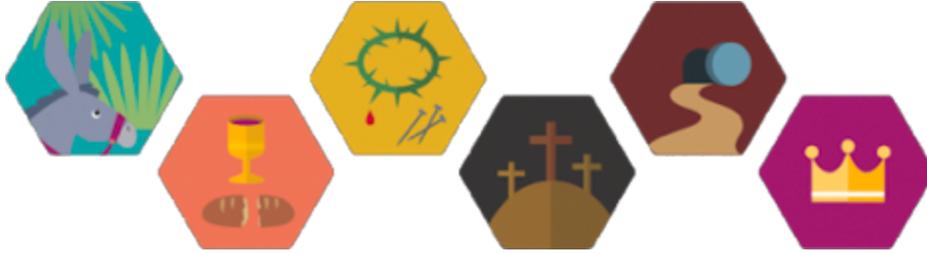


# Holy Week at Home



Parents,

We want this week to be one that creates new rhythms and brings your family closer to each other and to Jesus as we walk through His final week on earth. Each day, there is a special activity for your family to do. Please read through this packet as there might be supplies that you might need to get.

Day One (Sunday): Palm Sunday

Day Two (Monday): The Anointing of Jesus

Day Three (Tuesday): Jesus Predicts His Death

Day Four (Wednesday): Jesus' Prediction of His Betrayal

Day Five (Thursday): The Last Supper and Foot Washing

Day Six (Friday): Jesus' Arrest and Crucifixion

Day Seven (Saturday): Burial of Jesus

Day Eight (Sunday): Celebrate Easter Sunday

This booklet walks you through what to do each day. We want to see your family connect each week! Take photos and videos and share them with us on Facebook or Instagram (@gslchayward)! Or email them to Abi at [abi@gslchayward.org](mailto:abi@gslchayward.org)

Thanks to DCE Laura Kuegle of Trinity Lutheran Church for allowing us to adapt this!

# Palm Sunday

**Read:** Mark 11:1-11

**Activity:** Since we can't celebrate with palms together, let's get creative with what we have! Go outside and collect as many green branches as you can find. Use ribbon or string to tie them together. Place the branches as a decoration on your front door for you and your neighbors to remember Palm Sunday!

**Talk:** Ask these questions and discuss as you create your decorations:

- Who was this parade for?
- Why did people praise Jesus?
- How can we praise Jesus today?

**Pray:** Thank you, God, for sending Jesus to us. Thank you that we will get to live in heaven forever because of what Jesus did. In His name, Amen.



# Holy Monday

**Read:** John 12:1-11

**Activity:** Make your own perfume! Follow the instructions below. Then, take a small amount and anoint each other's head by making the sign of the cross. Speak a simple prayer of blessing over each person.

**Talk:** In ancient times, olive oil was used for medical purposes. They used it to clean cuts and wounds. The Bible tells us to anoint people who are sick and pray for them. To "anoint" means to set apart objects or people for God's use. In Bible times, when someone invited a guest to their home, they anointed them with oil. By putting olive oil on their forehead, they showed them they cared about them and thought they were very important.

- What would it feel like to be anointed?
- How do you think Jesus felt when Mary poured perfume on him?
- How has Jesus anointed us today?

**Pray:** Heavenly Father, Jesus gave his life to show his love for us. May we also give our lives in service to Him as an expression of our love. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

## Perfume Materials:

1. ½ ounce of jojoba oil or sweet almond oil
2. 2 ½ ounces of ethanol
3. 2 tablespoons spring water or distilled water (not tap water)
4. Coffee filter
5. Dark-colored glass bottle
6. 25 drops essential oils (You can either buy them at a health store, online or distill your own.)

# Holy Tuesday

**Read:** John 12:20-36

Activity: Trace your hand and cut it out. Glue it onto a piece of construction paper. In the “palm” of your hand, write “Father, glorify your name.” On each finger, write ways to glorify God so their heart will not be troubled (such as, “pray,” “faith,” “trust,” etc.)

**Talk:**

- Who is “the light” and why is it important to believe and walk in it?
- What does it mean to walk as a child of the light?
- How can you glorify God during this quarantine?

**Pray:** Heavenly Father, thank you for sending us the Light of the World. Help us to glorify your name, just as Jesus did. Amen.



# Holy Wednesday

**Read:** John 13:21-30

**Activity:** Make your own bag of coins. Follow the directions below.

## Talk:

- When has someone you trusted broken your trust? When have you broken someone's trust?
- How would you have reacted to Judas if you were Jesus?
- Why do you think Judas betrayed Jesus?

