Palm Sunday is about a confrontation between "the way it is" and the Way of Jesus. It is confrontation to the rhythm of our lives.

3 Characteristics of 'the way it is':









The Roman Way:

Power, Wealth and Entitlement

The Way of Jesus: Self Sacrificing Humility

Mark 11:1-2

Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it.

Mark 11:3-4

If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately." And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it.

Mark 11:5-7

And some of those standing there said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go. And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it.

Mark 11:8-9

And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Mark 11:10-11

Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!
Hosanna in the highest!" And he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. And when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Zechariah 9:9-10

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

Marcus J. Borg (The Last Week, pg. 27)

"Following Jesus means following him on the Way. The Way leads to Jerusalem. Jerusalem is the place of confrontation with the authorities. Jerusalem is the place of death and resurrection."

Our Response:

Choose to lose!

Matthew 16:24-25

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

Which procession are we in? Which procession do we want to be in?