

H O L Y W E E K
A T
H O M E



Palm Sunday

Read: Matthew 21: 1-11

Today we remember when Jesus came riding into Jerusalem on a donkey. The people cheered and celebrated by putting palm branches and coats on the road before him.

Palm Sunday Litany:

Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord!

Hosanna to the Son of David!

It's on the road to Jerusalem. A bright and glorious day.

Teaming with people of every tribe and land. All with one goal-God's City, Jerusalem.

Hosanna! Hosanna to the Son of David!

Children scream, parents shout, donkeys bray and the mass of humanity hurries toward
Passover.

Hosanna! Hosanna to the Son of David!

Suddenly, the crowd parts. There! A donkey! Do you see?

Hosanna! Hosanna to the Son of David!

Silence descends, and then a roar of sound begins!

Robes and branches fly to the ground before the donkey with the man.

Hosanna! Hosanna to the Son of David!

It is Jesus! Jesus of Nazareth, they say, who rides--a calm in the midst of a storm. A king upon a
donkey coming to Jerusalem!

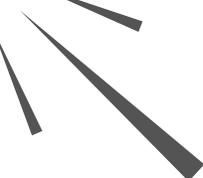
Hosanna! Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord!

Hosanna!

All Glory, Laud and Honor

All glory, laud, and honor
To thee, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children
Made sweet hosannas ring.
Thou art the King of Israel,
Thou David's royal Son,
Who in the Lord's name comest,
The King and Blessed One.

Reflection: What do you think it felt like to wave palm branches in front of Jesus that day? What would you shout at Jesus to tell him that you're excited?



Maundy Thursday

Read: John 13:1-17,31b-35

Tonight we remember the special meal that Jesus ate with his friends.

Before you sit down for your evening meal, light a candle to symbolize that this is not just a regular meal. It is special.

Read: Before the blood and pain of Friday, we hear the quiet night before in the upper room. We hear the story from John of what happens when Jesus gets up from the table. We see here Jesus' thoughts and actions about how to be a servant. What Jesus did when he washed the disciples feet is not something a leader of his time would ever do. Their feet were dirty, used a lot by walking through the dusty unpaved roads. And Jesus gets up, kneels in front of his friends, and washes their feet.

This is Jesus' way of showing love. Simon Peter protests, but Jesus continues, Jesus knows what comes next and is trying to pass on a new commandment and show his disciples how to lead better once he is gone.

This is what happens when Jesus gets up from the table.

I'm sure, being human, he would have rather just lingered at that table. Telling more stories, not wanting to deal with the reality outside of that cozy room. It was comfortable there. But he knew what comes next was important too, so he got up. He knelt. And he washed.

Do: Wash your hands before your meal, think about what it was like for the disciples to have their leader washing their dirty feet.

Prayer before the Meal

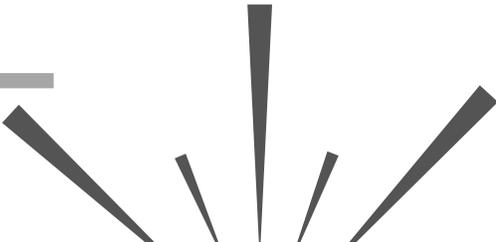
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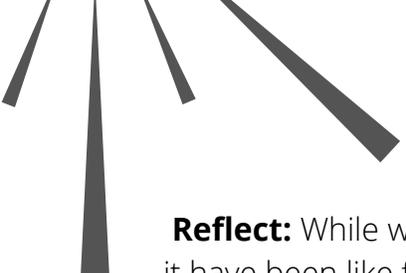
Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly hosts.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.





Enjoy your dinner!

Reflect: While we are not celebrating the Eucharist (communion) at this time, What would it have been like for the disciples to hear the words that Jesus said, "Take and eat, this is my body. Take and drink, this is my blood. Remember me."? Do you think they understood what was coming?

The name "maundy" comes from the first Latin word of John 13:24, *mandatum* (or commandment): I give you a new commandment, that you love one another."

That means Jesus' command to love, tied to the example of foot washing, really lies at the heart of this day.

This is why we do this.

To remember that Jesus calls us to love EVERYONE.

Not just the people we like.

Not just the people who make it easy.

Not just the people we agree with.

Not just the people who are like us.

But EVERYONE. Jesus is commanding us to get up from the table, even if it's more comfortable to stay here. Get up and GO serve and GO love.

