Matthew's purpose in telling this story about Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem seems to present Jesus as the leader who means to conquer Jerusalem by means of peace and utter humility.

The world, Matthew infers, can only be transformed into the God's dwelling place by means of peace and humility.

Conquering kings ride horses. Kings seeking peace humbly ride donkeys.

So, I suspect that all of this is may very well be a message for us in this country right now as we face off with people like Presidents Bashar Al Assad of Syria and Vladimir Putin of Russia.

As we join in this procession, and this Holy Week, we might be asking ourselves what God is calling us to as we journey into this moment in our country’s history and our world’s history ...