

2025
HOLY WEEK RESOURCE GUIDE
WEIRTON CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Included in this packet are potential helps for reflection during Holy Week.

Please note that the meaningful quotes, music, and poetry included in this packet are not necessarily an endorsement of any other publications, works, or expressed views by the particular authors or artists. The included works here are—in our best judgment—fitting and in harmony with our beliefs and conscious, but we cannot guarantee what you will find by these same persons elsewhere.

When in doubt, go to the Scriptures and find that what is there is trustworthy and good.

SUGGESTED SCRIPTURE READINGS

Job 38-42	Jeremiah 33
Psalm 22 - (quoted by Jesus on the cross)	Hosea 5-6
Psalm 41	Joel 1-3
Psalm 51	Jonah 4
Psalm 64	Habakkuk 3
Psalm 69	Matthew 26-27
Psalm 113 - 118 (recited during Passover)	Luke 22-23
Psalm 143	John 13-19
Isaiah 53	Hebrews 9-10
Jeremiah 31	

PRAYERS

Palm Sunday Prayer

“Hosanna!” We give you praise and honor for your ways are righteous and true. We worship you because you are holy and just. We will declare that your love stands firm forever. For your lovingkindness endures forever. Thank you that your ways are far greater than our ways, your thoughts far deeper than our thoughts. Thank you that you had a plan to redeem; you make all things new. Thank you that your face is towards the righteous, and you hear our prayers, and know our hearts. Help us to stay strong and true to you. Help us not to follow after the voice of the crowds, but to press in close to your, to hear your whispers, and seek after you alone. We praise you, Lord. Thank you for reigning supreme. In the mighty name of Jesus, we pray... Amen and Amen.

Good Friday Prayer

Father, it is a humbling thing to be died for. On this day, let me remember that Jesus Christ, your Son, did exactly that for me. And he went to his death knowing full well how often I would forget his love. Let no pride keep me from kneeling at the foot of that cross. In the name of Jesus my Savior I pray...Amen.

SONGS & SPOKEN WORD

Hymns:

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
O Sacred Head, Now Wounded
A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth
The Old Rugged Cross
O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus
Hallelujah, What A Savior
Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy
How Deep the Father's Love for Us

Contemporary:

The Crucifixion of Jesus (album) - Fernando Ortega
Golgotha (album) - Poor Bishop Hooper
Good Friday - Josh Garrels
Thank You Jesus for the Blood - Charity Gayle
With Every Power Wide Awake - John Van Deusen
Songs for Holy Week (album) - Lifeway Worship
Speak to Me (Reading of Scripture) (album) - David Teems, Phil Keaggy, Tom Hemby
Wood and Nails - Porter's Gate
Mountain - Strahan
Maundy Thursday: Washer of Feet - Liturgical Folk
Psalm 116 (I Love You, Lord) Acoustic - Mission House
Psalms (album) - Sandra McCracken
Psalm 126 - Molly Parden/Bifrost Arts
Now Behold the Lamb (Live) - Kirk Franklin & the Family
Sunday is Coming - Phil Wickham
It's Friday, but Sunday's Coming - SM Lockridge
Go to Dark Gethsemane - Page CXVI
Lost the Plot - Newsboys
Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?

POEMS

Threatened by darkness
Our suffering Light
Submitted His power
Gave in to the night

Abandoned, forsaken
Dismayed, but not lost
He willingly gave up
His blood to the cross

Treasure of heaven
For a world stained with sin
The King's Son was ransom
Our lost souls to win

Soaring fire of His Spirit
By our sin brought low
Yet Love's burning ember
Continued to glow

Great light faced great
darkness
But light overcame
The fuel for my heart fire
The cure for my shame.

- TONI UMBARGER

1 A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth,
The guilt of all men bearing;
'Tis laden with the sin of earth,
None else the burden sharing;
It goes its way, grows weak and faint,
To slaughter led without complaint,
Its spotless life to offer;
Bears shame, and stripes, and wounds, and death,
Anguish and mockery, and saith,
"Willing all this I suffer."

2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great Friend
And everlasting Savior;
Him, Him God chose, sin's reign to end
And bring us to His favor.
"Go forth, my Son!" He said, "and bail
The children, who are doomed to hell
But for Thine intercession.
The punishment is great, and dread
The wrath, but Thou Thy blood shalt shed,
And save them from perdition."

3 "Yea, Father, yea, most willingly
I'll bear what Thou commandest;
My will conforms to Thy decree,
I do what Thou demandest."
O wondrous Love! what hast Thou done!
The Father offers up His Son,
The Son content descendeth!
O Love! O Love! how strong art Thou!
In shroud and grave Thou lay'st Him low
Whose word the mountains rendeth!

