

# I Love A Parade

## Theme

Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem

## Object

Flags, confetti, noise makers, etc.

## Scripture

The next day the great crowd that had come for the Feast heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

John 12:12-13

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.

Interactive Group Activities  
by Carol Williams and Charles Kirkpatrick

**Sermon Title:** "I Love a Parade"

**Scripture Reading:** Mark 11:1-11

**PRAISE MARCH:** Give the children flags, balloons and noise makers and praise the LORD with special words that they can repeat after the teacher—with words from today's lesson and Bible verses!!

**PRAISE BALLOONS:** Prior to class time, the teacher will blow up balloons with praise words from today's lesson written on paper strips and placed inside. The children will be divided into two teams and the relay will begin with a member from each team popping a balloon and reading the PRAISE word found inside. The next member of the team will then pop a balloon and this will continue until all members of one team have popped a balloon and read a praise word.

**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.

**PRAISE BALLOONS:** Give each child a STRONG balloon and some small pebbles or similar items which they will place inside the balloon. The children can have a bright colored marker to write CELEBRATE JESUS or words from our lesson on the outside of their balloon. Then blow up the balloon and tie so children can shake the balloon while praising the Lord with song or Bible verse.

**DRUM CANS:** Give each child a tin can and a strip of construction paper to cover the outside of the can. Let the children decorate and write praise words on the can. When they children have finished decorating their can, they can turn it over and use it as a drum as they sing a song of praise.

**PRAISE BOWLS:** Give the children two styrofoam bowls to color and decorate. Place a few pennies or small beads inside one of the bowls and place the other bowl on top

of it and staple the two bowls together. These can be used as a noise maker as they sing a song of praise to the Lord.

**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.

**PRAISE COLLAGE:** Provide the children with pictures from magazines to glue onto a piece of construction paper with ideas of praise to the Lord for friends, family, homes, cars, toys, weather, nature, and all things. Title the collage as children desire, such as PRAISE THE LORD, or CELEBRATE JESUS.

**SING A SONG:** PRAISE HIM, PRAISE HIM; THIS IS THE DAY THAT THE LORD HAS MADE; HO-HO-HO HOSANNA

**SHARE A SNACK:** Make a celebration circle and let children pass various bags of treats around the circle, taking one snack and passing it on. Every snack will mean another praise circle song or celebration sounds with their instruments.

**Song: "Praise Him, Praise Him"**

Words and Music (pdf)



MP3 Accompaniment Track

Words and Music (pdf)



MP3 Accompaniment Track

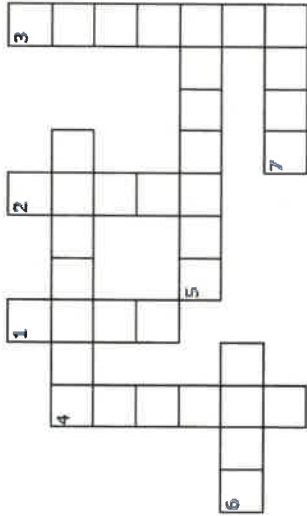
**Song: "Ho - ho - ho Hosanna"**

Words and Music (pdf)



MP3 Accompaniment Track

# Crossword Puzzle



## ACROSS

- Said something in a loud voice; called out; yelled
- A word used for praise and adoration which means "save us"
- A pathway for vehicles, persons, and animals; a street or highway

## DOWN

- A young animal of the horse family; especially one under one year
- The Son of God
- A small town
- To stretch out over a large area

JESUS VILLAGE	COLT ROAD	HOSANNA NAME	SHOUTED SPREAD
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# Children's Worship Bulletin

## The Triumphal Entry

Mark 11:1-11

## Word Search Puzzle

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

SPREAD	VILLAGE	BLESSED	BRANCHES	HOSANNA
HIGHEST	SHOUTED	DISCIPLES	LORD	JESUS
HEAVEN	CLOAKS	NAME	ROAD	COLT

Your Church Name Here  
Anytown, Anywhere

# Coloring Page



The Triumphal Entry

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# Decoder Puzzle

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.

E	N	Q	G	Z	M	R	T	I	B	S	Y	K	O	L	W	F	V	H	U	C	J	A	P	X	D
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

- 18-9-15-15-23-4-1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 21-14-15-8 \_\_\_\_\_
- 21-15-14-23-13-11 \_\_\_\_\_
- 7-14-23-26 \_\_\_\_\_
- 11-24-7-1-23-26 \_\_\_\_\_
- 10-7-23-2-21-19-1-11 \_\_\_\_\_
- 19-14-11-23-2-2-23 \_\_\_\_\_
- 19-9-4-19-1-11-8 \_\_\_\_\_
- 19-1-23-18-1-2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 10-15-1-11-11-1-26 \_\_\_\_\_

COLT	HIGHEST	BRANCHES	HEAVEN	SPREAD
CLOAKS	ROAD	HOSANNA	BLESSED	VILLAGE



# THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM



Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David. Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

**MARK 11:9-10**