

APRIL 14-16, 2022
MAUNDY THURSDAY
GOOD FRIDAY
HOLY SATURDAY



Peter and Jesus on trial together.

HOLY WEEK BIBLE READINGS

Take time to read and reflect on these Bible passages as part of your Holy Week observance.

Thursday	John 13:1-17, 31b-35	Jesus washes his disciples' feet
Friday	John 18:1-19:42	The suffering and death of Jesus
Saturday	1 Peter 4:1-8	Conversion of life

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR HOLY WEEK

Then Annas sent him [Jesus] bound to Caiaphas the high priest. Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him, "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." John 18:24-25 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for Holy Week:

Compassionate God, you stop at nothing to deliver us from sin and death. Thank you, Jesus, Son of God and our Savior and Lord forever. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

For the food that strengthens us and your love that redeems us, we thank you through Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you through Jesus, the crucified, to receive grace and mercy.



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HYMN FOR HOLY WEEK

Stay with Me



HOLY WEEK MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Tell or think about a time someone hurt or disappointed you.
- Tell or think about a time you hurt or disappointed a friend.

DEVOTIONS

Read: John 18:1-19:42.

While Jesus is on trial, Peter is questioned, too. In this reading from John, the questioning is not just about Peter knowing Jesus, but about being Jesus' disciple. Peter denies that he is a disciple of Jesus by saying, "I am not." This is in contrast to Jesus who made several "I am" statements in the Gospel of John. Jesus said, "I am the bread of life", "I am the good shepherd", and "I am the way, and the truth, and the life." Jesus said, "I am," a reference to the name of God in Exodus, while Peter said, "I am not." The contrast is stark. They are on trial at the same time. Jesus remains constant and faithful; Peter is neither. While Jesus puts it all on the line as Savior through betrayal, suffering, and death, Peter, as a representative of future disciples fails Jesus. The good news is that our missteps do not stop Jesus from being our Savior.

Discuss: When have you felt you have failed Jesus as his follower?

Pray: **Ah, holy Jesus, how have we offended? You who have stopped at nothing to love us eternally, we give you our thanks and pray for your forgiveness for our failings. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Holy Week Bible Readings and theme, how do you show through actions and words that you are a follower of Jesus?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Hot cross buns are traditionally served on Good Friday. They are marked with a cross on top to represent Jesus' crucifixion and have spices inside to symbolize the spices placed on Jesus' body after his death. Buy or make your own hot cross buns to eat on Good Friday. Place the buns on a table, light a candle and turn all the lights off. Say: **Jesus Christ is the light of the world. The light no darkness can overcome.** While sitting in the candle light, think or talk about Jesus' death and what it means to you. Close with the Lord's Prayer.

