

Bouquet Caboodle



Highland Lectionary Series

March 29, 2026

“V” is for Glory

Isaiah 50:4-9; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11;
Matthew 21:1-11

Today’s Big Idea

The Lectionary thread shows us that true glory is found in the emptying of all the lesser things so that the love of God might distill in us and fill our being.

The Great Kenotic Hymn and Palm Sunday

Kenosis means emptying: **Philippians 2:5-11**

From the heights of Godhead to the depths of the humiliation of the crucifixion

To glorious exaltation completes the “V”

Palm Sunday: an inverted “V”?

Notice the descent: (**Matthew 21:1**); notice “need: (**Matt 21:3**)

Notice the donkey: **Zechariah 9:9**; notice “borrowed”

Notice “who is this?”: (**Matt 21:10**); notice “Nazareth (**Matt 21:11**, also see **John 1:46**)

Notice his true fans are children: **Matt 21:15-16**

Have This Mind in You: The Truth about Glory

The emptying **IS** the glory: we do not humble ourselves in order to get to glory

The awards ceremony versus the act that merits the reward

The texts that make us think so: will be exalted, and he will lift you up: **Matthew 23:12**; **James 4:10**

The texts that clarify: ...the greatest is the servant, John the Baptist: **Matthew 11:11**; **20:25-27**

Jesus says: I am gentle and humble of heart: **Matthew 11:29**

Have This Mind in You: The Truth about Emptying

The key to emptying is to be full of the right thing: the “V” begins at the top

Jesus washing the feet, knowing three things, laid aside His garments: **John 13:3**, **Phil 2:6**

Emptying is releasing all that can be shaken: *the lesser things*: **Hebrews 12:27-28**

(Jesus doesn’t empty equality with God, only the “rights and privileges” that ordinarily come with it)

Fickle crowd praise, reputation, influence, power, rights, judgment, treasure, comforts

This crystallizes and strengthens the real that remains, i.e. vindication: **Isaiah 50:7-9**, **Psalm 31:9-16**

One thing matters and that shall not be taken away from her: **Luke 10:42**

The love of God: God’s love for us, our love for God, God’s love thru us for the world: **1 Cor 13:13**

The Key Excerpts for This Week's Thematic Thread

<i>Isaiah 50:4-9</i>	<i>Psalms 31:9-16</i>	<i>Philippians 2:5-11</i>	<i>Matthew 21:1-11</i>
<p>4 The Lord God has given me a trained tongue, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he awakens, awakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. 5 The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I did not turn backward. 6 I gave my back to those who struck me and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. 7 The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; 8 he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand in court together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. 9 It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.</p>	<p>Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am in distress; my eye wastes away from grief, my soul and body also. 10 For my life is spent with sorrow and my years with sighing; my strength fails because of my misery, and my bones waste away. 11 I am the scorn of all my adversaries, a horror to my neighbors, an object of dread to my acquaintances; those who see me in the street flee from me. 12 I have passed out of mind like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel. 13 For I hear the whispering of many—terror all around!—as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life. 14 But I trust in you, O Lord; I say, “You are my God.” 15 My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors. 16 Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.</p>	<p>5 Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, 8 he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, 10 so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.</p>	<p>21 When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. 3 If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” 4 This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:</p> <p>5 “Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”</p> <p>6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; 7 they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. 8 A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!”</p> <p>10 When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” 11 The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”</p>

Next Week's Readings: What thread do you discern?

April 5, 2026 - Easter Sunday - Jeremiah 31:1-6; Psalm 118: 1-2,14-24; Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18