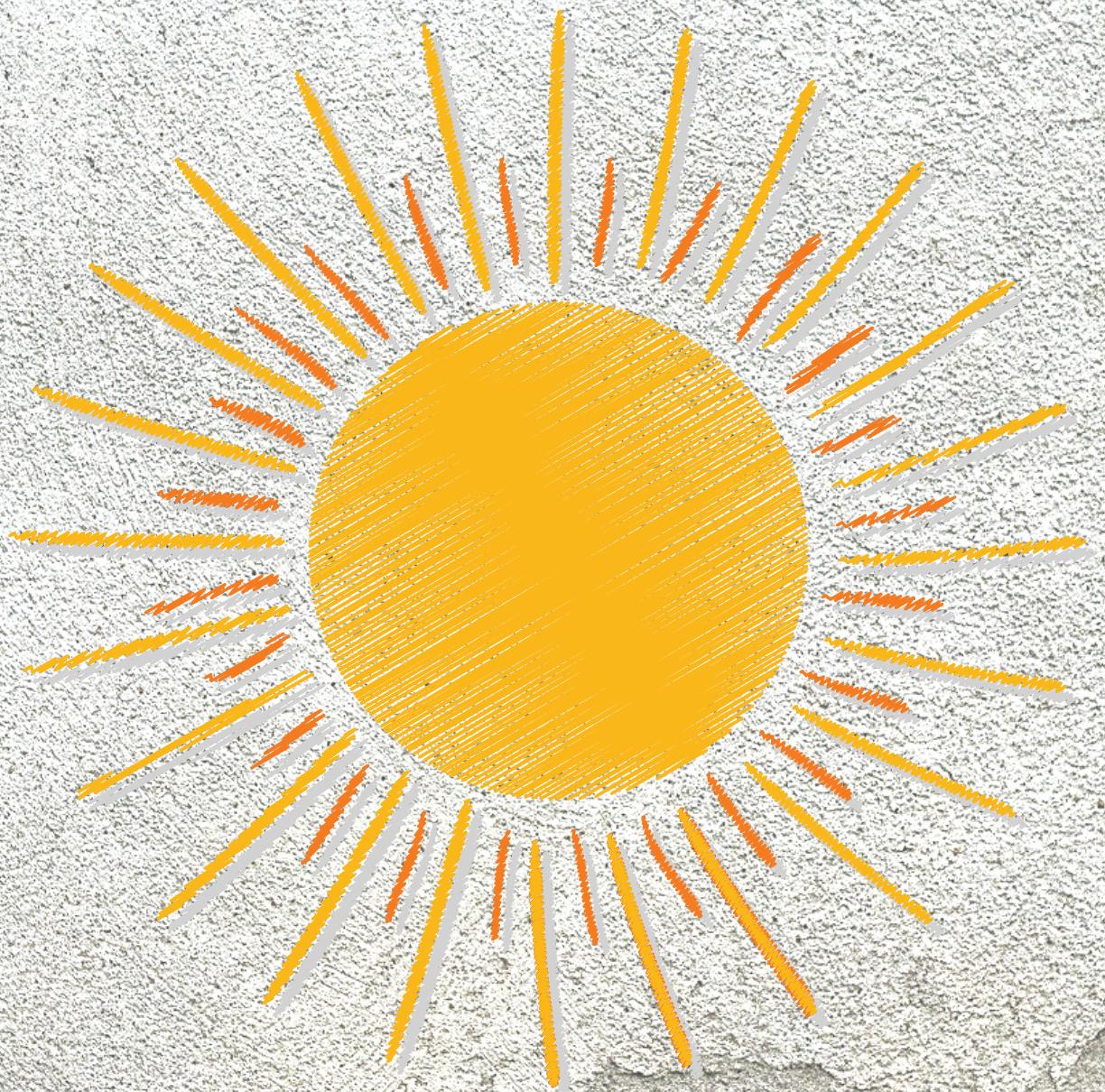


Holy Week

AT HOME



Duke Memorial UMC

April 2020

Palm Sunday

Read: Matthew 21:1-11

Items: strips of fabric or paper, markers

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

Do: Write on your fabric or paper strips some ways that Jesus brings you joy, or write what you would shout to Jesus to tell him that you are excited. Walk around your house or your yard waving some leaves or winter jackets and shout, "Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord"

Ask: What do you think it felt like to wave palm branches in front of Jesus that day?



