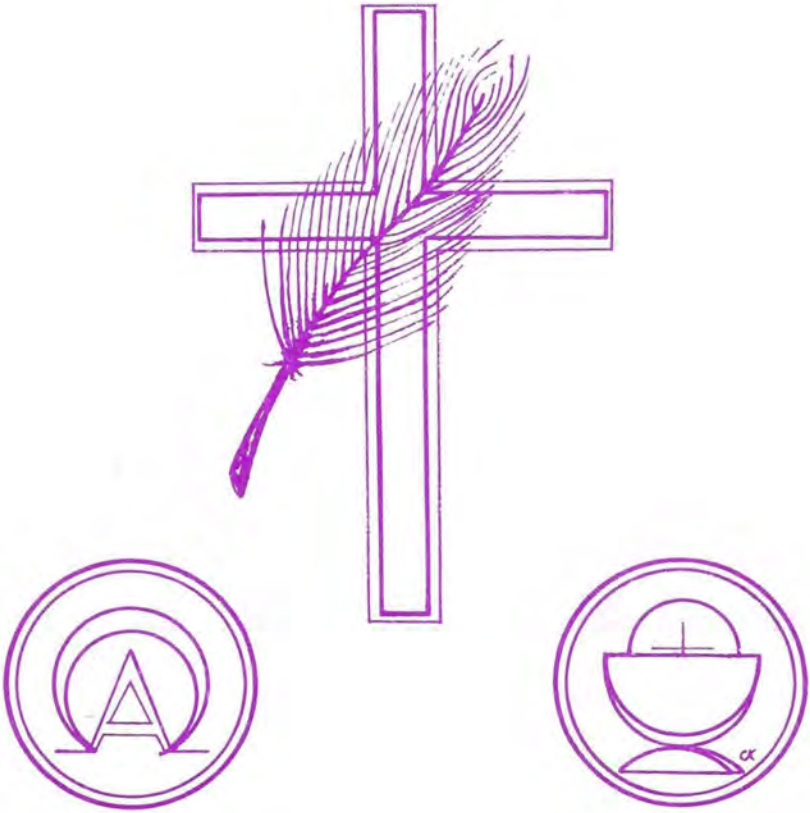
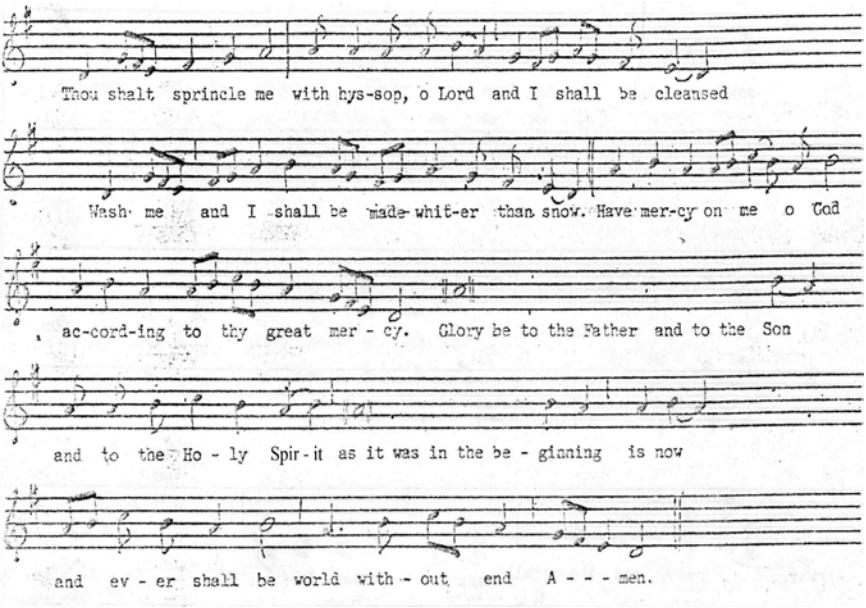


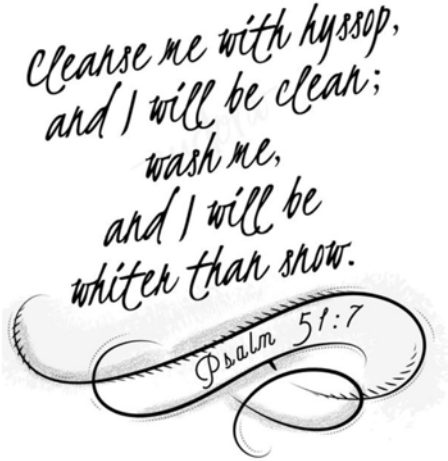
Liturgy of the Palms
(with Asperges)
for the Congregation

(revised April 2025)

The Asperges

(arr. W. Belland)





The Liturgy of the Palms

The palm branches that are to be blessed should be placed on a table on the Epistle side of the sanctuary, next to the communion rail.

For a Blessing of Palms without the Liturgy, the Simple Blessing should be taken from the Ritual Book.

The procession shall consist of the following in the indicated order:

Crucifer
Acolytes
Choir
Congregation
Assistants
Celebrant

Among the hymns appropriate for the Palm Sunday procession are the following:

Blessed is He (Kto Sie w Opieke)
Sent From High Heaven (v. 5-7)
Ride On, Ride On in Majesty

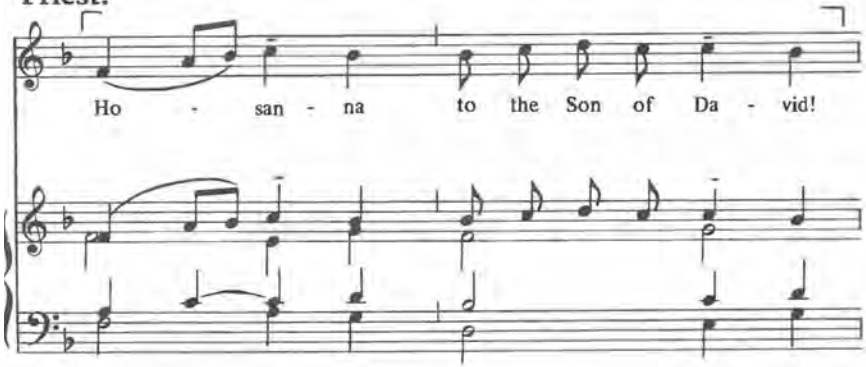
Other appropriate processional hymns may be used. Lenten hymns should not be used.

