

Holy Week A Week of Prayer

John 17:1-26

- I. The week leading up to Easter is full with activities and is often called Holy Week. Here are a few terms associated with Holy Week.
 - a. Palm Sunday—Matthew 21:6-11
 1. This Sunday observes the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, that was marked by the crowds who were in Jerusalem for Passover waving palm branches and proclaiming him as the messianic king. The Gospels tell us that Jesus rode into the city on a donkey, enacting the prophecy of Zechariah 9:9
 2. Palm Sunday reminds us that we fail God also. Our Willing Worship on Sunday is often confused with Senseless Sinning on Monday.
 - b. Maundy Thursday/Seder Supper—Matthew 26: 20-30
There are a variety of events that are clustered on this last day before Jesus was arrested that are commemorated in various ways in services of worship. These include the last meal together, which was probably a Passover meal, the institution of Eucharist or Communion, the betrayal by Judas (because of the exchange with Jesus at the meal), and Jesus praying in Gethsemane while the disciples fell asleep.
 1. Passover meal/Lord Supper instituted
 2. Foot Washing John 13:2-5
 3. Prayer in Garden Matthew 26:36
 - ELEMENTS OF THE SEDER MEAL
 - Lamb The word 'pesach' (pasch, passover) applies to the Lamb of sacrifice as well as to the deliverance from Egypt and to the feast itself.
 - Unleavened bread (Matzoh) called "bread of affliction" because it recalls the unleavened

bread prepared for the hasty flight by night from Egypt. Three large matzohs are broken and consumed during the ceremony.

- Bitter herbs (Moror) is a reminder of the bitterness of slavery and suffering in Egypt.
- Green herbs to be dipped in salt water. Salt water represents tears of sorrow shed during the captivity of the Lord's people.
- Haroseth (or 'haroses') represents the mortar used by Jews in building palaces and pyramids of Egypt during their slavery. (It is a mixture of chopped apples, nuts, cinnamon and wine.)
- Wine is dipped from a common bowl. The 'Four Cups,' Thanksgiving, Hagadah ('telling'), Blessing, and Melchisedek ('righteousness'), are "four different words for redemption, spoken by God to Moses."

c. Good Friday—Matthew 27:1 Luke 23:7 Friday of Holy Week has been traditionally been called Good Friday or Holy Friday. On this day, the church commemorates Jesus' arrest, his trial, crucifixion, death, and burial.

1. The Arrest Matthew 26:47
2. Midnight Trial Matthew 26:57-67
3. Condemned to die Matthew 27:24-26
4. The crucifixion Matthew 27:27-60

d. Holy Saturday-- This is the seventh day of the week, the day Jesus rested in the tomb. In the first three Gospel accounts this was the Jewish Sabbath, which provided appropriate symbolism of the seventh day rest. While some church traditions continue daily services on Saturday, there is no communion served on this day. Some traditions suspend services and Scripture readings during the day on Saturday, to be resumed at the Easter Vigil after sundown Saturday. It is traditionally a day of quiet meditation as Christians

contemplate the darkness of a world without a future and without hope apart from God and his grace. Holy Saturday has traditionally been a time of reflection and waiting, the time of weeping that lasts for the night while awaiting the joy that comes in the morning (Holy Saturday has traditionally been a time of reflection and waiting, the time of weeping that lasts for the night while awaiting the joy that comes in the morning (Psalm 30:5).

e. Resurrection Sunday-Easter

- Is Easter a bad Word?
- ⁴After the arrest, he(Herod) put him(Peter) in prison and assigned four squads of four soldiers each to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the **Passover**. Acts 12:4 CSB
- ⁴And when he had apprehended him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after **Easter** to bring him forth to the people. Acts 12:4 KJV
- ⁶He is not here. For He has risen, just as He said. Come and see the place where He lay. Matthew 28:6

II. Jesus opens up Holy Week(maybe Wednesday) with a very special prayer Recorded in John Chapter 17.

- a. **17** Jesus spoke these things, looked up to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, John 17:1
- b. **18** After Jesus had said these things, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron Valley, where there was a garden, and he and his disciples went into it. John 18:1

III. Jesus prayed for Himself John 17:1-8

- a. It is in order to pray for yourself first.
1. ¹⁰Jabez called out to the God of Israel, "If only you would bless me, extend my border, let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm, so that I will

not experience pain." And God granted his request. 1 Chronicles 4:10

2. Jesus spoke these things, looked up to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son so that the Son may glorify You, John 17:1

b. It is in order to tell God what you have done

1. LORD I AM YOUR CHILD!!!

2. ⁴I have glorified you on the earth by completing the work you gave Me to do. John 17:4

3. ⁶"I have revealed Your name to the people You gave Me from the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. John 17:6

4. ⁸because I have given them the words You gave Me. They have received them and have known for certain that I came from You. They have believed that You sent Me. John 17:8

IV. Have you ever experienced the sensation of having someone you know pray for you in a time of need?

a. ³¹So Moses returned to the Lord and said, "Oh, these people have committed a grave sin; they have made a god of gold for themselves. ³²Now if you would only forgive their sin. But if not, please erase me from the book you have written." Exodus 32:31-32

b. ¹⁶Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is very powerful in its effect. James 5:16

V. Jesus prayed for us! John 17:9-19

a. Jesus prayed for our protection

1. ¹¹I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to You. Holy Father,

protect them by Your name that You have given Me, so that they may be one as We are one. John 17:11

2. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:7
 3. ²⁴Now to Him who is able to protect you from stumbling and to make you stand in the presence of His glory, without blemish and with great joy, Jude 24
- b. Jesus prayed for our Sanctification
1. ¹⁶They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. John 17:16-17
 2. ¹⁶I pray that He may grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power in your inner being through His Spirit, ...Ephesians 3:16-21
- c. Jesus prayed for our Unification John 17:20-24
1. ²⁰“I pray not only for these, but also for those who believe in Me through their word. ²¹May they all be one, as You, Father, are in Me and I am in You. May they also be in Us, so that the world may believe You sent Me. John 17:20-21
 2. The devil is afraid of a unified church with right motive.
 3. Wrong Motive: ⁶The Lord said, “If they have begun to do this as one people all having the same language, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. Genesis 11:6

4. Right Motive: When the day of Pentecost had arrived, they were all together in one place.
Acts 2:1

- d. Jesus prayed that love would abound John 17: 25-26
 1. ²⁵ Righteous Father, the world has not known you. However, I have known you, and they have known that You sent Me. ²⁶ I made your name known to them and will continue to make it known, so that the love You have loved Me with may be in them and I may be in them."
John 17:25-26
 2. ³⁴ "I give you a new command: Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you are also to love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another." John 13:34-35
 3. ¹¹ For this is the message you have heard from the beginning: We should love one another, ¹² unlike Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his deeds were evil, and his brother's were righteous. 1 John 3:11-12
 4. ¹³ Now these three remain: faith, hope, and love—but the greatest of these is love. 1 Corinthians 13:13