



*Gil George*

I am a graduate of George Fox Evangelical Seminary and serve Clackamas Park Friends Church, Portland, Oregon, as senior pastor. My wife, Melody, and I have two daughters.

*BIBLE READING: John 12:12-19*

The years of silence from God were beginning to wear on the Jewish people. The Romans brutally put down any attempt at independence and installed their own kings over Israel. The chief priests had reached an accommodation with Rome in order to preserve the Jewish identity, and many Jews deeply resented those accommodations. The word began to spread “He raised someone from the dead and is riding into town on a donkey’s foal.” Was the long silence over? Had the promised Messiah arrived? He has? He has come! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! The promised Messiah had come and the renewal of all things was begun.

The process of God’s renewal still happens today. We see around us the hand of God at work, and yet we are frustrated by how slowly it seems to be happening. We also long for Jesus to come in his fullness to a fully restored world and so we listen and look, work and wait. The king has come to us, is still coming and, true to form, his coming doesn’t always look the way we thought it would. Instead of coming as a king on a huge warhorse, Jesus came as a servant on the back of a beast of burden. Jesus still comes to us in the same way with the same mission and the same questions. Will we follow the servant king who came to restore the whole world? Will we walk the path of humble service with our Lord?

*SONG: The Servant Song*

*(<http://youtu.be/QL3vStmoMDw>)*

*PRAAYER SUGGESTION: Open my eyes to the ways you are coming into this world as a servant today. Give me the strength and courage to serve you and my neighbors. Amen.*

*—Gil George*