

# HOLY WEEK GUIDE



*Journey to the Cross*

Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday (April 13th), and culminates on Resurrection Sunday (April 20th). The evening of Maundy Thursday begins the Triduum (the sacred three days). This service, together with Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and The Great Vigil of Easter, form a single liturgy; leading us through Jesus' betrayal and crucifixion, death and Resurrection.<sup>[1]</sup>

We invite you to join us on the journey, and as a church, we will gather to mark these crucial points in the church calendar through shared meals, liturgy, and worship.

This guide contains a summary of what each day or service signifies and the practices surrounding them, as well as practical information like what time and what to bring.

If you have questions about Holy Week, or would like to be involved by serving at one of our meals or events, contact Amy: [amy@redeemeranglican.ca](mailto:amy@redeemeranglican.ca)

# PALM Sunday

*Sunday, April 13th*

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week. The procession with palms, which was already observed in Jerusalem in the fourth century, calls to mind the triumphal entry of Jesus, our Lord and King, into Jerusalem. The procession is fundamentally an act of worship, witness, and devotion to our Lord.

The purpose of Jesus' journey to Jerusalem was to fulfill his Father's will; therefore it is fitting that this service continues with the reading of the Passion Gospel in which the whole story of the week is anticipated. Our emphasis turns to the days that lie ahead in Holy Week. We who hail Jesus as King one moment, may in the next deny him, even joining with the crowd in shouting, "Crucify him!" <sup>[2]</sup>

## 10:00 am Service

We will begin our service with a procession from outside the building, processing into the Sanctuary. If it snows (like it has the past two years....) or the south parking lot is excessively muddy, we'll process from the gym!

### Here's what you need to know:

- Arrive a few minutes early and come into the foyer to check in your kids.
- Pick up a fresh palm branch and liturgy from the foyer.
- We will meet in the South parking lot (or the gym) at 10:00 am to begin our service.
- We will pray the Liturgy of the Palms together and hear the Gospel reading.
- Then we will worship and process to the Sanctuary to continue our service.



*The branches from this service will be kept, dried, and burnt, to be used as ashes for next year's Ash Wednesday service.*

# WEEKDAYS

## MONDAY & TUESDAY

*April 14th & 15th*

### 9:00 am Morning Prayer

Join us as we pray Morning Prayer together from the 2019 Book of Common Prayer.

### 9:30 am - 4:30 pm Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross will be set up in the Sanctuary. You are invited to come and spend time praying through the stations.

## WEDNESDAY

*April 16th*

### 9:00 am Wednesday Morning Eucharist

We invite you to join us for our Wednesday Eucharist. The liturgy lasts for about 30 minutes.

### 9:30 am - 4:30 pm Stations of the Cross

Following the morning liturgy, the Sanctuary remains open for individual prayer and reflection with the Stations of the Cross.

### Noon - 1:00 pm Confession

Confession is available on a drop-in basis in the Sanctuary over the lunch hour.



# ■ MAUNDY ■ Thursday

*Thursday, April 17th*

Maundy Thursday receives its name from the mandatum (commandment) given by our Lord: “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” (John 13:34).

At the Last Supper, Jesus washed his disciples’ feet and commanded them to love and serve one another as he had done. This day commemorates the Lord’s example of servant ministry, the institution of the Eucharist, the agony in the Garden of Gethsemane, and the betrayal leading to the crucifixion. <sup>[3]</sup>

## 9:00 am Morning Prayer

Join us as we pray Morning Prayer together from the 2019 Book of Common Prayer.

## 5:30 pm Soup & Bun Potluck Supper

You are invited to join us for a simple soup & bun potluck supper before the Maundy Thursday Service.

### What to bring:

- If you are able, please bring a pot of soup to share and buns/bread.
- Please bring food hot and ready to serve (crockpots and instant pots are great for this!) and make sure your pot, lid, and crockpot liner are labeled with your name for easy returns.
- Please also label if your soup is gluten and or dairy free.

Leftover soup & buns will be frozen and used to bless households in need with meals. This is a beautiful gift to our Abide ministry.

*Note: If you don't wish to donate your leftovers to Abide, no worries! Please just let the team know when you drop it off.*

## 6:15 - 6:45 pm - Foot Washing

We will have stations set up at the back of the Sanctuary to wash the feet of those in your family, community group, or others in the congregation as you feel led. If you're joining us for soup, after supper is a great time to participate in this, or come early for the service to take part.

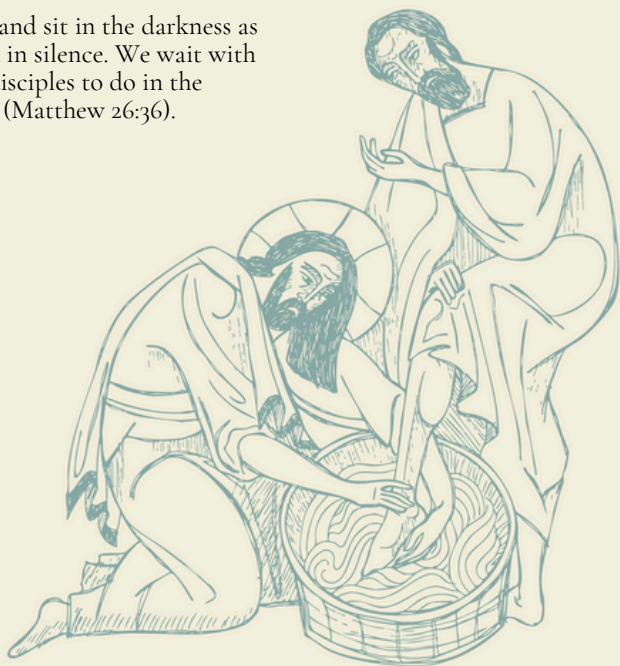
## 7:00 pm - Maundy Thursday Service

This historic service begins the Triduum. On this night, Jesus washed the disciple's feet, giving them an example of his love. He gave them Holy Communion. By the end of this night, Jesus had been abandoned by all of his friends and was in the hands of the authorities.<sup>[4]</sup>

