

March 3-5's | W5

Today's Suggested Schedule—March 2026, Week 5

Today's Bible Story: Palm Sunday • Matthew 21:1-11; John 12:12-15
I can celebrate Jesus.

Key Question: Who is amazing?

Bottom Line: Jesus is amazing.

Memory Verse: "We have seen amazing things today!" • Luke 5:26 NLT

Loud sounds, bright lights, and large groups can be overwhelming or overstimulating for some children. To create a more inclusive large group experience, consider offering adaptive tools like noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces.

Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

Cover the Road

Large Group (20 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

Worship

Bible Story

Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

Hosanna Path

Celebrate Palm Sunday

Journal and Prayer



Bible Story

Palm Sunday • Matthew 21:1-11; John 12:12-15
I can celebrate Jesus.

Key Question

Who is amazing?

Bottom Line

Jesus is amazing.

Memory Verse

"We have seen amazing things today!" • Luke 5:26 NLT

5 min

Social

5 min

Cover the Road | Made to Move

What You Need

-  Green fake leaves 2
-  Fabric Several
-  Scissors 1
-  Painter's tape 1



EveryChild Tips

Set this activity on a table so all kids can participate.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Create a long tape road on the floor. Cut leaf shapes out of green paper, two for each child. Cut fabric into large pieces, one for every two children. Place leaves in a pile and fabric in a pile near the tape road.

During the Activity: Encourage children to pick up a leaf or coat, and place it on the road. Continue until the road is covered.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, come over and join me at this tape line. (Pause.) We're going to pretend it's a road! And look over here (point), there's a pile of ... leaves! (Pick up a leaf.) And a pile of fabric (pick up a piece of fabric)—let's pretend these are coats. When I say 'Go,' I want you to go and pick one leaf or one coat and place it on the road."

During the Activity: "Everybody get ready and GO! (Pause.) Come lay your coat/leaf on top of the tape line. (Pause.) Hooray! (Continue if there are more pieces to add.) Wow! Look at that! You made a super special path on our road today!"

After the Activity: "Great job, friends! In our Bible Story today, we are going to hear how people used leaves and coats to make a special path for Jesus! I am so excited! Let's go!"

15 min

Groups

5 min

Hosanna Path | Made to Move

What You Need

 Hosanna Path" Activity Page	Several
 Cardstock	Several
 Painter's tape	Several
 Painter's tape	Several
 Washable markers (green and gray/brown)	Several
 Optional EveryChild Supplies: Stickers (coat and/or leaf icons)	1



EveryChild Tips

- Use stickers (coat or leaf icons) to place on the butcher paper instead of walking across.
- Pair children—one child finds a picture while the other places it.

5 min

Celebrate Palm Sunday | Made to Create

What You Need

 Celebrate Palm Sunday" Activity Page	1
 "Celebrate Jesus" Activity Page	1
 Cardstock	Several
 Crayons	Several
 Glue sticks	Several
 Scissors	Several
 Permanent marker	1

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Hosanna Path" on cardstock, ten per Small Group. Lay a long strip of butcher paper on the floor and tape it to secure. Draw ten large alternating green and gray/brown rectangles across the paper to make a path. Tape coat and leaf pictures around the room at child's height.

During the Activity: Invite children to go find a coat or leaf picture, bring it back, and place it on the matching color box (green for palm branches, gray/brown for coats). Continue until the pictures have been found and placed on the path.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Today, we're going to make a path just like the people did when Jesus came into Jerusalem. They laid down coats and palm branches to celebrate Jesus!"

During the Activity: "When I say 'Go,' I want you to go find one coat or leaf picture and bring it back to the path. Ready, set, GO! (Pause.) Great job! If you have a picture of a leaf, put it on one of the green rectangles. (Point.) If you have a picture of a coat, place it on a gray/brown rectangle. (Pause.) Hooray! We finished our Hosanna Path!"

After the Activity: "Wow, friends! We filled our path with coats and palm branches. That's just like what the people in Jerusalem did when Jesus came riding in on a donkey. Do you remember what else those people did? (Pause for responses.) That's right! They waved palm branches and shouted 'Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!' because they knew Jesus could do things that nobody else could because **[Bottom Line] Jesus is amazing! Who is amazing? [Bottom Line] Jesus is amazing!**"

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Celebrate Palm Sunday" on cardstock and cut along the dashed cut lines, one per child. Copy "Celebrate Jesus" on cardstock and cut one cutout per child. Write each child's name on their paper.

During the Activity: Encourage children to color their pictures. Show children where to glue their picture of Jesus riding the donkey. Fold each child's paper to make it pop up.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, it's Palm Sunday! What a great day to celebrate Jesus! Let's make a picture of our story."

During the Activity: "You have two pictures: a big picture of the people beside the special path of coats and palm branches, and a smaller picture of Jesus riding a donkey. Color both pictures. (Pause.) These

5 min

Journal and Prayer | Made to Reflect

What You Need

	"Memory Verse Card" from the Home folder	1
	Journal	1
	Fun-shaped pen	1
	"Journal Jesus" Activity Page	1
	Cardstock	1
	Rewards stickers or stamp	1
	Baby wipes	1
	Glue stick	1
	Scissors	1

look great, but I have something to make your picture really neat. Rub some glue on this part. (*Point to the area marked with an 'x.'*) Put the picture of Jesus here. (*Help children line up their pictures.*) Now for the neat part. (*Fold their paper so Jesus on the donkey pops up.*) Wow! So neat!"

