

Palm/Passion Sunday

Notes

1 The main act of worship on this day should have two distinctive features; a celebration of Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem (traditionally by means of a procession) and, more importantly, an extended proclamation and meditation on the Passion story (traditionally by the reading of the Passion from one of the synoptic gospels or John's Gospel - see the passion narrative provided).

2 The congregation assembles in a suitable place away from the church building, and goes in procession to the church building. Where this is not possible, all is done inside the church building, and if possible some or all of the congregation take part in the procession.

3 The people bring palm or other branches, palm crosses, or else they are given them as they arrive.

4 The Passion narrative may be read by three, four, or more people. When it is read in full, the sermon is normally be omitted.

5. For more details of this service see, "Book of Common Worship" Presbyterian Church USA, Westminster/John Knox Press, 1993 or "Handbook of the Christian Year", Hickman, Saliers, Stookey, White, Abingdon Press.

An Outline for this Service

The Gathering of the People of God

Call to Worship

Prayer

Proclamation of the Entrance Into Jerusalem

Here is read the Psalm for Palm Sunday (Same each year)

PSALM 118:1-2,19-29

This is followed by the Gospel for Palm Sunday for the year of the lectionary:

Year A: Matthew 21:1-11;

Year B: Mark 11:1-10

Year C: Luke 19:28-40

or John 12:12-16

The readings may conclude with the following response:

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

Hosanna in the highest!

Procession Into the Church [Hymn or Psalm]

Suggested Hymns : TIS 333, 346, 348, 353, 244

AHB - 250; 264;187 As the congregation processes into the Church.

Prayer of the Day

The Service of the Word

[Prayer for Illumination]

First Reading	Isaiah 50:4-9a	(All Years)
Psalm	Psalm 31:9-16	(All Years)
Second Reading	Philippians 2:5-11	(All Years)
Gospel Reading	Matthew 26:14-27:66 or 27:11-54	(Year A)
	Mark 14:1-15:47 or 15:1-39 (47)	(Year B)
	Luke : 22:14-23:56 or 23:1-49	(Year C)
	John 18:1-19:42	(Any Year)

Click on any of the above Gospel lessons for dramatic layout. These may be copied and used in worship for Palm-Passion Sunday.

Silent Reflection and/or Sermon

Hymn or Taizé song may be used

Creed or Affirmation of Faith

Offering

Prayers of the People

The Taizé song 'Stay with me, remain with me, watching and praying' may be sung before these prayers and again at the conclusion of the prayer.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

(See Uniting in Worship)

The Peace

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving & Lord's Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

The Lamb of God

The Communion

Prayer After Communion

If the Lord's supper is not celebrated the services concludes:

Lord's Prayer

The Sending forth of the People of God

Hymn, Song

Word of Mission

Blessing