

Mardi Gras: Burning of the Palms

March 1, 2022, 6:45pm

A sacristan brings the Paschal candle.

Welcome

The Lighting of the Palms

Sacristans and volunteers transfer the light from the Paschal candle to the palms in the basin.

The Reading

Isaiah 58:5-10

As the palms are lighted:

Reader A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

Here ends the Reading.

Prayers over the Burning Palms

RBP*/BCP p. 265

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Beloved in Christ: as they grew, these palms drew life from the earth and gave it back to our air and the animals they sheltered. In the worship of our community, they helped us offer festive joy. Now, as they are reduced to ashes for us at the beginning of our Lenten pilgrimage, we pray they will serve as a sign of our mortality and God's power to save.

May we recognize God's love at work in our lives throughout the holy season before us, replanting our spirits in the sure and humble soil of God's truth and grace; and may we find ourselves strengthened again to greet the Christian Passover with joy and gladness.

As the palms burn:

Merciful God, you called us from the dust of the earth, and claimed us for Christ in the waters of Baptism. Look upon us as we prepare for the forty days of Lent by burning these palms: may their ashes mark us as true penitents. Bless us throughout our Lenten journey to the waters of new birth at Easter. May our fasting be a hunger for justice; our alms, a way of making peace; our prayer, the song of humble and thankful hearts. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

Officiant Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

A Collect for the Presence of Christ

BCP p. 124

When the flames have burned down:

Officiant Let us pray together.

All **Lord Jesus, stay with us,
for evening is at hand and the day is past;
be our companion in the way,
kindle our hearts,
and awaken hope,
that we may know you
as you are revealed in Scripture
and the breaking of bread.
Grant this for the sake of your love. Amen.**

Dismissal

BCP p. 366

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

This service has been compiled by Trinity Church staff (TCWS) from publications including the *Book of Common Prayer* (BCP). The scripture reading is excerpted from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible. The Prayers over the Burning Palms are excerpted from "A Rite for the Burning of Palms in Preparation for Ash Wednesday" (RBP) from the Diocese of Algoma. An asterisk (*) denotes that the text is adapted from the original source material.

