

# The Jefferson Spirit

Sundays at 9:00AM

Pastor Mark Jarema

March 30, 2025



## Here Comes the King

**Mark 11:1–11** recounts Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem as He rides on a colt, fulfilling Old Testament prophecy and symbolizing peace and humility. As He approaches the city, crowds gather, spreading their cloaks and palm branches on the road, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" This powerful moment marks the beginning of Holy Week, as Jesus is publicly celebrated as the long-awaited Messiah, though many in the crowd do not yet understand the true nature of His kingship.

## Scripture Reading: Mark 11:1-11 (NIV)

### 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!”

“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.

### Here are some interesting facts about Mark 11:1-11:

- Prophecy Fulfilled:** Jesus riding on a colt fulfills the prophecy from **Zechariah 9:9**, which says, “*See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey.*”

- Symbol of Peace:** In ancient times, kings rode horses during war and donkeys during times of peace. Jesus choosing a donkey showed He came as the **Prince of Peace**, not a political conqueror.

- The Colt Had Never Been Ridden:** The colt Jesus rode had never been used before (Mark 11:2), which in Jewish tradition made it suitable for sacred purposes.

- Public Declaration of Kingship:** This is the first time Jesus allows a public celebration of Him as **Messiah**, unlike earlier moments when He told people to stay quiet about His identity.

- “Hosanna” Means Save Us Now:** The crowd’s shout of “Hosanna” is both a **praise and a plea**, meaning “save us now,” from **Psalms 118**, a Messianic psalm sung during Jewish festivals.

- Palm Branches Were Like National Flags:** Waving palm branches was a **symbol of Jewish nationalism** and victory—often associated with military triumph. The people likely expected a political liberator.

- Jesus Went to the Temple—Then Left:** After all the excitement, Jesus quietly visits the temple, looks around, and leaves (Mark 11:11), which is **anticlimactic** and signals deeper spiritual action to come.

- Timing of the Event:** This event takes place at the **beginning**





of **Passover week**, one of the most crowded and sacred times in Jerusalem, heightening its visibility and meaning.

• **It Marked the Beginning of the End:** This joyful procession also marked the start of the chain of events that would lead to **Jesus' arrest and crucifixion just days later**.

• **It's Recorded in All Four Gospels:** The Triumphal Entry is one of the few events recorded in **all four Gospels** (Matthew 21, Mark 11, Luke 19, and John 12), underscoring its importance.

Here are key **connections between Mark 11:1–11 and the Old Testament**, showing how Jesus' triumphal entry fulfilled Jewish prophecy and echoed significant themes:

1. Zechariah 9:9 – The King on a Donkey

*“Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”*

• **Connection:** Jesus' deliberate choice to ride a young donkey directly fulfills this **Messianic prophecy**, portraying Him as a humble, peaceful King—not a warrior on a horse.

2. Psalm 118:25–26 – Hosanna and Blessings

*“Lord, save us! Lord, grant us success! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.”*

• **Connection:** The crowd's cries of *“Hosanna!”* and *“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”* are taken directly from this Psalm, traditionally sung during **Passover** celebrations.

3. Genesis 49:10–11 – Donkey and Kingship Prophecy

*“The scepter will not depart from Judah... He will tether his donkey to a vine, his colt to the choicest branch...”*

• **Connection:** This is seen as an early **Messianic prophecy** from Jacob's blessing of his sons, associating the future ruler (from the tribe of Judah, like Jesus) with a donkey and a colt.

4. 1 Kings 1:33–35 – Solomon's Coronation on a Donkey

*“...put Solomon my son on my own mule and take him down to Gihon... anoint him king over Israel.”*

• **Connection:** Just as **Solomon**, son of David, rode a mule at his anointing, Jesus—the **greater Son of David**—enters Jerusalem on a donkey, signaling royal authority and divine approval.

