



**ST NINIAN'S UNITING
CHURCH
PEBBLES**

APRIL 13TH 2025

PALM SUNDAY



On the news this week I saw some children with their parents, grandparents and teachers have a wonderful time. The children had gone to a lot of trouble to create a magnificent easter hat for their parade and their family and friends were having a very joyful and happy time watching them pass by. I also remember going to see our children and then our grandchildren in their wonderful creations going around the playground in the easter hat parade each with the biggest smile and pure joy and concentration as they paraded.

There's hardly anything that is more fun and exciting than a parade. Have you ever been to a parade? It could have been a Christmas parade or even when the circus had come to town. Sometimes a parade is part of a really big celebration when the whole town wants to be there to witness the spectacular. Luke's story today took place in the city of Jerusalem about 2,000 years ago.

Jesus and his followers were travelling to Jerusalem. The city was going to have a big celebration called Passover that would last for a whole week and the plan was that Jesus would be there. Have you ever been to a party that lasted for a whole week? I haven't! As they were travelling, they came to a place called the Mount of Olives. They stopped there and Jesus gave his disciples some special instructions. "Go into that village over there, and as you enter it, you will see a young donkey tied there that no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks, 'Why are you untying that donkey?' just say, 'The Lord needs it.'"

So, the disciples went and found the young donkey, just as Jesus had told them they would. And sure enough, as they were untying it, the owner asked them, "Why are you untying that donkey?" Hmmm....now what was it they were supposed to say? They simply answered, "The Lord needs it."

The disciples took the young donkey to Jesus, and they put coats on its back so that Jesus would have something nice to sit on as He rode into Jerusalem. It didn't take very long for the word to spread that Jesus was in town and coming down the road. He had become quite the celebrity because people had heard about His healing, the sick and even raising the dead. As Jesus entered the town, a large crowd had gathered. People began to throw their coats on the road in front of Jesus. They cut branches from the palm trees and waved them, and they began to shout, "Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord."

It must have been quite an impressive parade as Jesus went through the streets of Jerusalem with everyone waving and cheering. We call this celebration Palm Sunday. But as exciting as all this was, the people really didn't know who Jesus was. They thought He was going to set up an earthly kingdom with them and that He would do great things for them here on earth. They didn't understand that His Kingdom was in heaven. In just a few days, these same people who were joyfully shouting hosanna, would be shouting crucify him! Because Jesus wasn't the king of king they wanted.

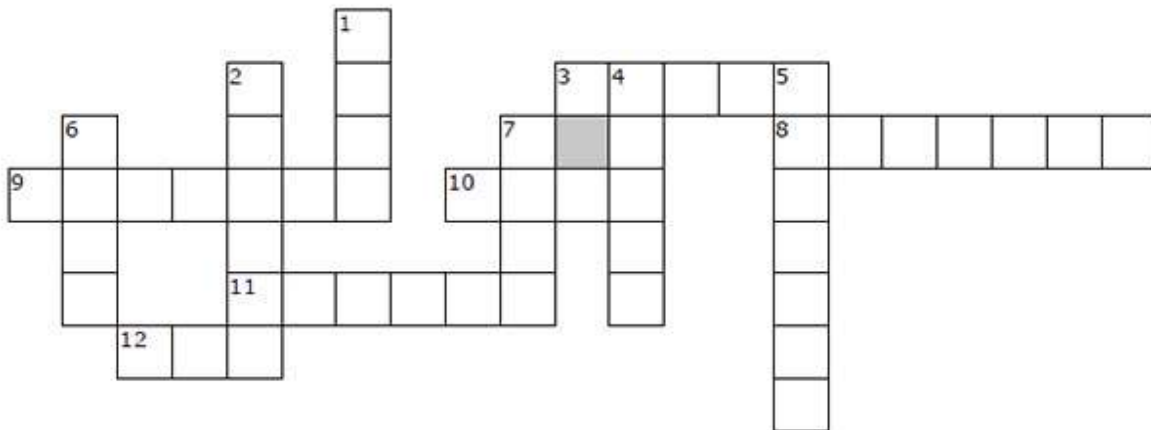
The good news for us today is that Jesus is King. He is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Today in our worship service we are going to sing songs of praise because Jesus has saved us all.

Prayer: Dear Jesus, let my voice join with all the voices like they did in Jerusalem a very long time ago. "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord." He is my hope and my salvation. In his name I pray, amen



The Triumphal Entry

"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"
Luke 19:38 (NIV)



ACROSS

3. The Son of God
8. A word used for praise and adoration which means "save us"
9. A small town
10. A young animal of the horse family; especially one under one year
11. To stretch out over a large area
12. To secure with a piece of rope

DOWN

1. What a person is called
2. To express admiration or approval of something or someone
4. To go into a place
5. Said something in a loud voice; called out; yelled
6. A male ruler of a country
7. A pathway for vehicles, persons, and animals; a street or highway

VILLAGE	JESUS	SHOUTED	ENTER
COLT	SPREAD	PRAISE	NAME
TIE	ROAD	HOSANNA	KING

