

# Holy Week Worship at Grace

Holy Week is the most important worship event of the Christian calendar. The events of this week are told as a single, powerful story of God's love revealed in Christ.



## Act I *Palm/Passion Sunday* (April 10)

The service begins with Jesus' entry into Jerusalem amid acclamation and joy with the waving of palms. But the tone changes rapidly with his arrest and sentencing. The day emphasizes how quickly our own faith can change—and how steadfast Jesus remains. This year, we will worship with both full palm fronds and the traditional single leaves that can be used to make palm crosses for you to take home.

## Act II *Maundy Thursday* (April 14)

The word "Maundy" is taken from the Latin for "commandment," referring to Jesus' command given this night to "Love one another as I have loved you." We celebrate communion to mark the last Seder meal Jesus shared with his disciples, and we remember that in the midst of this gift one of his own betrayed him. The service ends with the traditional Stripping of the Altar, a symbol of Jesus laying down his glory and power as he prepares for his arrest and trial. This service doesn't have a conclusion; it is considered one continuous service with...



## Act III *Good Friday* (April 15)

We revisit the story of Jesus' trial and crucifixion (using the Gospel of John) and meditate, not on how terrible we are for causing this, but on how faithful Jesus is in his call to give everything out of love for us. The service is not designed to be "depressing"; it is evocative and powerful. We remember how great God's love for us in Christ really is, and meditate on the cross that is transformed into the sign of that love and glory.

## Act IV *Resurrection of Our Lord* (April 17)

The story of salvation culminates in the final act when we hear again that death has lost, and God's power and love are victorious. We celebrate with joy and decorate the sanctuary with signs of new life—celebrating not just Christ's rising from the tomb, but the entire story that we have been re-telling all week. Death has lost its sting, and we live in Christ forever!



We look forward to worshipping with you as we remember our salvation story again this year!