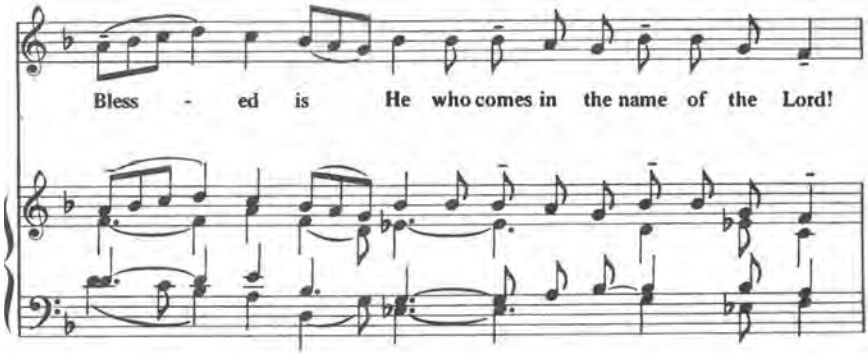
It is strongly suggested that this service be sung *a cappella.* Where this cannot be done, use the accompaniment provided as the alternative option.

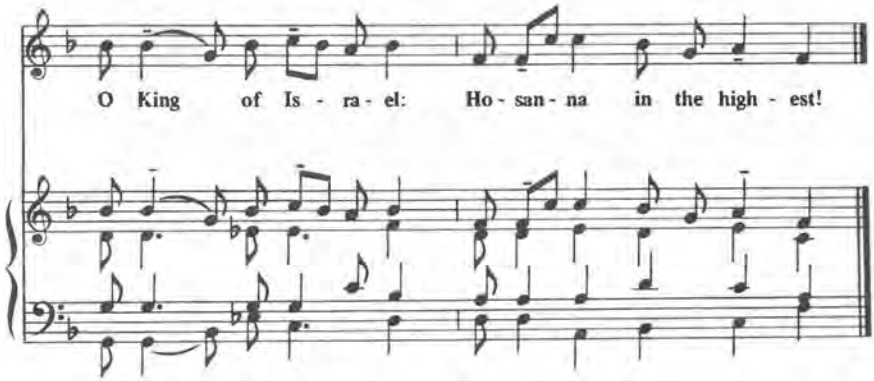
The ASPERGES *may precede the Liturgy of the Palms. The celebrant vested in amice, alb, cincture, violet stole and cope, having arrived at the foot of the altar, intones the following* ANTIPHON, *which is continued by the choir and the congregation.*

STAND

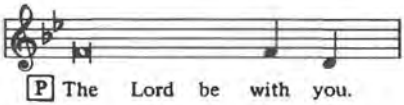
Priest:

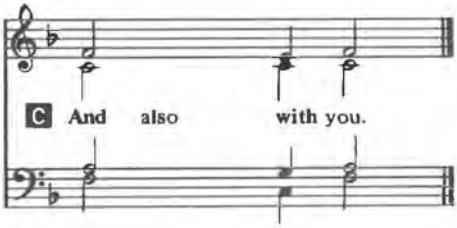


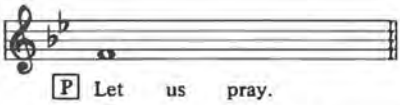




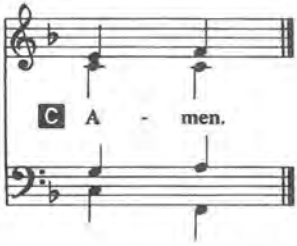
The celebrant genuflects and ascends the altar steps. Standing at the Epistle corner, without turning to the people, he sings the following RESPONSE *and* PRAYER:



