

The Journey of Holy Week

Journey with the disciples and Jesus, using the symbols you have collected.

Holy Week Scavenger Hunt! - Let's Begin

We are inviting each one of you to collect the following items and place them in a large bowl/basin to be ready to journey through Holy Week – through worship online on Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter, and in your own home daily throughout Holy Week. Items to gather:

- A branch (palm or any other local tree branch in your yard)
- Two stones (of any size)
- Bowl or basin (place all the items in the bowl)
- A Towel
- Plate, Cup (challis/wine glass), Bread and Liquid (juice, water)
- Feather
- Small container with garden soil/dirt
- Thorn (short sick, rose thorn)
- Stone (larger than the two other stones)
- Butterfly (draw/make or decorate your own)

Below are short scripture readings for Palm Sunday. During the Palm Sunday worship livestream we will reflect on some of the items you have collected. After the service we will provide you with the Holy Week readings and reflection questions to support you in your own personal Holy Week journey. We hope that you find these items to be supportive in deepening your experience of Holy Week and your journey to the Cross, and to the celebration of the Resurrected Christ.

In Life, In Death, In Life Beyond Death, We are Not Alone!

United Churches of Langley Palm Sunday April 5, 2020, 10:30am – Livestream

Prelude: Hosana Loud Hosana (instrumental)

ELLACOMBE tune from the Württemberg Gesangbuch

arr. Lani Smith

Christ Candle is Lit - Bowl is Sung

Welcome & Acknowledgement of First Nations

Introduction to Palm Sunday

Today, we find ourselves in an uncomfortable place in our lives as Christians.

On the one hand, it is Palm Sunday, and there is the joyful celebration of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem.

On the other hand, we look ahead to Holy Week and the events of the final week of the life of Jesus, which ends in his crucifixion on the cross.

In addition, we are asked to not gather together in person for this journey, to remain physically separate, while keeping connected with community during this holy time.

In our Livestream service today,

we will travel to Jerusalem with Jesus and the disciples, from his triumphant entry to his time in the garden.

You are encouraged to use the Holy Week symbols that you many have collected, or that you will see online, and enter into the story and find your place as we participate in the events of this holy time & place.

Song: He Came Riding on a Donkey VU 124 vs. 1,2 only

A Branch

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God – the King of Israel!"

~ John 12:12-14

Two Stones

Jesus came down a path of stones near where the road goes to the Mount of Olives. There the whole crowd began to praise God with joy. In loud voices they praised him... Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell your followers to stop!" Jesus answered, "If they keep quiet, the stones will shout out!"

~ Luke 19:37-40

Sing Bowl – Wondering

Ministry of Music: To The Table by Jonathan Smith, Zach Williams

and Tony Wood

A Bowl/Basin and A Towel

Jesus got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' Jesus answered, 'You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.' Simon Peter said to him, 'You will never wash my feet.' Jesus answered, 'Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.' Simon Peter said to him, 'Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!'

~ John 13:4-9

Sing Bowl - Wondering

A Plate, A Cup, Bread and Drink

When the hour came, he took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. He said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.

~ Luke 22:14-16, 19-20

A Feather

Then Jesus said to them, 'You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered...' Peter said to him, 'Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.' Jesus said to him, 'Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.' Peter said to him, 'Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.' And so said all the disciples.

~ Matthew 26:31-35

Sing Bowl – Wondering

Song As a Deer Seeks Flowing Waters VU 767

Words by Lydia Pedersen

Garden Soil

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake." And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, "Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want."

~ Mark 14:32-36

Sing Bowl – Wondering

Prayers of the People

Invitation to Generosity – Invitation to Holy Week

Blessing Holy Week Poem by Ann Weems

Holy Week is a time to take time to let the power of our faith story take hold of us, a time to let the events get up and walk around in us, a time to intensify our living unto Christ, a time to hover over the thoughts of our hearts, a time to place our feet in the streets of Jerusalem or to walk along the sea and listen to his Word, a time to touch his robe and feel the healing surge through us, a time to ponder and a time to wonder....

Holy Week is a time to allow a fresh new taste of God! Perhaps we're afraid to have time to think, for thoughts come unbidden.

Perhaps we're afraid to face our future knowing our past.

Give us courage, O God, to hear your Word and to read our living into it.

Give us the trust to know we're forgiven and give us the faith to take up our lives and walk.

Postlude

#StayHome #StaySafe #StayConnected

He Came Riding on a Donkey, vs. 1,2 Voices United 124

Words: Gordon Light 1986. Music: Gordon Light 1986, arr. Nan Thompson 1995 Words and music © 1986 Common Cup Company. All rights reserved. ONE LICENSE, license #A-711491

If not watching livestream, you may want to watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BgEHDp-Qchw

He came riding on a donkey,
he came riding into town;
slow and easy, kind and lowly
he came riding with the dawn.
His disciples walked beside him,
staying close, a little shy;
not too sure where he would guide them,
on the to live or on to die.
But all the morning sang his praises;
waking birds and dancing wind;
here he is, the Son of David;
riding on to take his throne.

Then the children gathered,
singing, shouts of laughter, bursting cheer;
in the streets their song was ringing,
"Hosannas" filled the morning air.

Timid adults strained to see him,
caught the Spirit, joined the song;
spread their cloaks along before him,
branches flashing in the sun.

So all the city sang his praises,
waking streets and dancing crowd;
here he is, the song of David;
our Messiah, Son of God.

To The Table by Zach Williams, Jonathan Smith, and Tony Wood If not watching livestream, you may want to watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DX67rHyTdmM

As a Deer Seeks Flowing Waters Voices United 767

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If not livestream, international version to watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KnIYWKfW74E

As a deer seeks flowing waters, weary from the chase, so my soul, O God, is thirsting to behold your face.

Refrain:

You command my steadfast love, in you my soul may quiet be; you, my rock, my help, my refuge, set my spirit free.

Day and night I cry, my heart is breaking, Tears my only food; While my enemies jeer and taunt me, saying: Where is now your God?"

Refrain

Why am I so sad, so troubled; why must suffering be so long? I will hope in you, my God and saviour, praise you with a song!

Refrain



Make some butterflies to display in your windows for Easter morning!

Holy Week Services

Join United Churches of Langley as we journey our way to the Cross and to the Celebration of the Resurrected Christ.

> Palm Sunday – April 5, 2020 10:30 am Palm Sunday Service - Livestream

> Good Friday – April 10, 2020 6:00 pm - Good Friday Service - Livestream

Easter Sunday – April 12, 2020 10:30 am Easter Celebration Service - Livestream

More Holy Week scripture and reflection questions will be coming to you after Palm Sunday.... Watch your email for details!



21562 Old Yale Road, Langley, BC V3A 4M8 UnitedChurchesOfLangley.ca | 604-530-2929