Even if it is nice to stay in the place we know.

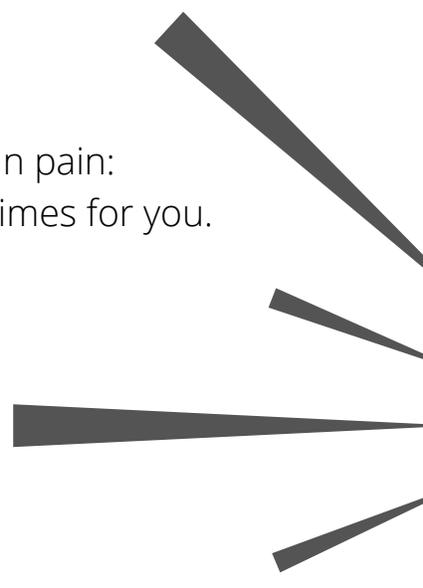
We know what comes next for Jesus...Jesus knows what comes next for Jesus.

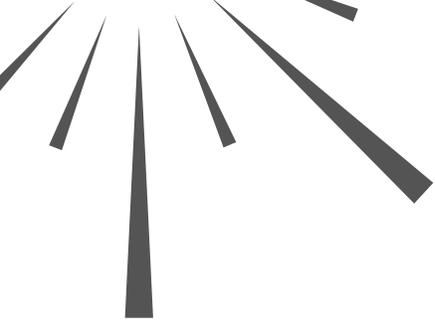
And it's not comfortable. It is painful and real and raw.

He gets up anyway. He knows that washing their feet is audacious and challenges their norms. But he tells them, and tells us, that the whole point of this whole thing is to love one another, to love everyone.

Pray:

Even in Slumber, even in dreaming, even in sorrow, even in pain:
Awake, awake, awake my soul to the One who keeps vigil at all times for you.
Amen.



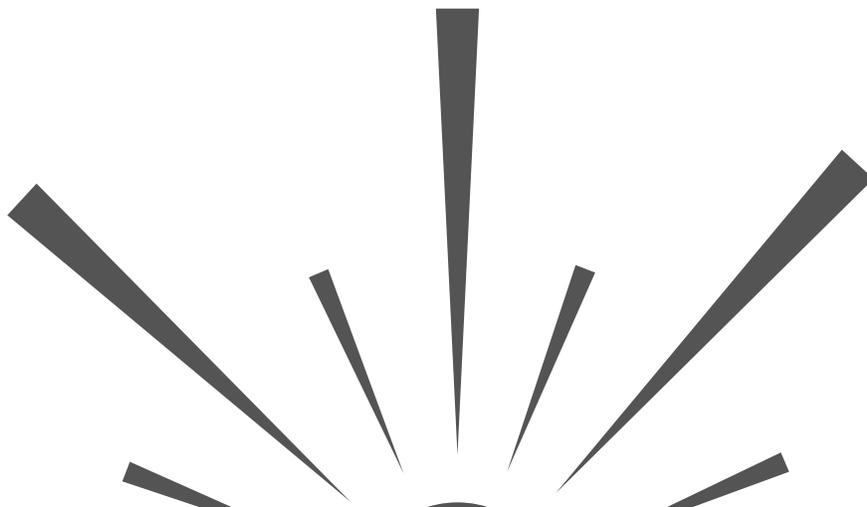


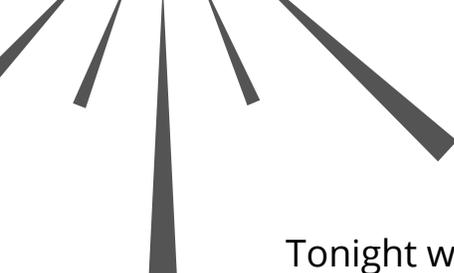
Stripping of the altar

Read psalm 22

Gather all faith related items you can find in your house. Icons, crosses, Bible, etc. and put them away in a box, bin, or bag. You could also cover them with cloth. Put them somewhere out of sight. Also, completely clear off your dining table. Leave the items put away and your dining table bare until Easter morning.

We do not close tonight with a benediction because our service does not come to an end but continues tomorrow.





Good Friday

Tonight we remember the words of Jesus, through scripture,
as he suffered on the cross.

THE FIRST WORD

Luke 23:33-34

When they came to the place called "The Skull", they nailed Jesus to the cross there, and the two criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Jesus said "Forgive them, Father! They do not know what they are doing."

