

A Holy Week (Apart)

Live into the Full Impact of Holy Week and Easter...even if you can't meet at Church



The *Easter Triduum* (Trid-u-um) is the Latin word for the “Great Three Days” that begin at sundown Thursday and draw to a close Easter Day at sundown. Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil are actually one worship service played-out over these three days. Through these three days we invite you to journey with Jesus Christ and his early followers through death and dying to new life in the Resurrection.

<p>Maundy Thursday Maundy Thursday (from <i>mandatum</i>, Latin for commandment) proclaims Jesus’ new commandment to love one another as he has loved us. It celebrates Christ’s example of humble service and self-offering, represented by the washing of feet and the sharing of communion.</p>	<p>Good Friday Good Friday proclaims the good news of salvation through the paradoxical suffering and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. The center of this liturgy is the reading of the passion narrative from the Gospel of John, in which Christ is lifted up on the cross as a sign of God’s great love for the world.</p>	<p>Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil Holy Saturday marks the despair and dispersal of the disciples. And through the Easter Vigil we are gathered by the Resurrection of Jesus and celebrate the Hope embodied by Jesus’ victory over death, violence, and sin. The story of many of God’s works to bring freedom and salvation throughout history are remembered.</p>
<p>Read: John 13:1-17,31b-35 Do: Pour a bowl of water. Dip your hand into the water, letting the water pour out. Meditation: A monk who lived alone in the Egyptian desert was asked by a monk who lived in a community, “<i>Whose feet will you wash?</i>”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Who is Jesus asking you to love?</i> • <i>How will you serve others in humbleness?</i> 	<p>Read: John 18:1-19:42 Do: Once it is dark light a candle and turn off the lights. Hold your hands over your eyes, then open them and extinguish the candle. Meditation: When you uncover your eyes, notice how this one candle changes how you see things.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>How does the cross, the symbol of sacrificial love and nonviolence of Jesus Christ change how you see things?</i> • <i>What difference will that make?</i> 	<p>Dusk on Friday Do: Sit in silence for 1-5 minutes before reading scriptures. Read: Exodus 14, Ezekiel 37:1-14 Early Easter Morning: Do: Light a candle as you read. Read: Luke 24:1-12, Romans 6:3-11 Meditation: Resurrection means literally “<i>to stand again.</i>” Easter morning, we are gifted by Jesus with the ability to be at full stature despite the fears, disappointments, and failures past.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>How is God’s work to save the forsaken throughout history at work in you today?</i> • <i>How will you respond to the Resurrection?</i>