

Hosana, Loud Hosana Worksheet
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Verse 1

Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang;
Through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang.
To Jesus, Who had blessed them close folded to His breast,
The children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

Verse 2

From Olivet they followed mid an exultant crowd,
The victor palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud.
The Lord of men and angels rode on in lowly state,
Nor scorned that little children should on His bidding wait.

Verse 3

“Hosanna in the highest!” that ancient song we sing,
For Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven our King.
O may we ever praise Him with heart and life and voice,
And in His blissful presence eternally rejoice!

Vocabulary In one or two words define the following terms from the poem.

Verse 1: Hosana, pillared, temple, anthem

Verse 2: Olivet, exultant, victor, palm, chanting, lowly, scorned, bidding

Verse 3: ancient, Redeemer, blissful, eternally, rejoice

Word Pictures Word pictures is another way of saying *imagery*. *Imagery* or *figurative language* helps us form a picture of what the author is trying to present. Discuss what these word pictures mean and, perhaps, without drawing a picture of Christ, draw your idea of the *imagery* or *figurative language* the author uses!

Verse 1: little children sang, pillard court and temple

Verse 2: exultant crowd, victor palm branch waving

Verse 3: ancient song

Mechanics Verbally discuss

Who is the speaker? (Does the speaker have a specific personality or has the author remained in the background so the message of the poem will be more clear?)

What does the poem reveal about the speaker's character? (Sometimes, poems reveal nothing about the speaker's personal thoughts, feelings, or attitudes. Yet, the poem may demonstrate those character traits that are important to the author like courage, loyalty, perserverance, etc.)

Is the speaker addressing someone in particular or is it to anyone? (Sometimes poems are not directed to anyone in particular, but to anyone that may read it.)

Does the poem have a setting? (Does the author tell where the poem occurs? Is the poem about a specific event?)

Is the poem about a particular event? (Is the event past or present? If it is about a past event, does the remembrance of the event have a particular meaning to the speaker?)

Is the theme of the poem stated directly or indirectly? (Some poems are straightforward and are meant to be taken literally. In songs, the theme may be presented in the refrain or in the last few lines. Sometimes the theme is a little bit more difficult to discern as it is made with figurative language or symbols.)

How did you respond to the poem when you read it the first time?

What point of view or perspective is the speaker? (What meaning do you think the poem has for the author?)

How did you respond to the poem when you read it the first time? (Did your thoughts and feelings change after you took time to study it?)

Comprehension Questions Verbally discuss

Verse 1: What does “hosana” mean? Why did the children sing it? Why were the praises of the children the “simplest and the best”?

Verse 2: What was the mood of the crowd? Where were they going? What was being waved? What was being chanted? Explain and discuss: “The Lord of men and angels rode on in lowly state, Nor scorned that little children should on His bidding wait.”

Verse 3: Who is the Redeemer? Why is Redeemer capitalized? Explain and discuss: “O may we ever praise Him with heart and life and voice, And in His blissful presence eternally rejoice!”

After reading this poem, what character traits did you think of? What does the Bible have to say about these character traits?

What Does the Bible Say?

Find Scripture proofs for each of the assertions or statements made for each of the three verses.

What event do you think this song is celebrating? Why would this be important? What does the Bible have to say about the character trait of being cheerful? Why would this be important? Identify Biblical characters that were cheerful. Can you think of anyone else in history that demonstrated being cheerful in the Biblical sense? What will you tell your grandchildren about being cheerful? How will you encourage your grandchildren in this character trait?

The Author/Poet

Based on what you have studied about this poem so far, would you guess that the author was a Christian or a humanist? How did you arrive at your decision?

The name of the author for this poem or lyric is Jeanette Threlfall (1821-1880). She was born 24 March 1821 in Blackburn, Lancashire, England, and died 30 November 1880, St George's Hospital, Hyde Park, London, England.

Geography

Locate England, and London on a globe, map and atlas.

Challenge Locate Olivet and Lancashire on a map or in an atlas.

Compare/contrast England's weather with your own for one week.

Make an English meal for your family.

Activities

1) Make your own book! Without making an image of Christ, draw pictures representing each verse. (Note: that will be three different illustrations). With construction paper and other items readily available at home, make a title page with the name of the song and the author's name which will be your book's cover. You may want to illustrate your cover and include this poem in your book.

2) Make your own play! Re-enact with your siblings or friends the message discussed in this poem. Keep it lively, simple, and short. You may want to end your play with singing a rousing chorus of this poem or reading Scripture verses. Videotape your creation.

3) Radio Drama! With a handheld tape recorder, create your own radio show dramatizing the message of this poem.

4) Be a Reporter! Either with your family camcorder or with a handheld tape recorder, "interview" various individuals this poem could illustrate (e.g., family members, Dolley Madison, George Mason, etc.). Interview the children and adults in the procession. In order to have the fast paced style of a reporter, watch and/or listen to the news with your parents' permission. Keep the interviews lively, quick, and to the point.

Remain objective! Being objective means just reporting the facts and not giving your opinion of the situation.

5) What is one of the things you most enjoy? Is it literature? math? science? sports? cooking? Take that area of interest and relate that to this poem. If you enjoy dance, for example, develop a dance routine that physically expresses the sentiments of this poem. If you enjoy shop, create something out of wood that helps to clarify this poem. Do you enjoy creating stories? Write a story based on any time period you desire that expresses the sentiments of this poem. Do you enjoy creating things in the kitchen? Make an ancient meal from this time or develop your own meal that symbolizes the many different points this poem makes.

6) Poster. Create a poster illustrating the the author's view of the impact of *Hosana Loud Hosana*.

7) Scavenger Hunt. Go to the library to learn what you can about Jeanette Threlfall (1821-1880) and share it with your family. If possible, discover the story behind this poem.