



Sunday, 5th April Palm Sunday

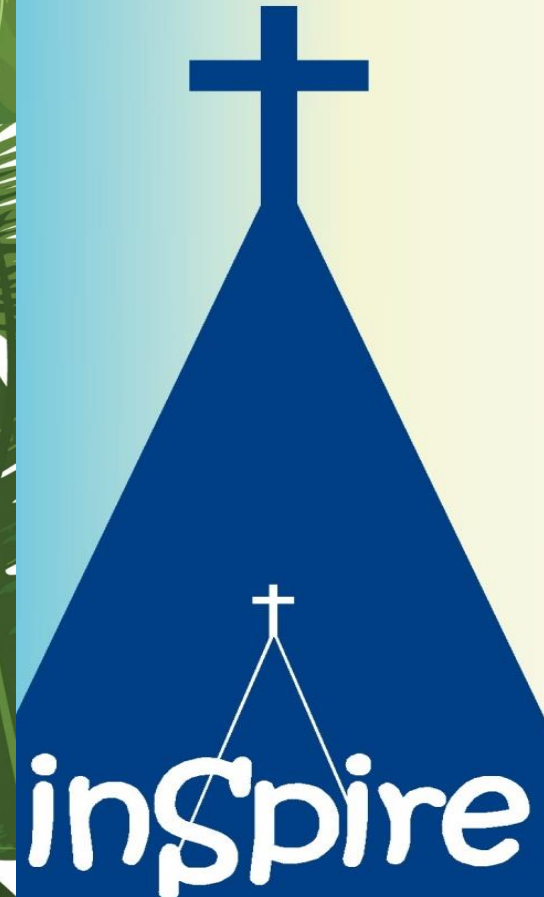


It is a shame we are not meeting and waving our palm leaves together today but we can still feel as if we are with each other and share in this wonderful story. (Matthew 21v 1-11)

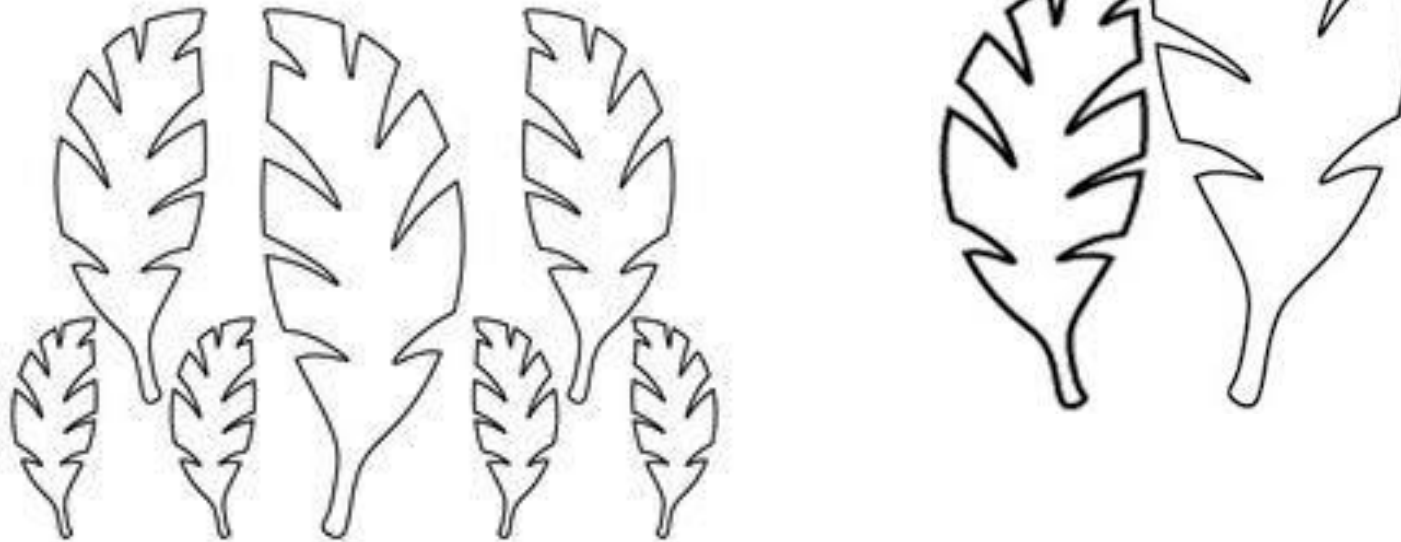
Make a Palm Leaf then watch the video

Why not make a palm leaf and as you watch the video that Helen has made and listen to her telling the Palm Sunday story, (with Dorcas the donkey! 😊) you can imagine you were there in Jerusalem and wave your palm leaf. Or you can grab a scarf to wave! People in Jerusalem grabbed anything they could find to line the road for Jesus! They were so excited to welcome him!

