

Holy Week

Inspirational Reflections During Easter

Blessings to you in this Holy time!



Easter Blessings,
Carol and Jeff

Holy Week Prayer

**God, be with us this week as we
remember Jesus,
Through Palm Sunday parade and
Passover presence,
Through upper room meal and
garden betrayal,
Through Friday's trials and cross,
Through Saturday's silence and grief,
And in Easter's joyful Hallelujah!
Be with us in this journey into Your
amazing Love. AMEN**

*Online worship on ZOOM is at 10:00 am on
Sunday, March 28, Friday April 2, and Sunday
April 4. Please see www.tmuc.ca for details.*

Over a year has passed since Transcona Memorial has gathered on a Sunday morning for in-person worship.

We have missed being with you.

As the church building remains closed, the church ministry and our community remain open! We want you to be connected in whatever way is possible for you. We are sharing some reflections for Holy Week and Easter here. There are videos and words on our website: www.tmuc.ca And, you are welcome to call us at home, anytime, 204-224-2979.

Until we meet again, we continue to hold each other in prayer and care.

May the resurrecting love of God give us and our world courage, hope and healing.

Palm Sunday

March 28, 2021

*"Hosanna! Blessed
is the one who
comes in the name
of the Lord!"*

– from Mark 11:1-11



"Everyone loves a parade!"

We love a Palm Sunday 'church parade' – with choir members singing as they process up the aisle; children and adults waving palm leaves.

We have church parades to remember Jesus riding on a donkey entering Jerusalem for the time of Passover. Jesus led a parade with a difference.

A king entering Jerusalem on a horse would have been a symbol of power—that the king was coming to conquer. This rider, Jesus, comes riding on a donkey: a symbol of peace.

On Palm Sunday, Jesus' arrival says 'Welcome to God's way of peace'. And hope fills the hearts of the people in the streets as they wave palm branches.

It is a complex week for Jesus. God's peace is not an absence of conflict. God's peace is a way of living even in the midst of conflict. God's peace is a practice of forgiveness, of honouring the sacredness of God in everyone, of understanding and of opening ourselves to God's transformative love.



**Hosanna, loud hosanna
the happy children sang;
through pillared court and temple
the joyful anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them,
close folded to his breast,
the children sang their praises,
the simplest and the best**

(Jennette Threlfall 1873)

Good Friday

April 2, 2021

“Then he (Pilate) handed him over to be crucified.”

– John 19:15



What do we do to Jesus?

Good Friday is the day when there seems to be no good news in the Gospel.

We read the stories of Jesus being questioned, tortured, nailed to a cross, suffering as he hung on the cross...and then he died!

Throughout the story, people do things ‘to’ Jesus. They question him. They mock and beat him. Pilate hands him over. They divide his clothes. They crucify him.

We invite you this day, to ponder what we do to Jesus. Rather than deal with the challenge with which Jesus stands before us, do we ignore him? Do we turn him over to others to think about and follow? Do we silence his voice in our world?

Or do we do things not **‘to’** Jesus but **‘with’** Jesus? Do we offer forgiveness? Do we offer healing? Do we welcome those who are different from ourselves? Do we share earth’s food? Do we listen to those with no status of power or privilege? Do we love, as Jesus has loved?

This Good Friday let us be **with** Jesus in expressing God’s love in this world.



**“Were the whole realm of nature mine
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.”**

-from the hymn ‘When I Survey the Wondrous Cross’, words by Isaac Watts

Easter Sunday

April 4, 2021



**Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed!**

*“Do not be alarmed; you are
looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who
was crucified. He has been raised;
he is not here.”*

– Mark 16:6

**Christ
is
Risen**

A God-given Surprise!

There shouldn't have been any surprises that first Easter morning! When it's over, it's over! Dead is dead! Gone is gone!

But that first Easter morning was all about a surprise! About a God-given surprise!

The surprise of a stone that could be moved!
The surprise of a tomb that no longer entombed!
The surprise of God bringing life out of death!

Go and tell!
Jesus, embodiment of God's love, is ALIVE!
“You will see him, just as he told you!”

Easter is not just a day on our calendar. Easter is the surprise that God keeps giving. Easter is faith that experiences what should be the END, and then God starts it all over again!

We are an Easter people...because God is never finished!
We are an Easter people...we expect to be surprised by God!
Halleluiah! Christ is risen!

Thine Is the Glory

**Thine is the glory
Risen conquering Son
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won
Angels in bright raiment
Rolled the stone away
Kept the folded grave clothes
Where the body lay**

**“Joy comes with the dawn, joy comes with the morning sun,
joy springs from the tomb and scatters the night with her song,
joy comes with the dawn.”**

Fom the hymn 'Joy Comes with the Dawn'
– words by Gordon Light