

PRINCE OF PEACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
JOHNSONVILLE, PA

HOLY WEEK 2020 – HOME DEVOTIONS

Since we cannot gather for worship for Holy Week this year, we are providing worship that you can do at home throughout the whole week. There are services in this booklet for every day of Holy Week, from Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion (April 5) through Easter Sunday (April 12).

We invite you to use these devotions in your home each day. They are designed to be used either by an individual or a family. If you are using these services by yourself, you can speak (silently or aloud) all the words printed. If you are using them with others in your family, one person can be the leader (plain text), and everyone else can be the congregation (**bold text**).

We invite you to set aside a “holy time” each day to follow these devotions, perhaps in the evening. We also invite you to create a “holy space” in your home, a place where you will worship. This might be a desk, or a chair. Perhaps it’s a quiet nook in your family room or the dining room table. For each service, you will need a Bible, a piece of paper, and something to draw with (pencil, marker, crayon, etc.). Each day’s service will refer you to several Bible passages to read, as well as an “image” for you to draw. Each image is taken from one of the readings for the day, and you are invited to draw that image as part of your meditation. Don’t worry if you’re not an artist! The point here is not to create a masterpiece, but to allow yourself to pray through creativity. After the readings, you are invited to pray silently while drawing, allowing the readings to fill your mind. (If you desire, you could create these images in a different way, such as sculpture, music, poetry, etc.) Take your time, and see where your creativity and heart take you.

The devotions for Palm Sunday through Wednesday, plus Holy Saturday, are the same, except for the scripture readings and the image. These devotions are based on “Night Prayer” in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*. (But you do not need to do them at night.) The services for Thursday and Friday are based on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday worship in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*. The service for Easter Sunday is based on Morning Prayer in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

If you have the ability, we invite you to check the church website at popbangor.org each day for additional video offerings to supplement these services. In addition, you can check the church’s Facebook page ([facebook.com/popbangor](https://www.facebook.com/popbangor)) for daily activities for kids.

We wish you a very blessed Holy Week, and a joyous Easter.

SUNDAY, MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, SATURDAY

SILENCE

Begin your devotional time with a moment of silence. If you like, light a candle or play some quiet, contemplative music.

DIALOGUE

Almighty God grant us a quiet night and peace at the last. **Amen.**
By day, O God, **you grant your steadfast love,**
and at night your song is with me, **a prayer to the God of my life.**

READINGS

Read the four assigned readings for the day (listed below).

PRAY THROUGH ART

While meditating on the readings, take time to draw an image inspired by the word of the day (listed below). When you are finished, sit with your drawing for a moment, and thank God for this opportunity to be together.

PALM SUNDAY

1 Samuel 16:11-13
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 1:21-30
Matthew 21:1-11
Image: Palm branch

TUESDAY

Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 71:1-14
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
John 12:20-36
Image: Grain of wheat

SATURDAY

Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-24
Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16
1 Peter 4:1-8
John 19:38-42
Image: Garden

MONDAY

Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 36:5-11
Hebrews 9:11-15
John 12:1-11
Image: Perfume

WEDNESDAY

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 70
Hebrews 12:1-3
John 13:21-32
Image: Bread

RESPONSE

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.
Into your hands I commend my spirit.
You have redeemed me, O Lord, God of truth.
Into your hands I commend my spirit.
Glory to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
Into your hands, I commend my spirit.

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping;

that awake we may watch with Christ and asleep may rest in peace.

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled.

**My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of ev'ry people:
a light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel.**

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping;

that awake we may watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace.

PRAYERS

Hear my prayer, O Lord;

listen to my cry.

Keep me as the apple of your eye;

hide me in the shadow of your wings.

In righteousness I shall see you;

when I awake, your presence will give me joy.

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work or watch or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, comfort the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Almighty and merciful God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless, preserve, and keep us, this night and forevermore.

Amen.

