

## The Creator Comes in Triumph

✦ Lowly (vv.1-3)

✦ Powerful (vv.4-8)

✦ Saving (vv.9-10)

In the Name of Jesus, God's Son and David's Son, dear rejoicing Christians:

He makes it all look so natural. The rain comes down. Seeds, most of us don't even see, sprout and grow like their parent plants, each according to its kind. Eggs hatch and tiny birds sprout wings and fly away to the care and protection of our Father in heaven. He feeds them as He clothes the plants of the field. And you are worth much more than they. He gives the faith to believe and trust in His care.

Seeing it all so natural, our foolish hearts blindly feel it's also automatic. Until the wind blows too hard, or the rain falls too much, or the sun beats down savagely. Then in our poverty we creatures finally hear our Savior calling and look up to our **Creator** for help. Centuries of calling were coming at last to completion on the first Palm Sunday. We see **The Creator Comes in Triumph**, not as expected, but...

✦ Lowly (vv.1-3)

All four Gospel witnesses report this awesome event. The Synoptics (Matthew, Mark, Luke) especially emphasize how **Lowly** our **Creator** came. There would be no white stallion, no prancing steed to carry Him into the capital city. Instead He would ride a donkey, and not even an adult, but the donkey's colt. He would come in the way He had commanded the kings of Israel to rule: without lust for wealth or women, pomp or power. They were to have their own hand copied Book of the Law of Moses and not consider themselves better than anyone else. So **Lowly Comes** our **Creator**.

He who created all things could have made the first limousine to cruise down the Mount of Olives and across the Kidron Valley, widening streets as needed and speaking to the crowds with booming voice. Instead He humbles Himself to the point of need. He needs the animal He sent His disciples to get. **"The Lord needs it,"** He tells them to say. What a strange **Triumph** this is for the coming of our **Creator**.

Still today we see this strange "need." He who gives us all things has always wanted a close and intimate relationship with His creatures, especially with the crown of His creation. To us He has given an immortal soul, that sense of self, of conscious thought. And with our body and soul He gives countless blessings far more than we need or deserve. **"Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly light...."** (James 1:17 NIV84) What do you have that the Lord **"needs"** today? Is it your time or your talent or your treasure? He could do all His work without us. But He comes humbly, **Lowly**, and lets us take part in His work, in His **Triumph**.

✦ Powerful (vv.4-8)

But don't let that fact fool you. Hidden beneath His poverty and lowliness our **Creator** is **Powerful** beyond what eyes can see. He does not just report history, He makes history His-story. His disciples found just what He said they would, right where He said it would be. Immediately inside the city, at the crossroads, **"outside in the street, tied to a doorway."** The Word that came from the Father's mouth on the first Sunday when He said, **"Let there be light"** (Genesis 1:3), gave to His disciples the exact words that would release not one, but both expensive animals for the **Creator's** need. The Word works. We just need to work the Word. Humble faith in our **Powerful Creator** says, "Yes!" when He calls.

Every human heart longs for peace, protection and prosperity. But we naturally fall to the lies of the old serpent from hell and of the “hawkers of heretical worldviews” (Zarling, MLC). They keep calling Christians to contribute to their own salvation by works. He who gives His holiness and righteousness as a gift does not need man’s works to make us right with God. Would you take a brand new Mercedes and start sanding away on the hood to add a few paint colors of your choice? Would you varnish a beautiful diamond or a ruby ring? How can our contributions possibly improve on what our **Creator** gives?

We keep setting our hopes on our strength, our savvy and personal experience. We want wealth and health to make us feel everything is all right with God. We push and shove and worry incessantly for worldly possessions that are passing away. Our feeble powers we exaggerate as we dishonor our **Powerful Creator**. Until the money runs out. Until our health runs away. Until our friends don’t come around anymore. Meanwhile, He keeps inviting us, *“Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me.”* (Psalm 50:15) Lord, forgive us for such sins!

### ✦ Saving (vv.9-10)

That was the **Saving** sound of the Palm Sunday crowds shouting, *“Hosanna!<sup>1</sup> Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!<sup>2</sup> <sup>10</sup>Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!”* Luke also reports them saying, *“Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”* (29:38 NIV84) He reminds his readers of that night outside Bethlehem when the angels sang at our Savior’s birth, *“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.”* (2:14 NIV84) The **Creator** who **Comes Powerful** and **Lowly** also comes with **Saving** peace that truly surpasses all understanding.

This week the dear Holy Spirit will take my hand and place it in Jesus’ hand. By His **Saving** grace we are *“through faith...shielded by God’s power....”* (1 Peter 1:5 NIV84) With Jesus we are safe from the enemy of our souls who *“prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.”* (1 Peter 5:8 NIV84) We are safe from a nagging conscience that won’t let us rest because *“the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.”* (1 John 1:7 NIV84) He will say to His disciples on Thursday of this Holy Week, *“I go to prepare a place for you.”* (John 14:2 KJV) We look forward to that last great Day when **The Creator Comes in Triumph** to give us lasting possessions in heaven *“where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.”* (Matthew 6:20 NIV84)

This week we will see our **Lowly, Powerful, Saving Creator** suffer such pain and anguish that our minds cannot even imagine. The physical will be overwhelmed by the suffering of His soul in our place for all our sins. But by His awesome sacrifice our faithful **Creator** will prove to be our Savior God, our best and truest Friend. Let our glad Hosannas turn to humble, contrite faith as we follow our dear Jesus in the closing hours of His Passion. And may His passion for us arouse our passion for Him to suffer all for His dear Name, to give our all for His glory and praise. Let His grace in us show in deeds of love for all.

*“Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!...Hosanna in the highest!”*

Amen.

---

<sup>1</sup> 9 “Hosanna” means “save us” or “help us, we pray.”

<sup>2</sup> 9 Psalm 118:25-26

W.P ~ Wartburg Project translation in popular review. Other Scriptures: NIV84.

Audio: [www.wels.us/newlife](http://www.wels.us/newlife) . Preacher’s Apprentice: [m.cordes@comast.net](mailto:m.cordes@comast.net) .

New Life Evangelical Lutheran Church  
180 County Rd F – Shoreview, MN 55126