



**St. John Lutheran Church
Spring 2021 Sunday School
1st/2nd Grade Class**

**People rejoice as Jesus enters Jerusalem
Mark 11:1-11**

Today's Scripture – Mark 11:1-11

Jesus Comes to Jerusalem as King

11 As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, ² saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³ If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.'"

⁴ They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, ⁵ some people standing there asked, "What are you doing, untying that colt?" ⁶ They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. ⁷ When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over

it, he sat on it. ⁸ Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. ⁹ Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted,

"Hosanna!^[a]"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"^[b]

¹⁰ "Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!"

"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

¹¹ Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple courts. He looked around at everything, but since it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve.

Key Verse -

and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:11

Lesson --

Prophecies Fulfilled -

This moment in Jewish history had long been anticipated. Zechariah 9:9 predicts that the Messiah would come "gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey". Without question, the Jews along Jesus' path made this connection and knew what it meant. Their celebration made this clear as they covered Jesus' path with their outer robes and palm branches - a demonstration of honor and submission.

The King Comes -

The cries of the people were significant. As they shouted "hosanna", they were saying, "Lord, save us!" As they referred to Jesus as "he who comes in the name of the Lord" and spoke plainly of "the coming kingdom of our father David", they were making clear references to the Messiah predicted many times in the Old Testament.

Confusing Events -

After the excitement of his triumphant entry, Jesus and his disciples left Jerusalem to spend the night in Bethany, where Mary, Martha, and Lazarus lived. No mention is made of the crowd following them. After all the cheering had died down, everyone must have gone home. Jesus had spoken earlier of his imminent death, but the day's events probably encouraged the disciples to think about Jesus being made king. How could things possibly turn against him as Jesus said they would?

Changed Lives -

Fortunately, we know what happened next. After the Resurrection, everything changed. And that's how it can be in our lives. When we choose to live for Jesus, everything changes. We don't honor him just by cheering and praying and singing great worship songs. We honor him - as the disciples did - in every facet of our lives. We honor him through our worship but also through our obedience, service, witness, and gratitude.

Conclusion -

"Hosanna! Lord save us!" Jesus answers that plea: Through a relationship with him, we can experience this great gift of salvation. It's easy to unintentionally develop a ho-hum attitude about faith. Yet in this passage, the crowds honored Jesus with extravagant, public displays of worship. Pray about actions you can take or words you can say this week to honor Jesus as the Messiah.