

# Palm Sunday Year B Processions and Palms

Mark 11:1-10 "When Jesus and his disciples drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village opposite you and immediately on entering it, you will find a colt tethered on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone should say to you 'Why are you doing this?' reply 'The Master has need of it and will send it back here at once.'" So they went off and found a colt tethered at a gate outside on the street, and they untied it. Some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They answered them just as Jesus had told them to, and they permitted them to do it. So they brought the colt to Jesus and put their cloaks over it. And he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. Those preceding him as well as those following kept crying out: "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come! Hosanna in the highest!"

## 1-Faithful disciples Fetching a Donkey

Mark 11:1-6 "Jesus sent two of his disciples, and said to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately on entering it, you will find a colt tethered on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone should say to you, 'Why are you doing this?' reply, 'The Master has need of it and will send it back here at once.'" So they went off and found a colt tethered at a gate outside on the street, and they untied it. Some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They answered them just as Jesus had told them to, and they permitted them to do it."

## 2-Faithful disciples Preparing Passover

Mark 14:13-15 "He sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the city and a man will meet you, carrying a jar of water. Follow him. Wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says, "Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples? Then he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready. Make the preparations for us there."

Mark 6:7 "Then Jesus called the Twelve to Him and began to send them out two by two.."

Luke 17:9-10 "Is he grateful to that servant because he did what was commanded? So should it be with you. When you have done all you have been commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants; we have done what we were obliged to do.'"

John 2:5-8 His mother said to ***the servers***, "*Do whatever he tells you.*" Now there were six stone water jars there for Jewish ceremonial washings, each holding twenty to thirty gallons. Jesus *told them*, "Fill the jars with water." *So they filled them* to the brim. Then *he told them*, "Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter." *So they took it.*

*Benefit given to Good Servant:* *John 2:9 "when the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine, without knowing where it came from (**although the servers who had drawn the water knew**), the headwaiter called the bridegroom.....*

Luke 15:22-24 “his father **ordered his servants**, ‘Quickly bring the finest robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Take the fattened calf and slaughter it. Then let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and has been found.’ Then the **celebration began**.

Luke 15: 26-27 “**He called one of the servants and asked** what this might mean. The servant said to him, ‘Your brother has returned and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’”

### **Roll out red (purple) carpet: Welcome Mat and Hymn ‘Hail to the Chief’**

Matthew 21:8 “The very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and strewed them on the road.

2 Kings 9:12-13 “So he told them, “This is what the prophet’s aide said to me, ‘Thus says the LORD: I anoint you king over Israel.’” At once each took his garment, spread it under Jehu on the bare steps, blew the horn, and cried out, “Jehu is king!”

Leviticus 23:40 “On the first day you shall gather fruit of majestic trees, branches of palms, and boughs of leafy trees and valley willows. Then for a week you shall make merry before the LORD, your God.” On feast of booths to commemorate living in tents in desert remember roots, origins and purpose of God’s call & direction

Nehemiah 8:15 “and that they should have this proclamation made throughout their cities and in Jerusalem: “Go out into the hill country and bring in branches of olive, oleaster, myrtle, palm, and other trees in leaf, to make booths, as it is written.”

Psalms 26:6 “I will wash my hands in innocence so that I may process around your altar, Lord,”

Different Context: A Vertical Welcoming – Not Meeting at the City Gate, but Mid-Air

1 Thess 4:16-17 “For the Lord himself, with a word of command, with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God, will come down from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds **to meet the Lord in the air**. Thus we shall always be with the Lord.”

### **Parade Atmosphere welcoming Jesus into Holy City Jerusalem**

People raising palm branches and placing cloaks in the roadway; all similar to waving pennants, flags, signs or towels at games or festivities showing support

Cloaks in roadway similar to aisle runners, roll out red carpet

Revelation 7:9 “They stood before the throne and before the Lamb, wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands.”

2 Maccabees 10:7 “Carrying rods entwined with leaves, beautiful branches and palms, they sang hymns of grateful praise to him who had successfully brought about the purification of his own place.” See also 1 Maccabees 13:51

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How does the earth/nature respond to Jesus? God's creation (Francis' Common Home)

*"Jesus said in reply, "I tell you, if they keep silent, the stones will cry out!" (Luke 19:40)*

Matthew 27:51 "And behold, the veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth quaked, rocks were split,"

Mark 15: 33 "At noon darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon."

Luke 23: 44-45 "It was now about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon because of an eclipse of the sun. Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle."

### **Jesus Calming the Seas**

Mark 4:41 "They were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the *waves obey him!*"

Matthew 2:9-10 "They went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed."

### **Ezekiel 37 Valley of Dry Bones**

Ez 37:4 "Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord!'"

Ez 37:10 "So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet"

Isaiah 35:1-2 "The wilderness and the parched land will exult; the Arabah will rejoice and bloom; Like the crocus it shall bloom abundantly,"

Exodus 17:6 "Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it, that the people may drink."

### **Victory Lap (or Excessive Celebration!) Song & Dance of Moses and Miriam**

Exodus 15:20 Song of Moses, then Song of Miriam with dancing! "Miriam the prophetess, Aaron's sister, took the timbrel in her hand, and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dancing."

2 Samuel 6:3-5 "They transported the ark of God on a new cart and took it away from the house of Abinadab on the hill. Uzzah and Ahio, sons of Abinadab, were guiding the cart, with Ahio walking before it, while David and all the house of Israel danced before the LORD with all their might, with singing, and with lyres, harps, tambourines, sistrums, and cymbals." (Ark delivered to Jerusalem)

Psalms 150:1 "Hallelujah! Praise God in his holy sanctuary..... on to verse 4 "Give praise with tambourines and dance, praise him with strings and pipes"

Psalms 149:3-4 "Let them praise his name in dance, make music with tambourine and lyre. For the LORD takes delight in his people, honors the poor with victory.

### **Is this Jesus' Victory Lap through hell?**

1 Peter 3:18-19 "Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the spirit. In it he also went to preach to the spirits in prison,...."