

Sermon Title: Summer Series 2023 - Celebration

Scripture: Philippians 4:4; Psalm 118:22-24; Revelation 21:3-4

Date: August 20th, 2023

Speaker Name: Justin Chandler

- 1. What comes to mind when you hear the word "celebration"? When/where is it easiest for you to celebrate? Why do you think that is?
- 2. Which do you like better: spontaneous bursts of joy or planned expressions of celebration? Why?
- 3. As we begin, let's read Philippians 4:4, Psalm 118:22-24, and Revelation 21:3-4. How are these verses distinct? How do they relate together? How do they help us to celebrate who God is, what God has done, and what God will do?
- 4. There is a body of teaching which instructs us to praise God *for* all things, there is another which urges us to praise God *in* all things. Do you feel the difference is significant, and if so, why?
- 5. Imagine some close friends received earth-shattering, devastating news. Should your attitude with them be: "Weep with those who weep," or "Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say, rejoice"?
- 6. How is Revelation 21:3-6 a summary of the book's final two chapters? In what ways does Revelation describe the completion of what began in Genesis? How does the description of the city (Revelation) compare with the description of the garden (Genesis)? Why is it a scene of celebration? How does that anchor and encourage our celebration now?
- 7. In what ways can celebration as a corporate Discipline strengthen us during times when life's difficulties leach the joy from our spirit?
- 8. (1) How are you celebrating in your life? How can we celebrate with you? (2) How can we celebrate what is happening at Harbor Trinity? In our neighborhood? In our community?