



FAMILY WORSHIP

Palm Sunday

The Great Parade

5th April 2020



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The Great Parade

Bible Story - Mark 11:1-11

The Great Parade

‘Let’s go to Jerusalem!’ said Jesus to his friends. ‘I have something important to do there.’

So they went. And when they could just see the city from a nearby hillside, Jesus said, ‘Let’s have a parade!’

Jesus’ friends were surprised. ‘A parade?’ they wondered. ‘Why a parade?’ But no one said anything, because Jesus was already busy giving instructions.

‘I want two of you to borrow a donkey,’ he said. ‘Tell the owner I need it. He’ll understand.’

When the two friends returned with the donkey, Jesus hopped on its back, gently nudged its sides, and started down the hill. His friends followed close behind.

‘Hooray for Jesus!’ they shouted. ‘Jesus is king!’

Down, down, down they rode, towards the city gate. And the closer they got, the more people joined them.

‘It’s Jesus the teacher!’ someone called.

‘It’s Jesus the healer!’ called someone else.

‘Three cheers for Jesus!’ called one and all.

Soon there were people everywhere, marching along with the parade and shouting from the roadside.

Some took off their coats and laid them in front of the donkey. Others cut palm branches from the trees and waved them about. There were hundreds, maybe thousands, clapping and dancing and shouting their way through the city gates.

Everyone was happy!

Well, almost everyone. Some of the religious leaders didn’t like Jesus. They were jealous, because the ordinary people were so fond of him. And when they saw the parade, they frowned.

‘Wait just a minute!’ they called. ‘You can’t have a parade here. Tell your friends to be quiet, Jesus.’



But Jesus just laughed. 'Tell them to be quiet? Impossible!'
Then he turned to look at the crowd.
'Can't you see?' he said. 'There's so much happiness here that
even if I could make the people quiet, the stones in the street
would jump up and shout for joy!'

Taken from the Lion Storyteller Bible

Think it through

A question for adults to ask children

What did the people in the story shout? What do you think 'Hosanna' means?

The word Hosanna in Hebrew meant 'save us' – You can find an example of it being used in Psalm 118 v 25, the verse after today's memory verse. The people who were welcoming Jesus into the city recognised Jesus as their Saviour. Jesus' arrival into Jerusalem on a colt was a fulfilment of the prophecies that had been made about him in the Old Testament. He was the Messiah that the people had been waiting for.

A question for children to ask adults

Can you think of a time when you had a visit from somebody important or exciting? What happened and how did it make you feel?

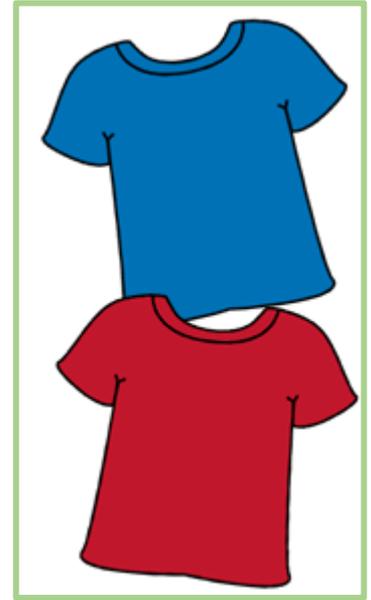
Family Activities

You will need: fabric you don't mind standing on
e.g. old t-shirts, pillow cases.

Using just two or three pieces of fabric can you get your whole family from one side of the room to the other?

You are only allowed to stand on the fabric and not touch the floor. You will need to work as a team standing on one piece while you move the other.

Use this as a reminder of the clothes that the people put down for Jesus to walk on.



You will need: leaves, sticks, rocks

In your garden or on your daily walk why not collect some leaves to make into a collage at home.

The people in the story were so excited to welcome Jesus that they grabbed what they could find to worship Him.

What other items can you find in your garden or on your walk to make some worship art from? Arrange the items you have found to make your own picture.



Prayer

To say together...

