

*Hosanna
in the highest*



*Welcome the
king of glory*

**Zechariah 9:9-12
A Humble King Riding a Donkey**

*“Shout and cheer, Daughter Zion!
Raise the roof, Daughter Jerusalem!
Your king is coming!
a good king who makes all things
right,
a humble king riding a donkey,
a mere colt of a donkey.
I’ve had it with war—no more
chariots in Ephraim, no more war
horses in Jerusalem,
no more swords and spears, bows
and arrows.*

*He will offer peace to the nations,
a peaceful rule worldwide, from
the four winds to the seven seas.*

*“And you, because of my blood
covenant with you,
I’ll release your prisoners from
their hopeless cells.
Come home, hope-filled prisoners!
This very day I’m declaring a
double bonus—
everything you lost returned
twice-over!*

Song: There’s a Man Riding In On a Donkey

To the Tune ‘Give me oil in my lamp keep me praising’

There’s a man riding in on a donkey,
there’s a man, and they say he’s king!
And the palm leaves are waving a
welcome
and the voices of the people sing:

*Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna! Sing
hosanna to the King of kings!
Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna! Sing
hosanna to the King!*

Why a king riding in on a donkey?
Why a king wearing no fine crown?
Where the drums?
Where the high-sounding cymbals
if a king is riding into town?
Sing hosanna . . .

Hear the voice of the King on a
donkey!
Hear the joy of the news he brings!
He is Jesus, the Son of the Highest.
He is Jesus and the King of kings!
Sing hosanna . . .

Prayer

Loving God, I come before you in worship, praise, thanksgiving and remembrance. Open my heart to the presence of Christ and **lead me in his way.**

I come recalling that last week in the life of Jesus and all it teaches me of him - his faithfulness to the last, his willingness to take the Way of the Cross, his courage in the face of opposition, suffering and death. Open my heart to the presence of Christ and **lead me in his way.**

I come consecrating my life to his service, committing myself to his cause. Open my heart to the presence of Christ and **lead me in his way.**

I come thankful for all he has done and continues to do, celebrating his great love. Open my heart to the presence of Christ and **lead me in his way.**

I come acknowledging him as Lord and Saviour and desiring to be his true disciple. Open my heart to the presence of Christ and **lead me in his way.**

Receive now this time of worship that I offer you and speak through it so that I may grow in faith and be strengthened in your service. Open my heart to the presence of Christ and **lead me in his way, for in his name I ask it. Amen**

Bible Reading: Matthew 21:1-11

As Jesus and the disciples approached Jerusalem, they came to the town of Bethphage on the Mount of Olives. Jesus sent two of them on ahead. ² “Go into the village over there,” he said. “As soon as you enter it, you will see a donkey tied there, with its colt beside it. Untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone asks what you are doing, just say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will immediately let you take them.” ⁴ This took place to fulfill the prophecy that said,

*⁵ “Tell the people of Jerusalem,
‘Look, your King is coming to you.
He is humble, riding on a donkey—
riding on a donkey’s colt.’”*

⁶ The two disciples did as Jesus commanded. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt to him and threw their garments over the colt, and he sat on it. ⁸ Most of the crowd spread their garments on the road ahead of him, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ Jesus was in the center of the procession, and the people all around him were shouting,

“Praise God for the Son of David!

Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the LORD!

Praise God in highest heaven!”

¹⁰ The entire city of Jerusalem was in an uproar as he entered. “Who is this?” they asked.

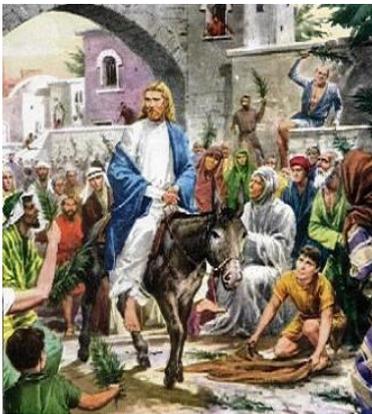
¹¹ And the crowds replied, “It’s Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

Reflection

Repeat this for each picture and reading:

- Take a couple of deep breathes before you start
- Invite the Holy Spirit into your reading and reflection
- Read the passage a couple of times through, slowly.
- Reflect on the picture and the words
- Wait & Listen
- What is Jesus revealing to you - what words, images, feelings or thoughts come you?
- If nothing comes, read again more slowly giving time to hear what the word says.
- Give thanks for new insight and understanding

Picture 1:
Where are you?

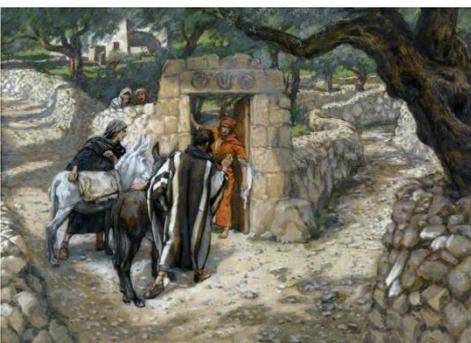


Read Psalm 24:7-10

Where are you amongst this crowd lining the streets with palm leaves...?

- Awake, right at the front shouting Hosanna, ready to welcome your King?
- Doubting, wondering if you can really believe what you see before you, somewhere on the edge perhaps, looking on from the window?
- Not really in the crowd at all, watching from a distance not wanting to be seen as too closely associated?

Picture 2:
Ready to give what the Lord needs?



Read Luke 19:29-40

- Do you see yourself as one of the disciples, being sent out as part of Gods mission?
- Perhaps it's the owner of the donkey you relate to, that God is wanting something of you – what has your response been, what is your response?
- Or maybe you are one of the onlookers, standing back just watching what happens?

Picture 3:
Who is this?

Read Matthew 21:1-11

Who do you say Jesus is?

King of Glory



- A carpenter
- A kind man
- A prophet and teacher
- The son of David
- The coming one
- The Lord and Saviour of your life

LORD JESUS

you entered Jerusalem in quiet humility,
taking the form of a servant
even to the pit of death on a cross
emptying yourself, so that we might be filled.

Come again now
and establish your kingdom

Come afresh to our troubled world
with all its needs, its tensions,
its problems, its evil.

Come again now
and establish your kingdom

Bring healing where there is separation,
love where there is fear
hope where there is despair
joy where there is sorrow
confidence where there is concern
strength where there is weakness
healing where there is sickness
life where there is death.

Come again now
and establish your kingdom

Lord Jesus Christ
reach out to your Church and the world
despite the weakness of faith
and the rejection of so many.

May your will be done on earth even as it is in heaven.

Come again now
and establish your kingdom.

In the powerful name of Jesus I pray

Amen.

