

Theme: Palm Sunday April 5, 2020

Object: Flags, confetti, music/noise makers, party hats, etc.

Scripture: *“The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!” Matthew 21:9*

Lesson to read: Imagine this morning that we are going to have a visit from the someone important - the governor, the president, a movie star! Maybe you can get flags to wave and some music/noise makers. Have someone read the description of the parade, and as the important person passes by, you should wave, blow your horns, and shout. Are you ready? The parade is about to begin.

“Look! The parade is approaching. I can see it in the distance. The band is leading the parade and behind the band there are cars with other important people like our congressman, our senator, and the mayor of our city. As they pass by, we smile and wave. Then, here he comes -- the most important person in the parade! He is riding down the street in a big black convertible. He waves to the crowds that are lining the streets as he passes by. The people are waving flags, throwing confetti into the air, blowing their noise makers and shouting, “Yea! Hip! Hip! Hooray! Yea!” Then as the parade moves on down the street, the sound of the band playing and people shouting fades away in the distance. It is over. The celebration is over.”

That was very much like a scene that took place in Jerusalem one day. The king was coming to their city. People lined the streets. Some people walked in front of the king and some walked behind him. Instead of a big, black convertible, the King rode on the back of a small donkey. As he rode through the streets of the city, the

crowds 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 celebrate the entry of King Jesus into Jerusalem. It was a day that marked the beginning of an incredible week. A week that would see Jesus cheered, then arrested, tried, condemned, and crucified. But as that week came to an end, another week began just as the previous week had begun -- with a celebration.

Prayer: 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.