SILENCE

End your devotional time with a moment of silence.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

SILENCE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Within the community of the church, God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving the peace of reconciliation. On this night let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace we have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen us with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in our hearts through faith.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave us a new commandment, to love one another as he loves us. Write this commandment on our hearts, and give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

READINGS

Exodus 12:1-14

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

John 13:1-17, 31-35

PRAY THROUGH ART

Image: Water basin and towel

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

God of love, unite your church in its commitment to humble service. Make us your faithful disciples. Speak words of truth and grace through us. Encourage us in self-giving acts of kindness. Let us love one another as you have loved us. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of love, tend to flocks, fields, and vineyards. Bring favorable weather for crops to grow. Guide the hands of those who cultivate, farm, and garden. Let the earth flourish so that all may eat and be satisfied. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of love, you give us a new commandment, to have love for one another. We give thanks for organizations that respond to disasters and for agencies that offer relief and humanitarian aid to populations in need. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of love, give ear to all who call upon you for any need of body or spirit. Provide for those who do not have enough to eat, those who are unemployed or underemployed, and those who rely on the generosity of others. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of love, you invite us to your table of mercy. Heal all divisions between members of this assembly. Extend the hospitality of this table beyond these walls, that your love and welcome be made known to all. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of love, glorify your servants who walked by faith in this life and who now feast with you. Inspire us by the sacrifice of those who were imprisoned, persecuted, or martyred for their faith. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

READING

Read Psalm 88, which evokes the arrest, the trial, and the scourging of Jesus that came at the end of this night.

SILENCE

GOOD FRIDAY

SILENCE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Merciful God, your Son was lifted up on the cross to draw all people to himself. Grant that we who have been born out of his wounded side may at all times find mercy in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forevermore. **Amen.**

READINGS

Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12

Psalm 22

Hebrews 10:16-25

John 18:1 – 19:42

PRAY THROUGH ART

Image: Cross

BIDDING PRAYER

We pray for the holy church throughout the world.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, guide the church and gather it throughout the world. Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name, and bring the good news of salvation in Christ to all people. **Amen.**

We pray for Elizabeth and Samuel our bishops, for Michael our pastor, for all servants of the church, and for all the people of God.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, strengthen and uphold our bishops, pastors, other ministers, and lay leaders. Keep them in health and safety for the good of the church, and help each of us in our various vocations to do faithfully the work to which you have called us. **Amen.**

We pray for our sisters and brothers who share our faith in Jesus Christ.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, look with favor on all who follow Jesus your Son. Make all the baptized one in the fullness of faith, and keep us united in the fellowship of love. **Amen.**

We pray for the Jewish people, the first to hear the word of God.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, hear our prayers that the people you called and elected as your own may receive the fulfillment of the covenant's promises. **Amen.**

We pray for those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, gather into your embrace all those who call out to you under different names. Bring an end to inter-religious strife, and make us more faithful witnesses of the love made known to us in your Son. **Amen.**

We pray for those who do not believe in God.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, grant that all may recognize the signs of your love and grace in the world and in the lives of Christians, and gladly acknowledge you as the one true God. **Amen.**

We pray for God's creation.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, hold all the worlds in the arms of your care and bring all things to fulfillment in you. **Amen.**

We pray for those who serve in public office.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, give wisdom to those in authority, so that all people may enjoy justice, peace, freedom, and a share in the goodness of your creation. **Amen.**

We pray for those in need.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, and deliver your world from falsehood, hunger, and disease. Hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble, that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need. **Amen.**

Finally, we pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask:

Our Father, who art in heaven...

ADORATION OF THE CROSS

Looking at your drawing of the cross, say this:

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

SILENCE

(Saturday's service is on p. 2)

EASTER SUNDAY

DIALOGUE

Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, O God,

that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Praise to the blest and holy Trinity, one God, who gives us life, salvation, and resurrection. Alleluia.

Alleluia. Christ is risen indeed.

Oh, come, let us worship and praise.

READINGS

Acts 10:34-43

Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24

Colossians 3:1-4

John 20:1-18

PRAY THROUGH ART

Image: Dawn

PRAYERS

Mighty God of mercy, we thank you for the resurrection dawn, bringing the glory of our risen Lord who makes every day new. Especially we thank you for the sustaining goodness of your creation, for the new creation in Christ and all gifts of healing and forgiveness, for the gifts of relationship with others, for the communion of faith in your church.

Merciful God of might, renew this weary world, heal the hurts of all your children, and bring about your peace for all in Christ Jesus, the living Lord. Especially we pray for those who govern nations of the world; for the people in countries ravaged by strife or warfare; for all who work for peace and international harmony; for all who strive to save the earth from carelessness and destruction; for the church of Jesus Christ in every land.

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

PASCHAL BLESSING

Let us pray. O God, for our redemption you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin so that we may rise to live with Christ forever; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God bless us, and direct our days and our deeds in peace. **Amen. Alleluia!**

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