

Litany for Palm Sunday

God, you showed us who you are in the incarnation:
Yourself as human,

Coming down to earth, enduring human suffering,
Becoming a servant.

And despite your meekness
You offended the Powers;

You drew the wrath of religious and political establishments
You became their scapegoat.

You endured mocking and scorn,
A crown of thorns,

Brutal violence,
And went to death with forgiveness on your lips.

You, Great Heart, have shamed the Powers that killed you:
Exposed violence,

Eschewed vengeance,
And by acceptance, defeated death.

In refusing to repay violence with violence,
You showed us the Path of Peace.

In forgiving your enemies and abusers,
You demonstrated love the world had never seen.

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

(Written by Fran Pratt; see <http://www.franpratt.com/litanies?category=Lent%2FEaster>)

A Litany on 'The Mind of Christ'

Let us remember Jesus:
Who, though he was rich,
for our sakes became poor and dwelt among us;

Who was content to be the child of a poor family;

Who lived the common life,
earning his living with his own hands
and declining no humble tasks;

**Whom the common people heard gladly,
for he understood their ways.**

Let us remember Jesus:
Who was mighty in deed, healing the sick and afflicted,
using for others the powers he would not invoke for himself;

**Who was master and Lord to his disciples,
yet was among them as their Companion
and as one who served.**

Let us remember Jesus:
Who loved people, yet retired from them to pray,
rose a great while before day,
watched through the night,
stayed in the wilderness,
went up into a mountain,
sought out a garden;

**Who prayed for his tempted disciple,
and for the forgiveness of all who rejected him,
and for the perfecting of those who received him;**

Who observed good customs,
but defied conventions that did not serve the purposes of God.
Who hated sin because he knew the cost of pride and selfishness,
of cruelty and impurity—the cost to humanity and to God.

May this mind be in us which was in Christ Jesus.

Let us remember Jesus:
Who, when he was reviled, did not retaliate,
and when he suffered did not threaten;
who emptied himself and carried obedience to the point of death,
even death on the cross.

May this mind be in us which was in Christ Jesus.

Let us pray for Christ to dwell within our hearts.

**O Christ, our only Saviour,
so come to dwell in us**

**that we may go forth with the light of your hope in our eyes,
and with your faith and love in our hearts. Amen.**

(Adapted from an unknown author by the editor of Life in Liturgy: see
<https://lifeinliturgy.wordpress.com/2018/03/19/palm-passion-sunday-b/>

Palm Sunday Prayer

O Christ, you entered the city as a poor man
not in style but simply,

yet still you caused uproar, and questions everywhere;
you drew the expectations of a hungry crowd,
and brought buried conflicts to the light.

May we, who are sometimes swayed by the crowd's approval,
and who often avoid conflict
for fear of its cost to us,
hold fast to the gospel of peace and justice

and follow faithfully in your way of compassion and solidarity
with those who are poor and excluded,
wherever it may lead us. **Amen.**

(Written by Kathy Galloway and originally posted on the Christian Aid website:
<http://www.christianaid.org.uk/>)

Palm Sunday Call to Worship

We come to prepare for the holiest of weeks.

**We will journey through praise, with joy on our lips;
we will travel through betrayal and death,
cradling hope deep in our hearts.**

Jesus leads us through this week, and we will follow,
for he is the life we long for,
he is the Word who sustains us.

**We wave palm branches in anticipation,
we lay our love before him, to cushion his walk.**

Setting aside all power, glory, and might, he comes:
modelling humility and obedience for all of us.

**Hosanna! Hosanna!
Blessed is the One who brings us
the kingdom of God.**

(Written by Thom Shuman, and posted on Lectionary Liturgies: see
<https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/search?q=We+come+to+prepare+for+the+holiest+of+weeks.+>)

Litany for Palm Sunday and the Start of Holy Week

Today we have cheered you on as our champion and hailed you as our hero.

Forgive us tomorrow when our enthusiasm wanes.

Today we have entrusted you to rescue us from our pitiful circumstances.

Forgive us on Tuesday when we decide we can take care of ourselves.

Today we have made you the centerpiece of our very existence.

Forgive us on Wednesday when we forget to remember who you are.

Today we have called out to you loudly by name.

Forgive us on Thursday when we pretend that we've never met you.

Today we have stared at you with the star struck eyes of fans and groupies.

Forgive us on Friday when we avert our eyes because it's too painful to see you on the cross.

Today we have expressed our unsuppressed hopefulness in the future you have in store for us.

Forgive us on Saturday when we believe all is lost.

Today we have been boldly certain of the earthly ways you will redeem us.

Restore us on Sunday when we are startled and awed by your rising.

(Written by Christine Sobania Johnson; see <http://freshlysqueezedliturgy.blogspot.com/>)