

**THE KING IS COMING**  
**Luke 19:28-40**

**I. ENJOY THE RIDE**

- A. A Roller Coaster Ride.
  - 1. It would be so easy if things were simple.
  - 2. If life was clearly a matter of good and bad, if choices were simply marked right and wrong, we could always make the right choices.
- B. A Tale of Two Parades.
  - 1. There are two parades during Holy Week.
  - 2. Jesus was the center of attention in both parades, but the difference is devastating.
- C. The Palm Sunday Procession.
  - 1. When the journey is pleasant, enjoy the ride!
  - 2. Some days are like the Palm Sunday parade.

**II. ENDURE THE PAIN**

- A. Placed Before Pilate.
  - 1. By the end of the week, there was another parade.
  - 2. Jesus was arrested without charges, convicted in a prejudiced court, and sentenced to die a painful death.
- B. When the Road Gets Rough.
  - 1. It's not all palm branches and praises.
  - 2. Sometimes you're carrying the cross, the crowd is shouting, and every step is an effort.
- C. Your Problem Is Not the Problem.
  - 1. Pain isn't the enemy. Pain is part of life.
  - 2. Sin is the enemy.

**III. KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE PRIZE**

- A. Completing the Journey.
  - 1. Jesus was not distracted by the cheering crowd, and his feet were not stopped by the weight of the cross.
  - 2. He was a man on a mission.
- B. This Is for You.
  - 1. The via dolorosa is for us. The cross is for us.
  - 2. The empty tomb is for us and for all God's children.
  - 3. That's what makes the journey worthwhile.

**Prayer Concerns: Members** – Burney Biesel, Sarah Clark, Dolores Dedmon, **Kathryn Etheridge, Patty Gibson, Jim Green, Joe McDowell, Anne Miller, Violet Stout, Carol Webb ... Friends** – Dr. Robin Algee, Clara Garrett, Margaret Gauldin, Benette Hobday, Debra Holt, **Roy Johnson, Lawrence Lusk, Jimmy Patterson, Shirley Rice, David Smith, Alan Voss ...**

## LUKE 19:29-40

When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, saying, “Go into the village opposite, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat; untie it and bring it here. If any one asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ you shall say this, ‘The Lord has need of it.’” So those who were sent went away and found it as he had told them. And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, “Why are you untying the colt?” And they said, “The Lord has need of it.” And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their garments on the colt they set Jesus upon it. And as he rode along, they spread their garments on the road. As he was now drawing near, at the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works 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!” And some of the Pharisees in the multitude said to him, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples.” He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.”

## PASTORAL PRAYER

Gracious God, our Savior, we like to think that, if we had been there, we would have treated you with the respect you deserved: that we would have found majesty in lowliness, greatness in meekness, truth in service, and glory in sacrifice; that we would have recognized Jesus of Nazareth as the Christ of God; that, instead of a crucifixion, there would have been a coronation; and that the triumphal entry would not have been mocked by Good Friday. But deep down we know that the outcome would have been the same.

As we think of those who were there, we realize that we have walked in their shoes. Like Judas, we have put money ahead of loyalty to Christ. Like the disciples in Gethsemane, we have put physical comfort ahead of dedication to Christ. Like Peter in the courtyard, we have put self-interest ahead of devotion to Christ. And like the soldiers, we have put duty ahead of service to Christ.

Please forgive us, O God, for the part we played in deserting Jesus. Yet we are even more embarrassed by our absence from the company of those who have remained faithful to Christ. After Calvary, the disciples in the Garden died for the sake of their love and loyalty to Christ. So did Stephen. And Paul. We ask your forgiveness, dear Lord, for our failure to follow in their footsteps. We pray for courage that we might relieve Simon of the burden of having to bear the cross of Jesus alone. All this we pay in Jesus’ name, who taught us to pray ...

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## SERMON SCHEDULE

### In the Sanctuary:

April 4	<i>Hurry Sickness</i>	Mark 14:3-9
April 5	<i>Only a Friend Can Betray You</i>	Luke 22:14-23
April 6	<i>Good Friday Tenebrae Service</i>	7:00 p.m.
April 8	<i>Have You Seen the Lord?</i>	John 20:1-18
April 15	<i>Easter Reflections and Anthems</i>	10:40 a.m. only
April 22	<i>Surprising Encounters</i>	John 21:1-19
April 29	<i>Recognizing Our Redeemer</i>	John 10:22-30

### On the Radio (1450 AM):

April 8	<i>What Does It Mean?</i>	Mark 16:1-8
April 15	<i>The Ten Commandments: God First</i>	Exodus 20:1-7
April 22	<i>The Ten Commandments: Remember</i>	Exodus 20:8-12
April 29	<i>The Ten Commandments: Don’t Do That</i>	Exodus 20:13-17