



Central Baptist Church  
Holy Week Guide  
2024

We would like to thank Central Baptist Church member Shelbi Whitfield for her wonderful artwork in this year's Holy Week Guide.

Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead,  
the offspring of David, according to my gospel  
2 Timothy 2:8

Dear Central Family,

Paul instructed Timothy to “remember” the resurrected Christ. We might be tempted to respond, “How could we forget?” Yet, forget we do, in ways big and small.

When we despair, we forget that Christ has risen.

When we fear death, we forget that Christ conquered the grave.

When we act as if miracles never happen, we forget the greatest miracle of all.

Perhaps now more than any other time on earth we must gather together and “remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead.”

In remembering, we take heart.

In remembering, we rebuff the devil.

In remembering, we are driven to worship.

May this Holy Week guide help us to remember!

Wyman Richardson  
Pastor

Kasey Earl  
Minister of Music & Worship



## Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, March 24

9 & 10:30 a.m. (Connect Groups)

9 & 10:30 a.m. (Worship)

Monday, March 25

Holy Monday - 12:10 – 12:50 p.m.

Tuesday, March 26

Holy Tuesday - 12:10 – 12:50 p.m.

Wednesday, March 27

Holy Wednesday - 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 28

Maundy Thursday - 6:00 p.m.

Friday, March 29

Good Friday - 6:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, March 31

7:30 a.m. (Sunrise Service)/ Breakfast

9 & 10:30 a.m. (Connect Groups) /

9 & 10:30 (Worship)



# Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 24

9 & 10:30 a.m. Connect Groups

9 & 10:30 a.m. Morning Worship



Song  
“How Good of God”  
Featuring CentralU Worship Arts

Welcome

Holy Week Congregational Reading of 1 Corinthians 15

1 Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand,

*2 and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.*

3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures,

*4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures,*

5 and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.



*6 Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep.*

7 Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.

*8 Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.*

Songs of Worship

“This I Believe”

“All Hail the Power of Jesus Name”

“Behold Him”

Message

“The Whole World Has Gone After Him!”

John 12:12 – 19

Invitation



# Holy Monday Prayer Service

Monday, March 25

12:10 p.m.



"Exclusive of the Psalms, which form a prayer-book on their own, the Bible records no fewer than 650 definite prayers, of which no less than 450 have recorded answers."

Herbert Lockyer, *All the Prayers of the Bible*

Song  
“This is Amazing Grace”

Welcome

Holy Week Congregational Reading of 1 Corinthians 15

9 For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

*10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.*

11 Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

*12 Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?*

13 But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised.

*14 And if Christ has not been raised, then our*

*preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain.*

15 We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised.

*16 For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised.*

### Songs of Worship

“Behold Our God” | “Before the Throne”

Silent Reflection on the Reality of Prayer  
*Spend some time in silent prayer with the Lord.  
Before you do so, carefully read through W.W.  
Walford’s 1845 hymn, “Sweet Hour of Prayer.”  
Reflect on all that God does for us through prayer.*

Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer!  
that calls me from a world of care,  
and bids me at my Father's throne  
make all my wants and wishes known.  
In seasons of distress and grief,  
my soul has often found relief,  
and oft escaped the tempter's snare  
by thy return, sweet hour of prayer!

Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer!  
the joys I feel, the bliss I share  
of those whose anxious spirits burn  
with strong desires for thy return!  
With such I hasten to the place  
where God my Savior shows his face,  
and gladly take my station there,  
and wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer!

Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer!  
thy wings shall my petition bear  
to him whose truth and faithfulness  
engage the waiting soul to bless.  
And since he bids me seek his face,  
believe his word, and trust his grace,  
I'll cast on him my every care,  
and wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer!

