

*Because*

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LIVES



EASTER 2026

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**EASTER 2026**

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**40 DAYS OF PRAYER**



**PALM SUNDAY**



**MAUNDY THURSDAY**



**GOOD FRIDAY**



**EASTER SUNDAY**





**40 DAYS OF PRAYER**

# 40 Days of Prayer

## **Purpose of this Guide**

This guide is meant to serve as a helpful tool for your time in prayer over the next 40 days before Easter, often referred to as Lent. Specifically, we will take time to pray for our church, neighbors and for spiritual revival in our communities at large.

## **Fasting on Wednesdays**

Alongside prayer during these forty days of Lent, we invite you to participate in the practice of fasting. Fasting is the biblical practice of abstaining from food for a set period of time in order to redirect our attention and hunger toward God. This year, we are inviting our church to fast from after dinner on Tuesday until dinner on Wednesday.

Fasting helps reveal our dependence on God and our need for his daily sustenance. Throughout Scripture, fasting and prayer are closely linked. Each time you feel hunger, let it become a prompt to pray, to seek the Lord, and to declare your trust in him.

While fasting in the Bible is specifically centered on food, some people also choose to “fast” from other things that tend to distract or consume them, such as social media, certain forms of entertainment, or smartphone use. If you choose to take on an additional fast of this kind, you are welcome to practice it throughout the full forty days of Lent.

We hope that this process will help to promote a vibrant and dependent relationship for you with our Heavenly Father, by the Holy Spirit through the Son. Our prayer is that you would experience a personal spiritual revitalization in your relationship with Jesus and see the outpouring of God’s blessing and His will in your life.

# Daily Scripture Guide

Each day you will have a prayer prompt/topic and verses of Scripture to direct and guide your time in prayer.

## Personal Revival

Day 1 Thirst for God | Ps. 63:1-3, Jn. 4:13-14, Mt. 5:6

Day 2 Longing for God's Word | Ps. 119:105, 36-40; Mt. 4:4, Ps 1:1-2

Day 3 Knowing God | *John* 14:6

Day 4 Resting in Christ | Mt. 11:28-30

Day 5 Concern for the Lost | *Isa.* 55:10-11, *Lk.* 19-10, Mt. 28:18-20

Day 6 Repentance & Forgiveness | Ps. 51:3-6, 10-12, 1 *Jn.* 1:8-9, *Mk.* 11:22-25

