

PRAYING *With* CHILDREN

SUNDAY LITURGY



Palm Sunday

24 March 2024 - Year B

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.”

Something to Think About

What would you do to get ready if you knew that Jesus was coming to your town?
How would you welcome him when he arrived?

The Story

A crowd of people had heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. In Jesus' time, they didn't have television or social media or mobile phones to spread the word. Many people would have learned about Jesus by seeing the crowds lining the streets. They were so excited to see Jesus, that they waved large palm branches and called out "Hosanna!" – a word that shows praise and joy. Jesus didn't enter like a typical King or Emperor – instead he rode into Jerusalem on a donkey.

The Scriptures

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 12:12-16

A great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, 'Hosanna!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the king of Israel!

And Jesus found a young ass and sat upon it; as is written:

'Fear not, daughter Zion;

behold, your king is coming, sitting on an ass's colt!

His disciples did not understand this at first;

but when Jesus was glorified,

then they remembered that this had been written of him and had been done to him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Video

Click to watch the video: [God's Story – Palm Sunday](#)



Group Discussion

What do you know about kings in the world today?

Jesus was a surprising King.

Instead of riding into town in a fine carriage drawn by grand white horses, Jesus chose to ride on a small donkey.

What do you think this tells us about Jesus?

Praying For Others

Leader: Gathered together as God's family, we pray for the needs of the world.

Reader 1: We pray for the leaders of our Church and our world. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 2: We pray for the sick. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 3: We pray that we will respect all people. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 4: We pray for those who are searching for Jesus. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Reader 5: We pray for joy-filled hearts that sing *Hosanna* at the story of Jesus. Lord hear us.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Invite the children to pray for their own special intentions.

All: Lord hear our prayer.

Leader: Loving God, listen to the prayers we make in the name of Jesus.

All: Amen.

Prayer



Dear Jesus,
We praise you for all the wonderful
things you do for us.
Thank you for being a surprising King!
Amen.

Group Activity

Jesus and the Donkey

You will need: a template for each child printed on white cardboard, coloured markers, scissors, glue.

1. Print the templates onto cardstock.
2. Ask the children to colour in the figures of Jesus and the donkey.
3. Cut around the outer edges of the figures and assemble as per the instructions.
4. Once the figures are made, you might like to scatter some palm leaves or green strips of paper on the table for Jesus and the donkey to ride through.



Jesus and the Donkey

1. Cut around the outer edges of the figures.
2. Fold the Jesus figure at the top of his head, and at the lower two tabs. Secure the lower tabs together using sticky tape or glue.



3. Fold the donkey where the white rectangle meets the body pieces. Fold the top tab down and secure to the neck on the other side of the donkey.