#### A Reading for Your Consideration

The Evangelical Missions Quarterly reported that out of 257 missionaries surveyed, sixty-six percent cited "mind wandering" during prayer as a frequent occurrence. Only one said it never happened to him. You and I must discipline our mind to concentrate. W.E. Sangster says:

Let no beginner in prayer abandon the privilege because of mind wandering. It can be conquered. A brisk, live imagination and a resolute will cannot be denied. Even though, in the early stages, the precious minutes tick away and all the time seems spent in bringing the mind back from its wanderings and fixing it again on prayer, they are not moments lost. Such discipline will exercise the muscles of the will, and the day will dawn when the sweetest meditation and the most earnest prayer will be possible even amid distraction.

Dan R. Crawford, *The Prayer-Shaped Disciple*

### Silent Prayers of Confession

*Read the following six verses from 1 John 1. Take the verses one at a time. Read a verse then read it again. Then take a moment and pray through and over and off of that verse as the Holy Spirit leads. Repeat for each verse.*

<sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

<sup>6</sup>If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk

in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

<sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

<sup>8</sup> If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

<sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

<sup>10</sup> If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

Song of Worship  
“Open the Eyes of My Heart”

Directed Prayer

Wyman Richardson will lead in a time of directed prayer.

Silent Prayer Concerning the Ethics of the Kingdom  
*Read this passage from Matthew 5 slowly to yourself.  
Ask yourself: “What is the Lord saying to me through  
these specific verses?”*

*Offer silent responses in prayer to the Lord.*



## Matthew 5

<sup>38</sup> “You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ <sup>39</sup> But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. <sup>40</sup> And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. <sup>41</sup> And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. <sup>42</sup> Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.

### Conclusion



St. Cuthbert, one of the greatest of the Celtic saints, used to pray standing up to his waist in the sea off the northeast coast of England. There's no evidence that the sea there was any less bitterly cold then than it is in our own day.

N.T. Wright, *Simply Christian*



# Holy Tuesday Prayer Service

Tuesday, March 26

12:10 p.m.



Former Southern Baptist missionary to China, Bertha Smith, set the following example:

Bertha wanted everyone saved. The Lord laid on her heart twenty young people about her own age who did not know Christ. She prayed for them, daily naming each one before the Lord. Eighteen of those were saved that same summer. The nineteenth came to Christ some years later. The twentieth had moved away and Bertha lost contact.

Dan R. Crawford, *The Prayer-Shaped Disciple*

Song  
“All Creatures of Our God and King”

Welcome

Holy Week Congregational Reading of 1 Corinthians 15

17 And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.

*18 Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.*

19 If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

*20 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.*

21 For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

*22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.*

23 But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.

*24 Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power.*

### A Consideration of Different Ways to Pray

*Dan Crawford has listed different ways of praying along with their scriptural foundations in his book The Prayer-Shaped Disciple. Take a moment and look up four of the passages below. Read the passage carefully. Spend some time asking God to help you in your prayer life.*

Praising (Ps. 63:3)

Waiting (Ps. 46:10)

Confessing (Ps. 139:23)

Scripture praying (Jer. 23:29)

Watching (Col. 4:2)

Interceding (1 Tim. 2:1-2)

Petitioning (Matt. 7:7)

Thanksgiving (1 Thess. 5:18)

Singing (Ps. 100:2)

Meditating (Josh. 1:8)

Listening (Eccles. 5:2)

Praising (Ps. 52:9)

Silent Prayers of Confession

*Ask the Lord to search your heart and reveal the places of sin in your life. Consider this prayer by St. Francis de Sales.*

“I, THE undersigned\_\_\_\_\_—in the Presence of God and of all the company of Heaven, having considered the Infinite Mercy of His Heavenly Goodness towards me, a most miserable, unworthy creature, whom He has created, preserved, sustained, delivered from so many dangers, and filled with so many blessings: having above all considered the incomprehensible mercy and loving-kindness with which this most Good God has borne with me in my sinfulness, leading me so tenderly to repentance, and waiting so patiently for me till this—(present) year of my life, notwithstanding all my ingratitude, disloyalty and faithlessness, by which I have delayed turning to Him, and despising His Grace, have offended Him anew: and further, remembering that in my Baptism I was solemnly and happily dedicated to God as His child, and that in defiance of the profession then made in my name, I have so often miserably profaned my gifts, turning them against God’s Divine Majesty:—I, now coming to myself prostrate in heart and soul before the Throne of His Justice, acknowledge and confess that I am duly accused and convicted of treason against His Majesty, and guilty of the Death and Passion of Jesus Christ, by reason of the sins I have committed, for which He died, bearing the reproach of the Cross; so that I deserve nothing else save eternal damnation.