5. Isaiah 62:11 – Salvation Is Coming

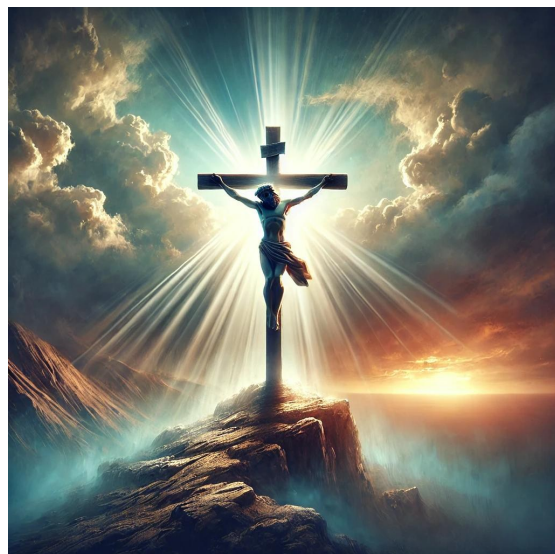
*“Say to Daughter Zion, ‘See, your Savior comes! See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him.’”*

• **Connection:** This prophetic call to **“Daughter Zion”** is echoed in the Gospels and ties to the announcement of **salvation's arrival**—fulfilled in Jesus' entry.

6. Exodus 12 – The Passover Lamb

*“Each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household...”*

• **Connection:** Jesus enters Jerusalem just before Passover. His arrival sets in motion His role as the **true Passover Lamb**, pointing back to the **Exodus** deliverance through blood.



## 7. Malachi 3:1 – The Lord Coming to His Temple

*"Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple..."*

●**Connection:** In Mark 11:11, Jesus goes into the **temple courts**. This act fulfills the prophecy of the Lord suddenly coming to the temple, preparing for the cleansing to come (Mark 11:15–17).

### Mark 11:1–11 Quiz – "The King Rides In!"

#### 1. What animal did Jesus ride into Jerusalem?

- A) Horse
- B) Camel
- C) Donkey
- D) Chariot

#### 2. What did the people lay on the road in front of Jesus?

- A) Gold coins
- B) Palm branches and cloaks
- C) Bread and fish
- D) Rocks and scrolls

#### 3. What word did the crowd shout as Jesus entered the city?

- A) Hallelujah
- B) Amen
- C) Hosanna
- D) Messiah

#### 4. What does the word "Hosanna" mean?

- A) God is good
- B) Peace be with you
- C) Save us now
- D) Welcome King

#### 5. Which Old Testament prophet foretold the King would come riding on a donkey?

- A) Isaiah
- B) Elijah
- C) Zechariah
- D) Moses

#### 6. Which city was Jesus entering during this event?

- A) Nazareth
- B) Bethlehem
- C) Capernaum
- D) Jerusalem

#### 7. What was Jesus' first stop once He entered the city?

- A) The palace
- B) The marketplace
- C) The temple
- D) The Mount of Olives

#### 8. Which Jewish holiday was approaching when this event took place?

- A) Hanukkah
- B) Yom Kippur
- C) Passover
- D) Pentecost

#### 9. True or False: Jesus told His disciples to bring Him a donkey that had never been ridden.

#### 10. What emotion best describes the crowd's mood during Jesus' entry?

- A) Angry
- B) Confused
- C) Joyful
- D) Sleepy

#### Answers:

- 1. C) Donkey
- 2. B) Palm branches and cloaks
- 3. C) Hosanna
- 4. C) Save us now
- 5. C) Zechariah
- 6. D) Jerusalem
- 7. C) The temple
- 8. C) Passover
- 9. True
- 10. C) Joyful



## Order of Worship

Welcome

Opening Prayer

\*Call to Worship (Congregation)

Call to Worship – Mark 11:1–11

Leader:

Rejoice greatly, O people of God!

Shout aloud, daughters and sons of Zion!

Behold, your King comes to you—

Humble and riding on a donkey!

**People:**

**Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!**

**We wave our palms and lift our hearts in praise!**

Leader:

Jesus enters not with a sword, but with peace.

Not in royal robes, but in humility.

He comes to bring salvation, not by force, but through love.

