# Palm Sunday

Rough Notes  
April 17, 2011  
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Trope: Welcoming the hero

* Star Wars, Lord of the Rings, Ticker-tape parade, Obama’s Nobel Prize
* On this day,
  + sadness is set aside
  + we simply rejoice
  + we have a party
  + we live in hope

Jesus’s entry into Jerusalem

* It’s a party
* People rejoice and they hope for very good things
* People are asking one another what is happening
* We know what is to happen in the next week, but they don’t (Jesus does, of course)

Of course, his entrance is unusual, though the discerning might see the underlying fulfillment of prophecy

* Zechariah 9:9: “Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy king cometh unto thee; he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, even upon a colt the foal of an ass.” Coming as a prince of peace, not a prince of war
* Psalm 118:26 “Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD. We bless you from the house of the LORD.” By reciting these words, the people were claiming their fulfillment of this prophecy.
* Psalm 118:9 “The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.”
  + Who are the builders? (the political leaders and the religious leaders … but the people themselves will soon reject him)
  + How will he become the chief cornerstone (not in this parade, but in his atoning death and powerful resurrection)

We cry, “Hosanna, save us!”. Jesus as “Christus Victor”: Christ wins a victory over the hostile powers that hold humanity in subjection. But we are often the very people who are holding ourselves and others in subjection. We are our own worst enemy, and the enemy of others.

Though we slay him, yet shall he save us.

He comes to save us from ourselves and to ourselves, to save others from ourselves and for others, to save us to put us in right relationship to God.

What freedom will he bring to you this week?