

Sunday: Palm/Passion Sunday

God Calls You to Worship

Opening Words

As you light a candle:

I light this candle to remember that Jesus is with me.

Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

As a prayer: Have mercy on me and grant me your peace.

Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

As a prayer: Praise and glory to you, O God.

-John 1:29

Gathering Song

Choose a favorite song that draws you into worship.

- *Holy, Holy, Holy* LUYH 538 | [YouTube](#) | [Music and Lyrics](#)
- *Come, Now Is the Time to Worship* LUYH 526 | [YouTube with Lyrics](#)
- *Jesus Loves Me* LUYH 709 | [YouTube](#) | [Music and Lyrics](#)
- *Be Still and Know that I am God* LUYH 907 | [YouTube](#) | [Music and Lyrics](#)

Prayer

Use the following prayer or your own, giving voice to the realities of the day within the greater context of the promise of the resurrection, and ask for the Holy Spirit to work through this time of worship.

God of all hope,
I worship you today deeply aware
of the world's grief and pain --and my own.
Send your Holy Spirit here and
comfort me with the sure knowledge
that my Lenten journey will end in Easter joy.
Amen.

-adapted from *The Worship Sourcebook, J.1.4.9*; used with permission

God Speaks and You Respond

Scripture Reading

Luke 19:28-40 or Matthew 21:1-11

Reflecting on God's Word

- Sit on your coat as you read God's word.
 - How does this feel?
 - What might be the modern day equivalent to laying down coats for Jesus on his ride to Jerusalem?
- Since this is likely a familiar story for you, try reading it in a different translation or from a children's Bible. Read it aloud to yourself and listen for particular points in the story you might not have heard before.

Sung or Spoken Response

- Sing your favorite hosanna song! There are lots of them including:
 - *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* -LUYH 145 | [Audio](#) | [Music and Lyrics](#)
 - *Hosanna, in the Highest*- [YouTube with Lyrics](#)
 - *Hosanna* (Hillsong) -[YouTube with Lyrics](#)
- If you prefer not to sing, shout these words:
Hosanna! Hosanna in the Highest!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
- Other options especially if you are single-parenting a young child:
 - God is So Good* -LUYH 777 | [YouTube](#) | [Music and Lyrics](#)
 - There is a Redeemer* -LUYH 833 | [YouTube with Lyrics](#)

Prayer

Offer your own prayer or use one of the following, remembering to bring before God the needs of your friends, extended family, community, world, and yourself.

1. O Jesus, you know the anguish of our human lives.
As one who sees the pain of those who suffer,
bring comfort, peace, and strength.
As one who has experienced the agony and tears of losing loved ones,
comfort all who grieve.
As one who wept over the faithlessness of your people,
send your Spirit to correct us in our unfaithfulness.
As one who understands the agony of those who have been deserted,
stand alongside those who feel alone and abandoned today.
As one who was once forsaken by all others,
give hope and assurance to those who feel rejection.
As one who knows the ravages of violence,
bring peace and healing to those who are tortured by enemies.
You, our Lord, have offered up prayers with loud cries and tears;
hear me when I do the same.

I approach your throne of grace with boldness.
May I receive mercy and grace in my time of need. **Amen.**

-The Worship Sourcebook, J.4.4.6, used with permission

2. Jesus, our Redeemer, you flung your arms wide open to embrace the suffering of the world and bring hope and healing. As I journey to the cross this week, recounting and remembering your sacrifice of love for me, give me a heart that is open to receive and hands that are ready to serve. I acknowledge that this Holy Week is vastly different from others because of the current pandemic. Even while I am apart from others, draw me together in unity with Christ and all your children to once again travel the road to Calvary. And as I do so, I pray that you would again bring hope and healing to this world that is so desperately in need of your grace. Prepare my heart, quiet my soul and make me ready to be an agent of your love and restoration to a hurting world. Amen.

-Pastor Katie Roelofs

God Sends

While you may not be leaving your home during this week, you are still called to be Christ's presence in your relationships, on zoom calls, and social media posts, thus continuing your worship of God in all you do and say. Read this verse of praise aloud.

Closing Verse

**Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,
to receive power and wealth
and wisdom and strength
and honor and glory
and praise!**

-Rev. 5:12

Blessing

Hear these words of blessing spoken to you from God. As you are comfortable, use motions to point before, behind, beneath, above, and beside as this will help you memorize this blessing over the week.

**I, your God will go
before you to guide you
behind you to protect you
beneath you to support you
above you to watch over you
beside you to be your friend.**

Do not be afraid.

Go forth in peace.