Make a model After you have watched the video, why not make a model of the scene? If you prefer, you could make a collage picture. There was a lot happening in the story. You can make lots of palm trees to line a dusty road, you can make the temple in Jerusalem out of an old food boxes, you can use lots of pieces of fabric for the cloaks people lay in the road.



Use these templates to make your own palm leaf (make them bigger!)



Make a donkey to remind you of how Jesus came into Jerusalem.

And then you can play, “Pin the cloak on the donkey!” Remember to mark the donkey’s back with a cross. This marking on a donkey reminds us that it was a lowly donkey, an animal used to working, that was chosen by Jesus to ride into Jerusalem. He didn’t gallop in on a mighty horse. Jesus often chooses the least likely people..... and animals!to help him in his work! Try and pin the fabric cloak on top of your donkey’s back!

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Mime from memory

Remember the story through silent movements

- Ask everyone to recall the timeline of the story.
- Repeat the order and ask for one volunteer to be Jesus, some to be disciples and the others to be the crowd.
- Invite everyone to mime the story. Younger children may need you to use a word to help them move through the story.

Create Colourful praise

Create an abstract picture of the Passover festival

You will need: newspaper, one sheet of A4 paper each or one large piece, pots of different coloured paint with several brushes in each, wipes or damp flannels.

- Spread the newspaper over the surfaces. Give out paper to everyone or use one large piece of paper for the group.
- Ask everyone to think about the noise and colour of the festival.
- Invite them to create an abstract image of what they can imagine using splashes of colour and shapes.

Make a praise banner

Decorate leaves ([template](#)) and join them all together on a large sheet of paper to make a praise banner.

You could move around the space and use this banner as you sing or listen to [Lord I lift your name on high](#), Rick Founds on Cedarmont Worship for Kids, volume 1

And what about the song we sung last year ?

Can you remember it? Ho, ho, ho Hosanna? Check out <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g9XJnLsN3F4> and sing along! 😊

Mind map prayers

Place a large sheet of paper in the middle of the room. Create a mind-map as a group, using the following questions.:

What do we want God to change in the next year?
What turning points would I like to see in my life?

Pray together silently, asking God to be present in change and turning points, as each element of the mind-map is written down.

Finish by praying together:

Jesus our King,
give us ears to hear your voice,
and minds and bodies
ready to do what you ask.
Help us to go out
and sing Hosannas to you.
Amen.



Pray the Lord's Prayer as a family.

Hosanna! a Hebrew word usually used to mean 'Praise', but it actually means 'Save us, please!'; prophet someone who receives messages from God to pass on to the people.

Here are some good videos you might like to watch that tell the Palm Sunday Story.

Palm Sunday for kids <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VIUk0YCi15w>

Saddleback kids <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z-39h0xYqdE>

Crossroads Kids' Club <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lTmbTuutBgg>

Notes on the Bible story for parents and carers

- Every year at this time, Jerusalem was filled with pilgrims arriving for the Passover. It would have been a chaotic time, more like a demonstration or a march than a pilgrimage walk. The inevitable strains on law and order would have drawn in extra soldiers to keep the peace, which only heightened the pilgrims' hopes for freedom.
- When Jesus and his followers went on this pilgrimage, this was a clear moment when Jesus' disciples may have anticipated him acting differently. Would he turn the stones of popular expectation into the bread of political freedom? Was he willing to risk everything to show the crowds who he was? Instead he entered the city as a peacemaker, on a donkey, hungry only for righteousness and mercy.

- A man and his followers coming into the city on a donkey would have been a tiny part of this chaos. Would he have even been noticed? What would the Romans and bystanders have thought of this? As some were shouting 'Hosanna to the Son of David', would they have been heard above the noise of the crowds?
- But Jesus was making a peaceful statement about the kind of king, prophet and leader he was. The reading from Isaiah foreshadows Jesus' suffering by reminding us that a prophet's vocation is costly, and the passage from Philippians talks of being 'emptied'. Would we, as a community of faith, rejoice and celebrate Jesus coming to us as this kind of king?

Next week is Holy Week.

There will be Holy Week thoughts and activities every day for you to do here on [Sunday's Cool Online](#) along with daily Easter crafts on [Inspired Ideas Online](#). Lots of lovely ideas!

Family Good Friday Service

We hope to have our Family Good Friday Service via Zoom at 10.30am. Do join us!



Print and colour if you wish.

