

## **We Raise Our Branches High Today**

Jesus enters Jerusalem

Palm Sunday, Years ABC

We raise our branches high today  
to sign Hosanna and to warn:  
The hands that wield a waving branch  
may also weave a crown of thorns.

We sing exultant songs today,  
yet singing we remember this:  
The lips that bring the sweetest praise  
may also bear the sharpest kiss.

We greet a golden dawn today  
and marvel as the darkness grows  
that even stalwart confidence  
may fail before the rooster crows.

And so our hearts are shaped today  
by palms, a kiss, a friend's denial,  
to hold the very simple prayer—  
God, save us from the time of trial.

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# We Raise Our Branches High Today

Michael Hudson (b.1950)

*Ad cenam Agni providi*, plainsong, 12th century  
arr. Albert Blackwell

1. We raise our branch-es high to-day to sign Ho - san - nah and to warn: The\_\_  
2. We sing ex - ul - tant songs to-day, yet sing - ing\_\_ we re - mem - ber this: The\_\_  
3. We greet a\_\_ gold - en dawn to-day and mar - vel\_\_ as the dark - ness grows that\_\_  
4. And so our hearts are shaped to-day by palms, a\_\_ kiss, a\_\_ friend's de - nial, to\_\_

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hands that wield a\_\_ wav - ing branch may al - so\_\_ weave a\_\_ crown of thorns.  
lips that bring the\_\_ sweet - est praise may al - so\_\_ bear the sharp - est kiss.  
e - ven stal - wart con - fi - dence may fail be - fore the roost - er crows.  
hold the ver - y\_\_ sim - ple prayer: God, save us\_\_ from the time of trial.

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system contains the first four lines of the lyrics, and the second system contains the remaining lines. The music is a plainsong arrangement, featuring simple, homophonic textures. The lyrics are written in a traditional, slightly archaic style, with some words in all caps and some in lowercase. The score is arranged in two systems, with the first system containing the first four lines of the lyrics and the second system containing the remaining lines. The music is written in 4/4 time, and the lyrics are written in a traditional, slightly archaic style.

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