



Summer Blockbuster Reading Challenge

3 months—4 Gospels—Go!

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 2022



Take your Pulse

What healing have you experienced recently?

What aches and pains do you need lifted up in prayer today?

Today's Reading

John Chapter 18

The Passion of the Christ begins here in chapter 18. In the other Gospels, Judas identifies Jesus with a kiss. John flips the script. Jesus clearly identifies himself for the arresting soldiers, twice he names himself. John is making the point that Jesus really is in charge through this whole time. Nothing is about to happen that Jesus has not foreseen, nothing is about to happen that Jesus is not willing to let happen. He goes with his captors, not being dragged off like a captured criminal, but rather standing upright, and leading the way. This is a very different way of understanding the entire Passion story. But since we know the end of the story, we know Jesus will be raised, this gives us a fuller sense that Jesus did not enter this moment with fear or trepidation, but with the full confidence of what God would do.



Start the Thinking

Pilate asks a question that is a relevant today as it was 2000 years ago. What is truth?



Conversing with God

Light of the World, you clearly saw what God would do, even as the world tried to close you into the darkness of the tomb. Give us such clear vision that as the darkness of the world overwhelms, we may always trust what God will do. In your holy name, we pray. Amen



Be blessed

Brothers and sisters, Jesus Christ, our Savior, is alive! The grave could not hold him. Christ is alive! There is joy this morning! Go into the world with joy. Tell the world Christ lives. Tell the world of God's love. Go, my sisters and brothers, go without fear; go without shame; go without apology. Go in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.