**Pray:** Dear Jesus, that you for loving us no matter what. Help us trust you always. Amen.

## Bag of Coins

**Material needed:** 10" circle of thin material. 30" of yarn, lace or twine. 8.5" x 11" piece of poster board; aluminum foil. 3" x 3" scrap paper, hole punch, scissors. **Preparation:** Preparing the circles in advance is quite helpful. Simply find a 10" circle (like a lid to a cooking pot) and trace on fabric with a crayon. Cut out the circles.

- Fold fabric in half
- About ½" down from the edge of the fabric, cut a small circle large enough for yarn or ribbon to fit through
- Leaving the fabric folded, cut out another hole on the opposite edge
- Refold fabric on, so that the already cut holes are in the middle of the fabric's edge
- Cut 2 holes opposite of each other. Refold fabric and continue to cut holes in the fabric around the circle. 8 evenly pieces should be enough.
- Hand out ribbon.
- Thread ribbon through holes. Both ends should come out on the same side.
- Turn black circle over. (This way, when the coins are counted on top of the purse, the purse can be closed easily.)
- Hand out poster board.
- Cut out 30 tiny circles (about ½" each). These are the 30 coins.
- If using white poster board and foil, hand out foil in 2 4" x 12" strips. Tear strips of foil to cover coins.
- Hand out scrap of paper.
- Punch a hold in top right corner of scrap of paper.
- Write "A Plot to Betray Jesus" and "John 13:21-30." This is the label.
- Thread lael onto one end of ribbon.
- By pulling on both ends of ribbon at one time, the fabric will naturally be pulled into a "purse."
- Tie ribbon ends into a bow



# Maundy Thursday

**Read:** John 13:1-7 and Mark 14:12-26

**Activity:** “A Simplified Seder Meal.” Follow the directions below on how to set this up and do together as a family. Consider doing a foot washing at the beginning before you sit around the table for the Seder Meal.

## Supplies needed for the Seder Meal:

- Bowl of salt water
- Celery Sticks
- Hard boiled egg
- Lamb or chicken bone
- 3 matzo crackers
- Paper cups of water (half full)
- Small bowl of horseradish
- Small bowl of *charoset* (2 finely chopped apples, 1/3 cup of raisins, 2 teaspoons of cinnamon)



**What is a Seder?** The Passover meal is a powerful experience for your family. It honors God by highlighting His power and love for His people. It connects Old and New Testament Bible events. Because we know what Jesus did, we can see God’s plan from the beginning for Jesus to be our Savior.

**What is the Passover?** Passover celebrates the exodus of the Jewish people from their bondage in Egypt under Pharaoh. The *Hagadah* (“the telling”), which has changed little over the years is our guide to the Seder (the order of the ceremony). Follow the steps below and you will experience the blessings of gathering to celebrate the Passover, just as Jesus the Messiah gathered with His disciples at the Last Supper.

The Passover involves 2 separate kinds of food: the Passover meal and the special elements that are part of the ceremony- the bitter herbs, parsley, the hard-boiled egg, the lamb bone, matzah, salt water, charoset (chopped apple mix) and the Four cups. 3 pieces of matzah separated by napkins are placed alongside the Seder plate.

Make a simple meal to eat together as you walk through the Seder Meal.

**Get Started:** Arrange low seating on the floor with blankets and pillows.

**Questions of Passover that children ask:** Why is this night different from all other nights? Why on this night do we eat only *matzah* (unleavened bread)? Why on this night do we eat only bitter herbs? Why on this night do we dip the celery in salt water and the bitter herbs in *charoset*? Why on this night do we all recline?

**Let the Seder Meal begin:**

**Say:** Each spring, Jewish people eat a Passover meal called the Seder. It's a reminder that God called Moses to lead their people out of Egypt. The word "seder" means "order," referring to the special order found in everything you eat and drink at a Passover meal.

**Celery Stick and Salt Water**

**Say:** First dip your celery stick in the bowl of water, then take a bite.

**Ask:** How does it taste?

**Say:** The salty taste reminds the Jewish people of tears they cried in Egypt while they were slaves.

**Ask:** Why do you think the Jews in Egypt were sad and cried?

**Matzo Crackers**

Pass around the matzo crackers.

**Say:** When God gave instructions for the first Passover meal, there wasn't time for the Jews to let their bread rise to get nice and fluffy. So at the Passover, we serve matzo- bread without yeast. We have matzo here. Let's each break off a piece and eat it.

**Horseradish and Charoset**

Pass around the bowl of horseradish.

