A Not-so-Grand Entrance, Luke 4.14-21

Epiphany 3C, Jan 23, 2022

Theme: Rejection

When something we don’t like comes up, what is our reaction?

Is it revulsion?

Is it disgust?

Is it rejection?

Is it violence?

Well, Jesus experienced/suffered all those reactions and more when he delivered his good news of love, compassion, and peace. Interesting, isn’t it? The only time he showed extreme action was when he drove the dishonest money changers from the temple – and even then, no one got hurt.

The rest of the time, Jesus just taught and healed people. Once, he even fed them.

Yet….

Even in his own hometown – he was rejected. They even tried to push him off a cliff.

What would have happened if those of his hometown had tried to grasp the true meaning of his message? Would they had been hurt? Was there a part of his message in anyway painful to them?

It was the fear of change which drove the crowds to violently reject Jesus. What’s even stranger is that the same revulsion, disgust, rejection, and violence is still going on today. We see it on the world stage. We see it dividing us in our towns, and we see it in our churches.

Does it make any sense?

I don’t think so.

Come worship with us in person at 10:30 AM as we will be meditating on how we are going to respond to Jesus’ challenge (clue: What am I writing about? Read the text). The service will also be streamed live on the internet -- (<https://fccmaryville.com>) or on the church’s Facebook page. If you miss the live stream, a recorded session is also available to view at your convenience.