



Palm Sunday

Led by Revd Natasha Brady

Welcome & notices

Song How great is our God

Writers: Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves. Performed by Martin Smith © 2021 published by Gloworks.

Introduction

Over the forty days of Lent, we have remembered Jesus' forty days of fasting and prayer in the wilderness; we have spent extra time in prayer, bible study and other spiritual disciplines to draw closer to Christ and to our Heavenly Father.

Today we remember Christ's entrance into Jerusalem to complete his work as our Saviour - to suffer, to die and to rise again.

Let us go with him in faith and love, so that, united with him in his sufferings, we may share his risen life.

Holding our palm crosses high, we say together ...

**God our Saviour, your Son Jesus Christ
entered Jerusalem as Messiah to suffer and to die;
let these palms be for us signs of his victory!
We hold them up in his name;
We hail him as our King!**

**We follow him in the way that leads to life eternal.
For he is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Palm Sunday Shout! based on Psalm 150

Praise God in this house of worship!

Hallelujah!

Praise him under the open skies!

Hosanna in the highest!

Praise the Lord for his acts of power!

Praise him for his greatness!

Praise him with a trumpet blast!

Praise him with guitars and sax!

Praise him with cymbals and drums!

Praise him with violins and organs!

Let every living, breathing creature praise THE LORD!

Hosanna! Hallelujah! Amen!



Song of Praise Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest

Keeping our crosses lifted high, wave them as we sing ...

Ligertwood (Brooke Fraser); performed by iWorship Volume 4, used with permission.

The Collect

Let us pray for a closer union with Christ in his suffering and in his glory.

silence is kept

True and humble king,
hailed by the crowd as Messiah:
grant us the faith to know you and love you,
that we may be found beside you
on the way of the cross,
which is the path of glory. **Amen.**

Video Palm Sunday - by Marcus, a Roman Centurion

Reading Mark 11.1-11 ready by Judy Giles

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, **2** saying to them, 'Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. **3** If anyone asks you, "Why are you doing this?" say, "The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly."'

4 They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, **5** some people standing there asked, 'What are you doing, untying that colt?' **6** They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. **7** When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. **8** Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. **9** Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted,

'Hosanna!'

'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!'

10

'Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!'

'Hosanna in the highest heaven!'

11 Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple courts. He looked around at everything, but since it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve.

Sermon Pat Hegarty opens God's word today.

Song King of Kings

In the darkness, we were waiting
Without hope, without light
'Til from Heaven You came running
There was mercy in Your eyes

To fulfill the law and prophets
To a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt

Praise the Father, praise the Son
Praise the Spirit, three in one
God of glory, Majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings

To reveal the kingdom coming
And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross

For even in Your suffering
You saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation
Jesus for our sake You died

Praise the Father, praise the Son...

And the morning that You rose
All of Heaven held its breath
'Til that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death

And the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored

And the church of Christ was born
Then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel, shall not faint

By His blood and in His name
In His freedom I am free
For the blood of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me, ohh

Praise the Father, praise the Son...

Praise forever to the King of Kings

Performed by Lindsey Mackie, Songwriters: Jason Ingram / Brooke Ligertwood / Scott Ligertwood, King of Kings lyrics © Sony/ATV Music Publishing LLC, Capitol Christian Music Group

Intercessions prepared and read by John Wheatley

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
Your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

Song Good Grace

Writers: Joel Timothy Houston, Hillsong Music Publishing 2018. Performed by Bright City, St Peters - Brighton & Martin Smith © 2021, published by Gloworks.

Final Prayer & Dismissal

Gracious God, we thank you for bringing us together today.
We bless you for being our hero and the focus of our praise.
Send us out of this place full of love, joy and hope.
Let our enthusiasm be infectious to those we meet,
and may others be drawn to you –
especially in this most holy of weeks.
Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Thank you for joining us today



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Caught up in celebration

Mark 11.1-11

There was a party atmosphere as Jesus made his triumphal entry into Jerusalem – on the day we call Palm Sunday. The authorities and leaders in Jerusalem were not impressed. But there were acts of generosity from the crowd: valuable cloaks, and branches cut for the coming festival were given up in the excitement of celebrating Jesus.

Now read **Mark 11.1-11** see p.2 for text.

A note on the passage

The Jewish people have been waiting for a Messiah – someone to save them – for centuries. They have definite ideas of what he'll be like, and Jesus doesn't quite fit them. He says and does some fascinating things, but this procession into Jerusalem is all wrong. A king comes on a horse – a show of power and strength – not on a donkey. Yet the crowd that is with him are convinced and are in a celebratory mood. What convinces you that Jesus is the Messiah? What would you give up in celebration?



What is the most extravagant gift you have given or received? What do you have to offer as a gift?

WATCH

Watch the song Hosanna from the 2000 film of Jesus Christ Superstar:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=7x530x5kAdk

Compare this to Mark 11.1-11. What do you think of the interpretation of the story in the film? What strikes you as accurate? Is there anything that jars?



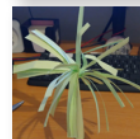
IMAGINE

Go for a wander down your local high street. As you walk, use your imagination to paint a picture of Jesus on a donkey, surrounded by his followers, and entering your town, village or city. What would the locals make of him? Pray for the people and businesses that you pass, that they may somehow know the majesty of Jesus in this season.



You will need: a sheet of green A4 paper; sticky tape; scissors.

