



**A collection of worship services to have at home.  
Though we gather in different times and places,  
we are united under one God who calls us beloved.**

**Created by: Immanuel Lutheran Church – Oxford, CT**

**Adapted for use at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Brookfield, CT**

**How it Works:** In this packet, there is an order of worship that can be done in your own home for each sacred day of Holy Week. We invite you to find a time that works for you and set up a spot in your home for worship..

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Another option that can be used in conjunction with these at-home services or used on its own is to view and worship virtually with our prerecorded services found at [Prince of Peace Lutheran Church](#).



## Creating a Sacred Space at Home

*A step-by-step guide to creating a sacred space for worship in your own home. You are invited to use whatever you have, and whichever pieces suggested here bring you joy and comfort.*

1. **Location** - Choose a space that is comfortable and relaxing with few distractions. Be sure there is a table or other surface available to set your devotional pieces on and a place where you can sit or rest there for awhile. *I use a table in front of a large window that I can pull a chair up to.*
2. **Table/Altar**- This can be anything that you can place special/sacred items on, like a bookshelf, end table, tray table, or windowsill. *I use a combination of a table and the window ledge in front of it.*
3. **Cloth** - If you have a prayer shawl, piece of fabric, tablecloth, or blanket that brings you peace and joy, place it on top of the surface (or on part of the surface). *I use a prayer shawl and put it out when I pray, but you can leave yours in the space if you wish.*
4. **Light** - Choose a calming light source such as candles or a small lamp. *I use pillar candles.*
5. **Water** - Have a small bowl that you can add water to and use it to mark the sign of the cross on your forehead and remember your baptism. Another option is to keep a plant of some kind and use water to give the plant new life when you do daily worship/devotions. *I keep a plant on the table, because a bowl of water would not last long with 2 cats running around.*
6. **Cross** - If you have a cross of any size, or a picture with a cross, or you can even make/draw your own, you want something to keep your heart centered on Christ. *I use a wooden standing cross made for me by a former parishioner, a carpenter, because it has deep significance to my own faith life.*
7. **Scripture** - For this you may choose to leave a Bible out in the space, or put up some of your favorite scripture passages. The point is to ground yourself in God's Word. *I use a metal carving of the Good Shepherd with Psalm 23 and keep a small Bible close by.*
8. **Images** - Bring any images that remind you of God, bring joy, have significance, or remind you of God's grace. *I use an icon gifted to me by a friend and Orthodox Priest as well as a picture of my family. I change my images throughout the year, depending on where my heart is seeking God's presence.*



## Palm/Passion Sunday

**Gathering** – *Begin outside (or in a different room of your home) with your palm or other branch. Read the following gospel, then move to the space you have set aside for worship while proclaiming loudly “Prepare the way of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest!”*

### **Processional Gospel - Matthew 21:1-11**

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21st chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup>saying to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.”

<sup>4</sup>This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

<sup>5</sup>“Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

<sup>6</sup>The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; <sup>7</sup>they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. <sup>8</sup>A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup>The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!” Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!” <sup>10</sup>When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” <sup>11</sup>The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Procession with Palms and Branches**      *Wave your branches and move to your sacred space*

### **Centering Prayer**

Sovereign God, you have established your kin-dom in the human heart through the servanthood of Jesus Christ. By your Spirit, keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues confess Jesus as Lord and with their lives praise him as Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## Confession

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who is present, who gives life, who calls into existence the things that do not exist. If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand? Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess. *(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you, knowingly and unknowingly. We have wandered from your resurrection life. We have strayed from your love for all people. Turn us back to you, O God. Give us new hearts and right spirits, that we may find what is pleasing to you and dwell in your house forever. Amen.

**Hymn** *(optional to be sung, or spoken aloud)*

All Glory Laud and Honor

*Refrain*

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: 'All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re - deem - er, king, to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a steady rhythm. The piano accompaniment provides a harmonic foundation with chords and single notes.

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re - deem - er, king,  
to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.

*Verses Continued on Next Page...*

1 You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,  
 2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais - ing you on high;  
 3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;  
 4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.  
 5 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

*Refrain*

now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One.  
 cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.  
 our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.  
 To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.  
 great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
 Music: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN, Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635

## WORD

### First Reading - Psalm 31:9-16

9Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble; my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly. 10For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed. 11I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to my acquaintances; when they see me in the street they avoid me. 12Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind; I am as useless as a broken pot. 13For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around; they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life. 14But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord. I have said, “You are my God. 15My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me. 16Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.”

