

PCC Prayer Guide - Week 4 (COVID-19 Pandemic)

Purpose – To come together as a community of believers and focus our attention on the Lord in a time that is fraught with anxiety, loss and fear. Using the Scripture as our guide we will direct our prayers through Scripture.

Worship

Palm Sunday calls us to join the chorus of the centuries - Hosanna! When Jesus entered Jerusalem for the Passover the people celebrated Him, anticipating that He would save them. And He would. But not the way their limited hearts and minds imagined. On this side of the cross and resurrection we can join the chorus with our eyes on eternity.

Luke 19:37-38 As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, saying, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”

Revelation 7:9-10 After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

Lament

We know what happens at the end of the week. We have a rear-view mirror that tells us Jesus has victory over sin and death. But today, we are waiting. We are longing. We know the end of the story but the path to get there is fraught with uncertainty and the unknown. We cry out, and we confess our distress, our fear of the unknown.

Lamentations 3:21-24 But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. “The Lord is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.”

Psalms 142:1-2 With my voice I cry out to the Lord; with my voice I plead for mercy to the Lord. I pour out my complaint before him; I tell my trouble before him.

Intercede

In this waiting season we remember those who need the Good News, that Jesus has written the end of our stories, He is the answer to our weeping, our waiting. As Jesus wept over Jerusalem, we too weep over our community and our world.

Psalms 119:50 This is my comfort in my affliction, that your promise gives me life.

Psalms 67:1-2 May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that your way may be known on earth, your saving power among all nations.

Psalms 143:1 Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my pleas for mercy! In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!

Praise

Offer praise to the one who knows us, sees us and is always with us. We welcome the Lord Jesus.

Psalms 95:1-5 Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

Psalms 67:3-4a Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you! Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,