



Blessing of Palms

This blessing
can be heard coming
from a long way off.

This blessing
is making its steady way
up the road toward you.

This blessing
blooms in the throats of women,
springs from the hearts of men,
tumbles out of the mouths of children.

This blessing
is stitched into the seams
of the cloaks that line the road,
etched into the branches
that trace the path,
echoes in the breathing
of the willing colt,
the click of the donkey's hoof
against the stones.

Something is rising beneath this blessing.
Something will try to drown it out.
But this blessing cannot be turned back,
cannot be made to still its voice,
cannot cease to sing its praise
of the One who comes along the way it makes.

Jan Richardson

from Circle of Grace: A Book of Blessings for the Seasons



Palm Sunday

13th April 2025

GATHERING HYMN: 'All Glory Laud and Honour' (13)

COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,
who in your tender love towards the human race
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,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



FIRST READING

The Lord God has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens—
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.
The Lord God has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backwards.
I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.
The Lord God helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;

Isaiah 50: 4-9a

he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.
It is the Lord God who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

SECOND READING

Philippians 2:5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL HYMN— ‘Ride on Ride on in Majesty’ (567)

The Passion Gospel According to Luke

HYMN OF THE GIFTS:

‘And now, O Father, Mindful of the Love’ (33)

COMMUNION HYMNS:

‘Come and See, Come and See’ (100)

‘From Heaven you came Helpless Babe’ (175)

‘Glory be to Jesus’ (190)

POST COMMUNION

Lord Jesus Christ,
you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant,
and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation:
give us the mind to follow you
and to proclaim you as Lord and King,
to the glory of God the Father.

Amen

FINAL HYMN: ‘My Song is Love Unknown’ (457)

