

Luke 19:28-40

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it."

Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

Surely God is our salvation

WE WILL TRUST AND NOT BE AFRAID

⁴¹As he came near and saw the city, he wept over it, ⁴²saying, "If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes.

Luke 19

I know that I have life
only insofar as I have love.

I have no love
except it come from Thee.

Help me, please, to carry
this candle against the wind.

Wendell Berry

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace to all on whom God’s favor rests.”

Anybody know who spoke those words, or who, perhaps, sang them?

In Luke’s telling of the BIRTH of Jesus, this is what the great company of the heavenly host proclaimed to the shepherds watching their flocks by night.

Can you hear an echo of this in our text today? “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in highest heaven.”

Peace in heaven. Peace on earth. Glory and Blessing all around. Not a bad way to summarize the hope and joy of the Gospel and the person and mission of Jesus. Today all around the world, the church is singing these words, everyone who names the name of Christ Jesus is praying these words. Peace in heaven. Peace on earth. Glory and Blessing all around.

If we were to be silent----the stones, the whole God-breathed creation, would sing these words. This moment in our text, when Jesus is answering the Pharisees, “the stones would shout out!” I daresay might be the most unabashedly joyous moment in Jesus’ life. I cannot think of another moment when he seems so over the moon with happiness.

Then----a very sudden and jarring turn in the story line.

If we were to keep reading today’s text we would see that as the parade is winding down, Jesus, weeping, laments for Jerusalem and maybe for humanity, “If only you had known the way that leads to peace.”

Back in those days, and in the context of Roman domination, the way that leads to “peace” and I use the quotes intentionally here, was unquestionably the sword. Do what Caesar says or you will be killed.

Jesus, his heart alive with joy in verse 40, becomes utterly bereft in verse 41. Having very intentionally, by riding on a donkey, made of himself a symbol of humility and gentleness, the things that truly make for peace, in the truest sense of that word, having done that for all to see, by the time he reaches the city he is weeping. One can surmise that by the time the parade is winding up, he is clear that the crowds shouting blessings of peace and glory in the heavens are indeed very far from understanding the things that make for peace.

The entire week ahead in Jerusalem will be about demonstrating the things that make for peace.

That multitude of palm waving disciples were saying all the right things, but they had yet to fully understand. Jesus, in the week ahead, will give his utmost to help them understand.

21 centuries later then----do WE who name the name of Jesus and sing his praises fully understand? You know, I think we understand BETTER than our palm waving forbears in the faith. We have the benefit of that final week of his life that they did not have. But do we FULLY understand?

I think we'd all have to confess that we don't. Besides the gracious impulses of humility and gentleness in us, fruits of the Spirit that are evidence of Christ's presence in us and with us, we also carry greed, we also carry fear, we also carry resentments, we also carry shame, we also carry anger, we also carry... what else?

In a moment of silence here, can you give a name to an interior something which is contrary to peace, which hinders or opposes the light of Christ, the peace of Christ, from fully shining through you?

Take your palm now... ..and gently wave it. And, as we prayerfully consider what is NOT of Christ's peace in our hearts today, let's quietly pray the word Hosanna--which means save us.

Show us yet again, Lord Jesus, and open our hearts, to the things that make for peace.

Amen

...GLORY IN HIGHEST HEAVEN

NORTH OAK CHRISTIAN CHURCH-DISCIPLS OF CHRIST

April 14, 2019 PALM SUNDAY

In Jesus' Name, Greetings!

Music for Gathering

Lighting of the Candles

"I am the light of the world." John 8

All glory laud and honor to you Redeemer King!

TO WHOM THE LIPS OF CHILDREN MADE SWEET HOSANNAS RING!

You are a child of Israel, Great David's greater son

YOU RIDE IN LOWLY TRIUMPH, MESSIAH, BLESSED ONE!

Hosanna Loud Hosanna! (insert)

Sharing Christ's Peace

"Hosanna Gathering" NOCC Choir

The Morning Prayer and Musical Response

Silence

"What God has breathed on will never die." St. Hildegarde

Children's Circle

All children thru 5th grade are welcome to come forward. A small outreach offering will be collected for our money jar. Following this time of sharing and prayer, children may attend their very own

"Worship and Wonder" time together in our classroom annex. Child care is offered for infants and toddlers but they are also welcome in the sanctuary.

