

A Liturgy of the Word For The Family on Palm Sunday

You can have a lighted candle, a Cross and an Open Bible. On Palm Sunday, if you can get hold of palms, you can make your own palm crosses (you can even use paper). Here is a YouTube link on how to make palm crosses: <https://youtu.be/CrEorJnqmrM>

Say together the words printed in bold.

Liturgy of The Palms

When all are gathered, the leader begins:

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

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Then the leader addresses those gathered in these or similar words.

This morning begins the Great Week of the Christian Year.
During Lent we have been preparing by works of love and self-sacrifice
for the celebration of the Lord's death and resurrection.
With Christians throughout the world,
we come together this week to call to mind,
and to express in word and action,
the centre of the Easter mystery:
our Lord's Passover from death to life.
Christ entered in triumph into the Holy City to complete his work as Messiah:
to suffer, to die and to rise to new life.
Today we commit ourselves to walk the way of the cross,
so that, sharing his sufferings,
we may be united with him in his risen life.

Then all may hold up their palms for this blessing, said by the leader.

Sovereign God,
we thank you for these branches [and crosses] of palm.
By your blessing may they be for us signs of the victory of your Son.
May we who carry them in his name ever hail him as our Messiah,
and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Palm Gospel is read: *Matthew 21.1-11*

The Liturgy of the Word Continues

Greeting

Let us worship God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

The Lord be with you
All and also with you.

This is the day that the Lord has made.
All We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Opening Prayer

**All Lord, direct our thoughts, and teach us to pray.
Lift up our hearts to worship you in spirit and in truth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

A Hymn or song may be sung or played.

Saying sorry to God

Confession

God our Father,
we come to you in sorrow for our sins.
For turning away from you,
and ignoring your will for our lives;
Father, forgive us:
All save us and help us.

For behaving just as we wish,
without thinking of you;
Father, forgive us:
All save us and help us.

For failing you by what we do
and think and say;
Father, forgive us:
All save us and help us.

For letting ourselves be drawn away from you
by temptations in the world about us;
Father, forgive us:
All save us and help us.

For living as if we were ashamed to belong to your Son;
Father, forgive us:
All save us and help us.

The leader declares God's forgiveness.

May the God of love and power
forgive *us* and free *us* from *our* sins,
heal and strengthen *us* by his Spirit,
and raise *us* to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Praise

These words may be said

Blessed is the Lord

All for he has heard the voice of our prayer;

therefore shall our hearts dance for joy

All and in our song we will praise our God.

A hymn or song(s) may be sung or played.

The Collect Prayer

Almighty and ever living God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Saviour 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.

Hearing The Word of God

Reading(s)

Isaiah 50: 4-9a

Psalm 31: 9-16

Philippians 2: 5-11

Matthew 27: 11-54

Sermon

*(here you can watch/listen to the Easter sermon on St Michael's website
(www.stmichaelschurch.org.za) /facebook/Instagram)*

Response

This may include a sharing or prayer from each person. It continues with the Affirmation of Faith and the Prayers.

Affirmation of Faith

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

All We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,

who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

All We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

All This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

The prayers may include one of these responses

Lord, in your mercy

All hear our prayer.

(or)

Lord, hear your people

All and answer our prayers.

The prayers may end with

Merciful Father,

**All accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

**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 the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Going out to serve God

A hymn or song(s) may be sung or played.

This prayer may be said

Let us bless the Lord:

All thanks be to God.

Blessing, honour and glory be yours,

**here and everywhere,
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

A service (with adaptation) from New Patterns for Worship. Compilation copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2002.