

**Questions.** If the children dramatize this story for the adults, then let them also ask the adults the same questions that are listed above.

**Poem.** Let several children recite verses from Psalm 118:22-24, 26 and 28.

**Ask** the children to tell other ways in which we can praise Jesus as our Lord and King. Let the children and adults give examples.

**Draw** a Picture of a palm branch and let the children copy it.



- The older children may want to draw a palm tree.
- Let the children show their pictures to the adults at the next worship time, and explain that the branches illustrate how we should praise Christ as Lord and King.

**Memorize** John 14:6

**Prayer:** “Dear Lord, you are our only God. We worship you. Even though some people still do not know who you really are, we know how wonderful you are. That is why we praise you. Help us to tell others about you, so that they, too, will come to praise you.”

## Children Learn Who Jesus Really Is

**Prayer.** “Dear Lord, please help the children to admire the life that Jesus lived, and to believe that He is the Son of the one true God, who also became human.”

**Choose** any of these children's learning activities.

Let an older child tell about Jesus' final, triumphant entry into Jerusalem, from **Luke 19:28-40**. This story shows how common people praised Jesus as their promised Messiah and King that would bring freedom and peace to the whole world.

After telling the story, **ask these questions.** [*Answers appear after each question.*]

- How did Jesus get a colt to ride into Jerusalem? [See verse 30]
- What did the disciples tell the owners of the colt? [See verse 34]
- Matthew 21:8 says that people spread branches before Jesus on the road. In what other ways did they show their joy and their praise? [Verses 36-37]
- Who did the people say that Jesus was? [Verse 38]
- What did Jesus say would happen if he made the people keep silent?" [Verses 39-40]
- Explain the background of this event:
- Jesus came to Jerusalem the Sunday before His crucifixion.
- Some Christians call that day Palm Sunday, because the people decorated with branches His path into Jerusalem.
- Jesus entered Jerusalem one week before He would rise from death. The most important events of all history happened during that week.
- Some of the leaders and government officials envied Him and feared that He would take away their positions of power.



- Many of the people had been healed by Jesus and knew that He was the Messiah that the Old Testament prophets had foretold would come into the world.
- Jesus is God Who became human. He is not an angel or something in between God and humans. He is both God and human, the only bridge between heaven and earth.

**Dramatize** parts of the story of Jesus' triumphal entry, from Luke 19:28-40.

- Arrange with the leader of the main congregational worship for the children to present this drama.
- Prepare the children during your teaching time with the children.
- Let the older children help the younger ones to prepare.
- If there are not enough people for all of the parts, then let the Narrator simply say those parts.
- Let older children or adults play the parts of Jesus, Donkey, Donkey's Owner and Narrator who summarizes the story and helps children remember what to say and do.

- Let younger children play the parts of Disciple, Pharisees and Crowd. The Disciple and the children who are the Crowd have tree branches and coats or cloths.

**Narrator.** Tell the first part of the story, from Luke 19:28-35. Then say, "Hear what Jesus tells his followers."

**Jesus.** "It is time for me to go to Jerusalem. Go untie a colt in the next village and bring it here. Tell the owners that the Master needs it."

**Disciple.** Go to the 'donkey,' pretend to untie it and put a coat on it.

**Donkey's Owner.** "Wait! What are you doing with my donkey?"

**Disciple.** "The master needs it."

**Donkey's Owner.** "Alright, then take it."

**Disciple.** Lead the donkey to Jesus.

**Jesus.** Ride on the donkey.

**Donkey's Owner.** "Look! Jesus is riding on my donkey's colt that has never been ridden!"

**Narrator.** Tell the second part of the story, from Luke 19:36-40. Then say, "Hear what the Crowd says."

**Crowd.** Lay down the coats or cloths in front of Jesus. Wave the branches, and then lay them down. Shout, "Glory to God." "Hosanna!" "Here comes the King!"

**Pharisees.** (Angrily) "Jesus, tell your disciples to stop saying such things!"

**Jesus.** "If they remained quiet, then the stones would cry out!"

**Narrator or older child.** When the drama is over, thank everyone who helped.