



# Summer Blockbuster Reading Challenge

3 months—4 Gospels—Go!

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 2022



### Take your Pulse

What has been the highlight of your week?

What moment of this week would you rather forget?

### Today's Reading

Luke Chapter 23

There is something oddly familiar about the relationship between Pilate and the people. I am reminded of the movie Jaws, which I just saw when the Buchanan Center showed it on the Square. The Sheriff wanted to close the beach due to the shark attack (Compare to Pilate wanting to release Jesus). The town council wanted to keep it open, because commerce and the life of the city and money (compare to the chief priests stirring up the crowd with “crucify him”). The town council prevailed, as did the chief priests, the beach stayed open, and more died. And Jesus was crucified, all to save the precious system of the Temple authority against new ways.



### Start the Thinking

Systems of power tend to want to stay in power, and even when change is necessary, systems will often fight against change. What is something in your personal life that you are aware needs to change, but you resist even knowing the change is for the better, because you fear change itself?



### Conversing with God

O Holy God, the death of your Son Jesus is your condemnation of all the human systems of power. An innocent man stands in the place of all that is corrupt and abusive in the world. Bring us once more to the cross, let all that needs to die within us die, so that we may be ready for the fullness of resurrection and its true power within us today. In your holy name we pray. Amen



### Be blessed

May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind always be at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face, and rains fall soft upon your fields.  
And until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of His hand.