



Sunday Morning Grow Groups

Week of April 14th, 2019

Palm Sunday

Welcome

- Please add your name to the roster and get a name tag.
- Help yourself to food and coffee in the hallway.

Announcements

- **Holy Week Worship begins today.** We will have Maundy Thursday worship at 7pm. Good Friday worship will be at noon and 7pm.
- **Easter Worship Services** will be at 9am and 11am. Easter Breakfast will be served from 8a-11a for our annual youth fundraiser.
- **Easter Celebration** is on April 20th from 10am-12pm. Pastor Kate has many things planned for this event (bounce houses, snow cones, egg hunt, crafts, etc.) and there is a need for volunteers. Contact her to sign up or show up.
- **Cinco de Mayo:** Crossroads is sponsoring a fun evening for all adults on Saturday, May 4th with a taco bar and games. Sign up in the Atrium before or after worship.

Connecting with Each Other (9:50 - 10:00am)

If there are new people to get to know, spend some time introducing yourselves.

- What is your favorite part about Easter?
- Did your family have any Holy Week traditions growing up? What did your church do during this week of Lent?
- What do you remember about your first communion Sunday? What do you remember about your child's first communion or another family members?

Digging Deeper and Turning to the Texts (10:00 - 10:40am)

Palm Sunday is the start of Holy week and the beginning of the end of Lent. For the next week we will be focusing on the Passion story of Jesus. We start with his entry into Jerusalem and the passover meal, and end with the celebration of the Resurrection on Easter Sunday. On Thursday we will share communion one last time before Sunday on Maundy Thursday. On Good Friday we will focus on the crucifixion and the darkness that took over the world. Finally, on Sunday we will celebrate that Jesus has risen which means our sins are forgiven and death will never have the final say in our lives.

This week is meant to be a week of holy moments. We take more time out of our week to worship together to remember exactly what Jesus did for us and why this has so much meaning in our lives today. Our text this week focuses on the feast of passover and one of the last (not the last) meal that Jesus shared with his friends.

Luke 22:14-16, 24-30 (New Revised Standard Version)

14 When the hour came, he took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. 15 He said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; 16 for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." 24 A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. 25 But he said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. 26 But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. 27 For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves. 28 "You are those who have stood by me in my trials; 29 and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom, 30 so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Reflection Questions:

- What caught your attention in the reading above?
- Who are you? The one at the table or the one who serves?
- Why do you think Jesus was "eager" to eat this meal with his disciples? How do you think the disciples felt when Jesus said he was eager to eat with them before they suffered?
- What do you think Jesus means when he says that we should become like the youngest? What does this look like in your life?
- How does this shape your mindset for the journey we will take together over the next week?
- What are some ways you can prepare your heart for holy week with those around you?

Philippians 2:5-11 (New Revised Standard Version)

5 Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited 7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, 8 he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 so

that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth
11 and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- How does it make you feel when you think of Jesus being fully human?
- Oftentimes we use part of the verse for the communion liturgy during worship. Why do you think that is?
- What do you think the Apostle Paul's goal was while he was writing this to the Philippians?
- What are some of the different names that we use for Jesus? Do any of these hold special meaning to you? Why?

Reflection Questions:

- What have you learned about yourself during this season of Lent?
- What are you going to do to continue your spiritual practice after the season of Lent?

Taking It Home & Prayer (10:40 - 10:45am)

Ask each other for prayer requests. Pray for these requests and whatever else you feel.
Say this prayer together to end your time together:

Inspire our hearts to follow where Christ walked because Christ has marked us as his own.
Let us all take new willingness to carry our cross and be led through sacrifice and suffering, but also to the glory and triumph of the Risen Life of the Savior. Grant us all your good graces, through Christ our Lord, Amen.