



Daily Lenten Meditations Scriptures and Prayers for April 10-April 16, 2017 (Prepared by Rev. Karen Nyhart)

Monday, April 10

Scripture Verses: Luke 19:28-40

Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

"After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

²⁹ When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰ saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" ³² So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴ They said, "The Lord needs it." ³⁵ Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, ³⁸ saying,

"Blessed is the king
who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven,
and glory in the highest heaven!"

³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." ⁴⁰ He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

Prayer:

Lord, what a joy it is to celebrate Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem! The disciples gathered the colt for him to ride; people shouted "Hosanna", waved palm branches and placed their cloaks in the path of the colt. On Palm Sunday, children waved palms, sang and shout "Hosanna". The parade is a good thing.

I need to shout with joy and let the shouts ring in my heart. Bring me hope, gracious Lord, where I have allowed fear and confusion to reside. Bring me healing, where I have been wounded or have wounded others by my thoughts, words, and deeds. Bring me peace; bring me hope and being me love. Amen.

Tuesday, April 11

Scripture Verse: Luke 21:1-4

The Widow's Offering

"He looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury; ² he also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. ³ He said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them; ⁴ for all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on."

Prayer:

Lord, may we remember today that you can use whatever we have to glorify you. May we be willing to share whatever talents we have and whatever gifts we have so others can come to know your love and grace. Amen.

Wednesday, April 12

Scripture Verse: Matthew 26:14-16

Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus

“Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests ¹⁵ and said, “What will you give me if I betray him to you?” They paid him thirty pieces of silver. ¹⁶ And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.”

Prayer:

Jesus, your friend, Judas, put your life into the hands of the chief priest who hated you and you were entrusting yourself into the hands of your Father who loved you. May we trust you and remember your companionship and goodness even when we cannot see or feel it. And may we be one with you in sharing the same humble love into our world. Amen.

Thursday, April 13

Scripture Verse: John 13:12-16, 34-35

“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? ¹³ You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. ¹⁵ For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶ Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them.

³⁴ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Prayer:

Holy God, remind us on this Holy Thursday
of the many ways we know you:
as strong deliverer,
as humble servant,
as the One who bids us love one another,
that the world might know you.
Lead us not only to the beauty of solitary reflection
but also to community, as we remember together tonight in worship
your words and your example.
In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.

Friday, April 14

Scripture Verse: Luke 23:44-49

The Death of Jesus

“It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, ⁴⁵ while the sun’s light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶ Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.” Having said this, he breathed his last. ⁴⁷ When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, “Certainly this man was innocent.” ⁴⁸ And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. ⁴⁹ But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.”

Prayer:

O God of infinite love and power,
I pause on this Good Friday
to reflect on the passion of the Christ.
I am utterly humbled
in the presence of such love and mercy.
Open my heart this day
to the goodness of Good Friday,
and fill me with your love
and powerful Spirit of Holiness.
Remove from me all sin.
Offer me anew this life in Christ
that makes all things new. Amen.

Saturday, April 15

Scripture Verse: John 19:38-42

The Burial of Jesus

“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. ³⁹ Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. ⁴⁰ They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹ 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. ⁴² And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.”

Prayer:

Lord, on this Holy Saturday, we wait. We wait for Easter morning and the celebration that comes, but your disciples did not know what we know now. They were grief stricken at your death, confused, fearful and lonely. May we pause on this day to reflect your life, your ministry and your death. Amen.

Easter Sunday, April 16

Luke 24:1-12

The Resurrection of Jesus

“But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ²They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. ⁶Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.” ⁸Then they remembered his words, ⁹and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹²But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.”

Prayer:

Christ the Lord is Risen today! Alleluia! Our hopes and dreams have come true. We do not have to fear death, for Christ goes before us. God, may we open our hearts to receive your wondrous words of love. Help prepare us for the opportunities to serve you by serving others. Amen.