

2 December 2012 - First Sunday of Advent.

Readings: Jeremiah 33:14–16; Psalm 25:1–10; 1 Thessalonians 3:9–13; Luke 19:36-42.

The Shouting Stones – **Luke 19:39-40**, Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!” “I tell you,” he replied, “if they keep quiet, **the stones will cry out.**”



The Rolling Stones and The Shouting Stones who came together in 2005 at Immanuel Presbyterian Church in Montgomery, Al. They are not a praise band but rather seek to synthesize a range of musical styles, from blues to bubblegum.

INTRO: Any Rolling Stones fans? How about Shouting Stones?...



I. Shout for JOY.

Luke 19:37, “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.” JOY is the dominant note or tone!

Luke 19:38, “**Blessed** is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!” “**Peace** in heaven and glory in the highest!”

WHY? Luke 19:37, “...for all the **miracles** they had seen.”

And they had not even seen or experienced the **GREATEST** miracle!

Luke 19:9-10, Jesus said to him (Zacchaeus), “Today salvation has **come** to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man **came** to seek and to save the lost.”

John 21:25, “Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even **the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.**”



II. Shout for MERCY!

Luke 19:41-42, As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it 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.”

Luke 18:35-39, “As Jesus approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard the crowd going by, he asked what was happening. They told him, “Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.” He called out, “Jesus, Son of David, **have mercy on me!**” Those who led the way rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but **he shouted all the more**, “Son of David, **have mercy on me!**”

Breakpoint: “Like Lent, Advent is a **penitential season**, a time for reflection and repentance. If we’re honest with ourselves, what Titus 2 calls “our blessed hope – the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ,” – should provoke both joy **and a bit of dread**. It’s a time for asking ourselves whether we truly are “a people that are [Christ’s] very own, eager to do what is good.” If this doesn’t put you in the mood for shopping, well, congratulations! You are starting to “get” Advent.”



III. Shouting for GLORY!

Luke 19:38, “Blessed is **the king who comes** in the name of the Lord!” “Peace in heaven **and glory** in the highest!”

Breakpoint: “For the Christian, Advent is about preparing to greet our King. And it is a time for both looking back to Jesus’ first coming **and looking forward to His second coming in glory.**”

2 Corinthians 3:18, “And we all, who with unveiled faces **contemplate the Lord’s glory**, are being transformed into his image with **ever-increasing glory**, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”



Revelation 19:11-17, “I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. Coming out of his mouth is a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. “**He will rule them** with an iron scepter.” He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. And I saw an angel standing in the sun, who **cried in a loud voice** to all the birds flying in midair, “**Come**, gather together for **the great supper of God.**”

So may we SHOUT for JOY, MERCY and GLORY until He returns.
In Jesus name, Amen!

- Pastor Aldi ☺