



Grain

“¹⁴Pilate asked them, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Crucify him!” John 15:14

Field

¹⁵As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. ²Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” He answered him, “You say so.” ³Then the chief priests accused him of many things. ⁴Pilate asked him again, “Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.” ⁵But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed. Mark 15:1-5

Thoughts by Reverend James Lynch, Town of Dunn, WI

Life sometimes seems like a series of inconveniences held together by a fistful of annoyances surrounded by a wave of frustrations. Anyone out there feel me?

There are things we want to do in our lives, with our lives – things little and big but to us all very consequential – and life (reality) can get in the way.

We have our faces pointed toward, our minds set on one objective and then, without so much as a please or thank you, reality intercedes, throws up a roadblock, and we have to go in a different direction, leaving our plans scattered around us like so many cloaks and leafy branches. Or to put it another way: One person’s triumphal entry is another person’s detour when they don’t have time to take the long way home.

Jesus does that, though. Gets in the way, that is.

He did it often during his time on earth. Got in the way of stereotypes, presuppositions, rules and regulations that served no one. He doesn’t want his brothers and sisters bound up, constricted, restricted.

He does it twice during Holy Week – once at the beginning and once at the end. Both times, you have to know, people were inconvenienced, annoyed, frustrated, left wondering why me? Why do I have to put with this when all I want to do is to be left alone to live my life and get home when I told my family I would be home.

Jesus won’t do that. Leave us alone, that is.

He has places he wants us to be, things he wants us to do, people he wants us to be with, challenges he wants us to grapple with. That’s just the way he is. If he has to “get in our way,” disrupt our plans, maybe even annoy us a little (or a lot) to make that happen, to show us the new way to go and be and act, so be it. Happy Monday!

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Many blessings upon you,

Pastor Jim