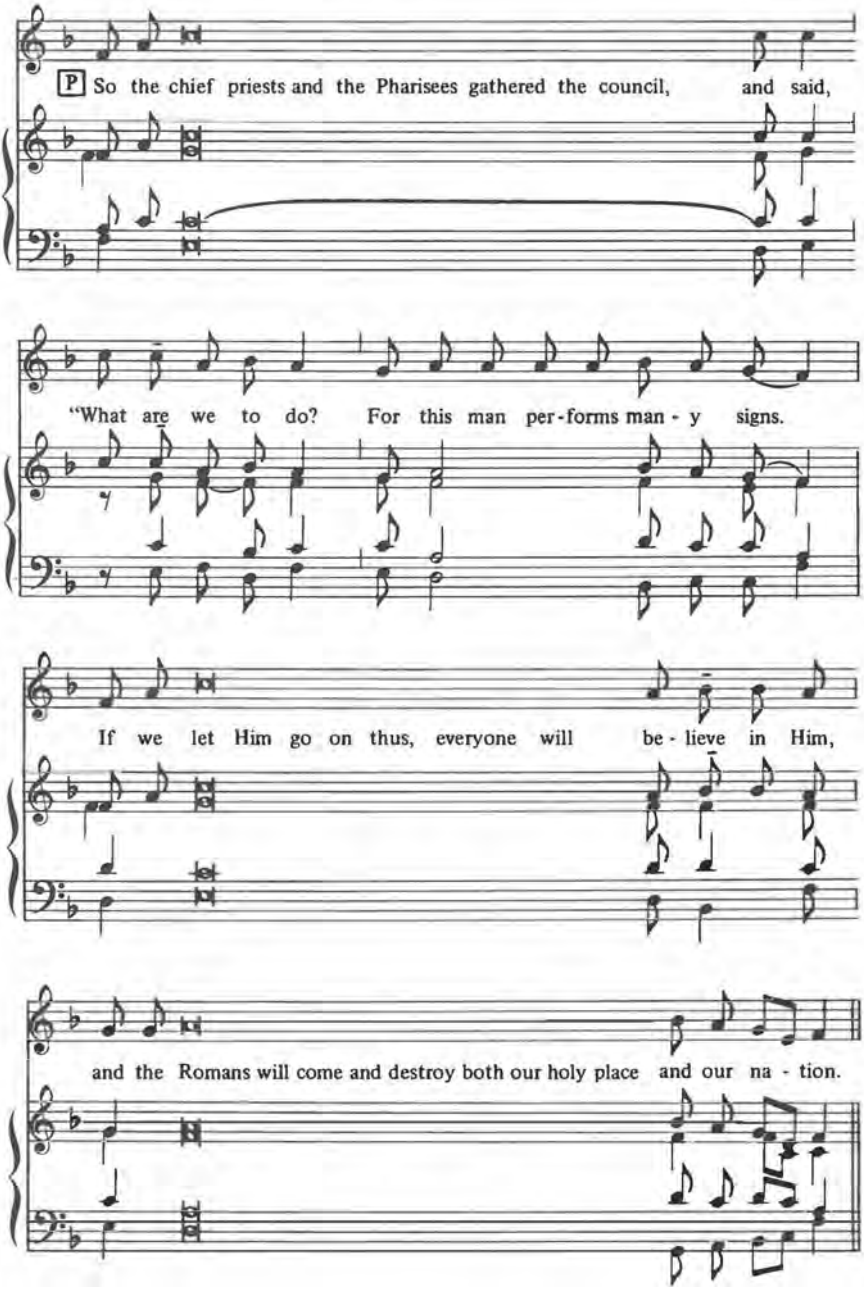




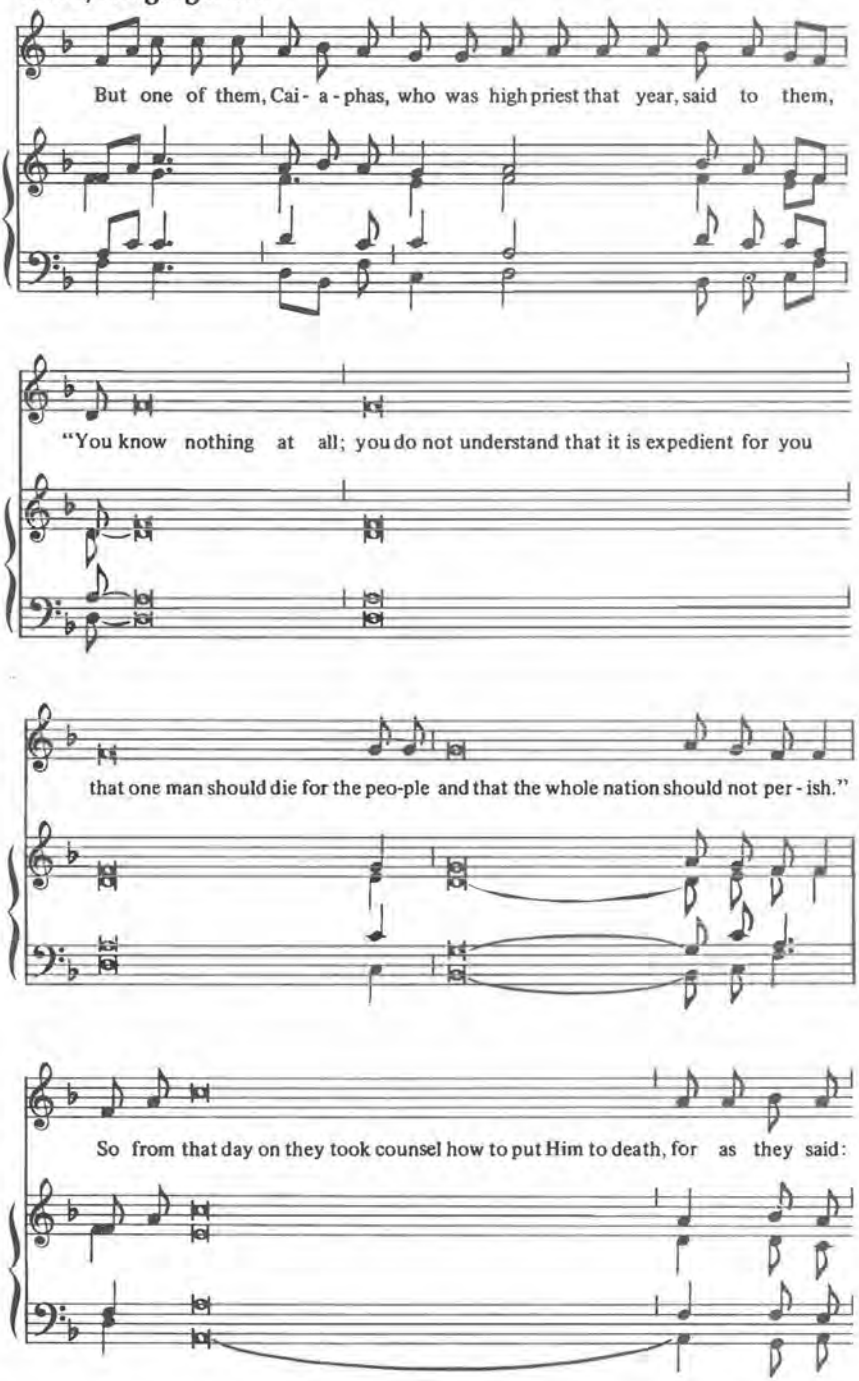
O God, whom to honor and love perfectly is righteousness, increase in us Your holy grace; so that this sacred ceremony may remind us of the triumphal entry of Jesus Christ into earthly Jerusalem, and most of all serve towards our own sanctification and eventual entry into Your heavenly Jerusalem. Through Jesus Christ Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, throughout ages of ages.

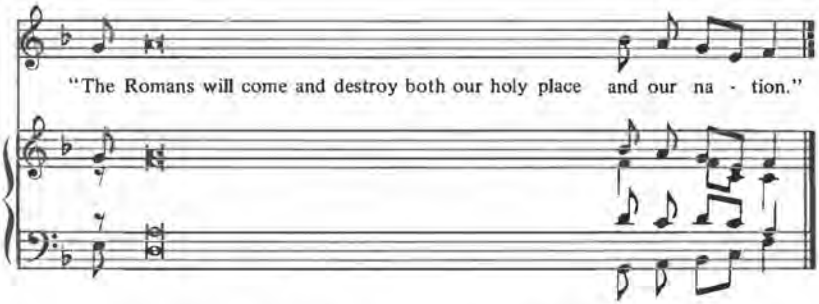


The celebrant descends the altar steps, and taking his position beside the prepared palm branches, begins the following ANTIPHON *which is continued by the choir:*

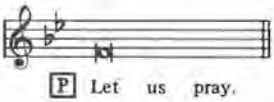


Choir/Congregation:

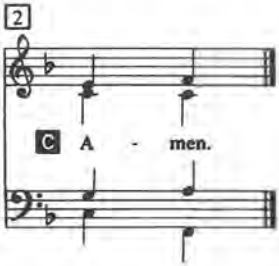




The celebrant blesses the palm branches and, facing them, he extends his hands and sings the following PRAYER:

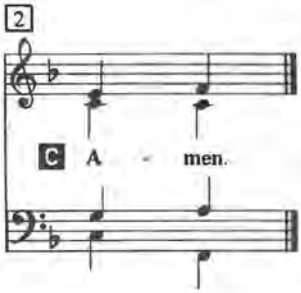


O God, who did ordain that the multitude of Israel's believing people should honor with a tumultuous joy the Savior before His Sacred Passion, and did inspire the crowd to spread branches of olive trees and palms in the way, and to sing Hosanna in His praise, grant that we bearing these palms, the symbol of victory over evil, and these olive branches, the symbol of goodness, meekness and justice, the gifts of the Holy Spirit within our hearts, may go forth to wage incessant war against the forces of evil, depravity, and falsehood; and so guided through life in the way of light, truth, and justice, we may enter into everlasting glory. Through Jesus Christ Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, throughout ages of ages.



