



## Holy Week & Easter Reading Guide

Holy Week and Easter stories are some of the most important stories to know in the Christian tradition. Jesus' journey to the cross, his death, and his resurrection shape the foundation of our faith. On your own or as a family, read through the stories below and respond to the questions. Multiple gospel readings are provided. Choose one, or read them all and talk about the similarities and differences.

### Palm Sunday

#### Jesus Enters Jerusalem

Matthew 21:1-11

Mark 11:1-11

Luke 19:28-40

Talk about these questions after you read:

- How did the crowd react to Jesus' arrival?
- Why were the religious leaders unhappy about the crowd's reaction?
- What does the religious leaders' reaction signal about what's going to happen in the coming days?
- Who is someone you celebrate for their influence on your life or on the world?

### Maundy Thursday

#### The Last Supper

Matthew 26:14-29

Mark 14:1-25

Luke 22:14-23

#### The Garden of Gethsemane

Matthew 26:30-75

Mark 14:26-72

Luke 22:39-62

Talk about these questions after you read:

- How did the disciples react to what Jesus was telling them?
- How was Jesus feeling while he was praying in the garden?
- How are the emotions of these stories different from the story of Jesus arriving in Jerusalem? Why do you think things changed so fast?
- Do you think it makes a difference that Jesus knew what was coming? Why or why not?
- How do you respond when you're feeling negative emotions?

## Good Friday

### Jesus Dies on the Cross

Matthew 27:27-66

Mark 15:16-47

Luke 23:26-56

Talk about these questions after you read:

- How does Jesus respond to the other men who are being crucified? Why do you think he responded that way?
- What was the crowd feeling in this story? Why?
- What do you think Jesus' disciples, friends, and family felt during these moments?
- What grief have you experienced in your life? Who supported you during that time?

## Easter Sunday

### Jesus Is Risen

Matthew 28:1-10

Mark 16:1-8

Luke 24:1-12

John 20:1-18

Talk about these questions after you read:

- Why do you think the women were the ones to find the empty tomb?
- What do you think they were feeling on their way to the tomb? After they found it empty?
- What does the empty tomb mean for us as Christians today?
- Who do you tell when you have really good news to share?