



Diocese of Athabasca

Sunday School Lesson Plan – Palm Sunday

Here's a **Sunday School Lesson Plan** for young children (ages 4–8) and some activities for older children using the **Revised Common Lectionary readings for Palm Sunday (Year A)**. Bible Verses: Is 50:4-91; Ps 31:9-16; Phil 2:5-11; Mt 26:14-27:66 or Mt 27:11-54; Preface of Holy Week



Sunday School Lesson Plan

Palm Sunday – Passiontide, The Sunday of the Passion – Year A

Lesson Title / Theme / Big Idea / Lesson Focus for Kids:

- **Title:** “Jesus is King!”
- **Theme:** Jesus enters Jerusalem to show God’s love.
- **Big Idea:** Jesus is our loving King who gives His life for us.
- **Lesson Focus:** God’s plan is bigger than we can imagine, and Jesus is always with us.

Scripture Readings – Kid Friendly Language

1. **Isaiah 50:4-9a** – Jesus listens to God and teaches others.
2. **Psalms 31:9-16** – God is our safe place when we are scared.
3. **Philippians 2:5-11** – Jesus was humble and obedient, even to dying on the cross.
4. **Matthew 26:14–27:66** (or 27:11-54) – Jesus enters Jerusalem, celebrates the Last Supper, is arrested, and dies on the cross.

Welcome & Opening Prayer / Circle Time

- **Welcome:** “Good morning, friends! Today we are going to hear about a very important day in Jesus’ life – the day He became King in a very special way.”
- **Opening Prayer:**
“Dear God, thank You for loving us and sending Jesus to be our King. Help us to listen, learn, and follow Him today. Amen.”

- **Circle Time Discussion:**

Ask kids:

1. Have you ever been in a parade or a special celebration?
 2. How do you celebrate when someone is important?
 3. Explain that people cheered for Jesus with palm branches because He is God's Son.
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Memory Verse

- **Philippians 2:11 (NIRV Kid-Friendly Version):**
“Everyone will say, ‘Jesus Christ is Lord,’ and give glory to God the Father.”
 - Practice saying it together, using hand motions:
 - “Everyone” – point around the circle
 - “Jesus Christ is Lord” – hands out like a crown
 - “Glory to God” – hands lifted high
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Bible Story Time

- **Storytelling Tips:**
 - Use a **children's Bible** or simple words.
 - Include a **small palm branch** or green paper to wave.
 - Emphasize that Jesus is kind, brave, and loves everyone.

Story Summary for Kids:

1. Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. People waved palm branches and shouted, “Hosanna! Jesus is King!”
 2. He taught people how to love God and each other.
 3. Later, Jesus shared a special meal with His friends.
 4. Some people were angry, and Jesus died on a cross, but He did it because He loves us so much.
 5. Jesus' story didn't end there—He came back to life, and He is always with us.
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Craft / Activity

“Palm Branch Crowns”

- **Materials:** Green construction paper, scissors, glue, crayons, stapler.
- **Instructions:**
 1. Cut long strips of green paper.

2. Cut small leaf shapes to glue on strips.
 3. Decorate with markers/crayons.
 4. Staple together to make a crown.
- **Lesson Tie-In:** Remind kids they can “cheer for Jesus” in their hearts every day, just like people did with palms.
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Game

“Hosanna Parade”

- Play music and let children march around the room waving their paper palms.
 - When the music stops, shout “Hosanna!” and freeze in a pose like Jesus on a donkey.
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Song Suggestions

1. “Hosanna, Hosanna” – simple motions
 2. “Jesus Loves Me” – classic
 3. “This Little Light of Mine” – emphasize following Jesus
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Snack Suggestions

- **“Palm Tree Treats”** – Pretzel sticks as tree trunks, green fruit snacks as leaves.
 - **Mini sandwiches or fruit cups**
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Wrap Up & Reflections

- **Discussion Questions:**
 1. Why did people shout “Hosanna” for Jesus?
 2. How can we follow Jesus every day?
 3. How do we show God’s love to others?
 - Encourage kids to share one thing they can do for someone this week.
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Closing Prayer

“Dear Jesus, thank You for loving us and being our King. Help us to follow You and share Your love with everyone we meet. Amen.”

Take Home Idea

- Send home **palm leaf coloring sheet** and the memory verse.
 - Encourage kids to wave their paper palms at home and tell their family about Jesus.
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Teacher Notes

- Keep storytelling simple, with visual props.
- Be sensitive to children who may have questions about Jesus' death—emphasize His love and resurrection.
- Reinforce that Palm Sunday is a celebration of Jesus' love.
- Adapt crafts and games for the space available.

Other Idea Links

In searching for ideas for the lessons I sometimes come up with things that I choose not to add at this time but maybe you will find them helpful if the previous information is not what you are looking for. You can click on the links below to see more ideas.