Monday

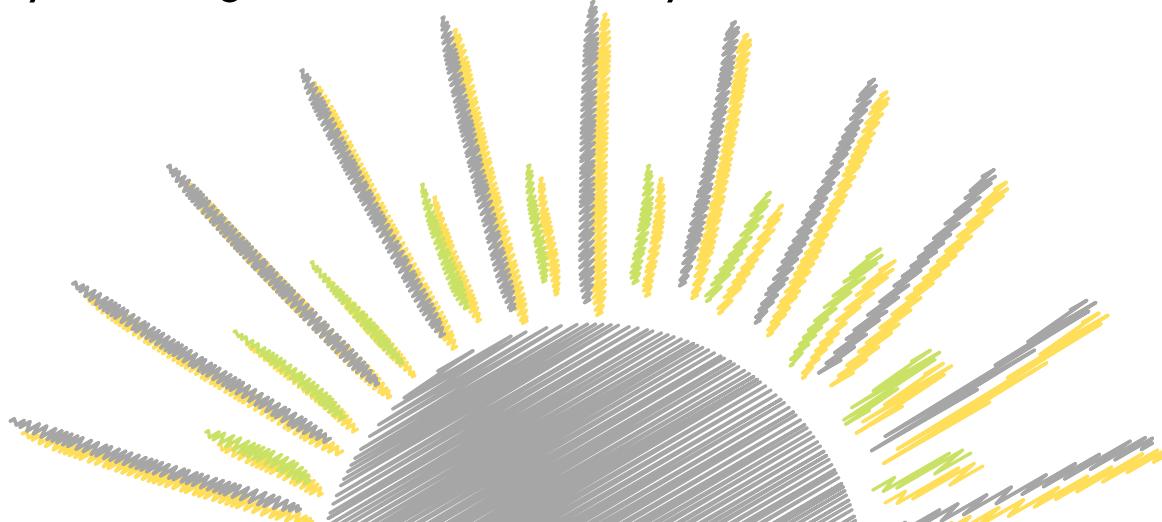
Read: Matthew 22:34-40

Items: card, pen or crayons/markers

Listen: After Jesus' big, exciting entrance into Jerusalem, his next few days were kind of... boring! He went back to teaching people about God. There were so many rules that everyone had to follow, so Jesus helped them understand what all the rules are really about: loving God and loving our neighbors.

Do: Write a letter to someone who lives alone. If you need help thinking of someone, ask the Pastors for the name of someone at church!

Ask: Does life feel kind of boring right now? What do you think Jesus felt when life wasn't very exciting? How can you love your neighbors even when you can't be with them?



Tuesday

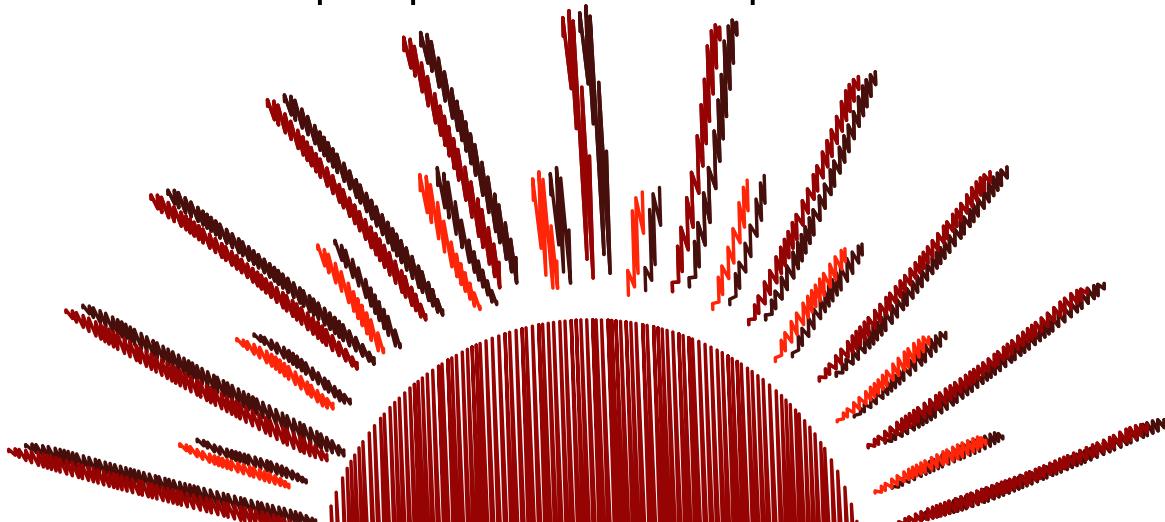
Read: Matthew 21:12-13

Items: red crayon and blank paper

Listen: On Tuesday, Jesus went to the Holy Temple and saw that, people were using it as a store; making it seem like you had to have enough money to worship God the right way. It made him so mad that he flipped over all the tables and cleared it for worship again.

Do: Color your paper as hard as you can with your red crayon. Cover as much of the paper as you can.