### Reading of the Passion - Matthew 27:11-56

*(if there are multiple people present in your home, you may want to take roles and have a different person read the parts where the following people speak: Narrator, Judas/the disciples, chief priests/soldiers, governor/Pilate, Pilate's wife/bystanders, crowd-everybody together)*

When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor. When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. Judas said, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." But the chief priests said, "What is that to us? See to it yourself." Throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money." After conferring together, they used them to buy the potter's field as a place to bury foreigners. For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one on whom a price had been set, on whom some of the people of Israel had set a price, and they gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me." Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You say so." But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him, "Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?" But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?" For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, "Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him." Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And the crowd said, "Barabbas." Pilate said to them, "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" All of the crowd said, "Let him be crucified!" Then Pilate asked, "Why, what evil has he done?" But the crowd shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified!" So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." Then the crowd as a whole answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!" So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put

his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him. As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews."

Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and the bystanders said, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, 'I am God's Son.'" The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the other bystanders said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. Now when the centurion and those soldiers with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, "Truly this man was God's Son!" Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had provided for him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

## **Reflection**

*During this time you are invited to spend time in reflection alone or together on the reading. Here are some possible questions to guide your reflection time: Who in the story does your heart connect with the most? How do we continue to sacrifice and betray Christ in our own lives? What do we ask forgiveness for? What sacrifices are we making? What grief are we experiencing?*

Hymn (optional to be sung, or spoken aloud)

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;  
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see  
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;

the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,  
the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.  
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;

a home with - in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,  
And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:  
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,

from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.  
the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.  
my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830–1869  
Music: ST. CHRISTOPHER, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

**Prayers of Intercession**

Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

God of mercy, awaken your church to new proclamations of your faithfulness. By your Spirit, give us bold and joyful words to speak, that we sustain the weary with the message of your redemption. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

God of mercy, quiet the earth where it trembles and shakes. Protect vulnerable ecosystems, threatened habitats, and endangered species. Prosper the work of scientists, engineers, and researchers who find ways to restore creation to health and wholeness. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

God of mercy, drive away fear and anger that cause us to turn against one another. Give courage to leaders who seek liberation for the oppressed. Bring peace and hope to those who are in prison and those who face execution. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

God of mercy, send your saving help to all who suffer abuse, insult, discrimination, or contempt. Heal the wounded. Comfort the dying. Bring peace to those suffering chronic or terminal illness. Tend to all who cry out for relief (*especially...*). Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

God of mercy, we pray for all who will prepare and lead worship in this Holy Week. In all things, show us the ways that you call us to die to self, to live for you, and to give of ourselves for the sake of others. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

### **Final Blessing**

Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation. Holy God, speaking and inspiring, bless us, unbind us, and send us in love and in peace. Amen.



## Maundy Thursday

April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**Gathering**     *Take this time to prepare a space for worship. For this service, we recommend joining together around a meal. You may use this brief order of service before your meal as we remember on this day the Last Supper shared by Jesus and His disciples.*

### Centering Prayer

Eternal God, in the sharing of a meal your Son established a new covenant for all people, and in the washing of feet he showed us the dignity of service. Grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these signs of our life in faith may speak again to our hearts, feed our spirits, and refresh our bodies, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### Confession

Within the community of the church, God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation. On this night let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor, and enter the celebration of the great Three Days reconciled with God and with one another.

*(Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.)*

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

## WORD

**First Reading** - *1 Corinthians 11:23-26*

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

### **Gospel Reading - *John 13:1-7, 31b-35***

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?” Jesus answered, “You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.” Peter said to him, “You will never wash my feet.” Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.” Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!” Jesus said to him, “One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.” For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, “Not all of you are clean.”

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.”

“Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

### **Reflection**

*During this time you are invited to spend time in reflection on the reading. Here are some possible questions to guide your reflection time: How do you show Christ’s love to one another?*

What ways can we serve our neighbor in the reality of our world today? Where do we look for God to show up?

**Hymn** (optional to be sung, or spoken aloud)

Healer of Our Every Ill

*Refrain*



Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,



give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.