<https://joyinthejourneyteaching.com/bible-activities-for-palm-sunday/>

[https://sermons4kids.com/activities/palm-](https://sermons4kids.com/activities/palm-sunday?srsId=AfmBOop_F5wZTfdGZqbZMcbNYHx1M-ptQuyJ0W2J6hQ_w1sGzkJrfH8Z)

[sunday?srsltid=AfmBOop_F5wZTfdGZqbZMcbNYHx1M-ptQuyJ0W2J6hQ_w1sGzkJrfH8Z](https://sermons4kids.com/activities/palm-sunday?srsId=AfmBOop_F5wZTfdGZqbZMcbNYHx1M-ptQuyJ0W2J6hQ_w1sGzkJrfH8Z)

<https://ministry-to-children.com/palm-sunday-lesson/>

<https://ministry-to-children.com/palm-sunday-preschool/>

<https://ministry-to-children.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/sunday-school-lesson-Palm-Sunday-Jesus-Triumphant-Entry-into-Jerusalem.pdf>

Jesus is King!

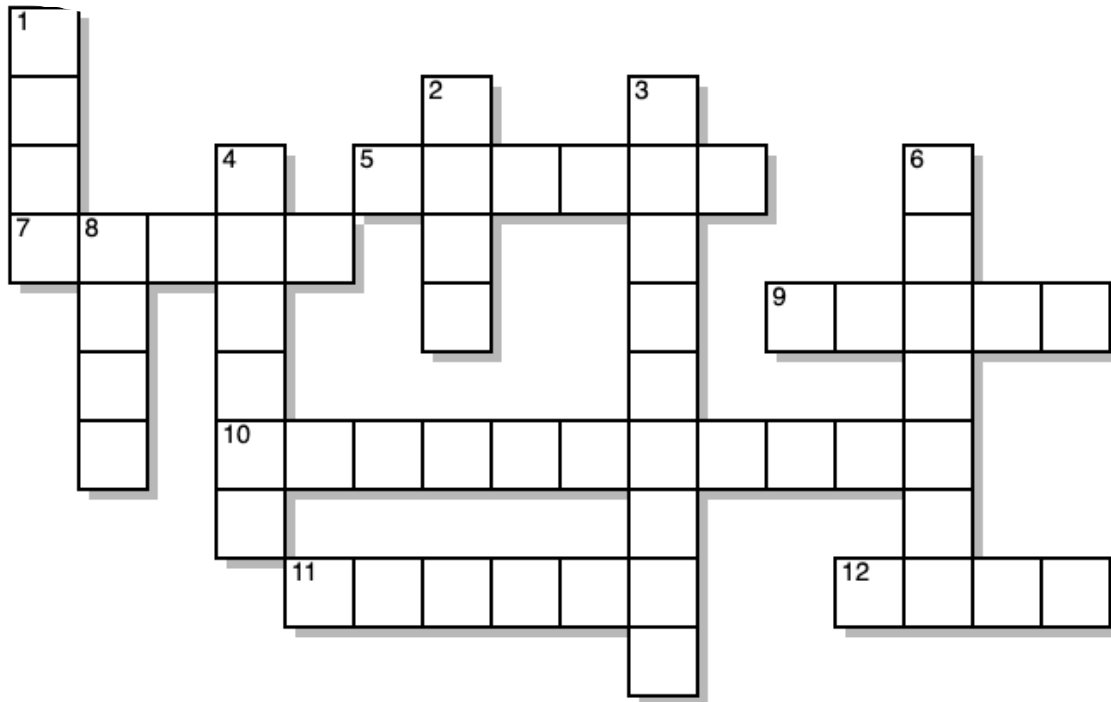
Palm Sunday

Hosanna! Jesus is King!



Jesus is King!

Palm Sunday



ACROSS

- 5 Animal Jesus rode
- 7 Honour
- 9 Christ
- 10 Merrymaking
- 11 Procession
- 12 Plant dates grow on

DOWN

- 1 Ruler
- 2 Adore
- 3 City of David
- 4 Bough
- 6 Hallelujah
- 8 Master



Jesus is King!

Palm Sunday

E L T D D K L H V J T G Y
D N P A L M O Z E R R Y X
A N O Q W S Y R G L Q M J
R D Z I A M U Y D N Q Z X
A K Z N T S K D J E S U S
P D N M A A R Z O V K P T
K A N L Y J R H C N A R B
I L E L Y Y R B K R K D V
N M O R E V O L E T D E J
G K O R W L R L N L D M Y
V L K G D R J B T V E G T
G J Y Y Y P L T N L D C B

