



## WEEKLY STUDY

### ***The Last Days of Jesus - Week Six***

We took a step back in the story from Luke this week to set the stage for the last week of Jesus' life on earth. The story of Palm Sunday provides a strong juxtaposition to the events of Thursday and Friday of Holy Week. Jesus riding victoriously into Jerusalem on a donkey is an image that reveals so much about the heart of God. It's not what we'd expect from a hero, much less the Savior of the world. God's Way is very different from the ways of the world. And yet, we go from *Hosanna!* (Save us!) to *Crucify Him!* in the course of one week. It's quite a ride. We'll go on it together and then rally at the empty tomb next Sunday.

Please note our prayer focus for the week in the box below. Join us in seeing what God will do as we unite in prayer.

Peace of Christ,  
Pastor Mark Youngman

If you are studying with your Providence Small Group or Discipleship Group, you can share from your own daily reflections and consider the Group Discussion questions below. If you would like to get connected visit [prov.church/smallgroups](http://prov.church/smallgroups).

Prayer Focus:

- Pray for people passing by the church this week. May they notice the Easter signs and see them as their sign to come and worship with us. Pray for people who feel disconnected from God and the church. Pray that all of us would have hearts ready to receive Good News of salvation next weekend.
  - Pray for our worship leaders, team members and volunteers as they prepare the way for Jesus to be celebrated!
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## DAILY STUDY

### MONDAY: LUKE 19.28-40 (ESV)

And when he had said these things, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. <sup>29</sup> When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, <sup>30</sup> saying, “Go into the village in front of you, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. <sup>31</sup> If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ you shall say this: ‘The Lord has need of it.’” <sup>32</sup> So those who were sent went away and found it just as he had told them. <sup>33</sup> And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, “Why are you untying the colt?” <sup>34</sup> And they said, “The Lord has need of it.” <sup>35</sup> And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. <sup>36</sup> And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. <sup>37</sup> As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, <sup>38</sup> saying, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” <sup>39</sup> And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples.” <sup>40</sup> He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.”

- This was not a “shock and awe” victory parade. It was a slow steady procession up steep incline to Jerusalem. From the details given by Luke, we can tell that Jesus was clearly setting up a contrast between the victory he was announcing and the war-like expectations of the masses. When you look at the struggles in the world today, what kind of hero do you look for to save you?
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- **Prayer Prompt: He (God) disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him. (Colossians 2.15)**
- *God, I want to want your Way. Fill me with patience in my longing for your victory to be fully realized on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.*

### TUESDAY: LUKE 19.28-40 (ESV)

- The instructions from Jesus to the disciples is in keeping with the words of the prophets as they predicted the coming of the Messiah. Zechariah 14:4 anticipates that the Lord will stand on the Mount of Olives; in Genesis 49:10–11, Jacob blesses his son Judah with the image of a donkey tied to a branch. Images from this day were filled with significance...perhaps more than any other day. All signs were pointing to a different kind of King ushering in a different kind of Kingdom. What signs of Jesus’ Way have you missed in the moment but discovered later? Have you ever met Jesus in a crowd?
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- **Prayer Prompt: “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.” (Jeremiah 1.5)**
  - *Jesus, I love how intentional you were as you rode into Jerusalem and towards the cross. Every detail points to your sacrificial love for the whole world. I look to you as my one true King! Amen.*

### **WEDNESDAY: LUKE 19.28-40 (ESV)**

- Luke doesn't record the shouts of “Hosanna!” (Save us!) as we read in other gospels. We can hear that same sentiment in the quote of “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord”. They were quoting a common line of praise that is found in Psalm 118 (Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.). Only here, they replaced “one” with “king”. It's a subtle shift, but one that reveals that they were looking to this King for salvation. Imagine the scene. What would you shout out to Jesus if he were to pass by you today?
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- **Prayer Prompt: Shout for joy to God, all the earth;  
<sup>2</sup> sing the glory of his name;  
give to him glorious praise! (Psalm 66.1-2)**
- *God, you have brought salvation to my town, my street, my home. Blessed is the King who you have sent to reign over my life. Amen.*

### **THURSDAY: LUKE 19.28-40 (ESV)**

- The shouts from the crowd on Palm Sunday seem to resonate throughout holy week. They said to Jesus, “Peace in Heaven and glory in the highest!” Thursday and Friday of Holy Week were anything but peaceful. But the longing of Sunday's crowd must have been on Jesus' mind when he faced his betrayer and was arrested. His submission to arrest mirrored the humility of a King on a donkey several days before. The way of peace is not always easy. How do you respond to the humility of Jesus, the King of Kings?
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- **Prayer Prompt: Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, <sup>7</sup> but emptied himself (Philippians 2.5-7)**
- *God, I imagine myself at the passover table with the disciples. Come and show me the way of peace that surpasses my understanding. Amen.*

**FRIDAY: LUKE 19.28-40 (ESV)**

- “Teacher, order your disciples to stop!” the Pharisees cried out. They were thrown by the scene in which Jesus was being welcomed like a victorious warrior...only he rode on a donkey instead of a great horse. They said with their mouths that only Yahweh could save, but in their hearts, they were looking for a mighty warrior king. Jesus could have stopped the crowd, but it wouldn’t have stopped his mission. The purpose of God will find a way even in a world that isn’t ready for it. Can you imagine what it would look, sound, and feel like if the rocks themselves had to cry out in our stead?

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- **Prayer Prompt: For the stone will cry out from the wall, and the beam from the woodwork respond. (Habakkuk 2.11)**
- *God, on this Good Friday, I quiet myself in the face of death, and commit to join the cries of the whole earth for your salvation. Amen.*

**SATURDAY: LUKE 19.28-40 (ESV)**

- Today is a day for quiet. The earth is still. The cross is empty, but the whole earth seems to be waiting for what is to come. Come Lord Jesus. In the space below, write about how you experience this day before Easter.

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- **Prayer Prompt: For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. (Romans 8.22)**
- *God, the longing of the whole earth is deeply felt today. Sit with those of us who really need to know Easter resurrection. Sit with us through this day of waiting. Amen.*

## GROUP DISCUSSION

Read Luke 19.28-40 aloud.

Pastor Jacob shared study results that laid out these different reasons people shout:

1. Great Pain
2. Great Anger
3. Great Fear
4. Great Joy

- Can you think of times when you might have shouted for each of these reasons?
  
- What have you been shouting at Jesus lately?