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Central Congregational Church
“For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors”
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Going Public or, Saved From What?

Mark 11:1-11
Palm Sunday

Central Passage

Mark 11:1–11 (NIV) — **1** 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!” “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” **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.

Central Thought: We get in on the Good News when we accept Jesus as our true king who came to vanquish our ultimate enemy, rather than as a puppet politician come to serve our personal agenda our nationalistic narrative.

Short Version: Jesus came to be the king we desperately need, not the king we think we want.

Hosanna: Lord Save! Or, The Lord Saves!

- ❖ This is the universal cry of humanity throughout the ages!

Psalm 118:25–26 (NIV) — **25** LORD, save us! LORD, grant us success! **26** Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD. From the house of the LORD we bless you.

The Crowd and Jesus

- ❖ The Jewish crowds greeted Jesus with great excitement as the long-anticipated solution to their immediate, nationalistic predicament.
- ❖ Jesus disappoints the crowd then and us today, as he has come to meet our greater, ultimate need of deliverance and salvation for both the oppressed and the oppressor.

Matthew 23:37 (NIV) — **37** “Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing.

King Jesus Came...

- ❖ To Deliver us from the Power of Sin.
- ❖ To Forgive us for the Penalty of Sin. (See Colossians 1:13-14)
- ❖ To Reconcile us to the Father and to Each Other. (See 2 Corinthians 5:17-8 and Ephesians 2:14-18)
- ❖ To Grant us Eternal Life. (See John 17:1-3)