As we celebrate Palm Sunday the cries of the people of Ukraine are mingled with hosannas being sung around the world. Lent 2022 has brought before us the horror of war, the plight of refugees and the feelings of helplessness in the face of unimaginable suffering. We are bound by the bonds of love with Ursuline Sisters in Ukraine who face daily the horror of war. And yet, in the midst of the unimaginable we have seen the resilience of people - light shining in the darkness.

Today we become part of the crowd singing our hosannas and waving palm branches. By the end of the week we will be part of the crowd shouting “crucify him.” How do we hold these two realities?

We look at Jesus and see light shining through the darkness. He maintains his truth even as he stands alone. He refuses to give into unjust accusations but lets the light of God within shine forth. This position of Jesus is a sign of hope for victims of war, for refugees, for the poor and for all of us.

The actions of Jesus this holiest of weeks, remind us that there are more things in life than the hosannas of the crowd. It is the truth of God, the heart of God that will light our way. We are assured that no matter what we face the light of Christ within us will be enough for us.

“Always let your recourse be together at the feet of Jesus Christ... He will enlighten you and teach you what you have to do.”

St. Angela, Last Legacy

—Jane Finnerty, OSU
Mount Vernon, NY