

2026: Holy Week Devotional: “The Hour Has Come.”

Day 1 – Palm Sunday: The King Who Comes Gently

Scripture: John 12:12–19

Theme: Expectation vs. God’s Kingdom

Jesus enters Jerusalem to shouts of *Hosanna*, yet He rides a donkey, not a warhorse. The crowd celebrates a king, but misunderstands the kind of kingdom He brings. John wants us to see the tension: Jesus is fully King, but His glory will be revealed through suffering rather than conquest. **Palm Sunday** invites us to examine our expectations of Jesus. Do we want Him to fix circumstances, defeat our enemies, or bless our plans? Or are we willing to follow Him on the road that leads to the cross?

Reflection: Where might I be praising Jesus while continuing to allow Him to be Lord in my life? Am I willing to submit to His leadership daily?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, You are King—teach me to welcome You not only with my words, but with my obedience. Amen.

Day 2 – Monday: A Fragrant Act of Love

Scripture: John 12:1–8

Theme: Extravagant Devotion

Mary anoints Jesus with costly perfume, filling the house with fragrance. What looks wasteful to Judas is the worship of Jesus. Mary understands something the others do not: Jesus is moving toward His burial. True devotion is not calculated; it is poured out. Mary gives what she has because Jesus is worth everything.

Reflection: Is my worship measured and safe, or costly and surrendered?

Prayer: Jesus, free my heart from restraint. May my love for You be poured out without fear or hesitation. Amen.

Day 3 – Tuesday: Unless a Grain of Wheat Dies

Scripture: John 12:20–26

Theme: Life Through Death

When the Greeks ask to see Jesus, He responds by speaking of death. The hour has come, and the path to glory runs through the grave. Jesus teaches a kingdom principle that still challenges us: life is found by letting go. Fruitfulness in God’s kingdom always involves surrender.

Reflection: What am I holding onto that Jesus is asking me to release?

Prayer: Father, teach me to trust that dying to myself leads to true life in You. Amen.

Day 4 – Wednesday: Light and Darkness

Scripture: John 12:35–36, 44–50

Theme: Responding to the Light

As opposition grows, Jesus speaks urgently about light and belief. Darkness is not merely ignorance—it is rejection. John shows us that belief is not neutral; it is a decisive response to God’s self-revelation in Christ.

Reflection: Am I walking in the light I have been given, or delaying obedience?

Prayer: Light of the world, expose what keeps me in shadow and lead me into Your truth. Amen.

Day 5 – Holy Thursday: Love to the End

Scripture: John 13:1–17, 34–35

Theme: Servant Love

On the night of betrayal, Jesus washes feet. Knowing the cross is hours away, He chooses humble service. Then He gives a new commandment: *love one another as I have loved you*. Christian love is not sentimental—it kneels, serves, and sacrifices.

Reflection: Whose feet might Jesus be calling me to wash in love?

Prayer: Lord, shape my life by Your servant heart. Teach me to love as You love. Amen.

Day 6 – Good Friday: It Is Finished

Scripture: John 19:16–30

Theme: The Completed Work of Christ

John presents the cross not as defeat, but as victory. Jesus is in control to the end. When He declares, *“It is finished,”* He announces that the work of salvation is complete. There is nothing to add. Nothing to earn. Nothing left undone.

Reflection: Do I live as though Christ’s work is truly finished?

Prayer: Crucified Savior, thank You for bearing my sin and completing my redemption. Amen.

Day 7 – Saturday: Waiting in Silence

Scripture: John 19:38–42

Theme: Trust in the Silence

Jesus is buried. The disciples wait. God seems silent. Silent Saturday reminds us that God is still at work even when nothing appears to be happening. Waiting is not wasted when it is placed in God’s hands.

Reflection: Where am I being asked to trust God in the silence?

Prayer: God of hope, sustain me when I cannot see what You are doing. Amen.

Day 8 – Easter Sunday: He Is Risen

Scripture: John 20:1–18

Theme: Resurrection and New Creation

The tomb is empty. Jesus is alive. Mary’s grief turns to joy when Jesus calls her name. Resurrection is not just victory over death—it is the beginning of a new creation. The risen Christ still calls His followers by name and sends them into the world.

Reflection: How is the resurrection shaping the way I live today?

Prayer: Risen Lord, call me anew and send me as a witness of Your life and hope. Amen.