

Sermon, Father William J. Albinger

April 5, 2009

Palm Sunday B 2009

Sometimes words fail us. They are just inadequate to express our thoughts and feelings. After hearing the Passion and that great African American Spiritual, “*Were you there?*”, this is one of those times. So instead, as we enter Holy Week, I would remind you that this really happened. A real human being named Jesus of Nazareth rode a colt into Jerusalem from the East leading a peasant procession to bring the Kingdom of God into the world. From the West a real human being named Pontius Pilate, Governor of Augustus Caesar, led an Imperial Procession into Jerusalem to maintain the oppressive power and privilege of the Roman Empire.

Our liturgy today prepares us for the events that happened one week long ago when the Kingdom of God encountered the Empire of Caesar. I would urge you to observe Holy Week to prepare for Easter. We still face the choice between living the way our Creator would have us do or the way the Caesars of this world would have us live. Our Palm Sunday liturgy reminds us that today **we** are the body of Christ in the world today. We are an Easter people still living in a Good Friday world.

Amen.