Jesus
Jerusalem
Love
Palm
Donkey
King

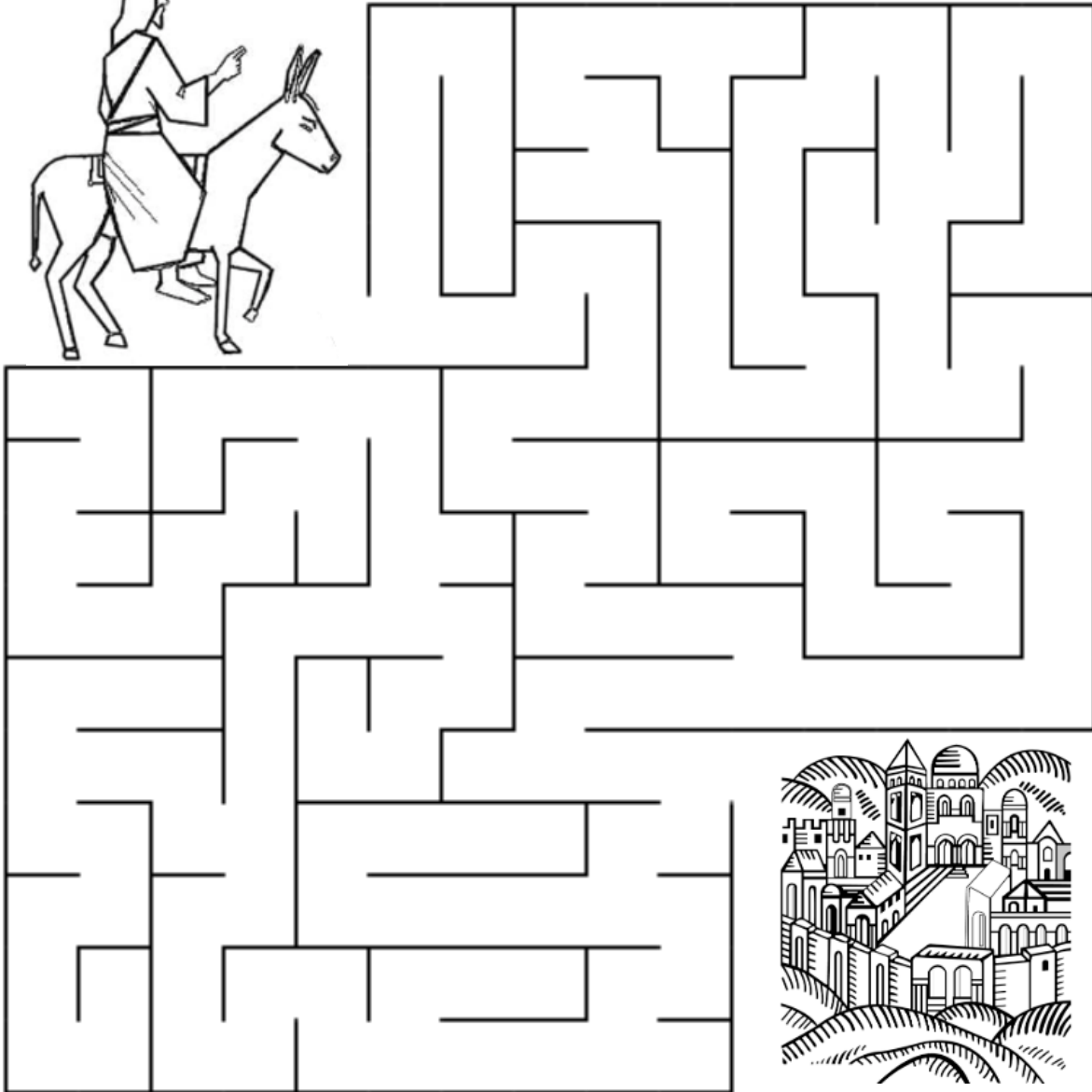
Parade
Branch
Lord
Glory
Celebration
Hosanna



Jesus is King!

Palm Sunday

Find the path to the city.



Jesus is King!

Palm Sunday

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	

4 26 19 10 3 24 18 23 17
 4 56 22 4 18 19 1 4
 22 26 19 22 23 24 8 26 6 9
 22 1 23 4 26 22 4
 8 24 15 15 24 18 19 23 18 19 3 19
 17 26 24 14 4 6 1 16
 " 26 24 17 22 1 1 22 4 24 4 26 19
 24 1 19 18 26 24 10 24 9 19 17
 6 1 4 26 19 1 22 9 19 24 8
 4 26 19 15 24 3 23 !
 26 24 17 22 1 1 22 6 1 4 26 19
 26 6 16 26 19 17 4 26 19 22 20 19 1 !"



Jesus is King!

Palm Sunday

Fill in the blanks with the words in the box.

Words to Use		
branches	colt	disciples
Hosanna	shouted	cloaks
crowd	donkey	road
	village	

The Triumphal Entry

Jesus sent two _____, saying to them, “Go to the _____ ahead of you, and at once you will find a _____ tied there, with her _____ by her.

Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, tell him that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.”

The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt, placed their cloaks on them, and Jesus sat on them. A very large _____ spread their _____ on the road, with others cut _____ from the trees and spread them on the _____. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed _____, “_____ to the Son of David!” “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Hosanna in the highest!”

Crossword – Key:

Across

- 5. Donkey
- 7. Glory
- 9. Jesus
- 10. Celebration
- 11. Parade
- 12. Palm

Down

- 1. King
- 2. Love
- 3. Jerusalem
- 4. Branch
- 6. Hosanna
- 8. Lord

Cryptogram – Key:

Matthew 21:9

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!"