Day 7 Taking Action | Mt. 5:13-16; 1 *Tim.* 2:1-4, *Rom.* 13:1-7

## Church Revival

Day 8 For our church | *Eph.* 3:17-19, *Eze.* 37:4-6

Day 9 Churches in Our City | *Phil.* 1:9-11, 2 *Cor.* 13:7-9, 1 *Thess.* 4:4-7

Day 10 Churches in Our Region | *Phlm.* 1:4-7, *Gal.* 5:13,22-23, *Heb.* 12:14

Day 11 The Global Church | 2 *Thess.* 1:11-12, *Eph.* 1:17-19; *Jer.* 42:2-3

Day 12 Revival Rooted in God | *Jn.* 1:1,3, *Rom.* 3:23-25, *Isa.* 53:5-6

Day 13 Pray without Ceasing | 1 *Thess.* 5:17, *Phil.* 4:4-7

Day 14 Enduring Faith | *Jer.* 17:5-17

## Church Family

Day 15 Prayer for our Pastors | 2 *Tim.* 4:1-5, *Eph.* 6:19-20, *Rom.* 15:30-33

Day 16 Growing as Jesus' Disciples | *Jn.* 13:31-35

Day 17 Living as Light | Mt. 5:14-16

Day 18 Fellowship Together | *Col.* 3:16, *Eph.* 3:14-19, *Acts* 2:42-47

Day 19 Prayer for Our Marriages | Mt. 19:4-6

Day 20 Prayer for Our Children | *Eph.* 6:4, *Deut.* 6:4-9

Day 21 Community Leaders | 1 *Tim.* 2:1-2, 1 *Pet.* 2:13-17

## Communities

Day 22 Sharing the Gospel | Mt. 28:18-20, Acts 1:8, 1 Thess. 1:8

Day 23 Sent as Ambassadors | 2 Cor. 5:17-20, Rom. 11:30-32

Day 24 Sharing with friends & family | 1 Pet. 3:15

Day 25 Our Neighbors | 1 Pet. 2:9-12, Jer. 29:4-7, Jn. 17:20-21

Day 26 For the Marginalized | Jam. 1:26-27, Isa. 42:1-4, Mic. 6:8

Day 27 Hope in Faith | Rom. 15:4, 1 Pet. 3:15, Heb. 6:19-20

Day 28 Abiding in Christ | Jn. 15:4-13

## Increasing Faith

Day 29 Unity in the Faith | Jn. 17:9-11, Rom. 15:5-6, 1 Cor. 12:12-14

Day 30 Spiritual Protection | Eph. 6:10-20, 2 Cor. 10:4-5

Day 31 Fruit of the Spirit | Gal. 5:16-26

Day 32 Mutual Encouragement | Heb. 3:12-13, Col. 3:16, Gal. 6:9

Day 33 The Gift of Jesus | Rom. 8:31-32

Day 34 To the Praise of God | Ps. 126:1-2, Ps. 150

Day 35 Workers for the Harvest | Lk. 10:2-6, Rom. 10:14-17

## Salvations

Day 36 Prayer for the Lost | Isa. 55:1, Jn. 14:6; Acts 2:38-41

Day 37 Receiving God's Gift | Rom. 3:21-26, Eph. 2:8-9

Day 38 Good Friday | Isa. 52:13-53:12

Day 39 Receiving God's Healing | 1 Pet. 2:21-25

Day 40 Easter Sunday | Lk. 24:1-9



*Behold your King*

PALM  
SUNDAY



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# Palm Sunday

## **The Triumphal Entry**

Palm Sunday commemorates the day Jesus Christ made His triumphal entry into Jerusalem, occurring exactly one week before His resurrection. It marks the beginning of "Passion Week," the final seven days of Jesus' earthly ministry, and represents the culmination of His journey toward the cross to secure salvation for humanity.

As Jesus and His disciples traveled from the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples to the village of Bethphage to retrieve an unbroken donkey and its colt. This specific detail was a direct fulfillment of the prophecy in Zechariah 9:9, written nearly 500 years earlier, which foretold a righteous King arriving "lowly and riding on a donkey."

As Jesus entered Jerusalem, a large multitude gathered. To show Him royal honor—a treatment similar to the coronation of King Jehu in the Old Testament—the people spread their cloaks and palm branches on the road.

## **Scripture Reading**

*Matthew 21:9*

And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"

*Zechariah 9:9*

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!  
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!  
Behold, your king is coming to you;  
righteous and having salvation is he,  
humble and mounted on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

“Blessed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord!  
Hosanna in the highest!”

John 13:34-35



*A New  
Commandment*

MAUNDY  
THURSDAY



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# Maundy Thursday

Maundy Thursday, also known as Holy Thursday, is a Christian observance that commemorates the events of the Last Supper, when Jesus shared a final meal with his disciples before his crucifixion. It falls on the Thursday before Easter Sunday and marks the beginning of the Easter Triduum, which includes Good Friday and Holy Saturday.

Key aspects of Maundy Thursday include:

- **The Last Supper:** Jesus instituted communion, also known as The Lord's Table, telling his disciples to "do this in remembrance of me."
- **Washing of the Feet:** Jesus washed his disciples' feet as an act of humility and service, instructing them to love and serve one another.
- **The Betrayal and Arrest:** After the meal, Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, where he was later betrayed by Judas and arrested.
- **Maundy:** The name comes from the Latin "*mandatum*," meaning "commandment," referring to Jesus' command to "love one another as I have loved you" (John 13:34).





## Messiah in the Passover

The Passover is a central Jewish feast commemorating Israel's deliverance from Egypt, but for Christians, it also foreshadows Jesus as the Messiah, the ultimate Passover Lamb. The Messiah in the Passover highlights how Jesus fulfills the themes, symbols, and promises found in the traditional Passover Seder.