After the Activity: "In our Bible Story today, we heard how Jesus was coming to the town of Jerusalem, and everyone was so excited! They covered the road with coats and palm branches so Jesus would have a special path to travel on. Other people held palm branches and waved them in the air. They were treating Jesus like a king, and they were ready to celebrate! Jesus was riding a donkey on the path, and when the people saw Him, they waved their branches and said, 'Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!' The whole city saw and heard the celebration. Some asked who this was, and the people said, 'This is Jesus! God sent Him to us!' (Matthew 21:11 NLT, paraphrase) The Bible teaches us that God gave us Jesus to show us how much God loves us. And we can celebrate Jesus just like the people in the Bible because **[Bottom Line] Jesus is amazing! Who is amazing?" [Bottom Line] Jesus is amazing!"**

Note: You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" from Week One, copy "Memory Verse Card" from the Home folder on cardstock and cut one per Small Group. Place one card in your Bible at Luke 5:26. Copy "Journal Jesus" on cardstock and cut one cutout per Small Group. Glue to the next empty page in the journal.

Encourage the children to pretend to wave a palm branch and say "Hosanna, Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!" as you lead them to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you.

During the Activity: Review the Memory Verse and Hand Motions. Then, ask children to celebrate Jesus by adding a green fingerprint to the page around Jesus. Write child's name and why they can celebrate Jesus under their fingerprint. Clean child's hands as needed.

After the Activity: Pray with the children using the list you made in the journal.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "It's Small Group time! Today, we are going to pretend to wave our palm branches at Jesus and say, 'Hosanna, Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!' while we walk to our small group spot. Follow me and wave your palm branches! Hosanna, Hosanna! Yay, Jesus! (*Repeat as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) Now let's sit down and talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

During the Activity: (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*) "In our Bible Story, we heard how the people celebrated Jesus like a king! They laid down coats and palm branches to make a special path.

Jesus rode into town on a donkey, and people waved palm branches and shouted 'Hosanna, Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!' God gave us Jesus to show us how much God loves us. And we can celebrate Jesus just like the people in the Bible because **[Bottom Line] Jesus is amazing!** That's why when I ask you, **'Who is amazing?'** you can say, **[Bottom Line] 'Jesus is amazing!'** Ready? **Who is amazing? [Bottom Line] Jesus is amazing!**

"The Bible verse we're learning says: 'We have seen (*point to self*) amazing things today!' (*Hands like binoculars, open and shut.*) Luke 5:26 (*open hands like a book*). Let's say that together! Just stand up and say what I say and do what I do! 'We have seen (*point to self*) amazing things today!' (*Hands like binoculars, open and shut.*) Luke 5:26 (*open hands like a book*). That was wonderful! (*Two thumbs up.*) I think you're ready to say that verse all by yourself. I want everyone to sit down, and we will take turns saying it. Who wants to go first? I have a sticker/stamp for everyone who tries to say the Bible verse! (*Hold up stamp/stickers.*) Way to go, [child's name]! (*Give two thumbs up.*) You get a stamp/sticker! (*Say and do this with each child as they try and say the Bible verse.*) I'm very proud of you for trying to say that Bible verse. When I count to three, I want everyone to stand up and point to your stamp/sticker. One, two, three! (*Pause to look.*) Yay!(*Clap.*)

"Way to go! Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal to the picture of Jesus.*) Look! It's Jesus! (*Call one child at a time.*) Dip your finger in the green ink pad and press it on the paper near Jesus. (*Pause.*) Tell me how you can celebrate Jesus? (*Help child clean hand.*) I'll write your name and your answer underneath your fingerprint. (*Continue with each child. Remember to print so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

After the Activity: "These are wonderful ways to celebrate Jesus! Thank you for helping me make this list. (*Hold up the journal for the children to see.*) We can celebrate Jesus in lots of different ways, like (*read the list you made with the children*). Just like the people in the Bible celebrated Jesus! Dear God, thank You for loving us so much that You sent Jesus to be our AMAZING friend forever. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Supplies

Cover the Road Made to Move		Quantity
1.	Green fake leaves	2
2.	Fabric	Several
3.	Scissors	1
4.	Painter's tape	1

Hosanna Path Made to Move		Quantity
1.	Hosanna Path" Activity Page	Several
2.	Cardstock	Several
3.	Painter's tape	Several
4.	Painter's tape	Several
5.	Washable markers (green and gray/brown)	Several
6.	Optional EveryChild Supplies: Stickers (coat and/or leaf icons)	1

Celebrate Palm Sunday Made to Create		Quantity
1.	Celebrate Palm Sunday" Activity Page	1
2.	"Celebrate Jesus" Activity Page	1
3.	Cardstock	Several
4.	Crayons	Several
5.	Glue sticks	Several
6.	Scissors	Several
7.	Permanent marker	1

Journal and Prayer Made to Reflect		Quantity
1.	"Memory Verse Card" from the Home folder	1
2.	Journal	1
3.	Fun-shaped pen	1
4.	"Journal Jesus" Activity Page	1
5.	Cardstock	1
6.	Rewards stickers or stamp	1
7.	Baby wipes	1
8.	Glue stick	1
9.	Scissors	1