P Let us pray.

Increase, O God, the faith of those who put their trust in You, and grant that strengthened in their love of You, they will never suffer disappointment. May these branches of palm which we, Your servants, are about to receive and carry in commemoration of a solemn and sacred day in the life of Jesus Christ, inspire us to turn our eyes heavenward to Your holy Jerusalem. Bless, O Lord, these branches of palm; as You did choose Noah to be the new father of the human race, Moses to be the leader of Israel's people, and Jesus Christ to be the Savior of us all, grant we beseech You, that contemplating the wonderful ways of Your providence, we may fervently unite our wills with Your holy will in the work of our own sanctification and salvation. Through Jesus Christ Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, throughout ages of ages.



The celebrant puts incense into the thurible, and then sprinkles the palms with holy water, saying:

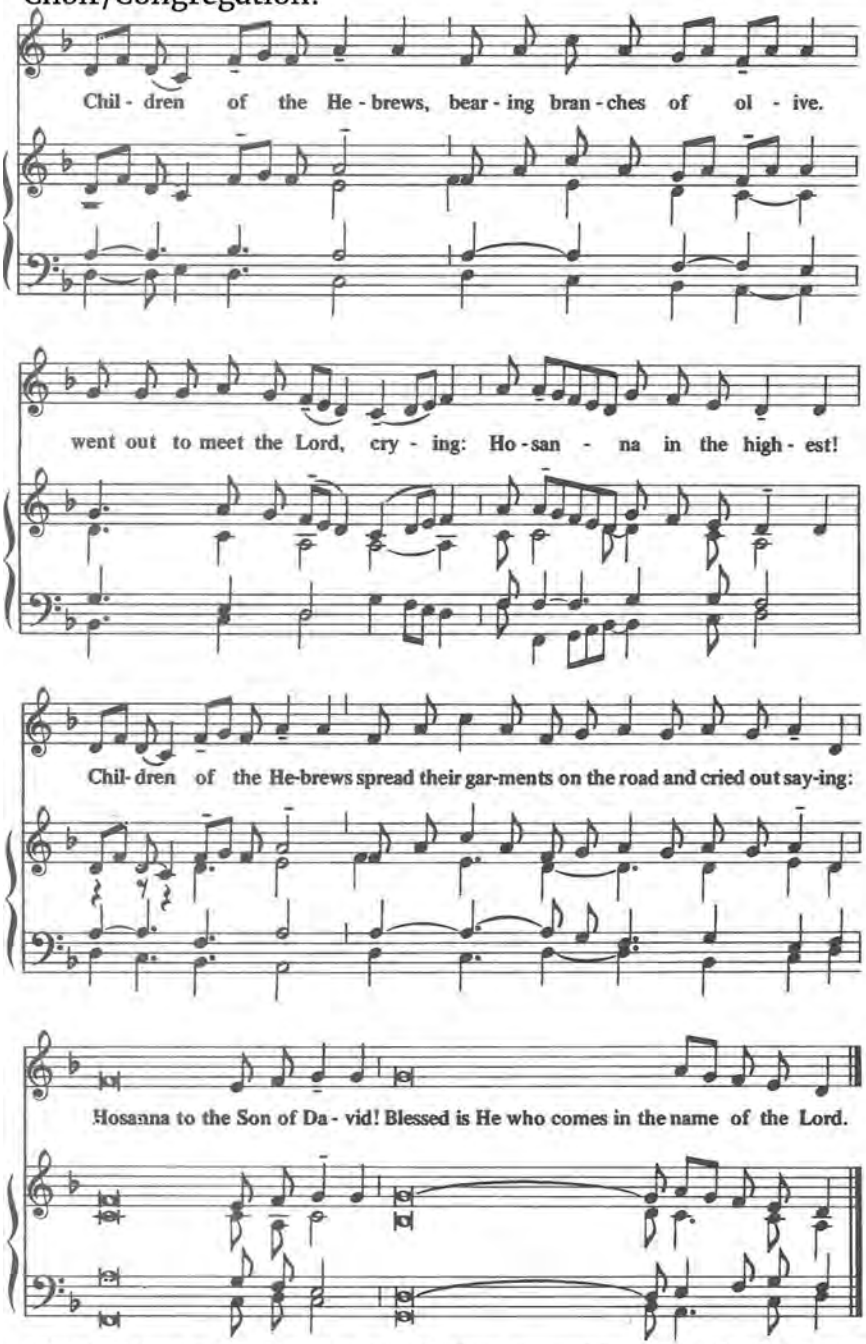
With hyssop sprinkle me, O Lord, and I shall be cleansed. Wash me and I shall be whiter than the snow.

Then the celebrant censes the palms, saying:

May my prayer before You be counted as incense and the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice.

