**The Coming King (Luke 19:29-40)**

 The Savior King comes every day – as His disciples, praising Him is our best response.

 Happy Palm Sunday everybody, dear brothers and sisters, as we remember the praise that was directed at Jesus during His entrance via procession into Jerusalem. Yes, we find ourselves in difficult straits these days, but even on the worst day, just as the Lord entered Jerusalem the center of worship, He wishes to enter our center of worship, our inner Jerusalem, our heart, as Savior and King. Therefore, today we’re going to speak about Jesus’ entrance into Jerusalem as an ongoing reality and encouragement for us believers. Again, I believe the word of God is saying to us that the Savior King comes every day – as His disciples, praising Him is our best response. Let us speak, therefore, about the event itself and connect it to our everyday life as disciples.

 Palm Sunday is an everyday opportunity to be encouraged, if we recognize the Lord who always approaches us. How beautiful it is to see the preparations of the Lord before He entered the city in order that people would understand and recognize Him for who He is. The Lord didn’t give a sermon with words; rather, by the way He entered the city. Jesus declared His Messiah-hood by entering Jerusalem on the foal of a donkey. The one familiar with Scripture would’ve immediately caught His declaration by that deed alone. Jesus allowed *others* to declare His True Identity, instead of Him doing the speaking about Himself directly. Jesus did not only allow that there be praise directed to Him, but He also didn’t silence his disciples when they did so; rather, he rebuked the Pharisees, who represented the blind spiritual leaders of that day. Jesus meticulously organized his entrance into the city on purpose and He said it right when He remembered that all of creation (symbolized by the rocks) was ready to glorify Him if human beings did not do so… Jesus prepared everything so that people would know Him.

 It is said that there are many shadows that fall across the earth—the shadows of floating clouds, of trees swaying in the wind, of smoke ascending from chimneys, of birds on the wing, and the shadows of great rocks on mountainsides. But the deepest and longest and kindest shadow which falls over the earth is the shadow of Divine Providence.

 Jesus so ordered the events of that entrance into Jerusalem that we can see its reality in our daily lives today. Jesus comes to us every day. He comes humbly, He comes through the acclamations of His disciples, He comes and receives the complaints and protests of His adversaries. He comes and we see the effects of His coming as even the created order, all of nature cannot stop praising Him in His Glory (through its orderliness, beauty and other qualities).

 Today, Jesus is once again knocking at the gates of our hearts. He is saying to you and me, “May I spend time with you? Can we forget about the temporary cares of the world and remember the eternal truths? Can you stop your complaints and begin to ask what you need in faith? Can you remain silent before God’s saving Presence? Do you know me who comes to you not in glorious attire in simplicity?” In fact, Jesus is asking *all* of us: “Will you accept me into your house, your household, your heart, even if others reject me, especially the clergy of the day?”

 Jesus wants to enter your Jerusalem, your place of prayer. The decision is yours as to what you do with that. You can accept this Savior-King or refuse Him entry, thus distancing yourself from the only Savior that this world has. If you accept Him in, He will give you and be your daily bread, your daily need. If you refuse Him entry, you will continue your path in life alone, only having transient and shortsighted human beings as your idols.

 May each of us accept the Coming Savior King today. He is the One who stands against every fear, worry, and doubt. Although the whole world is in chaos, when He is with you, you are under His authority and rule, along with the rocks (that symbolize all of creation). Therefore, recognize Him, and do not worry about the things of this world as you accept Him into your life as your Lord. He is the One who orders your life and makes you into a house of prayer and holiness.

 Palm Sunday is an everyday opportunity to be encouraged, if we recognize the Lord who always approaches us. The Savior King comes every day – as His disciples, praising Him is our best response.

 Therefore:

 Glorify the Lord!

 Accept the Lord (let Him in)!

 Know the Lord (recognize Him)!

God Bless you all. Amen.