**Say:** At a Passover meal, the Jews also tasted bitter a herb. We won't taste this one- just sniff it. This is horseradish, and not everyone likes the taste.

**Say:** Bitter herbs reminded the Jews of how bitterly they suffered while they were slaves in Egypt. They had very difficult lives.

**Say:** Here's another food served at Passover: charoset. Samples the charoset on a matzo cracker.

**Ask:** What does it smell like? What does it look like?

**Say:** Charoset looks like mushy cement. The Jews used mushy cement as mortar when they built brick buildings in Egypt. Charoset reminds them of the hard, hard work they did.

## Hard-boiled Eggs

Set aside the charoset and pass the hard-boiled egg.

**Say:** Eggs are a symbol of springtime and new life. Roasted eggs reminded the Jews that Passover comes in the spring, and of a special festival.

## The Lamb Bone

Pass the lamb or chicken bone

**As the bone is passed, say:** At the Passover, lamb is served. It's a reminder that spreading lamb's blood on their doorposts kept the Jews safe in Egypt. God saved His people from the plague because He loved them!

**Say:** The Seder is a reminder of a mighty thing God did for His people. They were slaves and they couldn't escape. Their lives were hard. They cried. They had to make bricks and build hard buildings for Pharaoh. But then God set them free! God brought them to a Promised Land. But He gave them something even more precious than the new land- the promise that a Savior was coming!

Jesus Christ is our Passover. Read aloud 1 Corinthians 5:7.

Consider doing a foot washing service at home this year with your family.

- Take time to wash each other's feet, explaining to your children that it's a way to serve each other.

Read John 13:1-17, 31-35 together and then wash your children's feet.

- Have your children wash each other's feet.
- Discuss what it means to serve others.
- Share ideas about how to better live this out in your daily lives.

Talk about how you can continue to serve others, especially in this time of social distancing and quarantine.

Close in prayer, thanking God for His love.

# Good Friday

**Read:** John 18:28-19:37

**Activity:** Paper plate Calvary Hill

**Talk:**

- What hard things did Jesus do because He is the Son of God?
- What happened after Jesus died?
- Why did Jesus have to die for our sins?
- So, why do we call it good?

**Pray:** Thank you, Jesus, for dying on the cross for our sins. Amen.



## **Supplies Needed:**

- Paper plate
- Blank construction paper
- Crayons/markers
- Shredded paper
- Tape or staples

## **Instructions:**

1. Color the paper plate
2. Draw 3 crosses on a hill with a white crayon
3. Cut out crosses and attach to the bottom of the paper plate
4. Stuff the shredded paper behind the crosses.
5. Write John 3:16 Bible verse at the bottom under the crosses.

# Holy Saturday

**Read:** Matthew 27:57-66

**Activity:** Resurrection Eggs- follow the instructions on how to put the resurrection eggs together. Once they are done, hide the eggs in your yard. Send the children to find the eggs. Gather together once they are all found and use the eggs to retell the Easter Story.

**Talk:**

- Why do we celebrate Easter?
- What is your favorite part of Easter?
- How can we celebrate Easter all year long?

**Pray:** Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus to die on the cross for our sins, to defeat Satan and death so that we can live with you forever. Amen.

**Supplies:**

- a small leaf to represent a palm branch at Jesus' triumphal entry
- 3 quarters to represent the 30 pieces of silver that Judas Iscariot received
- a thimble to represent a cup at the Last Supper
- a tiny piece of paper rolled into a scroll to represent Jesus' prayer in the garden
- a piece of leather or thick fabric to represent the soldier's whipping Jesus
- a tiny crown made from grass or a flower stem to represent the crown of thorns
- 2 nails to represent the nails and the cross
- a die to represent the soldier's casting lots for Jesus' clothes
- a toothpick with one end broken off to represent the spear piercing Jesus' side
- a piece of cheesecloth or thin fabric to represent Joseph wrapping Jesus in clean linen cloth
- a rock to represent the stone rolled in front of the tomb



# Easter Sunday!

**Read:** John 20:1-18

**Activity:** Get up early and worship God as the sun rises. Go for a walk and praise God for the miracle of Jesus' resurrection. Grab a piece of chalk and write in your neighbors driveways messages of hope, encouragement, a Bible verse, or just say Jesus is alive!

Join us for our Easter worship service and celebrate in your home. For centuries, Christians have worn white on Easter to celebrate the resurrection. Dress up your family in your Easter best and take a selfie as you join us for Church Online! Be sure to post the picture and tag GSLC!

Pray together as a family thanking God for sending Jesus.

