My friends we are certainly having a different Palm Sunday today. We normally would be walking around the beautiful grounds of St. David’s waving are palm branches and shouting our Hosannas. Today we sit in our homes and worship virtually. And yet, the story continues doesn’t it? Jesus enters Jerusalem from wherever we are and rides upon the donkey while people along the road throw palm branches onto his path. Those people in Jerusalem share something with us and it is called hope …and in it is mixed the knowledge that this humble man Jesus, is going to a fate he knows only too well and a fate he has been trying to tell his disciples about but they do not want to hear it. Simultaneously the people are recognizing the Glory of God in their midst. Now we know how the story goes, we hear if every year. But I have to think that this year the word hope is heard in a different way then it was last year and probably in all of your previous years. What does it mean for us to have hope as Christians? It doesn’t mean that Christ won’t be crucified. We will hear at the end of the passion play that that does indeed still happen. But there is still a hope that is present that seems to exceed what is apparent in the scene described. It is a hope in something we can’t yet see fully. We put our hope in all kinds of things, at least I know I do. I have two children and I have high hopes for them, always have and always will. I have hopes for the world and how we treat one another as the human species. Some of you might have hopes for a sports team that seem to exceed what seems feasible and yet the hope remains. If any of you are Cubs fans you knew what it meant to live in hope for a World Series. Sometimes our hopes come true in ways we don’t expect…I never expected to be working in a hospital during a pandemic and I never expected to use my limited guitar skills to play on FB live for you. But I have hoped and prayed that I would be a chaplain and priest for over a decade, not knowing that would mean being with the people of St. David’s through such a difficult time as this when so many things are beyond our control. Jesus comes to Jerusalem today, not as a glorious king/conquerer, but he comes all the same in defiance to the worlds expectations and desires. The world thought it wanted power, wealth, at all costs. But I think it’s becoming apparent that what we really want is the basics. We want relationship with one another, to care for one another and to love one another and our God. We want leaders who care for us, not try to divide us. We are better when we can be together, it’s easier to see Jesus in one another when we can see one another in the flesh. Until that time comes, we have a history together and with the Jesus who rides into Jerusalem today. That history, that relationship binds us together as a community of Christ believers who most definitely have hope yes, but also the belief and the faith that there is something far better then anything we can know or believe here on earth. That this humble servant, Jesus Christ comes to turn over the tables of our feable hopes and show us something far better then we can know for ourselves. For this we can truly glorify God and sing hosannas today and every day.