Prayer for Illumination

Restore to us the joy of Your salvation

AND SUSTAIN IN US A WILLING SPIRIT. AMEN.

THE GOSPEL LUKE 19: 28-40

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end, amen amen.

The Meditation "Show Us Yet Again" Rev. Rob Carr

**Lord God, mercy is in your hands, pour us a little. And tenderness too. Our need is great.
Beauty walks so freely and with such gentleness. When we first found you we were filled with light.**

**Now the darkness grows, and it is filled with crooked things, bitter and weak,
each one bearing our names.**

Silent and spoken personal prayers of thanksgiving confession, intercession

"Steal Away" NOCC Jubilation Ringers

The Offering

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below

Praise God above ye heavenly host, Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world.
As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.

Jesus Remember Me 3X

Welcome to the Table

The cadences of suffering love sound in the church this week

WOUNDED FOR OUR TRANSGRESSIONS

BRUISED FOR OUR INIQUITIES

HEALED BY HIS STRIPES

You are the one who has spared, who has pitied

WHO HAS DRAWN THE VIOLENCE SHORT IN ORDER TO SAVE

The Words of Institution

Hold your church this week

IN THE UNBEARABLE MYSTERY OF YOUR SELF-GIVING

Move us from the grip of deathly darkness

MOVE US BY YOUR INNOCENCE, MOVE US BY YOUR WEAKNESS, MOVE US BY YOUR PASSION

The Communion Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever, amen.

Following the Lord's Prayer, please come forward by rows to receive the loaf and the cup.

The cup is non-alcoholic by choice of the congregation

Gluten free crackers are available on the table for those who prefer this option

Children also celebrate communion weekly as part of "Worship and Wonder"

699 Rejoice the Lord is King

By your Spirit, Redeeming God

MAKE US ONE WITH CHRIST, ONE WITH EACH OTHER,

AND ONE IN MINISTRY TO ALL THE WORLD. AMEN.

TO OUR GUESTS-----WELCOME!

SHAPED BY GOD'S WORD AND GRACED AT CHRIST'S TABLE

WE WALK HUMBLY, LOVE DEEPLY, LIVE SIMPLY, AND SERVE JOYFULLY

We are delighted to include you today. Your presence and participation is a gift to us all. We hope you experience among us the warm spirit of our family of faith and the gracious touch of Christ upon your life. Refreshments and welcoming conversation are available after worship in the Community Room just down the hall. More information about NOCC and the Disciples of Christ is available via

Facebook and these websites

www.nocckc.org www.kcdisciples.org www.disciples.org

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

THIS WEEK

TODAY--REZOUND IN CONCERT 3PM REFRESHMENTS TO FOLLOW

Monday 6PM Troop 900
Tuesday 945AM Men's Bible Group
Tuesday 6PM Pack 900
Tuesday 7PM Women's Bible Group
Wednesday 7PM Music Ministry
Thursday 7PM Holy Thursday Communion (Child Care)
Friday 7PM Good Friday Observance (Child Care)
Saturday 9AM Centering Prayer

EASTER SUNDAY

Labyrinth open for walking 630-8AM
Worship on the labyrinth 815AM Bring your chair
Breakfast provided by Community Life Ministry Team 9AM
HE IS RISEN!! 1015AM
EGG HUNT FOLLOWS WORSHIP

UPCOMING

Blessing of the Animals Follows Worship April 28

YOU, ME AND THE ENNEAGRAM MAY 11, 16, 23 SIGN UP IN ENTRYWAY

GRADUATION SUNDAY MAY 19

JULY 22-23 DISCIPLES GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN DES MOINES

We are seeking an NOCC person to serve as a liaison between the church and our Scout Troop and Pack. This person would offer occasional presence at their meetings and extend NOCC hospitality to our Scout friends to assure a healthy working relationship. Contact Rob or Elzene if interested.

