

Welcome to PALM SUNDAY!

Here we are again at home and that's okay because we are helping not only ourselves but everyone by staying home. Hopefully you can use this time to explore Holy Week. Instead of jumping from a triumphant Palm Sunday parade right to joyful Easter

Sunday, it is so important to journey through Holy Week (the last week of Jesus' human life on earth) and feel the emotions of the week happiness, frustration, love, anguish, and sadness. By doing that we can more truly appreciate and rejoice in the joy of Easter. Take this journey and know that emotions are natural - and to feel them and to name them and to work through them is healthy. God is with us to help us through that every day.



ACTIVITIES:

Family Discussion:

1. Why do you think people have parades?
2. What emotions have you felt these past few weeks?
3. What has helped you to work through your sad emotions?

Make a Palm Cross:

I have attached instructions on the next page.

Holy Week Calendar:

Make a drawing or list the events of Holy Week in order.

Make an Easter Altar:

Since we can't be physically together at church, find items around your home to make an Easter Altar. Use this as an area to pray this week. Contact me (Ms. Sharon) if you would like an Easter Altar kit - I have some that I would like to give to you!

PRAYER:

Dear God,
Thank you for helping me remember Holy Week.
Thank you for giving us Jesus to teach us the importance of loving one another.
I know that Jesus loved you and trusted you even when times were tough.
Help me to remember that you are always with me.
Thank you for loving me.
I love you.

Amen

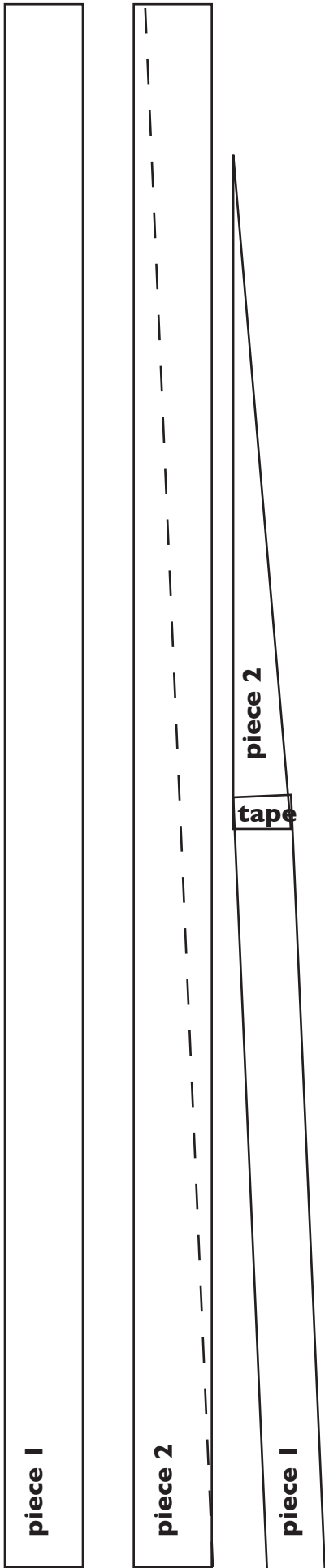
SCRIPTURE:

"...Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" -Matthew 21:9

BIBLE BACKGROUND (Matthew 21, Mark 11, Luke 19 & John 12):

The events of Holy Week began with Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. He was greeted by the crowds shouting Hosanna! (Save us!) and waving palm branches (PALM SUNDAY.) He was looked at as the king that was going to save them. But he rode on a young donkey, not a regal horse, to show the people that he was one of them - not above them. The week continued with Jesus getting angry at the money changers in the temple (MAD MONDAY.) He said the temple was a place for prayer not crooks. He taught parables in the temple on Tuesday and healed the blind and the lame. (TEACHING TUESDAY.) On Wednesday, Judas, one of Jesus' disciples betrayed him and accepted 30 pieces of silver to agree to turn him over to the chief priests (SPY WEDNESDAY.) Next, Jesus met with his disciples for the passover meal. He washed their feet, ate a meal with them - sharing the cup and the bread to remember him when he is gone. Then he told them the greatest commandment - to love one another as he had loved them (LOVE THURSDAY.) He went to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray and there Judas gave him away to the guards and Jesus was arrested. This is also called Maundy Thursday - Maundy comes from a word that means commandment - referring to Jesus' greatest commandment of love. On GOOD FRIDAY, Jesus was put on trial, beaten and put on a cross to die and he was buried in a tomb with a large stone over the entrance. On SAD SATURDAY, people mourned for Jesus.

