

RESPONSE STATIONS:

Invitations: Have a quick read through the possibilities below. Find something that catches your attention. They are in no particular order.
You may choose to use one, several, all, or none of them to guide your reflections.
Move around the space when you are ready. Include any children with you by explaining what the station is about.

Heading To Jerusalem (v28)

Pick a Palm branch.

Sit with Jesus for a while as he gets ready to head to Jerusalem.
Reflect on what is ahead for you in the next week, month, year....

Where are you heading? What change of direction is needed?

What do you need from Jesus today?
Clarity? Understanding? Courage? Insight?
Wisdom? Forgiveness? Strength? Presence?

Write your prayer on the table cloth.

As you share the meal in community with your fellow followers of Jesus, encounter the risen Christ and receive from him what you need to move forward.

Take your Palm branch and a *Red Altar Cloth* with you to guide your reflections through this week.



Entering the City, Jan Hynes. (2008)

Look carefully over the painting (a large copy is on the wall).

What do you think the artist is trying to say about the Palm Sunday event?

Where would you put yourself in the painting? Mark that spot on the image below.

Is this where you want to be? Mark where you would like to be.

What needs to happen for this movement to take place?



Expectations

Hold a barbed wire cross.

What is there about following Jesus that isn't what you expected? Is this good? Bad? Doesn't matter?

Does it say more about you than about Jesus, or the other way around?

Do you need to change anything?

Take the barbed wire cross home with you to remind you about these questions through the week.

PALM SUNDAY

**Jesus: The Expected One,
But Not the One They Expected.
(God's April Fool's Day joke?)**

The Story

Sit in your seat and read through the story. Underline anything that stands out to you.

If you want to, go to the "Expectations" station and take a barbed wire cross; and to the "Heading To Jerusalem" station and pick up a red paper and a palm branch to take home with you. Use these to reflect on the story during the week.

The Stones Will Praise...

What are you grateful for?

Write that on a stone and add it to the cairn.

[*cairn*: a mound of rough stones built as a memorial or landmark.]

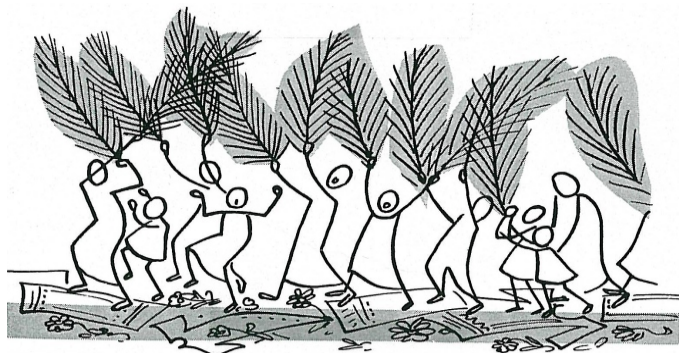
Crying for the City (v41)

O God of the marginalised, teach me how to understand others. Let me share in the hurt and hunger of the street, the alleyway, the corner, the neighbour.

Help me to turn my apathy and distractedness into creative justice.

Renew me with the experience of your grace and the reality of your love and mercy. Through Jesus Christ, who is my Lord as well as my save-r, Amen.

Dip your finger in the salty water and press those "tears" onto the map near where you live, as a symbol of your prayer for yourself and your city.



Luke 19/28-48 (The Message)

28-31After saying these things, Jesus headed straight up to Jerusalem. When he got near Bethphage and Bethany at the mountain called Olives, he sent off two of the disciples with instructions: "Go to the village across from you. As soon as you enter, you'll find a colt tethered, one that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it. If anyone says anything, asks, 'What are you doing?' say, 'His Master needs him.'"

32-33The two left and found it just as he said. As they were untying the colt, its owners said, "What are you doing untying the colt?"

34They said, "His Master needs him."

35-36They brought the colt to Jesus. Then, throwing their coats on its back, they helped Jesus get on. As he rode, the people gave him a grand welcome, throwing their coats on the street.

37-38Right at the crest, where Mount Olives begins its descent, the whole crowd of disciples burst into enthusiastic praise over all the mighty works they had witnessed: Blessed is he who comes, the king in God's name! All's well in heaven! Glory in the high places!

39Some Pharisees from the crowd told him, "Teacher, get your disciples under control!"

40But he said, "If they kept quiet, the stones would do it for them, shouting praise."

41-44When the city came into view, he wept over it. "If you had only recognized this day, and everything that was good for you! But now it's too late. In the days ahead your enemies are going to bring up their heavy artillery and surround you, pressing in from every side. ... Not one stone will be left intact. All this because you didn't recognize and welcome God's personal visit."

45-46Going into the Temple he began to throw out everyone who had set up shop, selling everything and anything. He said, "It's written in Scripture, My house is a house of prayer; You have turned it into a religious bazaar."