Palm Sunday

Walking with the gentle King into Holy Week

Ages about 7-11 | Video 2:11 | Group lesson about 25-35 minutes

Central truth The crowd welcomes Jesus with cloaks, palms, and Hosanna as he enters Jerusalem and continues toward the cross.

Learning goals Recall the welcome at Jerusalem; explain Jesus' gentle kingship; and choose a prayerful way to begin Holy Week.

Gather Video access, one handout per child, pencils or crayons, and a Bible.

Watch online Open this video on Servus Dei

Before watching | 2 minutes

Ask what it means to stay beside a friend when a task gets difficult. Watch how the crowd welcomes Jesus and where his road leads.

Watch and notice

Notice the cloaks, palm branches, joyful Hosanna, and the reflection's invitation to stay close to Jesus even without every answer.

Talk together | 6-8 minutes

1. How did people welcome Jesus?
They spread cloaks, carried branches, and cried Hosanna as he entered Jerusalem.

2. What kind of king does the reflection describe?
A gentle king who comes with love rather than an army's force. He willingly follows the Father's saving path.

3. Where does the road of Holy Week lead?
Toward the cross and beyond it to the Resurrection. Palm Sunday begins that remembrance with the Church.

4. How can you stay close to Jesus this week?
Choose a short prayer, read a Gospel passage with an adult, or help someone. You do not need every answer before beginning.

Then respond and pray Allow 6-8 minutes for a handout or the activity on page 2; finish with the closing prayer.

Lead the response

Palm Sunday

Short family lesson Watch the video, choose one recall question and one application question, then pray. About 12-18 minutes; the handout is optional.

Choose a handout

Draw & Tell Draw the crowd welcoming Jesus into Jerusalem. Then draw one prayer or kind action for Holy Week. Accept an oral explanation.

Read & Write Recall the story, explain its central teaching, then apply it through a specific choice.

Adapt by readiness

Ages 7-8: draw or dictate answers; revisit the named story moment together.

Ages 9-11: explain the connection between the story detail and the planned response.

A palm with a prayer | Optional 4 minutes

Make a paper palm leaf. On one side write Hosanna and a story detail from Jesus' entry. On the other write a simple plan for Holy Week: one prayer, one Gospel reading with an adult, and one kind action. Explain how each helps you walk with Jesus.

Look for understanding Look for the named story details in the answers and a practical response connected to jesus' kingship and faithful accompaniment.

Closing prayer Jesus, our gentle King, help us stay near you through Holy Week and share your love with others. Amen.

At home Show your paper palm to an adult and choose one Holy Week prayer or reading together.

Handout answer notes Cloaks and branches marked the welcome. Jesus comes humbly in love. Accept a safe prayer, Gospel reading, or helpful action for Holy Week.

Teach with care

Provide paper and pencils. Preview the video and invite children to ask questions or pass. This is a devotional reflection; its statements about the whole crowd's expectations are interpretations. Follow the Gospel and avoid collective blame toward Jewish people. Children need not seek hardship to follow Jesus.

Words to explain Hosanna: a cry of praise and appeal for salvation. Holy Week: the days recalling Jesus' Passion, death, and Resurrection. Humility: strength without boasting or domination.

Sources for the leader

Story source: Servus Dei video and English transcript

Background: Matthew 21:1-11: Jesus enters Jerusalem