Ask: What does red make you feel? What do you do when you get angry? Do you sometimes feel more than one thing at the same time? What do you do with those feelings? Do you think that it was okay that Jesus was angry at the people at the temple?



Wednesday

Read: Matthew 26:14-16

Items: coins

Listen: One of Jesus' best friends, Judas, did something terrible to Jesus. He took money from the people who wanted to hurt Jesus and in exchange, he handed Jesus over to them to be killed. He loved money more than he loved his friend.

Do: Look at the coins you have in front of you. Think about how you can give money to people who need it right now, or how you can use what you have to share with others. When we give to others, we are sharing love.

Ask: Have you ever had a friend hurt your feelings? What did that feel like? Were you able to become friends again afterward? How do you think Jesus felt when his friend hurt him?



Maundy Thursday

Read: John 13:11

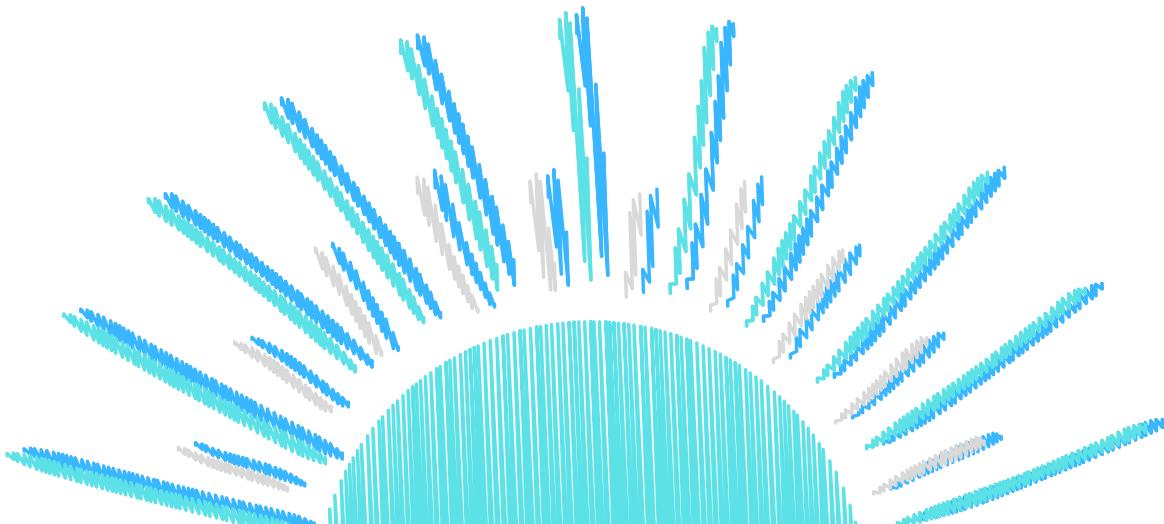
Item: bowl of water

Listen: Jesus shared a very special Passover meal with his friends. As they sat down, Jesus got up and got a bucket of water and towel to wash his disciples' dirty, dusty feet. They couldn't believe that their teacher would get so dirty for them.

(Listen to this story and two more tonight at 7:00pm on our Maundy Thursday live stream worship service.)

Do: Take turns dipping your fingers in the bowl of water and tracing a cross on each other's foreheads, saying "Jesus loves you" as you do it.

Ask: How have others shown that they love you through their actions? What do you think Jesus' friends felt when Jesus washed their feet?



Good Friday

Read: Mark 15:22-41

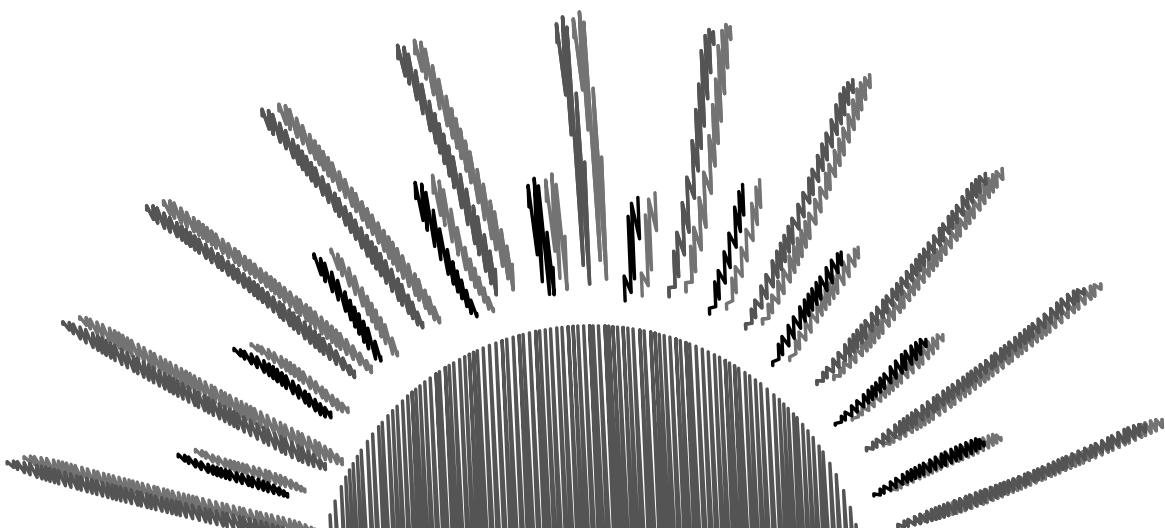
Item: stone or rock to hold in your hand