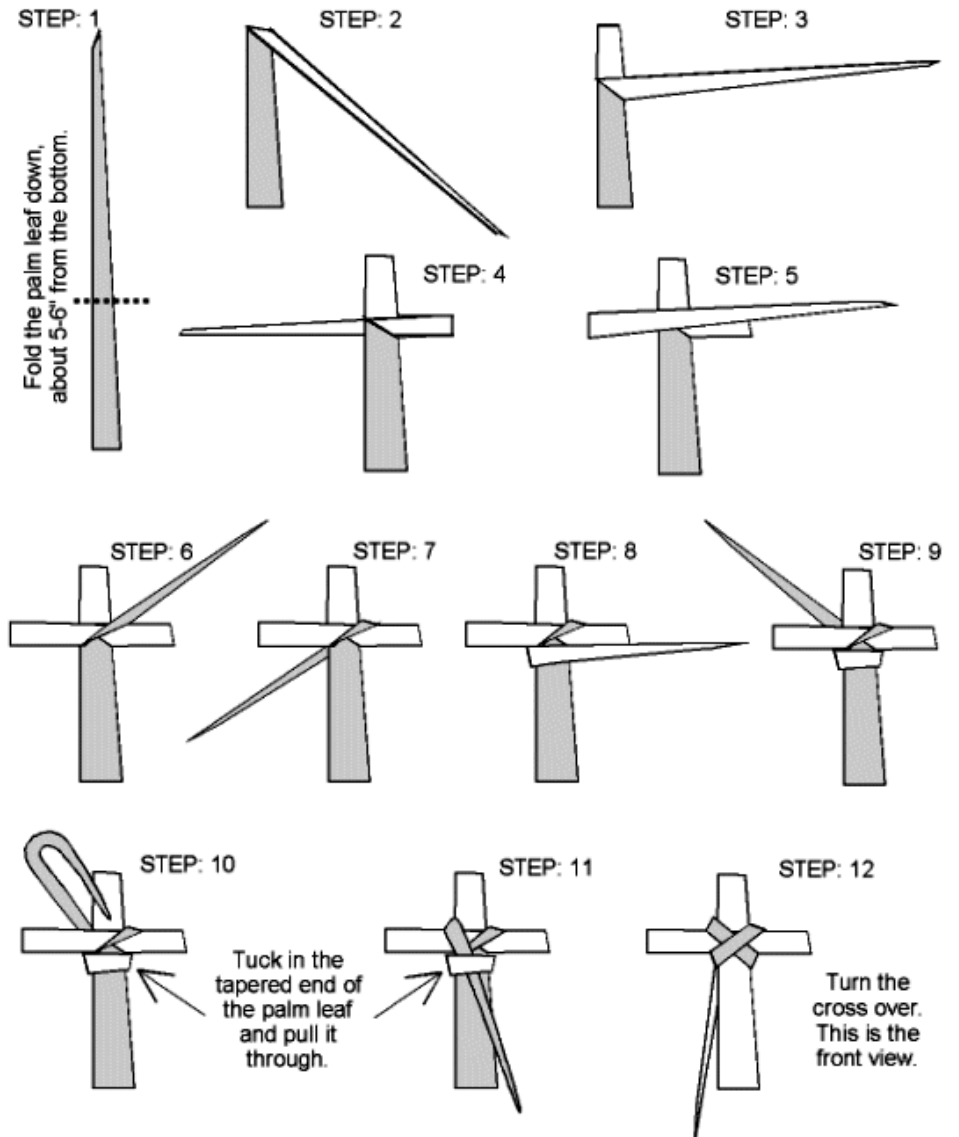
Then on April 12, we will celebrate EASTER SUNDAY! Jesus rose from the grave and was alive again. Death could not stop him and he lives in each one of us!



Palm Frond

Cross Folding Directions

Palm Sunday



If you do not have a palm frond, cut two strips of paper 11" tall x 1/2" wide. Cut one of the pieces at an angle so it becomes a tall skinny triangle. Tape the 2 pieces together. This becomes your palm frond.

(Examples at left not to scale.)

Now you can follow the folding directions above.