



PALM SUNDAY

April 5 The time of God's coming to you

Passage: Luke 19:28-44 New International Version (NIV)

28 After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. **29** As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, **30** “Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. **31** If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ say, ‘The Lord needs it.’”

32 Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. **33** As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?”

34 They replied, “The Lord needs it.”

35 They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. **36** As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road.

37 When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:

38 “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!”
“Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”

39 Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!”

40 “I tell you,” he replied, “if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.”

41 As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it **42** and said, “If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes. **43** The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side. **44** They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God’s coming to you.”

Discussion Questions

1. What about this time of the COVID-19 pandemic that gives you the most anxiety? How does these anxieties rob you of your peace?

2. In John 14:27 Jesus said “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” Contrast how the peace that Jesus offers you differ from the peace that the world gives?
3. How does the true peace that Jesus offers speaks into the circumstances of what we face today?
4. In today’s passage, we read that Jerusalem missed the opportunity to receive the true lasting peace that Jesus offers because they did not recognize that they were at the “time of God’s coming” to them. Are there missed opportunities in your life because you did not recognize God’s presence in those time? What opportunities is God giving you today? ... Perhaps it is the opportunity to receive the peace that Jesus offers by receiving the forgiveness of your sins, and an eternal life with God by accepting him as your Lord and saviour. Perhaps it is the opportunity to speak the gospel into someone’s life. Perhaps it is to live out the gospel by loving and caring for our neighbours.