

# The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer*

*Holy Week*

*March 24, 2024, through March 31, 2024*

**Patristic Quote for the Week —HILARY OF POITIERS (315-367AD):** Is this the crowd who would applaud his crucifixion? How was their hatred earned from his grace? Even the words of their commendation pointed to the power of redemption. “Hosanna” in Hebrew signifies the redemption of the house of David. They are calling upon the Son of David. They are celebrating the inheritance of the eternal kingdom. They are proclaiming blessing in the name of the Lord. Soon their shouting of “Crucify him!” would be blasphemy. But at present, the deeds he was doing were exhibiting the form of the future. It is granted that the crowd was doing these things with very confused emotions. The things that would follow would be different. Nevertheless they were, inadvertently and without willing it, pointing to heavenly things unfolding. In this way the whole city of Jerusalem was stirred. ON MATTHEW 21.3.<sup>1</sup>

**Life Thoughts--** In the midst of the darkness and forsakenness of that Friday we now call Good, we see God “hiding” in it all, demonstrating His love in a way we cannot comprehend but only apprehend by faith. The passion of Christ assures us that God works in our darkness demonstrating His love, bringing good, and promising never to forsake. *Lord Jesus, redeem all our fallenness by Your humility, compassion, forgiveness, and company. Amen.*

**Stewardship Thoughts-- Zechariah 9:9** – “Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.” No king ever rode to war like this. But no king had ever come to wage battle by dying. In His Passion, our Lord Jesus gives everything He has and is; He does this to bring us from death to life, to make us His own people, and show us an example of self-giving love that we should follow.

*Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.*

## Invocation

**In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## Apostles’ Creed

**Verse: John 12:13**

**“Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!”**

*Read or Chant Psalm 22*

Day	Bible Stories for Daily Devotions	Second Reading
Sun., March 24	<b>Gospel Lesson, Palm Sunday—John 12:12-19</b>	Zechariah 9:9-12
Mon., March 25	The Hour has Come—Mark 14:32-42	Jeremiah 7:1-15
Tues., March 26	Jesus is delivered to Pilate—Mark 15:1-5	Isaiah 50:4-11
Wed, March 27	They led Him out to Crucify Him—Mark 15:20-32	Jeremiah 11:18-23
Thurs, March 28	The Marriage of the Lamb has come—Revelation 19:6-10	Zechariah 3:1-10
Fri., March 29	There was Darkness over the whole land—Luke 23:43-49	Lamentations 2:8-15
Sat., March 30	He rolled a stone against the tomb.—Mark 15:42-47	Isaiah 52:13-15
Sun., March 31	Gospel Lesson, Easter Sunday—John 20:1-18	Philippians 2:5-11

<sup>1</sup> Simonetti, Manlio, ed. 2002. [Matthew 14-28](#). Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

**Pray the Collect for Good Friday:**

Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Personal Prayers and Petitions**

**Lord's Prayer**

**Hymn of the Week**

**A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth**

**LSB 438**

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| <p>1 A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth,<br/>The guilt of sinners bearing<br/>And, laden with the sins of earth,<br/>None else the burden sharing;<br/>Goes patient on, grows weak and faint,<br/>To slaughter led without complaint,<br/>That spotless life to offer,<br/>He bears the stripes, the wounds, the lies,<br/>The mockery, and yet replies,<br/>"All this I gladly suffer."</p> <p>2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend,<br/>The Lamb of God, our Savior,<br/>Whom God the Father chose to send<br/>To gain for us His favor.<br/>"Go forth, My Son," the Father said,<br/>"And free My children from their dread<br/>Of guilt and condemnation.<br/>The wrath and stripes are hard to bear,<br/>But by Your passion they will share<br/>The fruit of Your salvation."</p> | <p>3 "Yes, Father, yes, most willingly<br/>I'll bear what You command Me.<br/>My will conforms to Your decree,<br/>I'll do what You have asked Me."<br/>O wondrous Love, what have You done!<br/>The Father offers up His Son,<br/>Desiring our salvation.<br/>O Love, how strong You are to save!<br/>You lay the One into the grave<br/>Who built the earth's foundation.</p> <p>4 Lord, when Your glory I shall see<br/>And taste Your kingdom's pleasure,<br/>Your blood my royal robe shall be,<br/>My joy beyond all measure!<br/>When I appear before Your throne,<br/>Your righteousness shall be my crown;<br/>With these I need not hide me.<br/>And there, in garments richly wrought,<br/>As Your own bride shall we be brought<br/>To stand in joy beside You.</p> |
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Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

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**Looking forward to Holy Week Worship Schedule**

**Daily Chapel Service: Monday thru Friday from 12:15-12:45pm**

**Maundy Thursday w/Communion, March 28<sup>th</sup> @7:00pm**

**Good Friday, Chief Tenebrae Service, March 29<sup>th</sup> @7:00pm**

**Easter Vigil w/Communion, Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> @5:00pm**

**Easter Sunrise w/Communion, Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup> @**

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