

Palm Sunday Service Kit

Processional sentences, the Hosanna responsive reading, palm distribution notes, and inserts that carry the congregation into Holy Week.

When to use it: The Sunday before Easter, opening Holy Week.

Order of service

1. Prelude / gathering music
2. Call to worship (Scripture below)
3. Opening hymn
4. Invocation
5. Prayer of confession and assurance of pardon
6. Responsive reading
7. Scripture reading
8. Sermon
9. Response — communion, offering, or prayer
10. Closing hymn
11. Benediction

Hymn suggestions (public domain)

- All Glory, Laud, and Honour
- Ride On, Ride On in Majesty
- Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

Suggested preaching text

Matthew 21:1-11 with Zechariah 9:9.

Calls to worship

Read one aloud to open the service. Short is better than long — the point is to turn the room toward God before anything else is said.

*Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord;
Hosanna in the highest.*

Matthew 21:9 (KJV)

*Blessed be he that cometh in the name of the LORD: we have blessed you out of the
house of the LORD.*

Psalms 118:26 (KJV)

*Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King
of glory shall come in.*

Psalms 24:7 (KJV)

Invocation

King Jesus, thou didst enter thy city on a borrowed colt, meek and lowly, and the crowds spread their coats in the road. Ride into this church this morning. Take the throne we have kept for ourselves. Amen.

Prayer of confession

Lord, we confess that we are the crowd. We shout Hosanna on Sunday and vanish by Friday. Forgive our shallow devotion and give us the loyalty that follows thee to the cross. Amen.

Assurance of pardon

*There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not
after the flesh, but after the Spirit.*

Romans 8:1 (KJV)

Responsive reading

Hosanna to the Son of David

Leader reads the plain lines; the congregation reads the lines in bold. Print this page in the bulletin exactly as it appears here.

Leader: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass.
Zechariah 9:9 (KJV)

People: **And a very great multitude spread their garments in the way; others cut down branches from the trees, and strawed them in the way.**
Matthew 21:8 (KJV)

Leader: Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Matthew 21:9 (KJV)

People: **I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out.**
Luke 19:40 (KJV)

All: **Blessed be he that cometh in the name of the LORD: we have blessed you out of the house of the LORD.**
Psalm 118:26 (KJV)

Offering sentence

Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase.
Proverbs 3:9 (KJV)

Benediction

Speak the blessing over the congregation rather than praying it — the biblical pattern is a word given to the people, not a request made on their behalf.

Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.
Jude 1:24-25 (KJV)

Bulletin inserts — cut along the dashed lines

Photocopy this page, cut on the dashed borders, and slip one into every bulletin or visitor pack. Free to reproduce for church use.

BULLETIN INSERT 1 · BIBLE SUNDAYS

Holy Week at home

Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.

Matthew 21:9 (KJV)

Read one chapter a day this week: Monday Matthew 21, Tuesday Matthew 22, Wednesday Matthew 26, Thursday John 13, Friday John 19, Saturday Matthew 27:57-66, Sunday Matthew 28. Seven short readings turn a busy week into the most important one of your year.

BULLETIN INSERT 2 · BIBLE SUNDAYS

A verse for the week

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

Isaiah 53:5 (KJV)

The crowd wanted a king who would ride in and fix Rome. He came to be wounded for transgressions instead. What we needed was deeper than what we asked for — it always is.

Service planning notes

Fill this in on the Thursday before and hand a copy to the musicians, the reader, and the sound desk.

Preacher

Sermon title and text

Reader / liturgist

Hymns

Communion / ordinance

Announcements

Notes

More free KJV resources for Sunday at biblesundays.com/sunday — sermon series plans, printables, hymn texts, and free Bible widgets for your church website.