

Nurturing Faith... Every Day in Every Way

March 29, 2015

Palm Sunday

Procession with Palms:

Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalms 31:9-16 (5)

Philippians 2:5-11

Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark-15:1-39[40-47]



I Love a Parade. *Object: Flags, confetti, noise makers, etc.*

I love a parade! There is something about a parade that really gets my heart to pumping. We often have parades to celebrate special events such as a circus coming to town or the opening of a fair. Sometimes we have a parade to honor an important person who has come to our town.

I have some flags and some noise makers. This morning I want us to imagine that we are watching a parade. Our city is honoring the very first astronaut from our city to ever walk on the moon. I will describe the parade and when the astronaut passes by, I want everyone to wave their flags and blow their noise makers. Let's practice blowing our noise makers to make sure they are working. Okay, everybody blow! Wow! That was great. Now, get ready, because the parade is about to begin.

Listen...I can hear the band. It is leading the parade and behind the band there are floats carrying a lot of important people...our congressman, our senator, and the mayor of our city. As they pass by, we smile and wave. Finally, here comes the astronaut, our hero! The crowd cheers, waves their flags, and blows their noise makers! (Wave and blow on the noise makers.) Then as the parade moves on down the street, the sound of the band fades away in the distance. It is over. The celebration is over.

That is a little bit like something that took place in the city of Jerusalem about 2000 years ago. A king was visiting their city. People lined the streets of the city hoping to get to see the King. The King came riding on a small donkey, and as he rode through the streets of the city, the people waved palm branches and shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

I'm sure that you know who that King was-it was Jesus. Today is Palm Sunday. Today we remember the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem and the people cheering and waving palm branches. It was a day that marked the beginning of a week that would see Jesus cheered, then arrested, tried, beaten, and put to death on a cross. But as that week came to an end, another week began just as the previous week had begun, with a celebration. I can hardly wait until next Sunday!

Dear Jesus, our voices join with the voices of the people in Jerusalem some two thousand years ago. Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Amen.

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Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia. Christ humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above ev'ry name.
Alleluia (Phil. 2:8-9)

Word Search Puzzle

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L W T F I F Z S B L E S S E D
Z V R B S Z K P N N B A P R V
H E G P W D H R T Q R C Z J Y
Z F J I H H D E S G O I J A H
S Z Y K W R E A H V A X I F L
V Y V E O P R D O H D G K I G
I T B L H V S R U C G X N G W
L G H R F E D O T C L O A K S
L N V I A O A Q E G U A J P T
A T P Z G N S V D S N C E E V
G R P S C H C H E N N M O Q L
E F B J H V E H A N A F C L X
S S M E V X T S E N F J J B T
K J E S U S O U T S H Z S V S
N C A E Y H D I S C I P L E S
    
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SPREAD	VILLAGE	BLESSED	BRANCHES	HOSANNA
HIGHEST	SHOUTED	DISCIPLES	LORD	JESUS
HEAVEN	CLOAKS	NAME	ROAD	COLT

PRAISE MOBILE: Give the children colored markers to trace and color pictures of balloons, musical instruments, and flags to hang from a large circle that will say CELEBRATE JESUS in bright colored markers. Children may also choose to write words of PRAISE on their mobile pieces as well. Add colorful streamers hanging from the mobile for a more festive look for the celebration!!

PRAISE NECKLACE: Provide the children with a bell and a piece of yarn to make a necklace to hang around their neck. You may also choose to provide the children with letter beads to add praise words to their necklace.

CELEBRATION STICKS: Give each child a tongue depressor or craft stick. Let them color their sticks using colored markers and then glue thin pieces of crepe paper to the top end for the children to wave in praise and celebration to Jesus.



THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY

