

Sunday, 29 March 2026 – Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday is the beginning to Holy Week. In some churches it is also known as Palm/Passion Sunday, with the service beginning with the waving of palms and shouting *Hosanna* and then moving into the story of the Passion.

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Prelude

Jean-Baptiste Faure (1830-1914) was a French operatic baritone and composer of songs. One of his most famous songs, *Les Rameaux (The Palms)* was included in several hymnals in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Heard in an arrangement for organ this morning, the original song was made popular and recorded by Enrico Caruso, among others.

Processional Hymns

The hymn tune VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN is also known as St. Theodulph because of its association with the text *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*, written by Theodulph, Bishop of Orléans, France, around the year 820. He wrote this text while imprisoned in Angers, France for conspiring against the King with King Bernard of Italy. He died in prison in 821. The text was translated by John Mason Neale (1818-1866) in 1851. The tune was composed by Melchior Teschner (1584-1635) to accompany the hymn text *Valet Will Ich Dir Geben (Farewell, I Gladly Bid Thee)*, a Lutheran *Sterbelied* (hymn for the dying) written by Valerius Herberger (1562-1627) in 1613.

The hymn tune ELLACOMBE was first published in a chapel hymnal for Duke of Württemberg (located in the present-day German state of Baden-Württemberg) in 1784. Ellacombe is the name of a village in Devonshire, England. In addition to *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* (GtG 197) the tune is found in the *Glory to God* hymnal with two other texts, *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* (GtG 32) and *Come Sing to God* (GtG 805).

Offertory

Moses George Hogan (1957-2003) was born in New Orleans and studied at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and Juilliard School of Music. His arrangements, over seventy in number, of spirituals are performed regularly by choirs around the world. Hogan's arrangement of the spiritual *Ain't That Good News* was published in 1997.

Benediction Response

Hold On has been sung at many of the demonstrations in Minneapolis recently and the song has spread across the country. Songwriter Heidi Wilson says:

“It is January 2026, and the people of Minneapolis are inspiring us with what it looks like to really take care of one another in the face of escalating ICE raids and authoritarian violence. They are walking kids to school, delivering food to neighbors, standing on street corners in rapid response. And they are singing. I am humbled and moved that this song is useful to folks right now.”