But turning to the Throne of Infinite Mercy of this Eternal God, detesting the sins of my past life with all my heart and all my strength, I humbly desire and ask grace, pardon, and mercy, with entire absolution from my sin, in virtue of the Death and Passion of that same Lord and Redeemer, on Whom I lean as the only ground of my hope. I renew the sacred promise of faithfulness to God made in my name at my Baptism; renouncing the devil, the world, and the flesh, abhorring their accursed suggestions, vanities and lusts, now and for all eternity. And turning to a Loving and Pitiful God, I desire, intend, and deliberately resolve to serve and love Him now and eternally, devoting my mind and all its faculties, my soul and all its powers, my heart and all its affections, my body and all its senses, to His Will. I resolve never to misuse any part of my being by opposing His Divine Will and Sovereign Majesty, to which I wholly immolate myself in intention, vowing ever to be His loyal, obedient and faithful servant without any change or recall. But if unhappily, through the promptings of the enemy, or human infirmity, I should in anywise fail in this my resolution and dedication, I do most earnestly resolve by the grace of the Holy Spirit to rise up again so soon as I shall perceive my fall, and turn anew, without any delay, to seek His Divine Mercy. This is my firm will and intention,—my inviolable, irrevocable resolution, which I make and confirm without any reserve, in the Holy Presence of God, in the sight of the Church triumphant, and before the Church militant, which is my mother, who accepts this my declaration, in the

person of him who, as her representative, hears me make it. Be pleased, O Eternal, All-Powerful, and All-Loving God,— Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, to confirm me in this my resolution, and accept my hearty and willing offering. And inasmuch as Thou hast been pleased to inspire me with the will to make it, give me also the needful strength and grace to keep it. O God, Thou art my God, the God of my heart, my soul, and spirit, and as such I acknowledge and adore Thee, now and for all eternity. Glory be to Jesus. Amen.”

### Songs

“Jesus Paid it All” | “O Praise the Name”

### Directed Prayer

Wyman Richardson will lead in a time of directed prayer.

Silent Prayer over Jesus Approaching the Cross

Read this passage slowly to yourself.

Offer silent responses in prayer to the Lord.

Matthew 27

<sup>24</sup> So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it



yourselves.”<sup>25</sup> And all the people answered, “His blood be on us and on our children!”<sup>26</sup> Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.<sup>27</sup> Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him.<sup>28</sup> And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him,<sup>29</sup> and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!”<sup>30</sup> And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head.<sup>31</sup> And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him.

## Conclusion

From Martin Luther's *A Simple Way to Pray*

Guard yourself carefully against those false, deluding ideas which tell you, “Wait a little while. I will pray in an hour; first I must attend to this or that.” Such thoughts get you away from prayer into other affairs which so hold your attention and involve you that nothing comes of prayer for that day.

Martin Luther, *A Simple Way to Pray*



# Holy Wednesday Service

Wednesday, March 27

6:00 p.m.



If Jesus preached in New York what he preached in Galilee, we'd lay him in his grave again.

Woody Guthrie

Among some Protestants, there seems to be a new Christ who is less demanding, and who seems to exist only to coddle the doubtful and to make sure that believers get all the goodies they seek from their secular lives.

Calvin Miller, *The Path of Celtic Prayer*

Songs of Worship  
“God So Loved” | “His Mercy is More”

Welcome

Holy Week Congregational Reading of 1 Corinthians 15

25 For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.

*26 The last enemy to be destroyed is death.*

27 For “God has put all things in subjection under his feet.” But when it says, “all things are put in subjection,” it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him.

*28 When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.*

29 Otherwise, what do people mean by being baptized on behalf of the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why are people baptized on their behalf?

*30 Why are we in danger every hour?*

31 I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I  
have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die every day!

