

Sermon-based Guide for Reflection and Discussion

Week of April 10

Scripture: John 12:12-19

Sermon Title: Powerful Expectations

As Jesus approaches Jerusalem, there are 3 distinct reactions. The crowd's messianic expectations rise to a fever pitch, based on what they've already seen him do, and what they hope he'll do. The disciples are bewildered and don't know what to expect, but understand everything after the resurrection. The Pharisees watch their power stripped away as the crowd chases Jesus. Each group has different understandings of power, each is being set up to react differently to the crucifixion. We can take the opportunity to examine our own expectations for what God will do in our world, in our lives.

Questions:

- 1. Tell a story about a time you expected something very different from what happened. How did you have to re-orient your thinking or behavior?
- 2. Has God ever disappointed you? How did you deal with it, or are you still?
- 3. How does the good news of the cross reshape your expectations for your own life and for the world?

Holy Week Services

(online & in person)

7pm Maundy Thursday 7pm Good Friday

(Childcare for 0-5yrs: please sign up ahead online.)

Easter: 9:30am & 11:00am (Identical services. Childcare for 0-5yrs.)