Listen: Today is the saddest day of our year. Even though Jesus had done nothing wrong, the people hurt him, laughed at and teased him, and put him on the cross to die.

(Listen to this story and music tonight at 7:00pm on our Good Friday live stream worship service.)

Do: Hold onto your stone as you listen to the story. Remember that God is with us, even when life is as hard as a rock.

Ask: What does today's story make you feel? Sad? Angry? Confused? Why do we call it Good Friday if it is such a sad day? What makes you feel better when you are sad? What helps you to remember that God is with you, no matter how you feel?



Holy Saturday

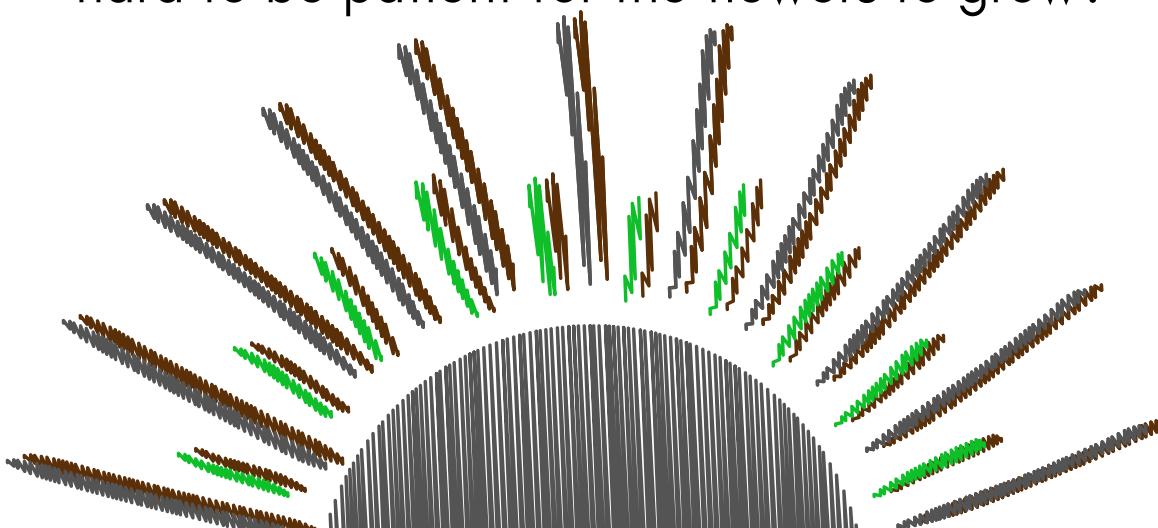
Read: Mark 15:42-57

Item: seeds

Listen: On Saturday, we remember that Jesus lay in the tomb this whole day. But the next day, the first person who saw him thought he was a gardener. For thousands of years, Christians have celebrated today by gardening.

Do: Plant your flower seeds in your yard or in a pot of dirt in your house. Remember to water them until they sprout up and produce beautiful flowers. While you're at it, ask your parents if it's okay to pull some weeds in your yard or your neighbor's yard!

Ask: Do you like getting your hands dirty in the garden? How do the seeds you buried in the ground help us to learn about hope or new life? How does it feel to begin growing something? Is it hard to be patient for the flowers to grow?



Easter Sunday

Read: John 20:1-18

Item: sidewalk chalk

Listen: Christ Has Risen!! This is the best news of all-- death is not the most powerful thing in the world-- God's love is! We call this Good News "The Gospel" and it's the reason that we celebrate even when life seems like it is its very darkest. God's love has defeated sin and death and so today we celebrate!

Do: Decorate the sidewalk in front of your house with the Good News that Christ has risen from the dead! Get creative in how you wish your neighbors Happy Easter through your sidewalk art!

Ask: : What is your favorite kind of celebration? How does this Easter feel different than other years? How can you be like Mary and go share the good news today?