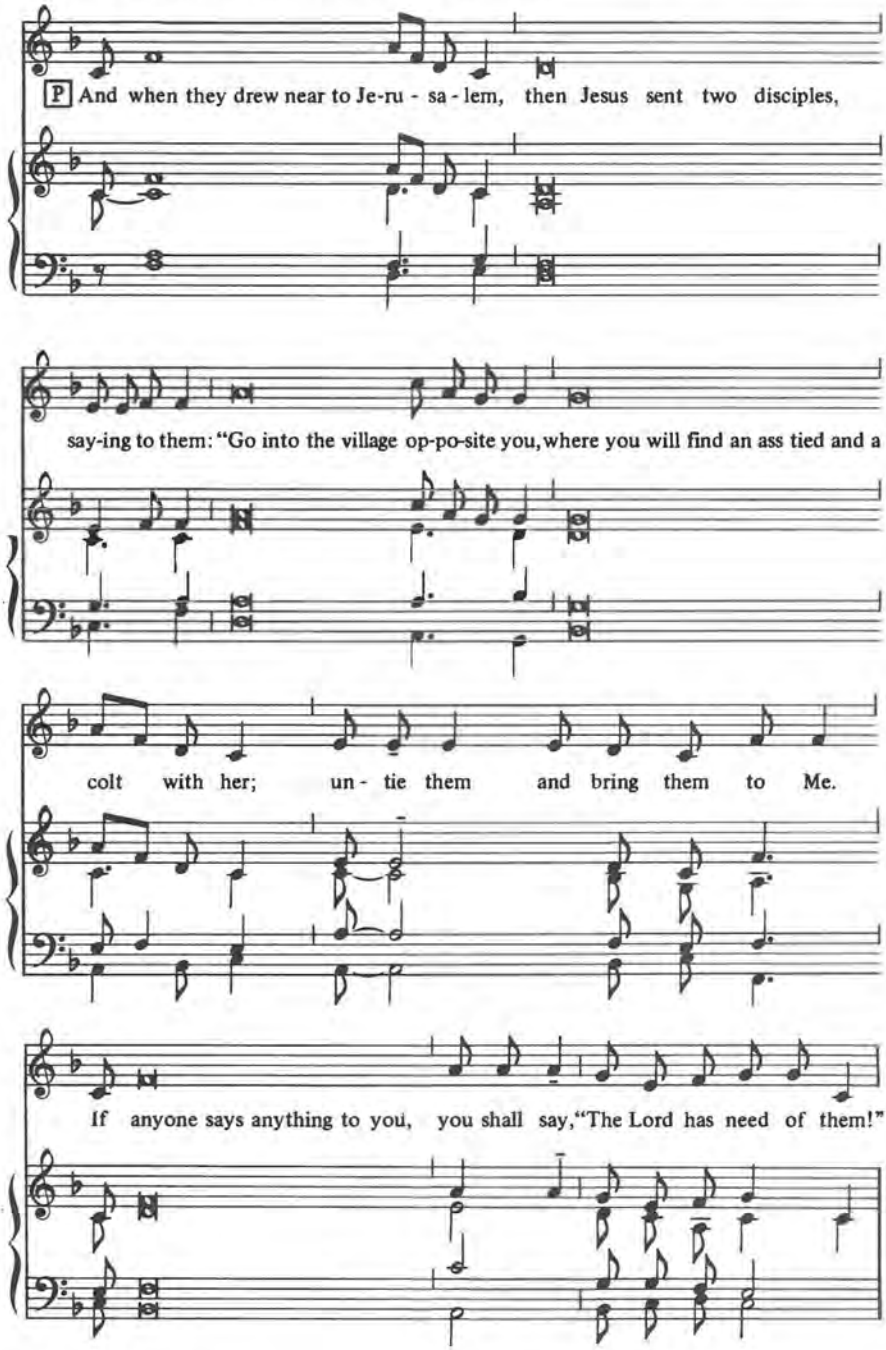
The celebrant now distributes the palms. The choir and congregation sing the following ANTHIPHON:

Choir/Congregation:



NOTE: If there is sufficient time, another hymn appropriate to Palm Sunday may be sung during the distribution.

The distribution of palms completed, the celebrant begins the following ANTIPHON *which is concluded by the choir:*



The dis-ciples went and did as Jesus had di-rect-ed them;

they brought the ass and the colt and put their garments on them and He sat there-on.

Most of the crowd spread their garments on the road,

and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road;

and the crowds who went before Him and that followed Him shout - ed,

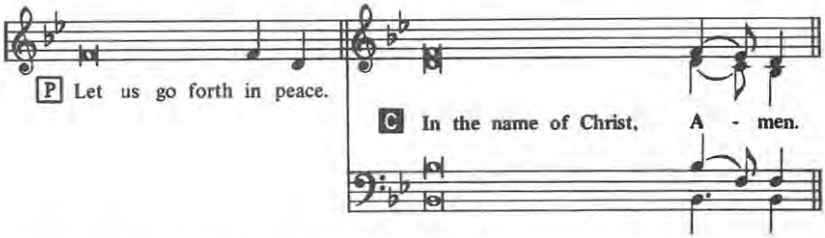
Choir/Congregation:

Ho - san - na to the Son of Da - vid!

Bless - ed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

O King of Is - ra - el: Ho - san - na in the high - est!

Holding a palm branch, the celebrant stands on the top step of the altar and faces the people. The following RESPONSE *is sung:*



The procession forms behind the crucifer. (The procession is composed of the priest and assistants, and if possible, the choir and congregation, or elements of the congregation, all carrying palms.)

The procession moves through the body of the church while ***"Sent From High Heaven"*** *is sung. The crucifer leads the priest and assistants to the vestibule. The choir and congregation return to their places.*

"Sent from High Heaven"

1. Sent from high heav-en Christ ful - fills His mis-sion, T'ward Je - ru - sa-lem
2. "Two hence to vil-lage, hur - ry do not fal - ter; There find a don - key
3. The two dis - ci - ples did as Christ had bid-den. They placed the Lord on

strides with pre - mo - ni - tion, Star-ties Dis - ci - ples when at Beth-phage's bor-der,
har-nessed and with hal - ter. Un - tie the an - i - mal and her colt un-teth-er;
colt 'til now un - rid - den. Ex - ci - ted crowds climb trees, palms and branch - es hew-ing,

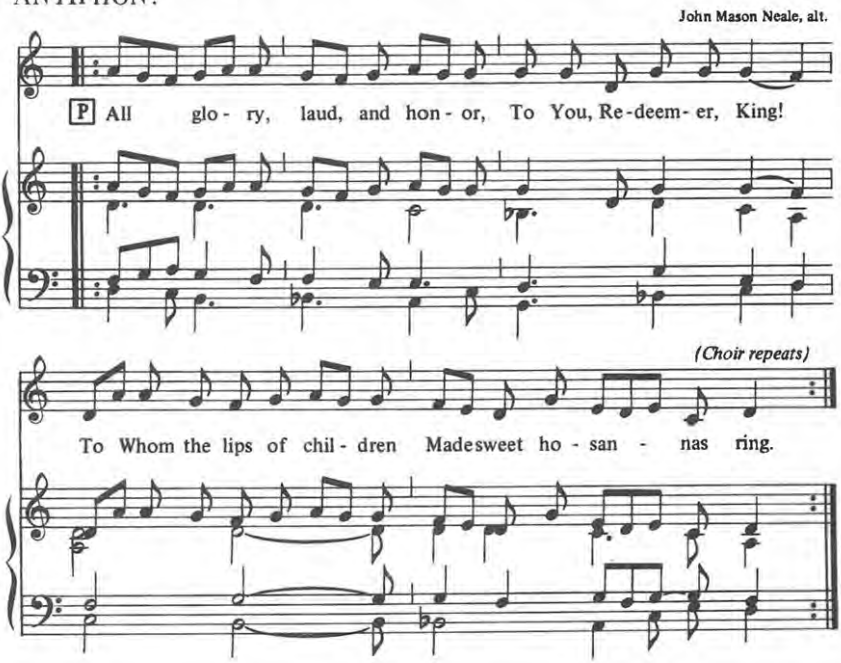
Is - sues this strange or - der: 4. Stirred by the Spir - it, chil - dren raise glad
Bring them here to - geth - er." 5. We bid Thee wel - come, God's own Son and
These be - fore Him strew - ing. 6. With joy - ful tri - umph join we Christ's pro-
7. Be - fore God's heav'nly throne our hearts out-

