

Trail Guide -- Holy Week. April 5 -11. 2020

With the unexpected comes the opportunity for the extraordinary!

We continue to follow an extraordinary Savior who faced the expected and unexpected with singular faith and focus. This week marks the challenging final week of his earthly ministry.

We, too, face challenging times. Amidst the shifting sands of alarming and at times conflicting news, we have an anchor for our hope and true security in the scriptures. We are not alone.

When (not if) anxiety strikes, let the words of scripture and the quieting exercise of prayer bring calm, strength, and hope. The following words and scripture are shared in the hope and prayer that you will find the guidance, grace, and faith to see you through each day of Holy Week with hope and joy.

In addition to our daily readings and reflection from The Pillars of Lent, we've included a scripture reading and question related directly to Holy Week for

The Pillar of Prayer

- I.1 Each morning, read the word and scripture for the day, either alone or with your family.
- I.2 Think about the word throughout the day. You may want to write the word and the scripture passage on a 3x5 card to carry with you.
- I.3 Pray a short prayer inviting Jesus to your day. Ask him for grace to give you eyes to see him with you today.
- I.4 Reflect on the word and the scripture verse throughout the day. Look for examples, illustrations, inspirations, etc., that reflect the daily word. Take a picture that represents the word for you.
- I.5 At the end of the day, think back to recall where you were most aware of Christ with you. Share with family/a friend what you thought of and/or experienced during the day.
- I.6 Thank Jesus for the gift of his companionship and closeness throughout the day.

Sun, 4/5 Sometime today, read Matthew 21:1-11. Today, we remember the incredibly difficult journey Jesus undertook by entering Jerusalem. What difficult journey are you on? What costly obedience has God called you to?

Mon, 4/6 2 Peter 3:8-9 – Word for today: “Want”; # of books

Read Matthew 22:37-40. With social distancing, how can you show love to God and neighbor

Tues, 4/7 Psalm 51:1 – Word for today: “Mercy”; # of reusable shopping bags

Luke 22:39. How can you follow Jesus' example of meeting with his companions?

Wed, 4/8 Revelation 19:11-12 – Word for today: “Justice”; # of toilets

Mark 14:6. What beautiful thing might you do for Jesus today/this week?

Thurs, 4/9 Revelation 15:4 – Word for today: “Alone”; # of connected devices

John 13:34-35. Love is - the mark of the Christian. Love is not - a feeling, wish, intention. Love is – action.

Fri, 4/10 Mark 6:31 – Word for today: “Silence”; # of pillows

John 19:31-37. We remember the sacrifice of Jesus. For love. How do we follow his example?

Sat, 4/11 1 Peter 1:3 – Word for today: “Resurrection”; # of bathtubs

Reflect on the journey of Jesus this past week... Prepare your heart for tomorrow. Easter. Resurrection!

Pray for our worship times this week, for all who are suffering from COVID-19, for healthcare workers, for those out of work and struggling. We long for a resurrection!

The Pillar of Fasting

The second Pillar is fasting; that is, intentionally going without food or something else in order to spend time with God. One suggested “family fast” is to set aside smart phones, tablets, and computers for an agreed upon time period, once a week or even once a day.

The Pillar of Almsgiving (see daily items above)

Remember to “bring” your Lent/Easter offering for our missionaries to our worship.