

## Children's Liturgy of the Word - PALM SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR C

### READ

Begin by singing - The Lord's Supper

Jesus and the apostles were sitting at the table. He said to them, "I wanted very much to eat this Passover meal with you before I die. This will be my last Passover meal with you before I die."

Then Jesus took a cup. He gave thanks to God for it and said, "Take this cup and give it to everyone here. I will not drink again until God's kingdom comes."

Then Jesus took some bread. He thanked God for it, broke it, and gave it to the apostles. Then Jesus said, "This bread is my body that I am giving for you. Do this to remember me." In the same way, after supper, Jesus took the cup and said, "This cup shows the new covenant that God makes with his people. This new covenant begins with my blood which is poured out for you."

PLACE THE PRAYER WORD ON THE PATH and sing Jesus Remember Me

Jesus said, "One of you will turn against me. His hand is by my hand on the table. But how terrible it will be for that man who hands me over to be killed." Then the apostles asked each other, "Which one of us would do that to Jesus?"

PLACE THE PRAYER WORD ON THE PATH and sing Jesus Remember Me

Then the apostles began to argue about which one of them was the most important. But Jesus said to them, "The greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the leader should be like the servant. Follow my example and be a servant to everyone."

PLACE THE PRAYER WORD ON THE PATH and sing Jesus Remember Me

Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, I am ready to go to prison with you. I will even die with you!" But Jesus said, "Peter, before the rooster crows tonight, you will say you don't know me. You will say this three times!"

PLACE THE PRAYER WORD ON THE PATH and sing Jesus Remember Me

Jesus left the city and went to the Mount of Olives. His followers went with him. He said to them, "Pray for strength against temptation."

He kneeled down and prayed, "Father, if it is what you want, then let me not have this cup of suffering. But do what you want, not what I want." Then an angel from heaven appeared to him to help him.

PLACE THE PRAYER WORD ON THE PATH and sing Jesus Remember Me

Then while Jesus was speaking, a crowd came up. One of the 12 apostles was leading them. He was Judas. He came close to Jesus so that he could kiss him. But Jesus said to him, "Judas, are you using the kiss to point me out to the soldiers?"

PLACE THE PRAYER WORD ON THE PATH and sing Jesus Remember Me

The soldiers arrested Jesus and took him away. They brought him into the house of the high priest. Peter followed them, but he did not go near Jesus. The soldiers started a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat together. Peter sat with them. A servant girl saw Peter sitting there near the light. She looked closely at Peter's face and said, "This man was also with him!"

But Peter said this was not true. He said, "Girl, I don't know him."

Peter denied he knew Jesus three times. Then a rooster crowed. And Peter remembered what Jesus had said: "Before the rooster crows tonight, you will say three times that you don't know me."

Then Peter went outside and cried, his heart was broken.

PLACE THE PRAYER WORD ON THE PATH and sing Jesus Remember Me

Some men were guarding Jesus. They made fun of him like this: They covered his eyes so that he could not see them. Then they hit him and said, "Prove that you are a prophet, and tell us who hit you!" The men said many cruel things to Jesus.

PLACE THE PRAYER WORD ON THE PATH and sing Jesus Remember Me

When day came, the elders of the people, the leading priests, and the teachers of the law came together. They led Jesus away to their highest court.

They said, "If you are the Christ, then tell us that you are!"

Jesus said to them, "If I tell you I am the Christ, you will not believe me."

PLACE THE PRAYER WORD ON THE PATH and sing Jesus Remember Me

Then the whole group stood up and led Jesus to Pilate. They began to accuse Jesus.

Pilate asked Jesus, "Are you the king of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Yes, that is right."

Pilate said to the leading priests and the people,

"I find nothing wrong with this man."

They said again and again, "But Jesus is making trouble with the people!"

PLACE THE PRAYER WORD ON THE PATH and sing Jesus Remember Me

Pilate wanted to let Jesus go free. So he told this to the crowd. But they shouted again, "Kill him! Kill him on a cross!"

Pilate said to them, "Why? What wrong has he done? I can find no reason to kill him. So I will have him punished and set him free."

But they continued to shout. They demanded that Jesus be killed on the cross. Their yelling became so loud that Pilate decided to give them what they wanted.

PLACE THE PRAYER WORD ON THE PATH and sing Jesus Remember Me

The soldiers led Jesus away. The soldiers forced a man called Simon to carry Jesus' cross and walk behind him.

A large crowd of people was following Jesus. Some of the women were sad and crying. But Jesus turned and said to them, "Don't cry for me. Cry for yourselves and for your children too!"

There were also two thieves led out with Jesus to be killed. There the soldiers nailed Jesus to his cross.

Jesus said, "Father, forgive them. They don't know what they are doing."

PLACE THE PRAYER WORDS ON THE PATH and sing Jesus Remember Me

The soldiers played a game to decide who would get his clothes. The people stood there watching. The leaders made fun of Jesus. They said, "If he is God's Chosen One, the Christ, then let him save himself. He saved other people, didn't he?"

Even the soldiers made fun of him. They came to Jesus and offered him some vinegar. They said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself!" At the top of the cross these words were written: "THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS."

One of the thieves began to shout insults at Jesus: "Aren't you the Christ? Then save yourself! And save us too!"

**PLACE THE PRAYER WORDS ON THE PATH and sing Jesus Remember Me**

But the other thief stopped him. He said, "You should fear God! You are getting the same punishment as he is. We are punished justly; we should die. But this man has done nothing wrong!" Then this criminal said to Jesus, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom!"

Then Jesus said to him, "Listen! Today you will be with me in paradise!"

**PLACE THE PRAYER WORDS ON THE PATH and sing Jesus Remember Me**

It was about noon, and the whole land became dark until three o'clock in the afternoon. There was no sun! The curtain in the Temple<sup>6</sup> was torn into two pieces. Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Father, I give you my life."

**PLACE THE PRAYER WORD ON THE PATH and sing Jesus Remember Me**

After Jesus said this, he died.

The army officer there saw what happened.

He praised God, saying, "I know this was a good man!"

**PLACE THE PRAYER WORD ON THE PATH and sing Jesus Remember Me**

## **RESPOND**

Invite the children to come forward now and kneel in front of the cross to reverence it.