



# FAITH AT HOME

Aldersgate Church ~ St. Louis Park, MN

## Week of April 2, 2023: Matthew 21:1-17

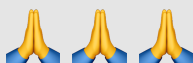
### Memory Verse

**Matthew 21:9** "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"



### Family Prayer

Dear God, Thank you for the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Help us to remember to serve one another just as He served us. Thank you for your love. In Jesus' name, Amen.



### The Story

**Theme of the story:** Jesus enters into Jerusalem in the way that was foretold by the prophets. He rode in as a king, but he was not the type of king that the Jewish people were waiting for.

**Retelling For Young People:** Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey and a colt tied together. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.'" This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the prophets. The prophet Zechariah told the Jewish people that their king would ride on a donkey. This also shows the obedience of the disciples. They did as they were instructed.



The people in the crowd were excited to see Jesus riding toward them on a donkey. They laid their cloaks down and cut palm branches to wave. Palm branches were a symbol of victory and joy. Palm

**Activity:****Stepping Stone Palms**

Cut out some palm leaves (big ovals) from construction paper or printer paper; children can decorate as palm leaves if they'd like. Lay out in a random path through the room or outside if appropriate. Have your child move across the room by stepping on the paper. They should try not to touch the floor. Talk about how the people lined the streets of Jerusalem so that the donkey's feet would not get dirty.

**Craft:****Donkey Puppet**

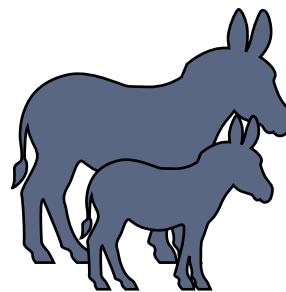
You will need: brown paper lunch bag, markers, white card stock, tape  
Turn the bag so the folded edge is on the top. Have your child draw a donkey face on the front of the bag. Cut ears from the white card stock, color, and tape to the top of the bag.

branches were used to cheer for important people who rode down the streets. The Jewish people believed Jesus was their king, and they responded by waving palms and shouting "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

**Family discussion:** People put their cloaks (coats) down on the ground as Jesus rode into Jerusalem. They cut branches from trees to wave at him as he rode by. What do you think of the way the people celebrated Jesus? What can we do to celebrate Jesus?

This is the start of Holy Week, leading up to Easter. Talk about the Last Supper and death of Jesus. Easter cannot be truly understood if we don't experience the other events.



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