Songs

“Old Rugged Cross”

“Rise and Shine”

(an original featuring New Jerusalem)

Message

Randal Ballew

Matthew 27:3 – 5



# Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, March 28

6:00 p.m.



Come then, beloved, unworthy as you are, come to his table. Come trembling because of your sin, but rejoicing in his sacrifice, and grateful for his great love. Come and trust him over again; come and give yourselves up to him once more; come and renew your vows of affection and devotion.

Charles Spurgeon, 1877

Song  
“Christ Our Hope in Life and Death”

Prayer and Welcome

Holy Week Congregational Reading of 1 Corinthians 15

32 What do I gain if, humanly speaking, I fought with beasts at Ephesus? If the dead are not raised, “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.”

*33 Do not be deceived: “Bad company ruins good morals.”*

34 Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame.

*35 But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?”*

36 You foolish person! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies.

*37 And what you sow is not the body that is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain.*



38 But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

*39 For not all flesh is the same, but there is one kind for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish.*

40 There are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is of one kind, and the glory of the earthly is of another.

*41 There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory.*

42 So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable.

Songs of Worship  
“Nothing But the Blood”  
“Glorious Day (Living He Loved Me)”

Communion Message  
Thomas Sewell  
Matthew 26:26-29

## Preparation for the Observance of Holy Communion

### Corporate Confession of Sin

O God, you have shown us the way of life through your Son,  
Jesus Christ.

We confess with shame our slowness to learn of him,  
Our failure to follow him, and our reluctance to bear the cross.

We confess the poverty of our worship,  
Our neglect of fellowship and the means of grace,  
Our hesitating witness for Christ,

Our evasion of responsibilities in our service,  
Our imperfect stewardship of your gifts.

Have mercy on us, Lord, and forgive us.

Create within us a clean heart, O God,  
And put a new and right spirit within us.

### Recitation of the Church Covenant

As a body of born again believers,

We covenant to become an authentic family by

loving one another as Christ loves us,

praying for one another,

speaking truth to one another in love,

being patient with one another,

protecting one another,

considering one another as more important than ourselves.

We covenant to embrace the whole gospel by  
studying God's Word faithfully,  
learning the gospel together in family worship,  
giving ear only to sound doctrine,  
living out the gospel in our lives,  
embracing the whole counsel of God.

We covenant to bring glory to God by  
gathering for worship faithfully,  
singing to the glory of God,  
joining together in fervent prayer,  
doing good works to the Father's glory,  
living lives that reflect the beauty of Christ,  
giving offerings to God joyfully and faithfully,

We covenant to reach the nations by  
sharing the gospel with those around us,  
reaching out to the poor and the needy,  
praying for the cause of missions in the world,  
giving to the financial support of missions,  
being personally involved in missions as God leads  
and as we are able.

Song of Reflection  
“There is a Fountain”