4 Thou lay'st him, Love, upon the cross,
With nails and spear Him bruising;
Thou slay'st Him as a lamb, His loss,
From soul and body oozing;
From body 'tis the crimson flood
Of precious sacrificial blood,
From soul, the strength of anguish:
My gain it is; sweet Lamb to Thee
What can I give, whose love to me
For me doth make Thee languish?

5 Lord, all my life I'll cleave to Thee,
Thy love fore'er beholding,
Thee ever, as Thou ever me,
With loving arms enfolding.
Yea, Thou shalt be my Beacon-light,
To guide me safe through death's dark night,
And cheer my heart in sorrow;
Henceforth myself and all that's mine
to Thee, my Savior, I consign,
From whom all things I borrow.

6 By morn and eve my theme shall be
Thy mercy's wondrous measure;
To sacrifice myself to Thee,
My foremost aim and pleasure.
My stream of life shall flow for Thee,
Its steadfast current ceaselessly
In praise to Thee outpouring;
And all that Thou hast done for me,
I'll treasure in my memory,
Thy gracious love adoring.

7 Enlarge, shrine of my heart, and swell,
To Thee shall now be given
A treasure that doth far excel
The worth of earth and heaven.
Away with the Arabian gold,
With treasures of an earthly mold!
I've found a better jewel.
My priceless treasure, Lord my God,
Is Thy most holy, precious blood,
Which flowed from wounds so cruel.

8 This treasure ever I'll employ,
This ever aid shall yield me;
In sorrow it shall be my joy,
In conflict it shall shield me;
In joy, the music of my feast,
And when all else has lost its zest,
This manna still shall feed me;
In thirst my drink; in want my food;
My company in solitude,
To comfort and to lead me.

9 Death's poison cannot harm me now,
Thy blood new life bestoweth;
My Shadow from the heat art Thou,
When noonday's sunlight gloweth.
When I'm by inward grief opprest,
On Thee my weary soul shall rest,
As sick men on their pillows.
Thou art my Anchor, when by woe
My bark is driven to and fro
On trouble's restless billows.

10 And when Thy glory I shall see
And taste Thy kingdom's pleasure,
Thy blood my royal robe shall be,
And joy beyond at measure;
It then shall be my glorious crown,
Thus I'll appear before the throne
Of God, and need not hide me;
And shall, by Him to Thee betrothed,
By Thee in bridal garments clothed,
Stand as a bride beside Thee.

- PAUL GERHARDT

QUOTES FOR REFLECTION

Faith derives its vitality not from Christ healing as a super-human, divine miracle worker, but on the contrary from the fact that he brings help through his wounds and through what from the human point of view is his impotent suffering. 'When my heart is most fearful, help me out of my fears, through thy fear and pain,' says a hymn by Paul Gerhardt. This mysticism of the passion has discovered a truth about Jesus Christ which ought not to be suppressed by being understood in a superficial way. It can be summed up by saying that suffering is overcome by suffering, and wounds are healed by wounds. For the suffering in suffering is the lack of love, and the wounds in wounds are the abandonment, and the powerless in pain is unbelief. And therefore the suffering and abandonment is overcome by the suffering of love, which is not afraid of what is sick and ugly, but accepts it and takes it to itself in order to heal it. Through his own abandonment by God, the crucified Christ brings God to those who are abandoned by God. Through his suffering he brings salvation to those who suffer. Through his death he brings eternal life to those who are dying. And therefore the tempted, rejected, suffering, and dying Christ came to be the center of religion of the oppressed and piety of the lost. - JURGEN MOLTSMANN, THE CRUCIFIED GOD

Until women and men come to discover the truth of God's presence in their lives, and discover it not merely as some statement they affirm or deny but as a living reality, they will never recognize the fulfillment of the 'not yet,' the fulfillment of God's total gift. - ERNEST BOYER, JR., A WAY IN THE WORLD

God allows himself to be edged out of the world and on to the cross. He is weak and powerless in the world, and that is precisely the way, the only way, in which he is with us and helps us. - DIETRICH BONHOEFFER, LETTERS AND PAPERS FROM PRISON

Before we can begin to see the cross as something done *for us*, we have to see it as something done *by us*. - JOHN STOTT, THE CROSS OF CHRIST

The Crucifixion did not become common in art because it was beautiful. It was the ugliness of it—the monstrous nature of what we did to God—that made it unforgettable. - C.S. LEWIS (*Paraphrased from thoughts on suffering and redemption*)

All heaven is interested in the cross of Christ, all hell terribly afraid of it, while men are the only beings who more or less ignore its meaning. - OSWALD CHAMBERS, MY UTMOST FOR HIS HIGHEST