Covenant: What happens when you assume?
Mark 11:1-11

What happens when we assume?
You may have heard the phrase, “When you assume you make an ass of u and me.” We all make assumptions in life; sometimes, many a day. We all know of the dangers of assuming, yet still we fall into the assumption trap, often, which leads to unnecessary suffering.

Our gospel reading this morning, invites us to reflect on assumptions. We have always thought about this wonderful passage of the triumphal entrance as a passage that demonstrates the love of the people for Jesus. We see it even as a passage of celebration and we forget the behind the scene of this passage. Why? Because we assume!

We assume that Jesus requested a donkey to do something that the disciples clearly understood.

We assume that Jesus entered into Jerusalem and all the people were excited and joyful about his presence, when the reality is that there were many of them, who were completely disappointed with his presence in the city.

We assume that Jesus did this as an act of recognition for who he was, when we truly need to be reminded that Jesus was a humble servant who was not looking for personal and human recognition.

Jesus came proclaiming, promising that the kingdom of God was near, and everyone assumed they knew what that meant. All were eager to make sure their expectations about this new covenant were met, beginning with the crowds.

The Romans assumed Christ was a revolutionary, and he would stir up people towards riots and revolution. Romans were ready to ensure and maintain the Pax Romana, no matter the cost.

The people on the streets assumed Jesus would affirm God’s covenant with Israel by ushering

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in a new earthly Davidic kingdom, the return of a glorious time in the life of Israel.

When we assume things, we create expectations, and these expectations become frustrations if they are not fulfilled. Does this sound like something that you have experienced in your life? You assume something, and when you realize it is not the way that you thought, creates frustration in your life?

While the Romans assumed Christ might stir up another revolution, and the Jewish people on the streets assumed Jesus would affirm God’s covenant with them by reestablishing the earthly kingdom...Jesus introduced another way, another kingdom, a deeper covenant that found its strength in simplicity, its wealth through generosity, its leadership through service, its power through sacrifice. No one's blood runs in the streets except his own. And Yes! Jesus began a revolution! Jesus began a revolution of grace, justice, forgiveness, and hope.

May this Holy Week be a real experience for you, knowing that the story does not end here...the ending of the story is... to be continued! Amen.

Pastor Miguel's Schedule for the week and upcoming events

The week at a glance:

Monday, March 26:
◆ Linda in the office
◆ P. Miguel’s family day

Tuesday, March 27:
◆ 9:00 am. daily devotions
◆ P. Miguel, in DC meeting at Wesley T. Seminary

Wednesday, March 28:
◆ 9:00 am. daily devotions
◆ P. Miguel in the office.

Thursday, March 29:
◆ 9:00 am. daily devotions
◆ P. Miguel in the office.
◆ Printing Day
◆ 7:00 pm. Maundy Service with Holy Communion & Foot Washing.

Friday, March 30:
◆ 9:00 am. daily devotions
◆ P. Miguel in the office
◆ Praying together at noon.
◆ 6:00 pm. Community Good Friday Worship Service at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church. 700 E. Market St. York

Saturday, March 31:
◆ Men’s Lenten Breakfast @ Zion UMC.
◆ Insanity [Postponed]

Easter Sunday, April 1:
◆ 7:30 am. Sunrise Service
◆ 8:30 am. Easter Breakfast
◆ 10:30 am. Easter Celebration Worship Service with Holy Communion.

Holy Week Schedule

Thursday, March 29
7:00 pm. Maundy Thursday Worship Service

Friday, March 30
6:00 pm. Community Good Friday Service at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church. 700 E. Market St. York

Sunday, April 1
7:30 am. Sunrise Service
8:30 am. Easter Breakfast
10:30 am. Easter Celebration

VISITATION
P. Miguel is visiting shut-ins and doing hospital visits most of the time in the mornings, but if there is a need of visitation, please let the secretary or pastor know. Blessings $><$>

Holy Humor:

What happened on Palm Sunday?

a. Jesus visited a town called “Palms”
b. Jesus is arrested
c. The triumphal entry into Jerusalem
d. It was the Festival of Lights

Previous answer from March 12-19, 2018: Moses’ brother Aaron spoke for him in front of Pharaoh because Moses had a lack of eloquence. See Exodus 4:10-17