Palm Sunday: Jesus' Triumphal Entry to Jerusalem

Catholic, Protestant, and Orthodox Christian churches all celebrate Palm Sunday, which is the beginning of Holy Week, the most hallowed time of year for Christians, the remembrance of Jesus' last days. (The Orthodox Christian Church follows the Julian calendar and typically celebrates later than Catholic and Protestant communities.) We commemorate when Jesus entered Jerusalem and was greeted by people waving palm branches. The event serves as a reminder for Christians to welcome Jesus into their hearts and be ready to follow Him. The service also includes a reading of the Passion, narrating the story of Jesus' suffering and crucifixion. In many churches, Palm Sunday is observed with the blessing and sharing of palm branches, symbolizing the branches placed in front of Christ as he entered Jerusalem.

He welcomed His fate to rise from the grave and save us from sin! Let us praise God for sending His Son to earth,

Jesus' sacrifice for our sins, and our eternal life in Christ through faith.



Palm Sunday Celebration and Traditions

Palm Sunday began in the Jerusalem Church, approximately the late third century. Observances consisted of hymns, prayers, and Bible readings as people traveled through the many holy places within the city. At the final place, the site of Jesus' ascent into heaven, the ministry would recite the biblical passage of Jesus' victorious entrance into Jerusalem. Then, as dusk neared, the people would return to the city declaring: "Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord" (Matthew 21:9). This tradition continued until the sixth and seventh centuries when

the ceremonial blessing of the palms was included. By the eighth century, a morning procession substituted the evening one and the Western Church was celebrating what we now know as "Palm Sunday."

Meaning of Palm Sunday

Hundreds of people shouted "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" Debbie McDaniel wrote about the significance of Palm Sunday:

"On the heels of Palm Sunday, as we begin this Holy Week, may we constantly be reminded of its significance and value for our lives today. That very important day in history, when Jesus began His journey towards the cross. Yet maybe in the midst of busy lives, on the heels of Spring Break, or in all of the upcoming thoughts about Easter, the real meaning of it may, even unintentionally, get missed. His Word reveals such great truths in every part of this story. Truths that draw us closer towards Christ, reminding us that He alone is King."

Bible Verses About Palm Sunday

"The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Blessed is the king of Israel!" Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written: "Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey's colt." At first, his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that these things had been done to him. Now, the crowd that was with him when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to spread the word. Many people, because they had heard that he had performed this sign, went out to meet him. So the Pharisees said to one another, "See, this is getting us nowhere. Look how the whole world has gone after him!" - John 12:12-19

"<u>For God so loved the world</u>, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." - <u>John 3:16-17</u>

Quotes About Palm Sunday

"Palm Sunday is like a glimpse of Easter. It's a little bit joyful after being somber during Lent." - Laura Gale

"Life is full of ups and downs. Glorify God during the ups and fully trust in Him during the downs." - Anonymous

"Lord, we lift up your name. With hearts full of praise, Be exalted, O Lord my God! Hosanna in the highest!" - Carl Tuttle "Have a blessed Palm Sunday. Remember a week before he was crucified like a criminal, he rode into the city a king." - Anonymous

"Alleluia, how the people cheer and palm leaves rustle as the king draws near." - John Beavis

"Come To The Table" from Sidewalk Prophets is a song for everybody. It paints a picture of the table that Jesus sets for us all - inviting the thief, doubter, sinner, coward, everyone. Answer the invitation to "come"... Wherever you are, you are welcome to come and commune with the King of Kings. If you look at His table, at all the thieves and the doubters that sat and ate with Him, He called them His Beloved. No matter what you're going through, you are welcome to come, sit down and take some time to talk to the King of Kings, Jesus Christ.

"Come to the Table" (Lyrics by Sidewalk Prophets)

We all start on the outside, The outside looking in This is where grace begins We were hungry we were thirsty, With nothing left to give Oh the shape that we were in Just when all hope seemed lost, Love opened the door for us

He said come to the table Come join the sinners who have been redeemed Take your place beside the Savior, Sit down and be set free

Come to the table

Come meet this mightly crew of misfits, These liars and these thieves There's no one unwelcome here, That sin and shame that you brought with you

You can leave it at the door, And let mercy draw you near

So, come to the table Come join the sinners who have been redeemed Take your place beside the Savior

Sit down and be set free Come to the table, Come to the table

To the thief and to the doubter, To the hero and the coward
To the prisoner and the soldier, To the young and to the older
All who hunger all who thirst, All the last and all the first
All the paupers and the princess, All who fail, you've been forgiven
All who dream and all who suffer, All who loved and lost another
All the chained and all the free, All who follow all who lead

Anyone who's been let down, All the lost you have been found All who have been labeled right or wrong, To everyone who hears this song

Oh, Come to the table
Come join the sinners you have been redeemed
Take your place beside the Savior, Sit down and be set free
Oh, Sit down and be set free
Come to the table, Come to the table
Sit down and be set free
Come to the table.

Source: Musixmatch /Songwriters: Ben Mcdonald, Ben Glover, Dave Frey/ Come to the Table lyrics © Mike Curb Music, Dayspring Music Llc, Run Run Milo, Pencil Prophet Publishing, 9 T One Songs, Ariose Music Group Inc.