

Triumphal Entry
(Palm Sunday)

April 14, 2019

Matthew 21:1-17

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



Pray: Light a candle. Open your devotion with prayer.

Holy Jesus, you came to Jerusalem seeking not empty worship but faithfulness to your commandments. Guide us now as we begin this week of contemplation and keep us close to your side as we retrace the steps of your final earthly journey. In your name, we pray. Amen.



Read: Read the key verses from Sunday's reading.

Then Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer'; but you are making it a den of robbers."
(Matthew 21:12-13)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

Jesus' final visit to Jerusalem is not to be missed. Arriving in spontaneous fanfare and then confronting the temple merchants over their exploitation of others. The week of reckoning has only begun.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

Where do you see the presence of a dying Jesus in the world today? Where do you see the presence of a resurrected Jesus?

What are you most afraid of? How can Jesus' presence in your life help you overcome your fear?

For the littles: Jesus had a grand parade in Jerusalem. Describe the parade you would host if Jesus rode into your town.



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God dance in your parade. Amen.



Do: By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Attend Holy Week worship services this week. Write down one thing you get from each service. Carry it with you and reflect on it throughout the weekend.



Go Deeper: Go to clergystuff.com/daily-devotions for devotions on the daily readings.

Monday, Psalm 118:26-29, *Psalm*

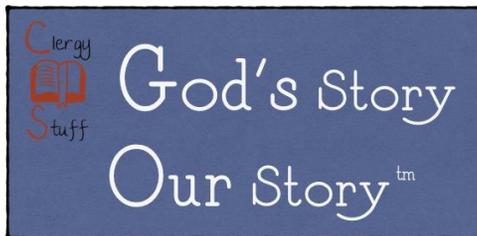
Tuesday, Matthew 26:31-75, *Betrayal of Jesus*

Wednesday, Matthew 27:1-26, *Passion*

Thursday, Matthew 26:17-30, *Words of Institution*

Friday, Matthew 27:27-61, *Crucifixion*

Saturday, Matthew 27:62-66, *The Guard at the Tomb*



Words of Institution
(Maundy Thursday)

April 18, 2019
Matthew 26:17-30

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



Pray: Light a candle. Open your devotion with prayer.

Dearest Jesus, knowing your time was near, you gathered your beloved. Bless us this day as we celebrate your last meal in anticipation of your impending trial, that we might be found faithful through it all. In your name, we pray. Amen.



Read: Read the key verses from Sunday's reading.

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." (Matthew 26:26-28)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

And now Jesus reaches a bittersweet moment: his last chance to gather, uninterrupted, with his beloved disciples. Food and blessings are shared, but a shadow of impending loss hangs overhead.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

What would you say to Jesus if he sat at your table for his final meal on earth?

For the littles: Who would you invite to a dinner party for Jesus? What would you serve? Jesus shared bread and wine with his best friends, the disciples, for his last meal on earth.



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God welcome you to Christ's table. Amen.



Do: By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

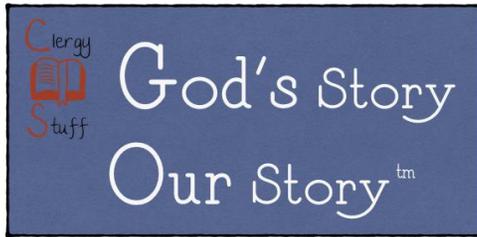
As you prepare for Good Friday, take time to be still and quiet in honor of this solemn event.



Go Deeper: Go to clergystuff.com/daily-devotions for devotions on the daily readings.

Friday, Matthew 27:27-61, *Crucifixion*

Saturday, Matthew 27:62-66, *The Guard at the Tomb*



Crucifixion: Matthew
(Good Friday)

April 19, 2019
Matthew 27:27-61

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



Pray: Light a candle. Open your devotion with prayer.

O Lord, you were faithful even unto a torturous, humiliating death. Remind us of what you gave up in order that we might appreciate what it is to gain everything. In your precious name, we pray. Amen.



Read: Read the key verses from Sunday's reading.

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. (Matthew 27:50-52)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

Anyone witnessing the death of Jesus would have been at a loss to explain what was happening: opening tombs, quaking earth and a tearing curtain. And through it all, the women who loved him remained, silent and faithful.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

God's entire creation mourned at the loss of Jesus. How has creation been changed by the events of Jesus' death and resurrection?

How does Jesus' crucifixion shape your life?

For the littles: When each of these occur, is creation sad, angry, happy, scared, surprised, or mischievous?

Earthquakes
Hurricanes
Eclipse
Wildfires
Sunshine
Tsunamis
Hail

Tornadoes
Rain
Drought
Landslides
Floods
Strong Winds
Northern Lights



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God hold you through the darkest times. Amen.



Do: By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Sit quietly in contemplation of the events of Holy Week.



Go Deeper: Go to clergystuff.com/daily-devotions for devotions on the daily readings.

Saturday, Matthew 27:62-66, *The Guard at the Tomb*