

Group Bible Study/Discussion:

1. Read Luke 19:28-48 & Luke 20:1-8. What questions immediately come to mind? Are you so familiar with these texts that you have a hard time hearing them anew?
2. What's the significance of the unridden colt? (see Zech 9:9-10) Why is this important in light of the previous parable (19:11-27) & what is about to happen?
3. Why/How do they praise Jesus? Verse 38 is from Psalm 118:26. What are the implications of this in Jesus' mission in Jerusalem & the prophecy of Zechariah?
4. Describe the various reactions people have when they encounter Jesus in this context? How do you explain the differences in reaction? Does that seem similar to how people you know react to Jesus? If it's different, please explain.
5. The Pharisees tell Jesus to rebuke his disciples. Why? Jesus does not comply. Explain his reasoning. What do you think is the significance of this interaction?
6. What would happen if the disciples did stop? What does this say about creation's response to the truth & the Pharisees rejection? Read Ps 19:1-4 What do you see here?
7. What precisely have the people of Jerusalem (& by extension all of us) missed? Why are the consequences of that failure so dire? What is the only cure?
8. Luke says he wrote his gospel so his readers could be certain about what they had been taught (Lk 1:4). What kind of certainty can you glean from this passage?
9. Jesus foretells the complete destruction of the Temple & the sacking of Jerusalem by Rome. This happens about 40 years after this event. Why do you think Luke includes it here when the other gospel writers don't? How do you feel about this foreknowledge of Jesus? Do you believe he should have done something to prevent the slaughter he knows is coming? Why/Why not?
10. It is important to remember that within a week these same crowds will be calling for Jesus' crucifixion & mocking him as he dies. What does that say about human hearts & the untrustworthiness of human emotional adulation & praise? To what does Jesus call us that is deeper than emotional excitement?
11. How do you experience the tension between rejoicing in your salvation vs. compassion for the lost? Can your praise be used as an avenue for witness? Do we live out an urgency for the lost that live in our neighborhood or in our own families? Why or why not?

All songs & music in worship used under the licensing agreement of CCL Licence 384660

Living Water Fellowship

PALM SUNDAY

13th April 2025

COME TO JESUS

GATHERING SONG: Hosanna (*Hillsong*)

RESPONSIVE PSALM (*Psalm 118 adapted verses*)

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;

His love endures forever.

This is the day the Lord has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

From the house of the Lord we bless you!

The Lord is God and he has made his light shine upon us.

With boughs in hand, join in the festive procession to the altar.

You are my God, and I will give you thanks!

You are my God, and I will exalt you!

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever!

WELCOME & PRAYER OF THE DAY:

GROW IN HIS GRACE

BIBLE READING: Luke 19:28-48

²⁸ After telling this story, Jesus went on toward Jerusalem, walking ahead of his disciples.

²⁹ As he came to the towns of Bethphage & Bethany on the Mount of Olives, he sent two disciples ahead. ³⁰ "Go into that village over there," he told them. "As you enter it, you will see a young donkey tied there that no one has ever ridden. Untie it & bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks, 'Why are you untying that colt?' just say, 'The Lord needs it.'"

³² So they went & found the colt, just as Jesus had said. ³³ Sure enough, as they were untying it, the owners asked them, "Why are you untying that colt?" ³⁴ The disciples simply replied, "The Lord needs it." ³⁵ So they brought the colt to Jesus & threw their garments over it for him to ride on.

³⁶ As he rode along, the crowds spread out their garments on the road ahead of him.

³⁷ When he reached the place where the road started down the Mount of Olives, all of his followers began to shout & sing as they walked along, praising God for all the wonderful miracles they had seen.

³⁸ "Blessings on the King who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven, & glory in highest heaven!"

³⁹ But some of the Pharisees among the crowd said, "Teacher, rebuke your followers for saying things like that!" ⁴⁰ Jesus replied, "If they kept quiet, the stones along the road would burst into cheers!"

⁴¹ But as he came closer to Jerusalem & saw the city ahead, he began to weep. ⁴² "How I wish today that you of all people would understand the way to peace. But now it is too late, & peace is hidden from your eyes. ⁴³ Before long your enemies will build ramparts against your walls & encircle you & close in on you from every side. ⁴⁴ They will crush you into the ground, & your children with you. Your enemies will not leave a single stone in place, because you did not recognize it when God visited you."

⁴⁵ Then Jesus entered the Temple & began to drive out the people selling animals for sacrifices. ⁴⁶ He said to them, "The Scriptures declare, 'My Temple will be a house of prayer,' but you have turned it into a den of thieves." ⁴⁷ After that, he taught daily in the Temple, but the leading priests, the teachers of religious law, & the other leaders of the people began planning how to kill him. ⁴⁸ But they could think of nothing, because all the people hung on every word he said.

CHILDREN'S TIME

SONG: The Night Song

BIBLE READING: Luke 20:1-8

One day as Jesus was teaching the people & preaching the Good News in the Temple, the leading priests, the teachers of religious law, & the elders came up to him. ² They demanded, "By what authority are you doing all these things? Who gave you the right?"

³ "Let me ask you a question first," he replied. ⁴ "Did John's authority to baptize come from heaven, or was it merely human?"

⁵ They talked it over among themselves. "If we say it was from heaven, he will ask why we didn't believe John. ⁶ But if we say it was merely human, the people will stone us because they are convinced John was a prophet." ⁷ So they finally replied that they didn't know.

⁸ Jesus responded, "Then I won't tell you by what authority I do these things."

FAITH CHAT:

1. If you were to praise & thank God for one thing today...What would it be?
2. How do you define "authority"? How can "authority" be used either well or badly?

THE MESSAGE: UNFILTERED: AUTHORITY

PRAYERS:

OFFERING SONG: Jesus Strong and Kind

THE COMMUNION:

Preparation:

Lord on this day you entered the rebellious city that later rejected you. We confess that our wills are as rebellious as Jerusalem's, our faith is at times more show than substance, & our hearts are in need of cleansing.

Have mercy on us, Son of David, Savior of our lives. Help us to lay at your feet all that we have & all that we are, trusting you to forgive what is sinful, to heal what is broken, to make new what sin has corrupted, & to receive us as your own.

Forgive us, Steadfast God, & shine your face upon us. Give to us the same mind as Christ, so we would know your promises. Grant us the same heart as Christ, so we might serve your world. Pour out on us the same Spirit as Christ, so we might go wherever you lead us.

Thank You for answering us! You are our salvation!

The stone that the builders rejected is now the chief cornerstone.

Words of Institution & The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, & the glory are yours now & forever. Amen.

Worship during Communion: Grace Awaiting Me (Emu Music)

GO IN HIS POWER

BLESSING:

**† _____, You bear authority
to proclaim salvation in Christ! Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SONG: Cornerstone

SHOW HIS LOVE