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## Maundy Thursday:

**Luke 22:1-23** — Jesus celebrated the Passover with his disciples and then instituted a new feast, a Christian feast, known as the Lord's Supper.

**John 14** — Known as the Upper Room Discourse, John 14-16 is one of Jesus' parting words. It's the most intimate teaching of Jesus in all of the New Testament.

**John 17** — Jesus prays to his Father before he is arrested and put to death.

## Good Friday:

**Matthew 26:26-27:61** — The trial & execution of Jesus, read as part of our Good Friday Service.

## HOLY SATURDAY:

**Isaiah 53** — What Jesus did on Friday.

**Hebrews 9** — What Jesus did on Saturday.

## EASTER SUNDAY:

**Luke 24** — The resurrection, the celebration of the Lord's Supper, and Christ's ascension. Read together at the Sunrise Service on Easter Morning.



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## We Believe...

*We believe* that Christ readily submitted to the will of his Father and suffered death on a cross.

*We believe* that this sacrifice of God's perfect Son is our only hope for the forgiveness of sin.

*We believe* that the grave could not hold Christ and that he emerged victorious over sin, death, and Satan.

*We believe* the Triumphant Christ is now exalted above everything in heaven and on earth, having been given all things by the Father.

*We believe* that the earthly ministry of Jesus — as exemplified in Holy Week — marks the dawn of the Spirit Age and birth of the Church.

*We believe* Christ will come for his Bride, the Church, to be forever united with him in love.



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# Holy Week: *a Meditation*

The following readings are provided to help focus your attention on the events surrounding Jesus' death and resurrection.



# Holy Week

## Understanding the Week:

The last week of Jesus' week is often called Holy Week, or the Passion Week. It is the week Jesus spent in Jerusalem leading up to his trial and execution. This important week not only looms large in the lives of believers, it actually does in Scripture as well. The Passion Week takes up a quarter of Matthew's gospel, a third of Mark's, and just under half of John's.

## Approaching the Scriptures:

Like many of Jesus' acts, not all of the details of that week are recorded, but what we do have creates a helpful meditation that prepares us for the Great Day of Atonement, when our Passover Lamb was slain so that we might be accepted by our Heavenly Father. The following Scriptures are intended to aid you in that work of preparation and meditation. I encourage you to read these texts as a family or with fellow believers.

These passages were chosen to provide perspective on the actions of Jesus, not simply recount them. Each Scripture will come with a brief explanation.



## Palm Sunday:

**1Kings 1:38-40** — This is the account of Solomon's coronation. Notice the common elements between this story and that of Mark 11.

**Psalms 2** — A coronation Psalm. Palm Sunday is, in some ways, the first installment of Jesus' enthronement as King. On this day he entered the royal, holy city. The surprise for the original readers of this psalm is that it was literally God's Son who was crowned King.

**Mark 11:1-11** — This is the account of Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The city was packed with pilgrims entering the city with hopes that God would deliver his people from their oppression. Some Jews realized that their fellow Pilgrim was also the Deliverer.

**Revelation 19:11-16** — Jesus won't always ride a donkey.

## Monday:

**1Kings 8:1-21** — The temple, the king, and the presence of God are intricately woven together.

**John 2:13-22** — Jesus' most symbolic act was cleansing the temple. John finds this so pivotal, he moved it to the beginning of his Gospel. This act contributes to his execution (Matt 26:61).

**Revelation 4** — The temple-throne of the King.

## Tuesday:

**Psalms 122** — For God's people, there was great peace in knowing the king was on his throne and the holy city secure. During Holy Week, the rightful King of Glory roamed the streets of Zion.

**Matthew 23** — All is not well in God's Holy City. Jesus does not come to bring peace, but a sword. His pronouncements against the religious elite seal his fate, but his mission was to please his Father, not men.

## Wednesday:

**Matthew 24** — This passage, known as the Olivet Discourse, is Jesus' most prophetic statement. God does not let the crucifixion go unpunished, and here Jesus advises his flock regarding that Great Day of Judgment.

**John 12:1-8** — Jesus was anointed at Bethany in preparation for his death and burial. Jesus knowingly and willingly drew near the cross.