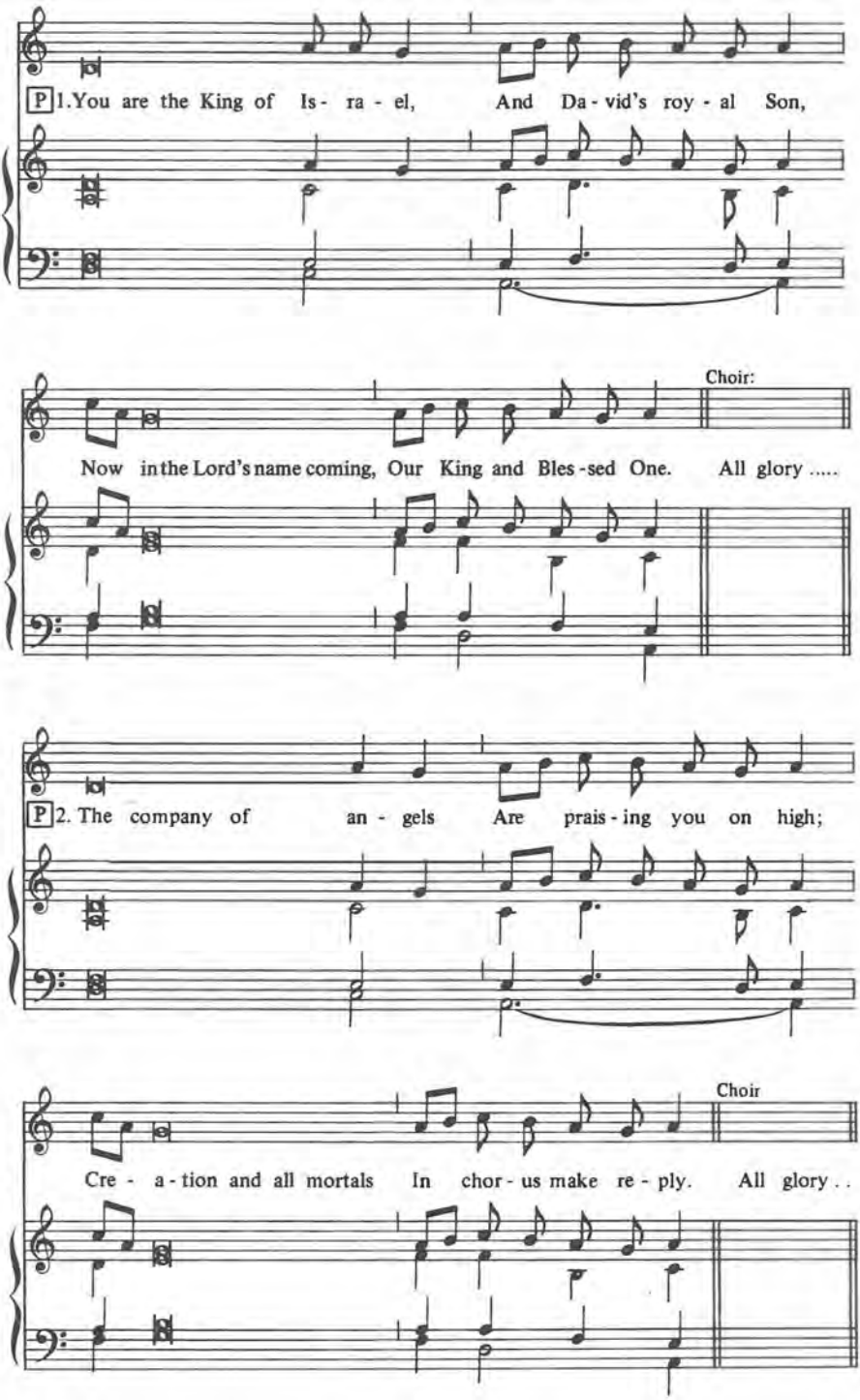
voi - ces: "Christ", "King", "Ho - san - na", Is - ra - el re - joi - ces, From sin and
Sav - ior, Prom - ised by proph-ets, man - kind's Lib - er - a - tor. Thou whose re -
ces - sion. "Hail, roy - al Vic - tor", give we loud ex - pres - sion, Our mor - tal
pour - ing, Where choirs of an - gels nev - er cease a - dor - ing, Thou, Who in

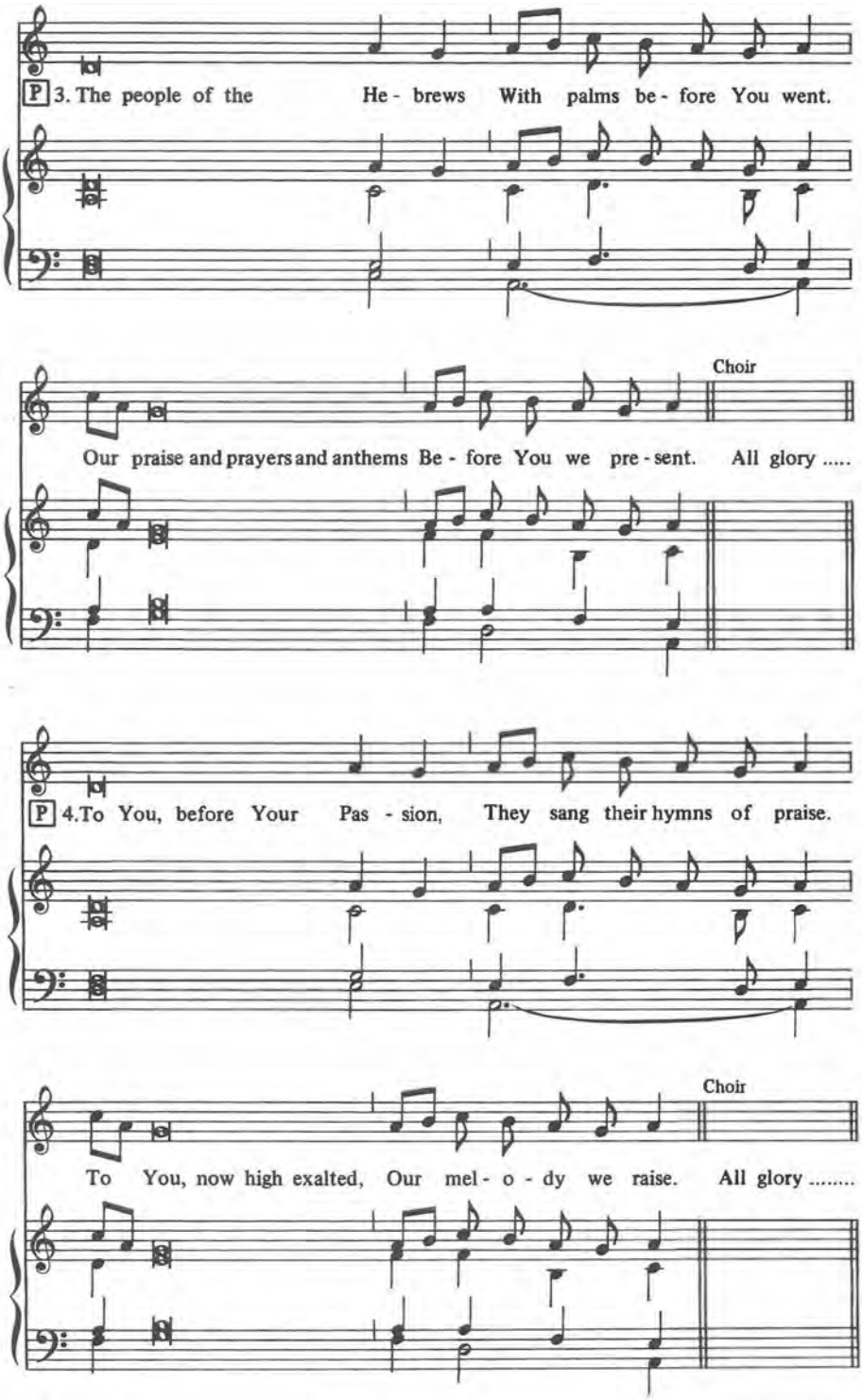
might of sin, man's e - man - ci - pa - tion, Heav - en - sent sal - va - tion.
demp - tive task con - quered man's en - slav - er, Re - stored him God's fa - vor.
voi - ces, now t'wards heav - en blend-ing, Sing - ing praise un - end-ing.
Sac - ra - ment, day and night a - bid - est, To Thy death now rid - est.