Having had the opportunity to participate in foot washing as a community, there will be a ceremonial foot washing during the service, and we will receive the Eucharist.

Once we have received the Eucharist, we will strip the altar of the holy objects usually used in worship, the chalices, table linens, colour, light, and the cross are all removed or covered. The final blessing and dismissal are omitted.

You are invited to stay and sit in the darkness as you feel led, and depart in silence. We wait with Christ as he asked his disciples to do in the Garden of Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36).



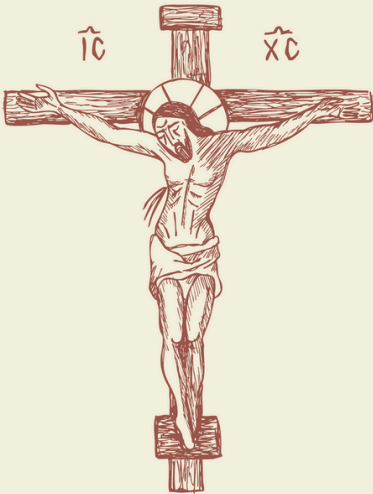
# GOOD Friday

*Friday, April 18th*

Good Friday is the second part of the Triduum (the sacred three days). This most somber of all days is appropriately marked by fasting, abstinence, and penitence, leading us to focus on Jesus and the meaning of his Cross. The church is darkened. The bare, stark appearance of the church serves as a reminder of the solemnity and the sorrow of the day.

The Lord of Life was rejected, mocked, scourged, and then put to death on the Cross. We are reminded of the role which our own sin played in this suffering and agony, as Christ took all sin upon himself, in obedience to his Father's will. By the Cross we are redeemed, set free from bondage to sin and death. The Cross is a sign of God's never-ending love for us. It is a sign of life, in the midst of death.

## 10:00 am - Good Friday Service



This historic service contains the reading of the Passion Gospel, solemn collects, devotion before the cross, and reproaches.

The Eucharistic elements are not consecrated on this day, but Communion is administered from previously consecrated elements.

# HOLY Saturday

*Saturday, April 19th*

Following a somber day, where we are invited to notice the absence of Christ, we gather in the evening for the Great Vigil. During the course of this service, we move from darkness into light, from sorrow to joy and celebration.

## 7:00 pm - The Great Vigil of Easter

The Great Vigil is the first liturgy of Easter Day. It is traditionally celebrated between sunset on Holy Saturday and sunrise on Easter Morning, but we usually start just before it gets dark! The liturgy has several parts:

- **The Service of Light-** The night begins outside around a fire on the south side of the building. From this new fire, the Paschal Candle is lit, symbolizing Christ, the light of the world. The candle is carried into the dark Sanctuary, and The Exsultet, an ancient song of praise, is sung or said as the climax of this part of the liturgy.
- **The Service of Lessons-** Key passages from Scripture recount the history of God's mighty acts and promises from creation to the cross. We take time to reflect on the readings and respond with songs. This leads us to the Easter Acclamation where we proclaim Christ is Risen! Bring an instrument to join in the joyful fanfare!
- **Holy Baptism** is the Sacrament through which candidates are united to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ (Romans 6:3-4), which the Church celebrates on this most holy night. We're excited to be celebrating 8 baptisms at this year's vigil!

# AFTER THE VIGIL

The Great Vigil usually concludes between 9 and 9.30 pm, and this year we're excited to continue in fellowship and worship together.

## Ice Cream Celebration

Let's celebrate the newly baptized and the beginning of the Easter season with a late-night ice cream buffet! Ice cream and toppings provided.

## Late-night Worship

For those who wish to spend longer in sung worship on this special night, there will be a late-night acoustic worship set from approximately 10.00 – 11.00 pm.



# EASTER Sunday

*Sunday, April 20th*

He is Risen! Easter is the day of our Lord's resurrection! Our Lenten fast has come to an end, and we celebrate together. Flowers fill the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, celebrating new life.

## 9:00 am - Easter Breakfast Potluck

Join us for a breakfast potluck on Easter morning! We'll have the hot crossed buns and coffee ready.

### What to bring:

- Bring your favourite breakfast item to share.

## 10:00 am - Easter Sunday Service

We celebrate our Risen King together in worship, word, and Sacrament, continuing the joyful fanfare!

### What to bring:

- We encourage you to bring some fresh flowers in a vase or jar to place at the front of the Sanctuary for our worship today. Make sure to take your flowers home after the service, or give them away to someone to bless them!







**CHRIST THE  
REDEEMER**  
ANGELICAN CHURCH LETHBRIDGE