

Daily Worship for Holy Week and Easter

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Sunday: Palm/Passion Sunday

God Calls us to Worship

Opening Words

As you light a candle:

Why do we light this candle?

To remember that Jesus is with us.

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

Have mercy on us and grant us your peace.

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

Praise and glory to you, O God.

-John 1:29

Gathering Song

You are encouraged to sing or listen to one or more of the following songs:

- *Oh, How He Loves You and Me* [lyric video](#) | [sheet music](#)
- *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,
we gather today deeply aware
of the world's grief and pain --and our own.
Send your Holy Spirit here among us and
comfort us with the sure knowledge
that our Lenten journey will end in Easter joy.
Amen.

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

God Speaks to Us and We Respond

Scripture Reading

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

Reflecting on God's Word

- Spread out coats in an open space and sit on them together as you open 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. 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 together:
Hosanna! Hosanna in the Highest!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
- An option especially for those with young children would be to sing one of these songs:
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 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 us when we do the same.
We approach your throne of grace with boldness.
May we receive mercy and grace in our 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 we journey to the cross this week, recounting and remembering your sacrifice of love for us, give us hearts that are open to receive and hands that are ready to serve. We acknowledge that this Holy Week is vastly different from others because of the current pandemic. Even while we are apart, draw us together in unity with Christ and all your children to once again travel the road to Calvary. And as we do so, we pray that you would again bring hope and healing to this world that is so desperately in need of your grace. Prepare our hearts, quiet our souls and ready us to be agents of your love and restoration to a hurting world. Amen.

-Pastor Katie Roelofs

God Sends Us

While many of us will not be leaving our homes during this week we are still called to be Christ's presence in our households, on zoom calls, and social media posts, thus continuing our worship of God in all we do and say.

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

Speak this blessing to those gathered with you. 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 and truly speak it over each other.

**May God 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 in peace.