Silent meditation on the First Word

Sing

What Wondrous Love Is This?

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What wondrous love is this, O my soul! What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

THE SECOND WORD

Luke 23:39-43

One of the criminals hanging there threw insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" The other one, however, rebuked him, saying: "Don't you fear God? Here we are all under the same sentence. Ours, however, is only right, for we are getting what we deserve for what we did; but he has done no wrong." And he said to Jesus, "Remember me, Jesus, when you come as King!" Jesus said to him, "I tell you this: Today you will be in Paradise with me."

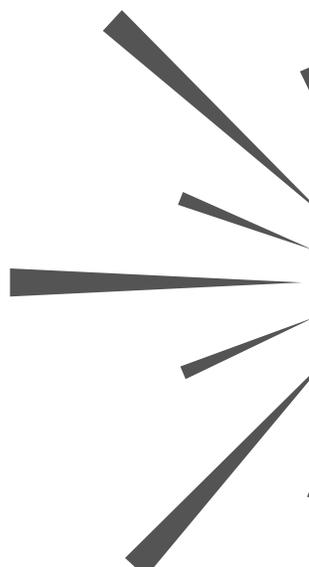
Silent Meditation on the Second Word

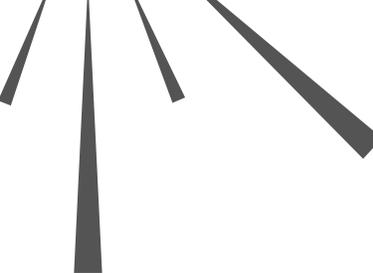
Sing

Jesus Remember Me

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.





THE THIRD WORD

John 19:25-27

Standing close to Jesus' cross were his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. Jesus saw his mother and the disciple he loved standing there; so he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that time the disciple took her to live in his home.

Silent meditation on the Third Word

Sing

Ah, Holy Jesus verses

*Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended that we to
judge thee have in hate pretended? By foes derided,
by thine own rejected, O most afflicted.*

THE FOURTH WORD

Mark 15:33-34

And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Elo-i, elo-i, lama sabach-thani?" which means, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"

Silent meditation on the Fourth Word

Sing

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

*O sacred head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed
down, now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thine only crown; O
sacred head, what glory, what bliss till now was thine!
Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine.*

THE FIFTH WORD

John 19:28

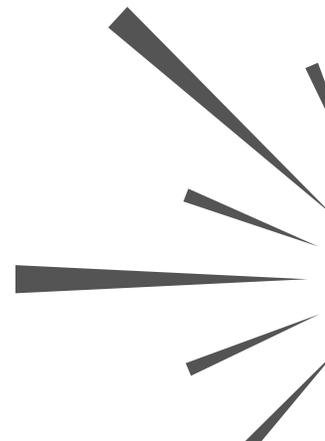
After this Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfil the scripture), "I thirst."

Silent meditation on the Fifth Word

Sing

Alas! And Did My savior Bleed verses

Alas! And did my Savior bleed and did my sov'reign die?
Would he devote that sacred head for sinners such as I?
Was it for sins that I had done he groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown, and love beyond degree!



THE SIXTH WORD

John 19:29-30

A bowl was there, full of cheap wine mixed with vinegar,
So a sponge was soaked in it, put on a branch of hyssop and
lifted up to his lips. When Jesus had received the wine, he said,
"It is finished"

Silent meditation on the Sixth Word

Sing

When I Survey The Wondrous Cross
*When I survey the wondrous cross on which the
Prince of glory died, my richest gain I
count but loss and pour contempt on all my pride.*

THE SEVENTH WORD

Luke 23:46

Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into
thy hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he
breathed his last.

Silent meditation on the Seventh Word

Sing

Were You There verses

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

*Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble,
tremble, tremble.*

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?

Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?

*Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble,
tremble, tremble.*

Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?

Read

Isaiah 53-4-6,9

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows, yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions and he was bruised for our iniquities. Upon him was the chastisement that made us whole. All we like sheep have gone astray; each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid upon him the iniquity of us all. He was assigned a grave with the wicked and with the rich in his death, although he had done no violence nor was any deceit in his mouth.

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

*Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble,
tremble, tremble.*

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

*Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble,
tremble, tremble.*

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

Were you there when they laid in the tomb?

Were you there when they laid in the tomb?

*Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble,
tremble, tremble.*

Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?