LITURGY OF THE PALMS
March 29, 2015
Year B, Revised Common Lectionary

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Table of Contents

- All Texts, Enhanced Font, Psalm in Poem Format, with Black and White Art Image
- Compact Double Column All Texts
- Compact Triple Column All Texts
- All Texts, Large Font

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Entry into Jerusalem, sarcophagus of Junius Bassus, detail, ca. 359 AD, Vatican Museum, Vatican City.

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

- ✠ O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!
- ✠ Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."
- ✠ Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.
- ✠ This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.
- ✠ I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.
- ✠ The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
- ✠ This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.
- ✠ This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- ✠ Save us, we beseech you, O LORD! O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!
- ✠ Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD. We bless you from the house of the LORD.
- ✠ The LORD is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.
- ✠ You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you.
- ✠ O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

Mark 11:1-11 When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

John 12:12-16 *The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord-- the King of Israel!" Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: "Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him.*

Texts in italics: complementary to standard reading, may be used with or in place of it.

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