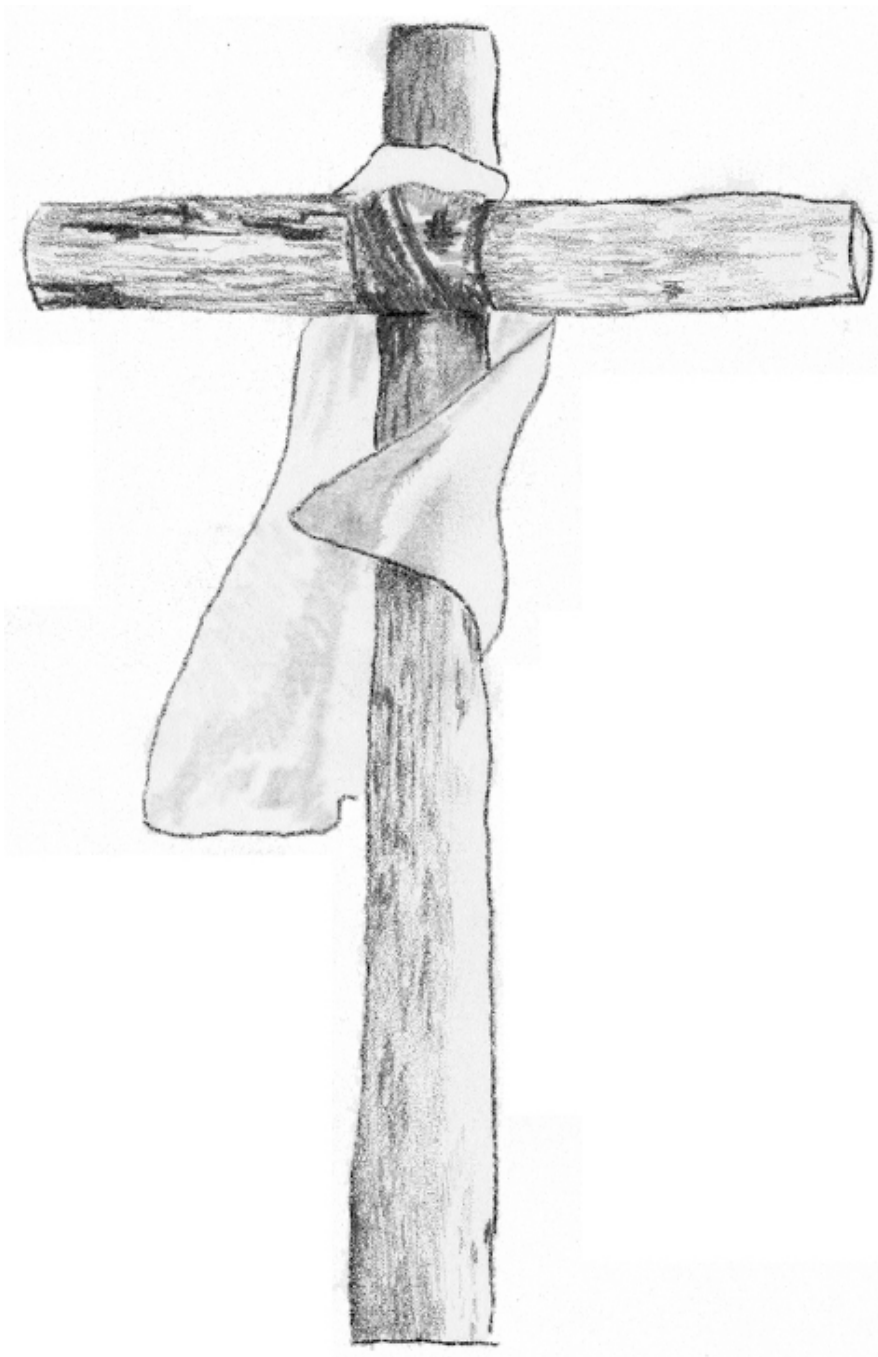
Observance of the Lord’s Supper



# Good Friday Worship

March 29

6:00 p.m.



Songs of Worship  
“At the Cross”

Prayer and Welcome

Holy Week Congregational Reading of 1 Corinthians 15

43 It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power.

*44 It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.*

45 Thus it is written, “The first man Adam became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit.

*46 But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual.*

47 The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven.

*48 As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven.*

49 Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.

*50 I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.*

Songs

“Is He Worthy” / “Agnus Dei” / “We Fall Down”

