

St. John's Church School
Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday

Special Event

Why did the Son of God come down from heaven?

SALVATION. “for us men and for our salvation” (Nicene Creed) – to make the slaves of sin the children of God, to make the heirs of death and inheritors of everlasting life – to rescue us from eternal ruin, eternal separation from God.

That is why he came. How did he accomplish our salvation? Hint, what does the Apostles' Creed say?

THE CROSS. “suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; the third day he rose again” (Apostles' Creed).

Remember what we learned last week: “Christ hath once suffered for sin, the just for the unjust, to bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but quickened [made alive] in the Spirit” (1 Peter 3:18).

Why was Jesus sent by God to save us by his death? Why was Jesus willing to suffer so terribly for our salvation?

LOVE. Because “God so loved the world”, because Jesus “loved his own” and “loved them unto the death”.

How do we receive the benefits of God's love and Christ's work of salvation accomplished on the cross?

FAITH. By believing and trusting in God's love for sinners, and Christ's death for sin, we sinners indeed saved: our sins are forgiven, and we are accepted by God as righteous.

What works do believing Christians do?

REPENTANCE of sin – turning away from sin, and asking God's forgiveness

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GOOD WORKS - in gratitude for God's love, and Christ's death, serving our neighbor in love, obeying God's commandments, doing good gladly and suffering evil patiently

Today is called Palm Sunday. It is the first day of Holy Week. When in the Church year is Holy Week?

It is the week before Easter. It begins today on Palm Sunday, and it concludes with Maundy (not Monday) Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Eve (AKA Holy Saturday).

What is Holy Week for?

On Holy Week the Church follows Jesus in the way of the cross. We follow him in his suffering and death, that we may rise with him in his resurrection.

Interactively review the stations of the cross, asking the children what happens at each station, so that they internalize the story. Focus on the overall movement of the narrative, with one telling detail at each station. Use prayers at the end of the review.

Activity:

Planned by the Special Event Committee