

Palm Sunday Palm Sunday is a day to remember that Jesus is our King of Kings, and he is worthy of all our praise. The Jewish people recognized Jesus as a Savior and Redeemer who would “save” them from the Roman occupancy. Hosanna in the Highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

Scripture: Matthew 21:1-11

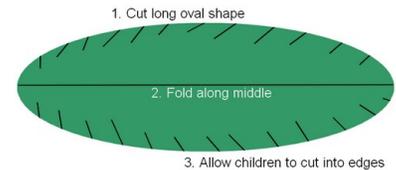
Reflection: How do you praise God?

Activity: Make a palm leaf out of green construction paper, cutting slits to make the leaf part. After making your palm, parade around the house singing praises to God. Go to youtube to find: *Ho-ho-ho-hosanna, Ha-ha-hallelujah, he-he-he-he saved me. I've got the joy of the Lord.*

Prayer: Lord, as we remember how Christ the King entered Jerusalem to

the sound of joyful shouts, increase our faith and listen to our prayers, so

that we may praise you every day, by living always in him. For he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. *Lutheran Church of Australia*



Holy Monday **Scripture:** Matthew 21:12-17 Jesus over turns the tables of people who are selling things in the temple courts. He says, “[God’s] house will be called a house of prayer.”



Reflection: What do you need to “turn over” to God?

Activity: Set up a “house of prayer” or a sacred space that you and your family can share time together in prayer. Inside your house of prayer include a Bible, devotional, candle (battery operated would work), pencil, crayons, slips of paper, and a basket to collect prayers. Say, “This is our prayer basket for now, or from now on if we like it. Anytime someone has a need they would like other

people to pray for, they will write it down or draw a picture of it. Anytime someone wants to pray for others, they can go over to the basket, read what is inside and pray about it.” Periodically recycle the prayers. Have them fill out a prayer card today. *Faithful Families by Traci Smith pg. 148-149*

Prayer: Holy God, in Jesus Christ you have built for us an eternal house, a temple of righteousness, a place of gracious plenty for the hungry and abundant life for the poor in spirit. Fill us with zeal for the body of Christ. Overturn the tables of corruption and greed and upset the imbalance of injustice, so that we may worship you in spirit and truth through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen *Presbyterian Church USA*

Holy Tuesday **Scripture:** John 12:1-8 Mary anoints Jesus’ feet with costly perfume as a sign of Jesus’ upcoming burial. Though his disciples do not understand why she is doing this; Jesus comes to her defense as she humbly worships Jesus by anointing his feet.

Reflection: Being a Christian is hard sometimes because we don’t want to step on toes or say something wrong; though Jesus calls us to take action and gives us the courage to speak up or out about an injustice, just like he gave Mary the courage to keep anointing his feet. Where in your life is God calling you to take action?

Activity: Jesus says, “You will always have the poor with you...” Figure out one way to bless the poor among us. For example, donate gently used clothes or toys, buy food for the hungry the next time you shop, or give food to someone on a street corner, etc.

Prayer: Loving God, how lavishly you pour out the costly gift of your grace upon us. Fill our homes and our lives with the fragrance of your love, so that we may show your glory and serve your people through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Posted on the website of the Office of Theology, Presbyterian Church USA*



Holy Wednesday Scripture: Matthew 26:1-5,14-16 The plot to kill Jesus, including Judas being paid 30 pieces of silver to betray him.

Reflection: Why do you think the chief priests and elders were so threatened by Jesus, even though they were waiting for the promised Messiah? How can you put your full trust and faith in Jesus our Messiah?



Activity: Trust & Betrayal: Find 30 coins and divide them between all family members. The object of this activity is to keep your coins, and not lose them. You lose a coin every time you betray someone's trust through unkind actions or words. When we are unkind to others, we break the trust between one another. If you are unkind to a sibling or parent, he or she receives one coin from you.

Prayer: Lord God, we tremble to think that it was one of Jesus' own friends who betrayed him. Give us strength, we pray, to walk faithfully with Jesus, even when the road we walk is rocky, even when the message of the cross seems like foolishness and even when we feel betrayed. You, Lord, are always faithful. We stumble, we become lost, but you are steady and sure. Give us the grace to endure our troubles, and reveal to us the glory of your kingdom, through your son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit. Amen. *Rachel Marie Stone*

Maundy Thursday On this day we remember the Last Supper that Jesus ate with his disciples, as he gave us the commandment to eat bread and drink wine (or fruit of the vine) in remembrance of him. In this passage Jesus also sets an example for us to serve one another by washing the disciples feet. Maundy means the "new commandment."

Scripture: John 13:1-17, 34-35; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Reflection: How do you serve your family and the community?

Activity: Before a meal wash each other's hands and feet with a pitcher and bowl, as an act of love for one another.

