

Hello Everyone! This Sunday we celebrate Palm Sunday!! We continue to follow Our Lord to the Cross and the next two weeks bring us to a dark time...similar to the darkness we may feel in our lives right now. However, friends, know there is hope and light on the other side!! Let's continue on our Lenten journey...

As we reflect in praise, Invite God to work in your heart, and trust that He will fulfill His plans.

Invocation:

Our Lord entered the gates of the Holy City. Crowds shouted his praise and waved palm branches. But within the bounds of the city there were those who feared him. Even on this day, there are those who let fear claim their lives. Lord, enter our lives this day with your healing presence. Be with us as we march with you toward the cross. AMEN.

### **Prayer of Confession**

O God,  
we stand at the gate,  
hesitant and uncertain;  
we are reluctant to answer your invitation;  
we are slow to embark on the journey  
toward your reign.  
Forgive us, we pray.  
Grant us the help we need to be your people—  
the courage to join you in the procession;  
the selflessness to lay our cloaks before you;  
the freedom to lift our palms to your glory;  
and the knowledge that by your grace  
we are forgiven. Amen.

A reading from Matthew 21:1-11

### **JESUS' TRIUMPHAL ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM**

**21** When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, **2** saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. **3** If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately.<sup>[a]</sup>" **4** This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

**5** "Tell the daughter of Zion,  
Look, your king is coming to you,  
humble, and mounted on a donkey,  
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

**6** The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; **7** they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. **8** A very large crowd<sup>[b]</sup> spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. **9** The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

**10** When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” **11**

The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

Offertory Prayer:

Name above all names,

as you emptied yourself for others,

we offer ourselves and these gifts

as a sign of our hope in your reign.

Where there is death, bring life.

Where there is sorrow, bring joy.

Where there is injustice, bring courage for change.

**Amen.**

Blessing:

We do not know what the future will hold for us, but we are assured that whatever happens, God is with us! Follow Jesus boldly to the cross and beyond. For God’s promises are good and true. You are beloved. Go in peace. AMEN.