- Roll up paper, starting at the shorter end. Roll it reasonably tight to create a short tube. Secure the tube with sticky tape at the bottom and about halfway up.
- Press non-taped end of the tube flat. Cut it along the centre until you reach the tape in the middle.
- Cut each of the strips you've created in half again. Separate all the strips to make 'branches'. On each strip (branch) write a word or phrase giving praise to Jesus.



Daily Invitation

The crowds laid their robes on the ground for Jesus and the donkey to walk on. This was a costly thing to do. Find some fabric and lay it inside your front door, as if you are one of that original crowd. Imagine laying your only coat there, knowing it would be trampled and spoiled. How does that make you feel? As you enter and exit your home this week and cross that fabric, think about how you can invite and welcome Jesus to be part of all that you are doing, both inside and outside your home.

LENT GARDEN OF RESPONSES

On Palm Sunday, the crowds shouted 'Hosanna!' as Jesus rode into Jerusalem. Hosanna means, 'Please save us!' Each day this week, find a way to recognise that the planet, as well as its people, need saving. For example, you might decide not to use the car, or avoid buying things in plastic packaging, or switch off lights when you leave the room. For each saving action that you do, create or draw a paving slab and make a path in your garden tray or garden page (that you've been progressing throughout Lent).

Name _____



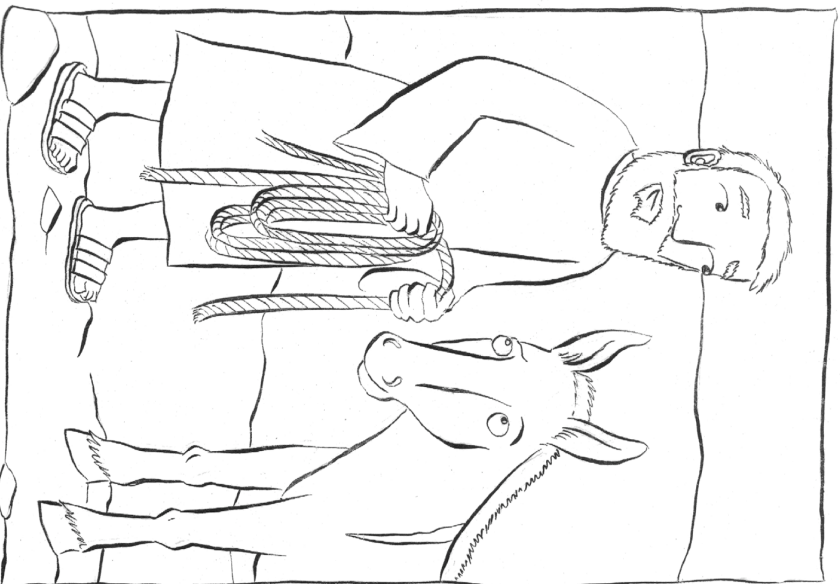
ROOTS Activity Sheet

28 March – 3 April 2021
Palm Sunday



Mark 11.1-11

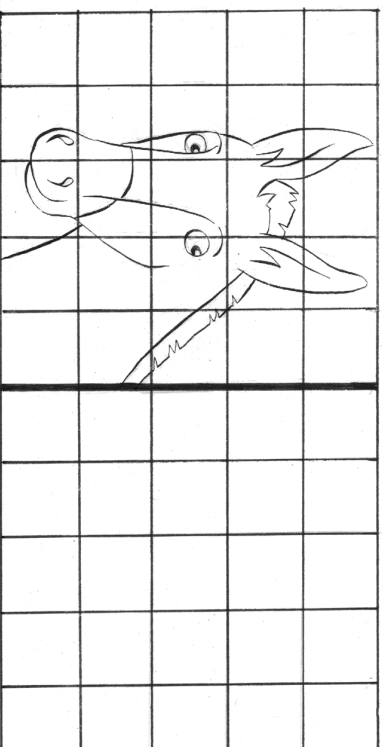
As Jesus enters Jerusalem during the preparations for a festival, he is welcomed by a crowd of people who celebrate his arrival by waving palm branches and singing, 'Hosanna!'



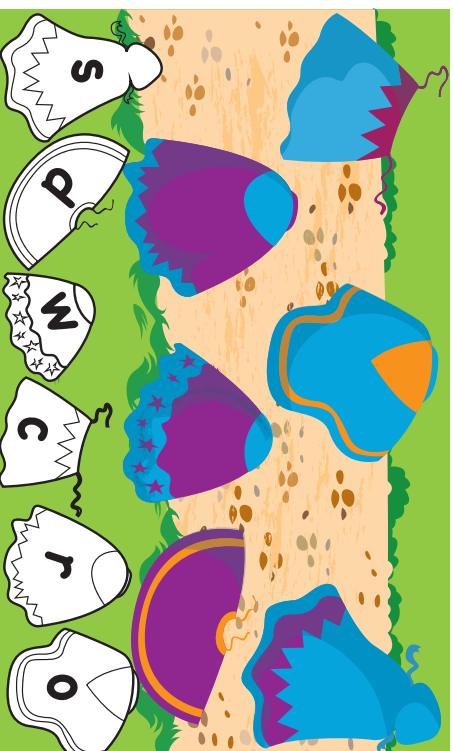
What would you be willing to give to Jesus?



Copy a colt using the drawing grid.



Match the cloak shapes to find the hidden word on the road.



Write a letter from one of the disciples thanking the owner of the colt for lending it to you.

