

After the Gospel the Abbot reads the blessing of the Palms.

**Deacon:** Let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** Lord, have mercy.

**Superior:**

O Lord, our God, You sit upon the Cherubim, You have confirmed Your power and sent Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to save the world through His Cross, Burial and Resurrection. When He drew near to Jerusalem for His voluntary Passion, the people who sat in darkness and the shadow of death, foretold His Resurrection, taking the symbols of victory: boughs of trees and branches of palms. O Master, keep and preserve us also, as we follow their example on (the eve of) the Feast carrying palms and branches in our hands and, like the crowds and the children, we cry to You: 'Hosanna!' so that with hymns and spiritual songs we may be made worthy of the life-giving Resurrection on the third day: through Christ Jesus our Lord, with whom You are blessed, together with Your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages.

**People:** Amen.

Then the priest sprinkles the palms with holy water saying:

**Priest:** These palms are blessed by the grace of the All-Holy Spirit through the sprinkling with this holy water: in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. (x 3)

The altar servers scatter palm leaves over the whole floor of the church.