There are two meditations I would encourage you to read or see this Holy Week.  The first is the following homily from St. Andrew of Crete from the Office of Readings of the Liturgy of the Hours for today Palm Sunday.  The second is a series of Holy Week Homilies from our own Father Raymond de Souza.  If the whole week is as good as the first one you will benefit spiritually by attending to Father Raymond's reflections .... just five or six minutes of your time.  
[https://fatherdesouza.com/videos](http://email-mg.flocknote.com/c/eJwljcsKgzAURL_GLOXevF1kUaT-R8zD2KopJrbQr69SmNWc4Yw3ChlVnMyGAgXgIAEpRdZiq3XHpZAg-vsA2MuGQ1yye265htbllSSD3CJHrZgYnddK-q4bvY1s1JFqrgVZTKr1VRp2a-hwJtqawu5DycfXXpKze88-5EJ284cl2c_2SMeUQjkvp9XOy7X8AZo3M9k" \t "_blank)

*Palm Sunday marks the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.  But he entered in humility, not in pomp and power.  To humble ourselves and make our souls the garments that we spread before him, this is the greeting he desires says St. Andrew of Crete, one of the Early Church Fathers.*

Let us go together to meet Christ on the Mount of Olives. Today he returns from Bethany and proceeds of his own free will toward his holy and blessed passion, to consummate the mystery of our salvation.

He who came down from heaven to raise us from the depths of sin, to raise us with himself, we are told in Scripture, above every sovereignty, authority and power, and every other name that can be named, now comes of his own free will to make his journey to Jerusalem. He comes without pomp or ostentation. As the psalmist says: *He will not dispute or raise his voice to make it heard in the streets*. He will be meek and humble, and he will make his entry in simplicity.

Greet the Humble King with Humility

Let us run to accompany him as he hastens toward his passion, and imitate those who met him then, not by covering his path with garments, olive branches or palms, but by doing all we can to prostrate ourselves before him by being humble and by trying to live as he would wish. Then we shall be able to receive the Word at his coming, and God, whom no limits can contain, will be within us.

In his humility Christ entered the dark regions of our fallen world and he is glad that he became so humble for our sake, glad that he came and lived among us and shared in our nature in order to raise us up again to himself. And even though we are told that he has now ascended above the highest heavens – the proof, surely, of his power and godhead – his love for man will never rest until he has raised our earthbound nature from glory to glory, and made it one with his own in heaven.

So let us spread before his feet, not garments or soulless olive branches, which delight the eye for a few hours and then wither, but ourselves, clothed in his grace, or rather, clothed completely in him.

Let our Humble Souls take the place of Palm Branches

We who have been baptized into Christ must ourselves be the garments that we spread before him. Now that the crimson stains of our sins have been washed away in the saving waters of baptism and we have become white as pure wool, let us present the conqueror of death, not with mere branches of palms but with the real rewards of his victory.

Let our souls take the place of the welcoming branches as we join today in the children’s holy song: *Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Blessed is the king of Israel.*

St. Andrew of Crete

St. Andrew of Crete (c. 660-740) was born around 660 AD in Damascus and eventually entered monastic life at Mar Saba. He later served at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem, and was ordained a deacon at the great cathedral of Constantinople and mother Church of Eastern Christendom, Hagia Sophia, around 685.

Always exhibiting great pastoral solicitude for orphans, widows, and the aged, Saint Andrew spent his last days as Archbishop of Gortyna on Crete, a position to which he was elevated in 692. Attributed by many with the invention of the canon as a style of religious writing, his works display not only great rhetorical skill, but an incomparable depth of theological understanding. He is considered one of the great spiritual writers on the theme of repentance, and his Great Canon, prayed during Lent in the Eastern Churches of Byzantine tradition, stands as a great testimony to man’s repentant cry to God, our merciful Father.

Saint Andrew of Crete is numbered among those great Christian writers known as the [Early Church Fathers or “Fathers of the Church](https://www.crossroadsinitiative.com/media/articles/early-church-fathers-overview-snapshot-of-the-fathers-of-the-church/).”