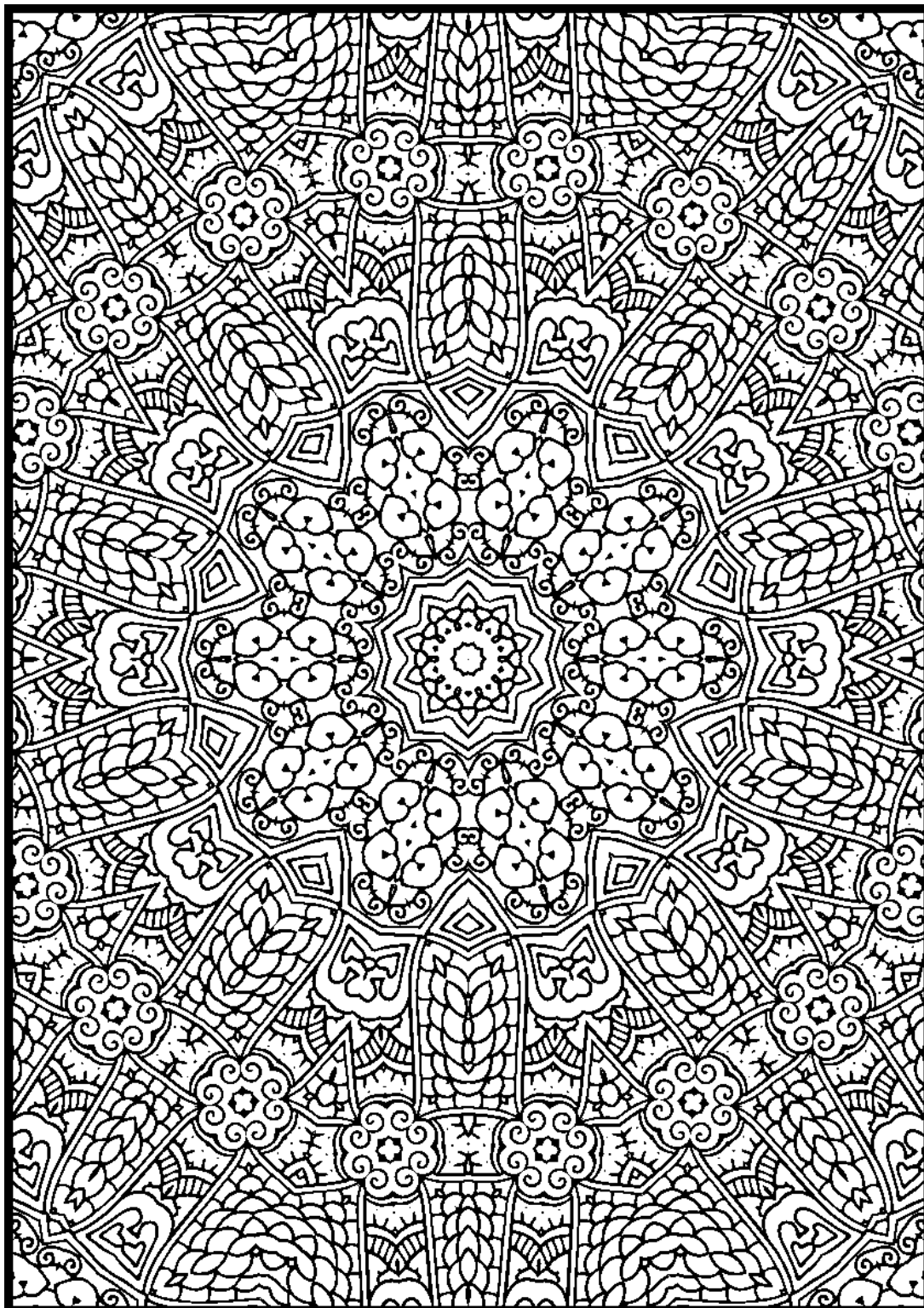


Lent 6



**Sunday, March 28, 2021**

**John 12: 12 – 16 (New International Version)**

The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Blessed is the king of Israel!"

Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written:

"Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey's colt."

At first his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that these things had been done to him.

From Jan Richardson, *Circle of Grace*

Blessing of Palms

This blessing  
can be heard coming  
from a long way off.

This blessing  
is making  
its steady way  
up the road  
toward you.

This blessing  
blooms in the throats  
of women,  
springs from the hearts  
of men,  
tumbles out of the mouths  
of children.

This blessing  
is stitched into  
the seams  
of the cloaks  
that line the road,  
etched into  
the branches  
that trace the path

echoes in  
the breathing  
of the willing colt  
the click  
of the donkey's hoof  
against the stones.

Something is rising  
beneath this blessing.  
Something will try  
to drown it out.

But this blessing  
cannot be turned back,  
cannot be made  
to still its voice,  
cannot cease  
to sing its praise  
of the One who comes  
along the way  
it makes.