

Hosanna to the King | John 12:12–19 (ESV)

PALM SUNDAY · MARCH 29, 2026

HOSANNA TO THE KING

John 12:12–19

ONTARIO COMMUNITY CHURCH

Observation: What does the text say?

- **v.12:** The large crowd that had come! The people heard that **Jesus** was coming to **Jerusalem**.
- **v.13:** They took branches of *palm trees* and went out to meet him, crying out, “**Hosanna!** Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the **King of Israel!**”
- **vv.14–15:** **Jesus** found a young *donkey* and sat on it. “Fear not, daughter of **Zion**; behold, your **king** is coming, sitting on a *donkey’s colt!*” — **Zechariah 9:9**.
- **v.16:** His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when **Jesus** was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him.
- **vv.17–18:** The crowd came because they heard **Jesus** had called **Lazarus** out of the **tomb** and raised him from the dead. **Lazarus** is living proof of the resurrection to come.
- **v.19:** The **Pharisees** said, “Look, **the world** has gone after him.” They feared loss of power. It was *prophecy being fulfilled*.
- *Scriptures: John 12:12–19; John 11:43–44; Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:25–26; John 2:22*

Ontario Community Church: Encouraging, Equipping and Engaging lives for Christ.
John 6:47 (ESV) “Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life.”

Interpretation: What does it mean?

The people came to be saved like Lazarus

- The people wanted a sign, but also to be saved by **Christ**. “You saved him. Save us too.” Not only is this saving physical but spiritual; that is the beauty of salvation.
- *John 11:25–26; Psalm 118:25–26; Romans 10:13*

Those in power feared the movement of God

- The **Pharisees** did not deny the miracle. They feared the consequences. They made plans to kill **Lazarus** too (John 12:10–11). They wanted to destroy the **evidence** rather than submit to the **King**. God’s movement cannot be managed.
- *John 11:47–48; John 12:10–11, 19; Acts 4:16–17*

God works in ways we may not understand until later

- The disciples needed **Easter** to understand **Palm Sunday**. They, just like us, need the full Gospel story.
 - **Palm Sunday** only makes full sense in the light of **Easter**.
 - *John 12:16; John 2:22; Luke 24:27, 44–45*
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Application: How should we live?

Save Us: Cry out to the King

- **Hosanna** began as a desperate prayer: “*Save us, we pray.*” We speak to the same **Christ** that the crowd spoke to. **Jesus** saves.
- *Psalm 118:25; Romans 10:9–13; John 11:25–26*

We Pray: Worship the King who has come

- The crowd worshiped the **King** in a public assembly. May we be encouraged to worship **Christ** together.
- *Rev 4:8; Colossians 3:17; Romans 12:1; Psalm 141:2*

We Proclaim: Tell the world He is here

- The crowd came because someone told them what **Jesus** did for **Lazarus**. Your story is the *palm branch* you lay before Him.
 - The **Pharisees** said, “*The world has gone after him.*” That is the mission.
 - *John 12:17–18; Acts 4:20; Matthew 28:19–20*
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