

THE TRIUMPHAL
ENTRY



2021
LENT
JOURNEY
Sunday March 28th

Prelude

Welcome

Reading the Word: Mark 11:1-11

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.’” They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

“Hosanna!

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

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Hymn: “Tell Me the Stories of Jesus,” vv. 1,2,3 (UMH #277)

Introduction

Message: “What an Entrance!” Children’s Play written by Rev. Deb Hanson
Children from Eliot UMC, St. Mark’s UMC, and First UMC

Setting: Jerusalem, news report from WJER-TV

Event: Jesus’ entrance into Jerusalem

(reporter sitting at desk - or table - with a small stack of papers in front)

Anna Anchor: Good morning! This is Anna Anchor coming to you from the news desk at JERU-TV with a special report. We have received news that a parade has started at the city gates in Jerusalem, and a large crowd has gathered. Our sources tell us that a group of people have entered the city followed by a man on a donkey. Let’s cut to our camera near the city gate to where Rebecca Reporter is waiting.

(People standing in front of a gate or garage doors looking the same direction, some holding their hand to shade their eyes, others looking up and down the street, some nudging in front of others.)

Rebecca Reporter: Good morning, Anna! Yes, we are here on the street in front of the Golden Gate. As you know, this is the only eastern entrance into the city. We expect Jesus of Nazareth to enter through this gate with his disciples, and the anticipation is growing stronger with every minute. At this point, we aren't really sure what to expect, but we will keep you up to date as the events unfold. Back to you.

Anna Anchor: Thank you, Rebecca. We go now to our reporter Sam Sabbath who is with some of the temple leaders.

(Dressed up to look very official and whispering among themselves, pointing "down the street." Some look worried and others look angry.)

Sam Sabbath: Hi, Anna. We are down the street with some of the temple leaders asking them if they know what is happening. Apparently, they aren't willing to speak with us, but they are clearly concerned about what is taking place at the Golden Gate. There is a real sense of anxiety and fear, so we will let you know if something develops. Back to you Anna!

Anna Anchor: We just received word from Tamar Temple that the gates are opening! Tamar, what can you tell us?

(Disciples enter shouting Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna! As they walk they say, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!")

Tamar Temple: Yes, Anna, we are at the other side of the crowd from Rebecca Reporter, and the gates have opened. It is Jesus of Nazareth being led in by his disciples. They are shouting "Hosanna," as you probably can hear, and the crowd around me has picked up the chant. Some of the folks have started to lay their coats down on the ground in front of Jesus like a carpet. It looks like they are greeting him as if he was a king!

(People lay their coats - may be rough looking material of any kind - on the ground, all looking the same direction and acting excited, as well as reverent as Jesus approaches them. They shout, "Hosanna to the Son of David!")

Hannah Hope: This is Hannah Hope jumping in. Anna, I wanted to add to what Tamar was saying. I'm down the street from her a little, but in addition to laying their coats on the street, the people around me have cut down palm branches and are waving them as they shout. It's quite a joyful scene! Jesus has clearly made a big entrance. I'm hearing lots of comments from the crowd, some folks are hopeful, and others are skeptical as they seem to be looking to him to save them from Roman rule. We'll keep you informed! Back to you!

(People wave palm branches and continue to shout "Hosanna! Hosanna to the Son of David!")

Anna Anchor: Thank you, Hannah. We understand that the parade has moved farther into Jerusalem, and the crowds are gradually thinning out. To summarize, Jesus of Nazareth had quite an entrance into Jerusalem this morning! His disciples led the way, and people were laying the coats down like a carpet for the procession. Others were waving palm branches and shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David." It's hard to know what will happen next, but we will stay on top of the latest news and keep you all informed. Signing off from JERU-TV, this is Anna Anchor.

Prayer:

We have been watching and waiting for you, Jesus. As you ride into Jerusalem, we remember that you show us the way. Holy Week was hard for you, but you kept going. Help us to keep going when things get tough. Help us to keep trusting you. Thank you for teaching us about God's love. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Special Music

Invitation to Holy Week

Sending Forth

WE LIFT UP IN PRAYER

Juliann
Naomi
Erin Frane
Jim Slater
Charles Gilman
Barbara Clement

Harry Junkins
Sophia
Barbara Glidden
Bobbie Noble
Dan Strange
Danny Westbrook

The Family of Jen Patria
Jen - Stebbins daughter-in-law
Those in nursing and assisted living care
Front line workers
Our Denomination
Our Country
Our Church family
Those who have lost loved ones to COVID



FUMC PORTSMOUTH A RECONCILING CONGREGATION

We, the congregation of the First United Methodist Church of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, are dedicated in worshipping, learning, and serving with all people as we embrace Jesus Christ's message of love and acceptance. As a United Methodist Church we stand fully behind the statement "Open Hearts, Open Minds, and Open Doors". We celebrate our diversity and invite all persons regardless of age, gender, racial or ethnic background, sexual orientation, marital or socioeconomic status, nationality, physical or mental ability into full membership and participation in the life of this community of faith.



One way to make a donation to FUMC is to point your phone camera on QR code and it will guide you through the process... thanks for making a difference.



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
129 Miller Avenue - Portsmouth, NH 03801
Office Phone 603-436-6038
Email - office@fumcportsmouth.net
Website - fumcportsmouth.com

Pastor - Rev. Dr. Debra J. Hanson
Like and Follow Us On:   