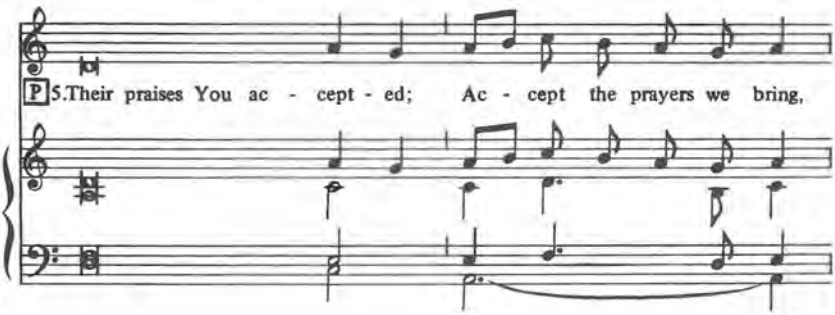
KNEEL

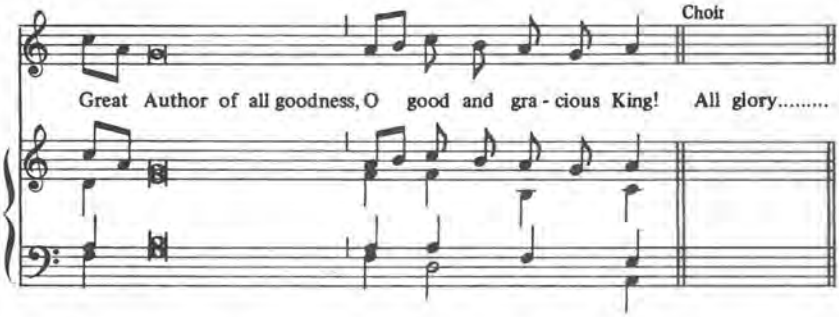
The celebrant and choir/congregation alternately sing the following ANTIPHON:



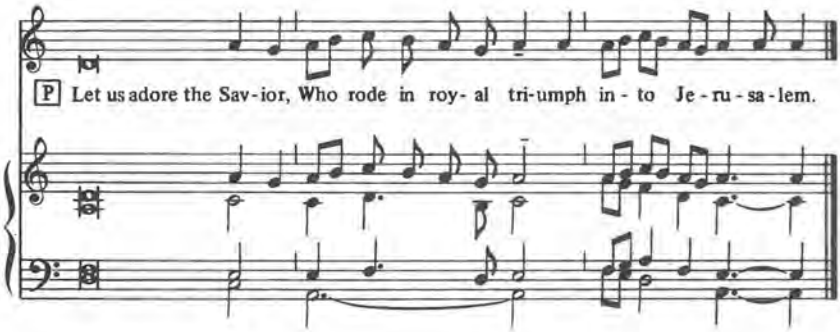

P 1.You are the King of Is - ra - el, And Da - vid's roy - al Son,
Choir:
Now in the Lord's name coming, Our King and Bles - sed One. All glory .....
P 2. The company of an - gels Are prais - ing you on high;
Choir
Cre - a - tion and all mortals In chor - us make re - ply. All glory . .


P 3. The people of the He - brews With palms be - fore You went.
Choir
Our praise and prayers and anthems Be - fore You we pre - sent. All glory .....
P 4. To You, before Your Pas - sion, They sang their hymns of praise.
Choir
To You, now high exalted, Our mel - o - dy we raise. All glory .....