4. Fold the leg pieces on the lines and at the tops of the legs, and secure with tape or glue.

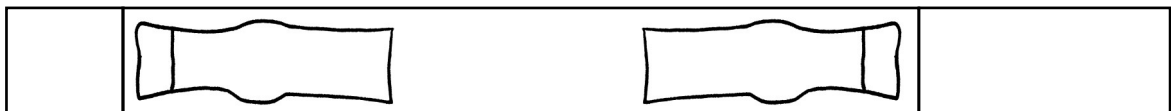
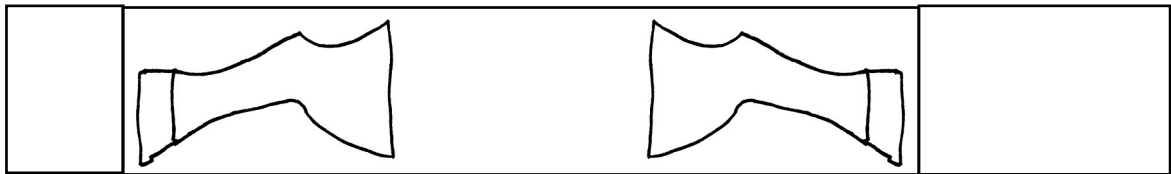
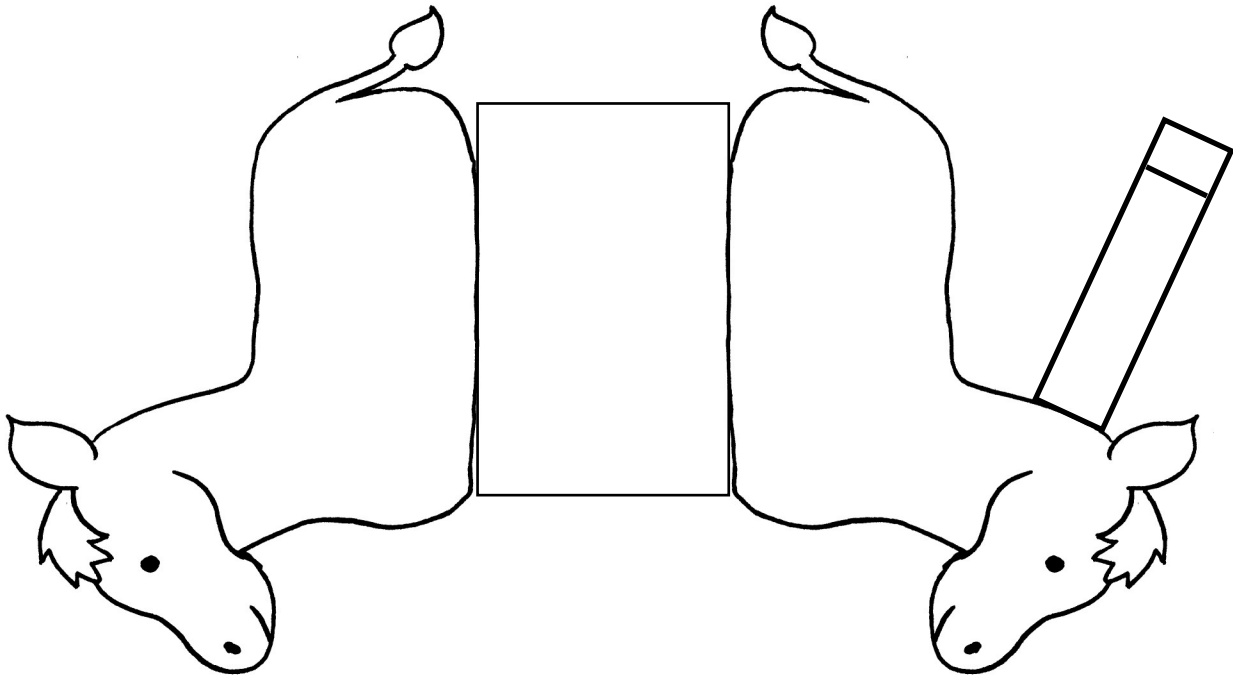
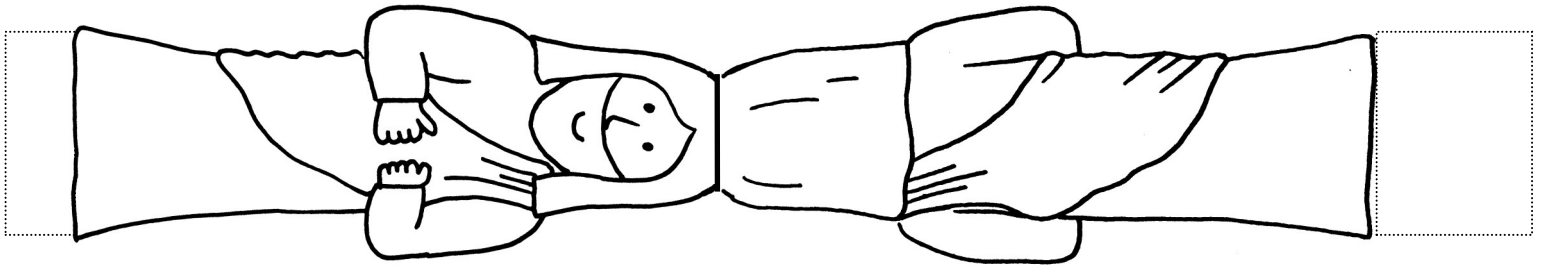


5. Stick the legs onto the body with tape or glue.
6. Now Jesus can sit on the donkey. You might like to scatter some palm leaves or green strips of paper on the table for Jesus and the donkey to ride through.



Palm Sunday

Jesus Riding into Jerusalem on a Donkey



DRESS UP AND ACT OUT JESUS' ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

- YOU WILL NEED TO MAKE A DONKEY TO RIDE.
- COLLECT SOME GREEN BRANCHES.
- GET THE MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY TO WAVE THE BRANCHES AND SHOUT “HOSANNA” AS YOU RIDE BY.