Dear God,

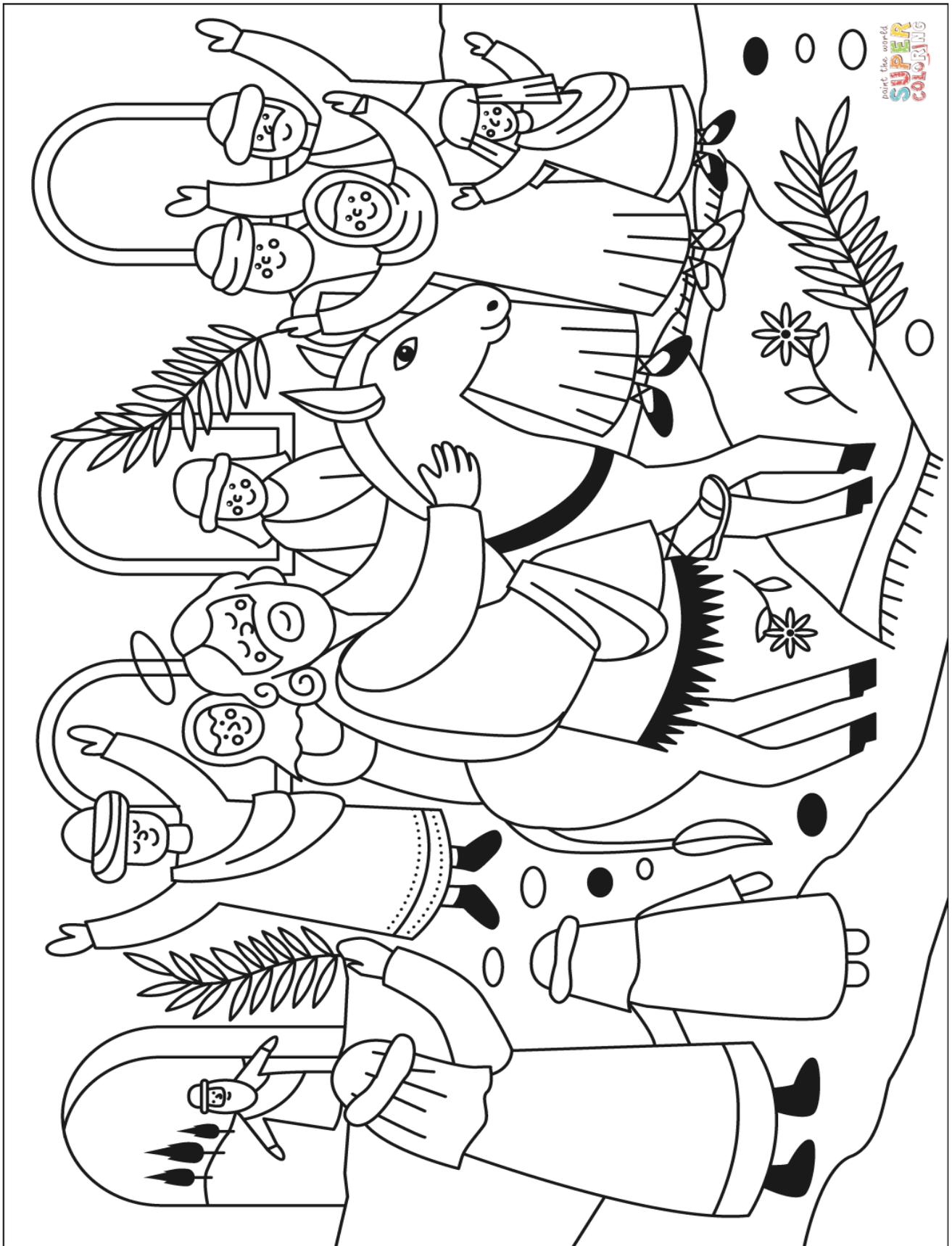
Thank you for the story of Jesus arriving in Jerusalem. Thank you that you came to be a Saviour for everybody. As we prepare for Easter help us to draw close to you and learn more about who you are. We pray for those in the world who do not know you yet. Help them to recognise you as their Saviour. Amen.

Active...

A virtual Mexican wave. We might not be able to meet up with people but we can send a wave of encouragement and pray for others. Why not start your own virtual Mexican wave of encouragement. Video call another family and give them a big encouraging smile and wave. Take a moment to pray for them and then ask them to send the wave on to another family. How far will your prayer wave travel? Maybe it will even come back to you!



A colouring page you could print and colour together.



point the world
SUPER
COLORING