**People:**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**We welcome the King of Glory into our hearts and into this place!**

**All Together:**

**Let us worship the Lord,**

**The One who saves, the One who reigns,**

**The One who enters our lives with grace and truth.**

**Hosanna! Amen.**

Children's Message

**\*All Glory Laud and Honor, p.280 UMC Hymnal**

**Scripture Reading: Mark 11:1-11**

**Sermon: Here Comes the King**

Offertory

**\*Doxology - p.95 UMC Hymnal**

**At the name of Jesus , p.168 UMC Hymnal**

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,  
the humble King who entered Jerusalem not with force,  
but riding on a donkey, fulfilling the promises of Scripture.  
We believe He is the Messiah,  
welcomed by shouts of “Hosanna!”  
yet destined to wear a crown of thorns.  
We believe His power is shown through peace,  
His victory through sacrifice,  
and His glory through love poured out for all.  
We believe that though the world may not recognize His reign,  
His Kingdom is here among us—  
in hearts that follow, in lives that serve, and in voices that praise.  
We believe that Jesus is the Savior who comes in the name of the Lord,  
and we will follow Him, even to the cross,  
because He alone is worthy of our trust, our worship, and our lives.  
Hosanna in the highest! Amen.**

Announcements

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be 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.**

**\*All praise to thee, p.166 UMC Hymnal**

\*Sending Forth

Postlude

## Announcements:

Friday, March 28th - Easter Flower orders are due

Saturday, March 29 - 9am -12 Jefferson Church Summit with Pastor Mark and Pastor Katie at Jefferson UMC

March 30 - 12:15 VBS Planning Meeting

April 1 - 7-8pm Online Bible Study - Bad Girls of the Bible

April 6 - Holy Communion

**April 6 - 4pm Chili Cook Off and Bake Sale fundraiser to be held at Jefferson Ruritan. See Carol Waple if interested in cooking chili. Bake goods are needed for our bake sale and auction. Proceeds will go to general fund and children's ministries.**

April 13 - Birthday Celebration

April 17 - 7pm Maundy Thursday Service - Pastor Amy preaching at Jefferson UMC

April 18 - 7pm Good Friday Service

April 20 - 6:30am - Easter Sunrise Service outside at the Myers Farm at 3514 Jefferson Pike, Jefferson

April 20 - 9am - Easter Service in the sanctuary

May 17 - 3-5 Paint Day



### Menu

**Chili**

**Corn Bread**

**Drink**

**Dessert**

**FREE WILL OFFERING**

**Sunday**

**April 6, 2025**

**From 4:00pm-7pm**

**Sponsored by**

**Jefferson United  
Methodist Church**

**at the**

**Ruritan Club**

**4603B Lander Road**

**Jefferson, MD**

**Proceeds will go towards  
Sunday School and General  
Fund**



## Sermon Insights

### Sermon Lesson:

In Mark 11:1–11, Jesus enters Jerusalem not just to be celebrated, but to challenge, confront, and call His people into deeper faith. This sermon explores how Jesus invites us to participate in sacred work—not just observe it, how real worship requires personal sacrifice, and how the true test of faith begins after the applause fades. By referencing the prophecy of Zechariah 9:9 and reflecting on Jesus’ quiet inspection of the temple, we see that He doesn’t come to maintain our comfort, but to awaken our calling, disrupt shallow routines, and lead us into lasting transformation.

### Application:

1. **Be Willing to Say Yes When Jesus Invites You to Act Just** like the disciples who went to untie the colt, we’re called to prepare the way for Jesus to move—in our families, workplaces, and communities. Don’t wait for a grand assignment. Be faithful in the small steps He’s asking you to take today.
2. **Let Your Worship Cost You Something** Worship isn’t just singing songs—it’s a posture of the heart that often stretches us. Maybe it’s releasing pride, forgiving someone, or stepping out in faith. Ask yourself: What am I laying down for Jesus this week?
3. **Stay Faithful After the Applause Fades** Following Jesus isn’t just about the emotional highs—it’s about commitment in the quiet, everyday moments. When the excitement is gone and no one’s watching, keep seeking, keep trusting, and keep walking with Him.

### Conclusion:

So as we step back and reflect on Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem, we see more than just a crowd and a parade—we see a Savior who calls us deeper. He invites us not to spectate, but to participate. He calls us to worship that costs us something, and to a faith that endures beyond emotional moments. When Jesus looked around the temple, He saw hearts in need of cleansing—and today, He still gently looks into our lives, not to condemn, but to awaken. May we be the kind of followers who say yes to His call, who lay down what we’ve held too tightly, and who keep walking with Him long after the crowd goes quiet. Amen.