*Messiah in the Passover reveals Jesus as:*

- **The Passover Lamb** – His blood saves us from judgment.
- **The Unleavened Bread** – He is sinless and broken for us.
- **The Cup of Redemption** – His blood establishes the New Covenant.

“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

John 13:34-35





**GOOD FRIDAY**

*It is Finished*

GOOD  
FRIDAY

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# Good Friday

## **At-Home Guide**

This Service Guide is designed to allow you experience our Good Friday time on your own or at home with friends and family. Please use the Scriptures and prayer prompts to help you navigate your time of worship together.

## **Before you begin**

Take a moment to quietly pray. Pray that God will allow you a moment of peace and quiet, allowing you to reflect on the great sacrifice that God would give for you to know and experience the great love that he has for you; namely Jesus. Pray that the busyness and chaos of the week would be quieted by the peaceful presence of Jesus through his Holy Spirit.

## **Scripture Reading**

*Genesis 1:1-3*

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

*John 1:1-5*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

*Genesis 1:31*

And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good.

### *Genesis 3:1-6*

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’” And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.” But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

### *Genesis 3:13*

Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?”

### *Romans 5:12*

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned.

### *Romans 3:23*

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...

### *Romans 6:23a*

For the wages of sin is death...

### **Prayer Prompt (10 min)**

- Take a moment to ask God to reveal your sin to you. How have you turned away from God’s commands? Where have you fallen short?
- You have been saved by grace! In your faithful confession God has forgiven you in Christ. You are cleansed, redeemed, righteous! Take a moment to praise God for this gift of forgiveness, salvation and grace.

*John 1:9-11*

The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.

*Matthew 26:20-25*

When it was evening, he reclined at table with the twelve. And as they were eating, he said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me." And they were very sorrowful and began to say to him one after another, "Is it I, Lord?" He answered, "He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born." Judas, who would betray him, answered, "Is it I, Rabbi?" He said to him, "You have said so."

*Matthew 26:26-29*

Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

*Matthew 26:36-46, 52b*

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here, while I go over there and pray." And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me." And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will." And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, "So, could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand."

*Matthew 26:47-50, 56*

While he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; seize him." And he came up to Jesus at once and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" And he kissed him. Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you came to do." Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him...Then all the disciples left him and fled.

*Matthew 26:57-62*

Then those who had seized Jesus led him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. And Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards to see the end. Now the chief priests and the whole council were seeking false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, "This man said, I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to rebuild it in three days." And the high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?" But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to him, "I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven." Then the high priest tore his robes and said, "He has uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your judgment?" They answered, "He deserves death."

*Matthew 27:1-2*

When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death. And they bound him and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate the governor.

*Matthew 27:11-14*

Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You have said so." But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he gave no answer. Then Pilate said to him, "Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?" But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

*Matthew 27:24-26*

So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." And all the people answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!" Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.

*Isaiah 53:7*

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.

*Matthew 27:27-31*

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him.

*Isaiah 52:14*

His appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance and his form beyond that of the children of mankind.

*Matthew 27:32-44*

As they went out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. They compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots. Then they sat down and kept watch over him there. And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way.

*Isaiah 53:3-6*

He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

**Prayer Prompt (10 min)**

- Take a moment to reflect on the great cost and personal sacrifice that Jesus has gone to so that you might be reconciled to the Father. What did Jesus endure so you would not have to?
- What does this reconciliation look like? How might you grow in your relationship with the Father through Jesus?
- Give thanks to God that he faithfully pursues us in steadfast love. Rejoice in the fact that God has not given up on you!

*Matthew 27:45*

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour.

*John 19:28-30*

After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst." A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

**Prayer & Discussion Prompt (10 min)**

- What did Jesus finish on the cross?
- As Christians, why do we celebrate the death of Jesus?
- Looking forward to the resurrection, where can we find joy?
- How are we to live in light of the reality that Satan, sin and death have been defeated by Jesus?

“I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again.”

John 10:17-18a





**EASTER SUNDAY**

*He is Risen*

EASTER  
SUNDAY



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But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen.”

Matthew 28:5–6a



*Because*

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LIVES

**EASTER 2026**

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