1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your  
2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is  
3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,  
4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your



*Refrain*

peace and glad - ness; Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.  
still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.  
ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide.  
way of heal - ing; Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
Music: HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL, Marty Haugen  
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**The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

**Sharing A Meal** *At this time, you are invited to share a meal with God, and others in your household. Take time to talk or reflect on the places and faces you have seen God in today. Notice and enjoy the company of Christ as you gather in sacred space.*

**Final Prayer**

Lord Jesus, you strengthen us with the saving power of your suffering, death, and resurrection. May the fruits of your redemption show forth in the way we live, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Stripping of the Altar**      *At this time, you are invited to strip the sacred space you have created for worship in your home. Tuck away all the pieces, leaving it bare.*



## Good Friday

April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**Gathering** *Take this time to prepare your heart for worship. For this service, we recommend starting as it begins to get dark and using the space that you have set aside in your home for worship, though it is now empty and bare after stripping it to the minimum yesterday, bring a single candle or light to your worship space for this evening.*

### Centering Prayer

Merciful God, your Son was lifted up on the cross to draw all people to himself. Grant that we who have been born out of his wounded side may at all times find mercy in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Hymn** *(optional to be sung, or spoken aloud - printed at end of service)* Ah, Holy Jesus

### WORD

#### Gospel Reading - John 19:13-42

When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, "Here is your King!" They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but the emperor." Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write,

‘The King of the Jews,’ but, ‘This man said, I am King of the Jews.’ ” Pilate answered, “What I have written I have written.” When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, “Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it.” This was to fulfill what the scripture says, “They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.” And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, “Woman, here is your son.” Then he said to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), “I am thirsty.” A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, “It is finished.” Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. (He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, “None of his bones shall be broken.” And again another passage of scripture says, “They will look on the one whom they have pierced.”

After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

## **Reflection**

*During this time you are invited to spend time in reflection alone or together. Here are some possible questions to guide your reflection time: What burdens am I leaving at the foot of the cross? What sins have I been complicit in? Where do I see the sting of grief and pain of death today?*

Hymn (optional to be sung, or spoken aloud- printed at end) O Sacred Head Now Wounded

## SENDING

**Extinguishing the light**     *At this time, extinguish your candle or turn off the lights to mark the crucifixion of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

### Bidding Prayers

Let us pray, for the holy church throughout the world. (*Silent prayer.*)

Almighty and eternal God, you have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ. By your Holy Spirit guide the church and gather it throughout the world. Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name, and bring the good news of salvation in Christ to all people. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for Elizabeth & James our bishops, for Paul our pastor, for Andrew, Nicole, Marilyn, Susan, Gerry, Alison, Doug, Kristen, Joan, Julie, Rich, Liz, and Casey our servant-leaders of the church, and for all the people of God. (*Silent prayer.*)

Almighty and eternal God, your Spirit guides the church and makes it holy. Strengthen and uphold our bishops, pastors, other ministers, and lay leaders. Keep them in health and safety for the good of the church, and help each of us in our various vocations to do faithfully the work to which you have called us. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.** Let us pray for those preparing for baptism. (*Silent prayer.*)

Almighty and eternal God, you continue to bless the church. Increase the faith and understanding of those preparing for baptism. Give them new birth as your children, and keep them in the faith and communion of your holy church. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for our siblings who share our faith in Jesus Christ. (*Silent prayer.*)

Almighty and eternal God, you give your church unity. Look with favor on all who follow Jesus your Son. Make all the baptized one in the fullness of faith, and keep us united in the fellowship of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for the Jewish people, the first to hear the word of God. (*Silent prayer.*)

Almighty and eternal God, long ago you gave your promise to Abraham and your teaching to Moses. Hear our prayers that the people you called and elected as your own may receive the fulfillment of the covenant's promises. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ. (*Silent prayer.*)

Almighty and eternal God, gather into your embrace all those who call out to you under different names. Bring an end to inter-religious strife, and make us more faithful witnesses of the love made known to us in your Son. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those who do not believe in God. (*Silent prayer.*)

Almighty and eternal God, you created humanity so that all may long to know you and find peace in you. Grant that all may recognize the signs of your love and grace in the world and in the lives of Christians, and gladly acknowledge you as the one true God. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for God's creation. (*Silent prayer.*)

Almighty and eternal God, you are the creator of a magnificent universe. Hold all the worlds in the arms of your care and bring all things to fulfillment in you. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those who serve in public office. (*Silent prayer.*)

Almighty and eternal God, you are the champion of the poor and oppressed. In your goodness, give wisdom to those in authority, so that all people may enjoy justice, peace, freedom, and a share in the goodness of your creation. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.** Let us pray for those in need. (*Silent prayer.*)

Almighty and eternal God, you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart. Heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, and deliver your world from falsehood, hunger, and disease. Hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble, that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

