | you have fallen · on | me.

**All:** Christ Jesus became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

- 21 Insults have | broken · my | heart:  
my shame and dis|grace are | past | healing.
- 22 I looked for someone to have pity on me but | there was | no man:  
for some to | comfort me · but | found | none.
- 23 They gave me | poison · for | food:  
and when I was thirsty they | gave me| vinegar · to drink.

**All:** Christ Jesus became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

## ***The Hosanna***

*The people hold up their palms while this prayer is said.*

**Leader:** 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 forever.

**All:** Amen.

## **The Gospel**

*The people stand for the gospel and face the reader who stands in the centre of the church.*

**Reader:** The Gospel of Christ is read from the Book of Matthew chapter 21, verses 1 to 11 (or Mark chapter 11 verses 1 to 10)

**All:** Glory to Christ our Saviour.

Matthew 21.1-11 or Mark 11.1-10 is read

**Reader:** This is the Gospel of Christ.

**All:** Praise to Christ our Lord.

**Leader:** Let us go forth, praising Jesus our Messiah. Hosanna in the Highest!

*The clergy process around the church and into the sanctuary*

*During the procession all hold palms in their hands, and appropriate hymns, psalms, or anthems are sung.*

*After the procession reaches the sanctuary the leader says the Collect.*

## **The Collect**

**Leader:** 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 and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**All:** Amen.

*A hymn may be sung.*

## **The Sermon**

*The leader or a preacher may give a homily.*

*The Nicene Creed may be said.*

## ***The Intercession***

*The leader or another may lead the intercessions. The people stand.*

**Leader:** We stand with Christ in his suffering. For forgiveness for the many times we have denied Jesus, let us pray to the Lord.

**All:** Lord, have mercy.

**Leader:** For grace to seek out those habits of sin which mean spiritual death, and by prayer and self-discipline to overcome them, let us pray to the Lord.

**All:** Lord, have mercy.

**Leader:** For Christian people, that through the suffering of disunity there may grow a rich union in Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**All:** Lord, have mercy.

**Leader:** For those who make laws, interpret them, and administer them, that our common life may be ordered in justice and mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

**All:** Lord, have mercy.

**Leader:** For those who still make Jerusalem a battle-ground, let us pray to the Lord.

**All:** Lord, have mercy.

**Leader:** For those who have the courage and honesty to work openly for justice and peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**All:** Lord, have mercy.

**Leader:** For those in the darkness and agony of isolation, that they may find support and encouragement, let us pray to the Lord.

**All:** Lord, have mercy.

**Leader:** For those, weighed down with hardship, failure, or sorrow, feel that God is far from them, let us pray to the Lord.

**All:** Lord, have mercy.

**Leader:** For those who are tempted to give up the way of the cross, let us pray to the Lord.

**All:** Lord, have mercy.

**Leader:** That we, with those who have died in faith, may find mercy in the day of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**All:** Lord, have mercy.

## ***The Tri-Sagion***

**Leader:** Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.

**All:** Amen.

*Prayers of Penitance may be said.*

## **The Peace**

*The people stand*

**Leader:** Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All:** and also with you. - or - **All:** and with your spirit.

**Leader:** Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All present share a sign of peace.*

**Leader:** Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;

for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

All things come from you,

and of your own do we give you.

**All:** Amen

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**Leader:** As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**All:** 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.

Lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.

For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory  
for ever and ever.

**All:** Amen.

## **Eucharist**

*Mass is celebrated or simple communion if no priest is present.*

## **Post Communion**

**Leader:** Jesus said, Father, if this cup may not pass from me, but I must drink it, then Your will be done. Matthew 26.42

*Silence is kept.*

*A hymn may be sung.*

*The following prayer is said.*

**Leader:** 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.

**All:** Amen.

## **The Blessing**

**Leader:** Christ crucified draw you to himself, to find in him a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sins forgiven; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

**All:** Amen.

## **The Dismissal**

**Leader:** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All:** In the name of Christ. Amen.

*The ministers and clergy depart, followed by the congregation starting with the first row, and then the second etc. The people waving palms as they leave the church. Crosses made of palm may be distributed and kept until next year's Ash Wednesday service, when they may be burned to produce the ash for that service.*

**END of service**

*Please pray for yourselves and the Old Catholic Apostolic Church regularly.*