Prayer: O Jesus, in this Holy Week you prayed that we would love one another as you have loved us. Tonight we have tried to practice what you have taught us! Let the love, joy and humility we have known here with our families continue to bless us, and let us share that blessing with the world you love and gave your life for. May the peace we feel together in this place. Point us toward the hope of Easter. Amen. *From With Humility and Joy: Footwashing Service for Families, written by Lutie O. Lee.*



Good Friday Good Friday is a day that proclaims God's purpose of loving and redeeming the world through Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. It is a day that is good because God was drawing the world to God's self in Christ. We call it "good" because we look backward at the crucifixion through the lens of Easter!

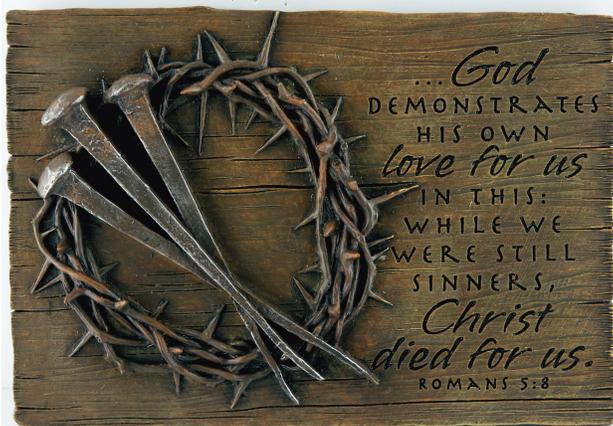
Scripture: Matthew 27:11-55

Reflection: What do you need to leave at Jesus' feet?

Activity: Find a scrap piece of wood, 11 nails, and a hammer. Make a cross out of the nails on the piece of wood, by letting each person nail one or two in. Remind your children that Jesus loves them no matter what; you could even write "Jesus loves ____ (fill in the blank with all of your names)."

Prayer: Be with us Lord as we go out to wait, we watch for the hope that defies despair, the life that defies death, the beginning that defies the end. While we wait, while darkness covers the land of faith, help us remember that no matter how abandoned we may feel we are not alone. You have not and will not abandon us. Thanks be to God.

Amen. *Rev. Gord in Worship Offering blog*



Holy Saturday Holy Saturday is most often commemorated with a prayer vigil to remember that Jesus died for us and to remember the sadness his close followers felt this day.

Scripture: Matthew 27:57-66

Reflection: If I were one of Jesus' disciples 2,000+ years ago, how would you have felt after Jesus died? Remember you put your trust and faith in Jesus to follow him during his ministry. Would you have felt angry? Frustrated? Shocked? Let down? Hopeful? Scared?

Activity: Go back to your "house of prayer" you created earlier, to pray through your prayer cards, and while you are praying light, or turn on, the candle as a sign that God hears our prayers. Close in prayer with "God hear our prayer for the people and things that we love. Amen."

Faithful Families by Traci Smith pg. 155

Prayer: Lord God, On the Sabbath, Jesus rested. He was in the grave. He had finished his work. To most people's eyes, it looked as if it were all over. He was dead and buried. But only as a seed dies when it is planted in the earth, not to decay, but to spring to new life. Teach us to take refuge in you when we are afraid. Teach us that death is not our end. Teach us to hope always in you. And in the resurrection, the making of all things new. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Rachel Marie Stone



Easter Sunday Morning Christ our Lord is Risen Today! Alleluia! Alleluia!!

Scripture: John 20:1-18

Reflection: Knowing Jesus conquered death for you and me; how does that make you feel? What can you do to proclaim Jesus' victory to your family and friends?

Activity: Have family sunrise breakfast together and read the scripture lesson (use a kids Bible) together. Then ask: Resurrection means coming back to life. What are some things that remind you of resurrection in the world? For example, Spring, butterflies, trees, etc. And then pray: "Thank you, God, for this resurrection breakfast, a time to focus on you and the mystery of resurrection. Help us to celebrate Easter and to share its message of hope and promise. Amen." *Faithful Families by Traci Smith pg. 53-55*

Prayer: Living God, long ago, faithful women proclaimed the good news of Jesus' resurrection, and the world was changed forever. Teach us to keep faith with them that our witness may be as bold, our love as deep, and our faith as true. Amen.

Written by Kris, and posted on RevGalBlogPals



Resources

- Smith, Traci. *Faithful Families: Creating Sacred Moments at Home*.
- Hamilton, Adam. *24 Hours that Changed the World*.
- Prayers are mostly from <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/>
- Hand-art crafts to do for Holy Week: <http://www.catholicicing.stfi.re/holy-week-in-handprints/?sf=wdarjwo#ab>
- Easter Worship Services:
 - Dixboro UMC 9a & 11a
 - St. Paul Lutheran: Liberty Campus Sat. 6:30p, Sun. 8 & 10:45a Earhart Campus Sun. 9:15a
 - St. Luke's Lutheran 9a & 11a
 - Plus many others in the area

Created for you by Rev. Mary Hagley, Deacon. Please feel free to share with friends and family.