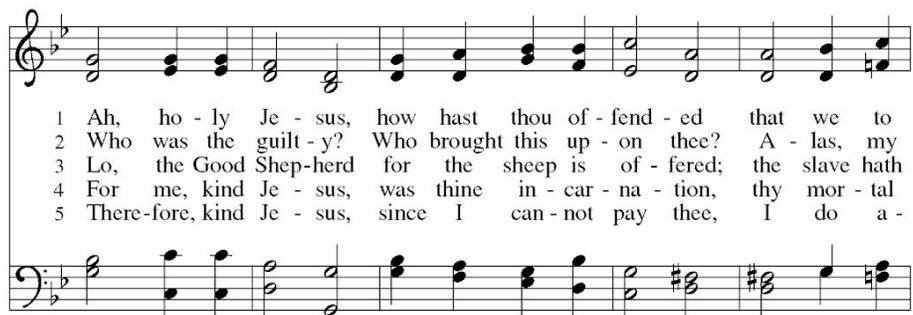
### **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

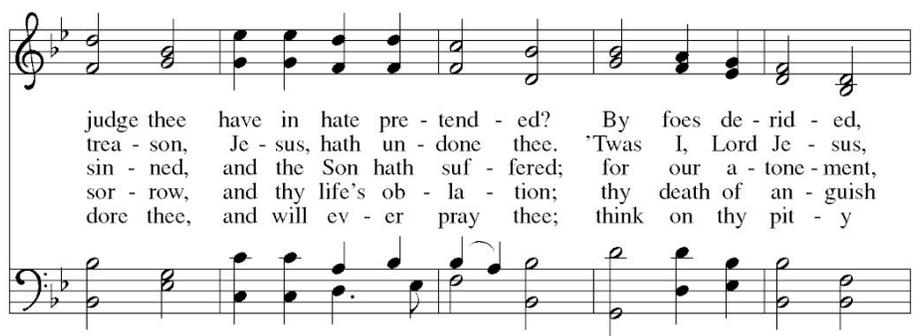
### **Sealing the Tomb**

*Take this time to close everything in front of you. Take a few deep breaths. Spend a moment in silence. When you are ready, continue to your evening, knowing that Christ has died for you.*

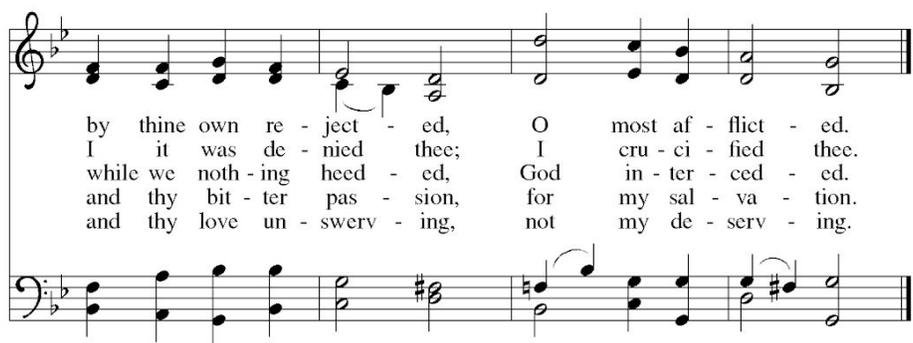
## Ah, Holy Jesus



1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed that we to  
 2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my  
 3 Lo, the Good Shep - herd for the sheep is of - fered; the slave hath  
 4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thine in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal  
 5 There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -



judge thee have in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,  
 trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,  
 sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for our a - tone - ment,  
 sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish  
 dore thee, and will ev - er pray thee; think on thy pit - y



by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.  
 I it was de - nied thee; I cru - ci - fied thee.  
 while we noth - ing heed - ed, God in - ter - ced - ed.  
 and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.  
 and thy love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585-1647; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844-1930, alt.  
 Music: HERZLIEBSTER JESU, Johann Crüger, 1598-1662

## O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,  
 2 How pale thou art with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;  
 3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,  
 4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; shield me when I must die;

now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;  
 how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!  
 for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?  
 re - mind me of thy pas - sion when my last hour draws nigh.

O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!  
 Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;  
 Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,  
 These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall nev - er move;

Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.  
 mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.  
 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.  
 for all who die be - liev - ing die safe - ly in thy love.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, based on Arnulf of Louvain, d. 1250; tr. composite  
 Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, German melody, c. 1500; adapt. Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612;  
 arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750