

APRIL 13, 2025  
PALM/PASSION  
SUNDAY



*The amazing depth of God's love!*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 19:28-40	Blessed is the king who comes
Monday	Luke 22:14–23:56	The Last Supper and crucifixion
Tuesday	Isaiah 50:4-9a	God's servant must suffer
Wednesday	Philippians 2:5-11	Christ shows us true humility
Thursday	John 13:1-17, 31b-35	Jesus washes the disciples' feet
Friday	John 18:1–19:42	The suffering and death of Jesus
Saturday	Psalms 31:9-16	A prayer for protection
Sunday	Luke 24:1-12	The resurrection of Jesus

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." Luke 23:34a (NRSV)*

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

Dear God of mercy, thank you for entering our experience of weakness and sin and for sending us out into the world with courage and grace through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

We thank you for this food, a sign of your steadfast love that protects us through Jesus Christ, your Son, and our Lord. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May God shine on you with steadfast love. (Psalm 31:16)



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APRIL 13, 2025  
HYMN OF THE WEEK  
*Bless Now, O God, the Journey*



### WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

### CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Is it easy or hard for you to forgive someone? Explain.
- If you were alive during Jesus' time, what would you have asked him?

### DEVOTIONS

*Read:* Luke 23:1-49.

The crucifixion of Jesus tells us a lot about ourselves and about our God who defeats human frailty with forgiveness and new beginnings. The crowds praise Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and then within a week say, "Crucify, crucify him" (v. 21). Peter promises to be faithful to Jesus but at a crucial moment denies him three times. The people give false witness about Jesus to make him look bad in front of Pilate. The leaders, the crowd, and the soldiers mock Jesus, but their words bear the truth of who he really is. Two criminals are killed along with Jesus. One ridicules Jesus while the other seeks his tender care. Through Jesus, God is willing to enter our world and participate in vulnerability, injustices, betrayal, suffering, and death. It shows the way of Jesus' cross as the way of true peace, true life, and true hope. It is the very example of God's amazing love.

*Discuss:* Who do you most identify with in the story of Jesus' crucifixion?

*Pray:* **Merciful God, through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, you endure our lies, our fears, and our sin; we praise you for enduring it all from the cross to bring salvation to us. Amen.**

### SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you help someone who is suffering?

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Prayer is an important spiritual practice for Christians. During this Lenten season, take time to focus on the prayer Jesus taught us to pray, the Lord's Prayer (Luke 11:2-4). The conclusion to the Lord's Prayer is an added doxology, an expression of praise to God, not found in Luke 11. This Palm Sunday we shout Hosanna as Jesus enters Jerusalem. Take time to reflect on the words of the conclusion of the Lord's Prayer: *For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.* Add these words to verses 2a, 2b, 3, 4a and 4b from the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth weeks in Lent by writing them around the outside of the cross drawn on the paper the first week. Take a moment to think or talk about what these words mean to you.

*Pray:* The Lord's Prayer.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org)