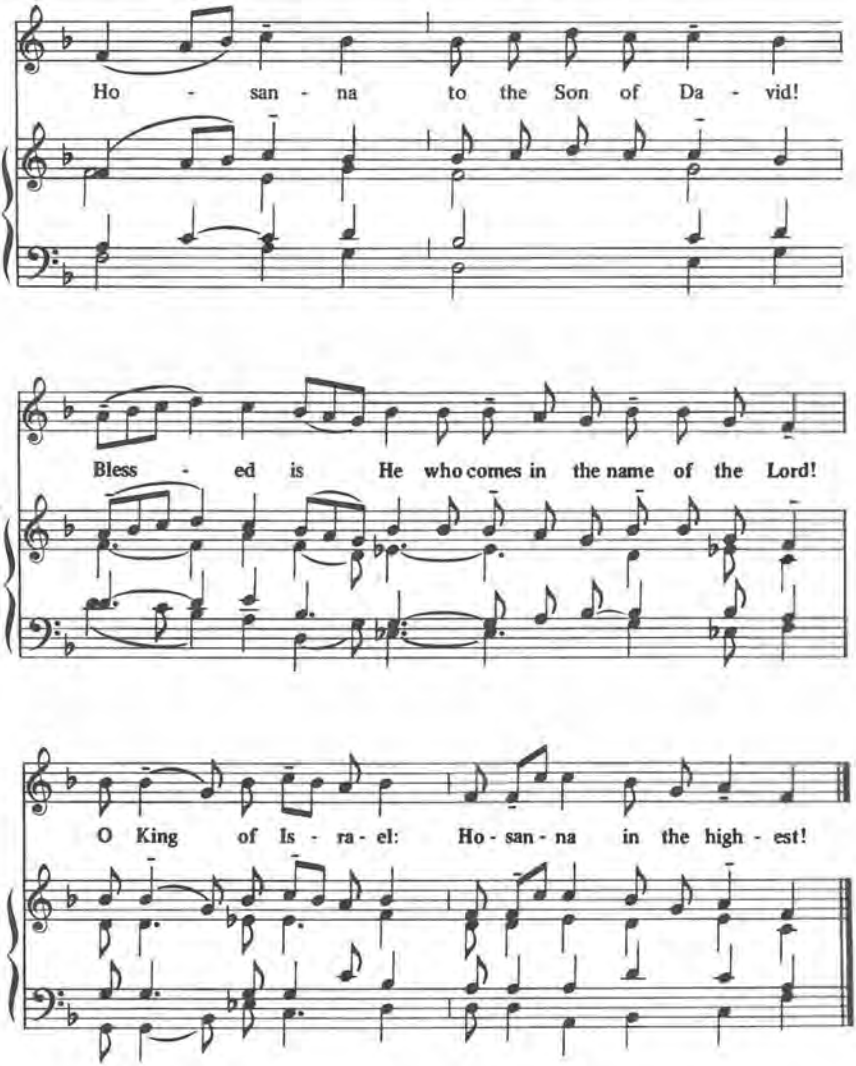


The celebrant knocks on the door of the vestibule three times with the shaft of the cross. It is at once opened and the celebrant and acolytes enter the body of the church. When the celebrant reaches the center of the aisle, the procession kneels. The celebrant, also kneeling, sings the following ANTIPHON:



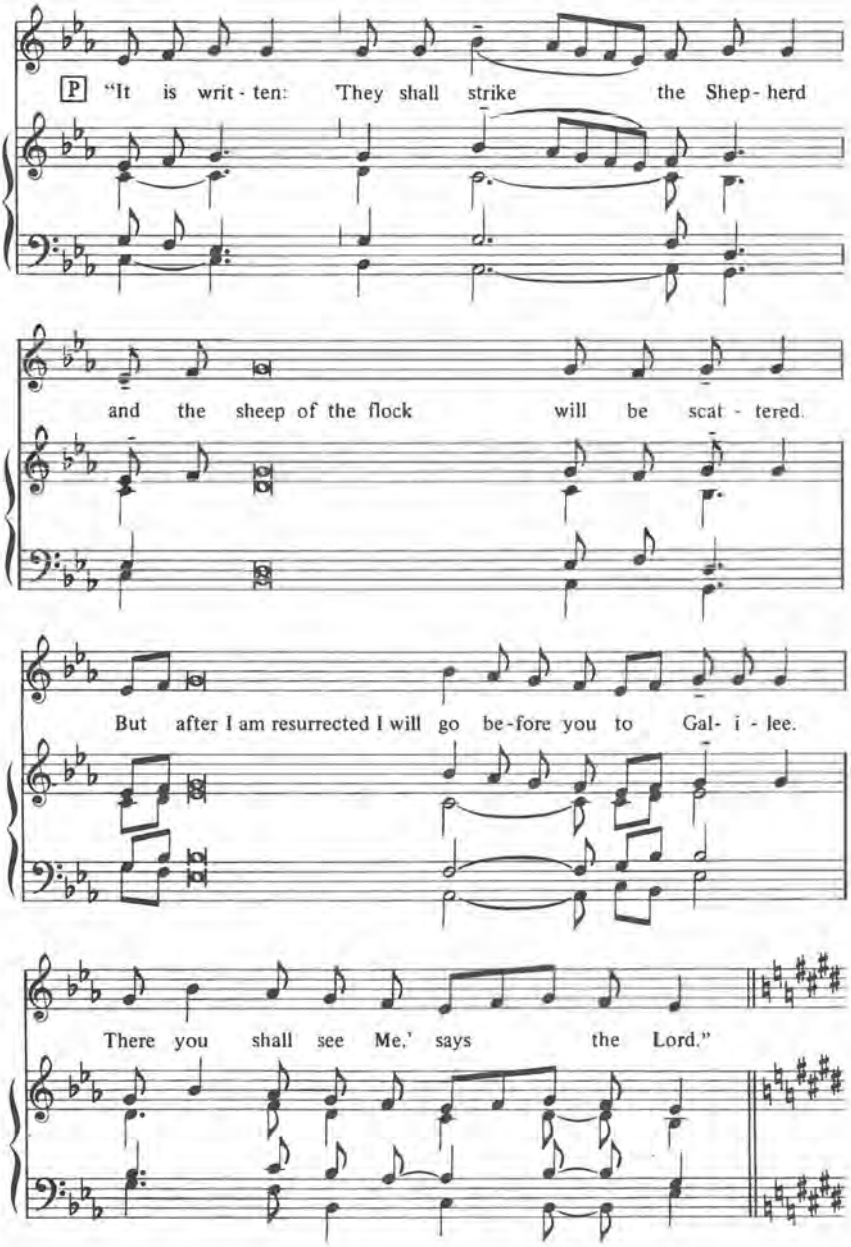
The celebrant and the procession rise and return to the communion rail. The celebrant kneels in the altar gate area. The choir repeats the opening ANTIPHON:

Choir/Congregation:



NOTE: According to local custom, the Scourging of the Cross which follows may be omitted.

The acolyte spreads a cloth on the floor and lays a pillow upon it. On the pillow, he places the Crucifix with the palm branch. The celebrant sings the following ANTIPHON *three times, each time beginning one semitone higher:*



"It is writ - ten: 'They shall strike the Shep - herd

and the sheep of the flock will be scat - tered.

But after I am resurrected I will go be - fore you to Gal - i - lee.

There you shall see Me,' says the Lord."

"It is writ - ten: 'They shall strike the Shep - herd

and the sheep of the flock will be scat - tered.

But after I am resurrected I will go be - fore you in - to Gal - i - lee.

There you shall see Me,' says the Lord."

The Scourging of the Cross completed, the Crucifix is taken by an acolyte, the cloth and pillow removed, and the celebrant's palm branch is placed on the altar. The celebrant proceeds to the sacristy to vest for Mass, which follows immediately.

ALL SAINTS CATHEDRAL PARISH
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