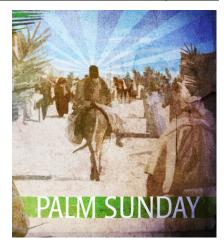
Pastor John DuBall NewDay Church April 2, 2023

## **READ & REFLECT:** How do you celebrate WHO Jesus is?

# Celebrating Who Jesus Is!

Why is "celebrating" so important in this life?



"Celebration is central to all the Spiritual Disciplines. Without a joyful spirit of festivity the Disciplines become dull, death-breathing tools in the hands of modern Pharisees." Richard Foster, Celebration of Discipline

### **READ & REFLECT:** Luke 19:35-42

<sup>35</sup> They brought the donkey to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. <sup>36</sup> As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road.

Q: Why was Jesus riding a donkey? What meaning does this have?

- <sup>37</sup> 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:
- "Hosanna to the Son of David!" (Matthew 21:9)
- <sup>38</sup> "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!"
- "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"
- "Hosanna in the highest heaven!" (Matthew 21:9)

Q: Have you experienced the power and presence of Jesus to the extent you cannot help but pour out your heart in praise of WHO he is?

 $^{\rm 39}\,{\rm Some}$  of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!"

<sup>40</sup> "I tell you," Jesus replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out." Luke 19:39-40

Q: How do you respond when someone looks down on you or rejects you simply because you love Jesus and can't help but praise Him and tell your story of how He has changed your life?

 $^{41}$  As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it  $^{42}$  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 19:41-42

Q: What keeps people from experiencing the peace God wants to give them?

"Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling. Matthew 23:37



Q: Are you experiencing a true sense of peace because you know and follow Jesus, even when our world is possibly more of an anxious place than ever before?



The LORD gives strength to his people; the LORD blesses his people with peace.

Psalm 29:11

I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.

John 16:33

What is this place? What does this have to do with celebrating?!



## **Respond & Apply:** Individual & Small Group Discussion Guide

Jesus said he sent His Holy Spirit that would "fill us with peace."

He gave his followers this promise:
Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you.
I do not give to you as the world gives.
Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.
John 14:27

In what ways are you experiencing the peace that Jesus promised to give us?

When are those moments you don't experience His peace?

What do you think will help you to experience His peace more often?

We are excited to have all three Covenant Churches come together to celebrate two Holy Week events! We will be meeting at Rochester Covenant Church:

4950 31st Ave. NW

Maundy Thursday Service – April 6, 6:30 pm Good Friday Service – April 7, 6:30 pm NewDay Easter Service at Taco Jed – April 9 at 9 am!

#### NewDay *Envisioning Our Ministry* Values

- We are a community that has a passion to serve others.
   We are a community that longs for deeper life relationships
   With God and others.
- 3. We are passionate about investing in children, youth, and families.4. We are a people who have a desire to be led by and experience the power of the Holy Spirit in everyday life.

**FIND OUT MORE...** newdaycov.org (Online giving: <a href="http://www.newdaycov.org/give">http://www.newdaycov.org/give</a>)