

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD 03/24/2024

Reading 1 Isaiah 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mk. 14:1 -15:47

My friends, we have just heard The Greatest Story Ever Told. And **our hearts break** for what Jesus had to go through. Here was an innocent man...our God in fact...being mistreated and falsely accused and mocked and well...it's hard to even say the words. And he did it all for us. And for no other reason other than **he loves us**. Imagine that.

And yet, this Greatest Story Ever Told is not simply about Jesus...no matter how misguided that may sound. The truth is, **each of us share in this same story**, each of us participates in the same journey...for the **pattern** we see in this story is also the **pattern of every human life**.

The hope. The dreams. The promise and possibilities. **The joys**. And then, well...the disappointments. **The sorrow**. The pain. The dreams unfulfilled. The heartache. And then the next chapter, whatever that might be... a chapter which has yet to unfold, yet **to be realized and yet to be discovered**. That is the journey we call life...a journey of ups and downs, good and bad, joys and sorrows.

How will it end?

Those are the things Jesus wants to render powerless. Those are the things Jesus wants to **carry up that lonely hill and rid us of....** our God and brother...want to help us **write the next chapter in our lives**, wants to raise us up from whatever is weighing us down.

Will we let him?

The story we just heard shows us that and so, we are invited to trust, to take Jesus' hand to walk with Jesus wherever he leads. Not in fear and despair, but in hope. It starts with a single step. Not alone...but with Jesus. **Let's make that sacred walk this week.**