“Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, ‘Teacher, order your disciples to stop.’ He answered, ‘I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.’”


_Giving Up the God of Happily Ever Afters_

Luke 19:29-40
If you are of a certain age, you might remember celebrating Palm Sunday as a child waving palms and singing hosanna and calling it a day. For many generations that was the church’s practice, but several decades ago, the church returned to the more ancient practice of also entering into the Passion of Christ on this sixth Sunday of Lent.

The first reading today, depicting Jesus’ triumphal entry, invited us to shout our Hosannas to the One we are called to follow. The second reading functions like a hinge and turns us toward Holy Week, when following Jesus leads us to the cross.

**Blessing for Holy Week**

Even in slumber, even in dreaming, even in sorrow, even in pain:
Awake, awake, awake my soul to the One who keeps vigil at all times for you.

(Jan Richardson, *Circle of Grace*)

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