Reflections on the Seven Last Words

Pastor Wyman

The Seven Last Words of Christ

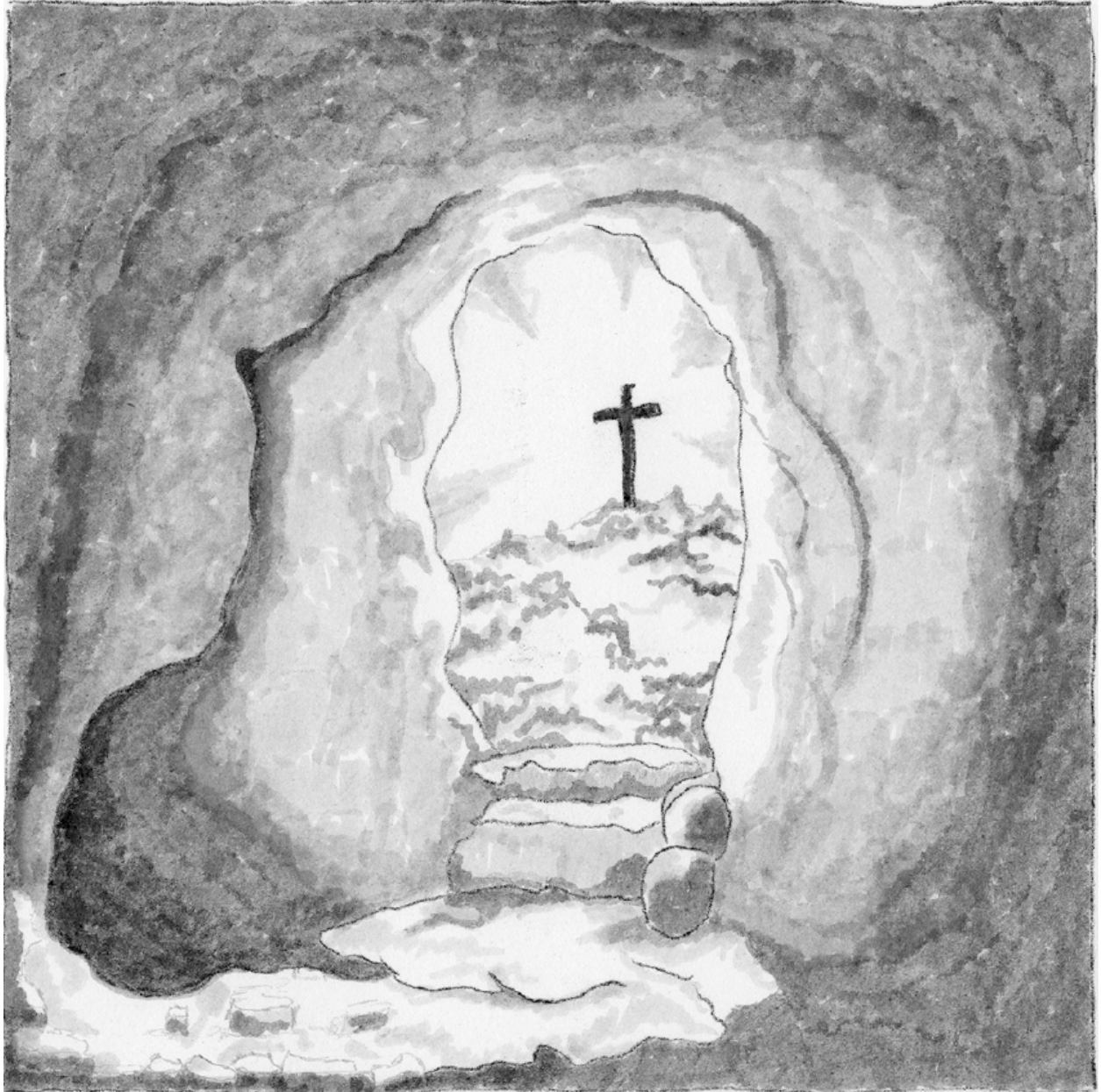
The Service Ends in Darkness





# Easter Sunday

Sunday, March 31





# Sunrise Service

7:30 a.m. on the yard in front of the sanctuary

Prayer and Welcome

Songs

A Sunrise Medley - "Living Hope" / "Victory in Jesus"

Who could imagine so great a mercy  
What heart could fathom such boundless grace  
The God of ages stepped down from glory  
To wear my sin and bear my shame  
The cross has spoken I am forgiven  
The King of kings calls me His own  
Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever  
Jesus Christ my living hope

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free  
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me  
You have broken every chain  
There's salvation in Your name  
Jesus Christ my living hope

Then came the morning that sealed the promise  
Your buried body began to breathe  
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion  
Declared the grave has no claim on me

Jesus Yours is the victory whoa

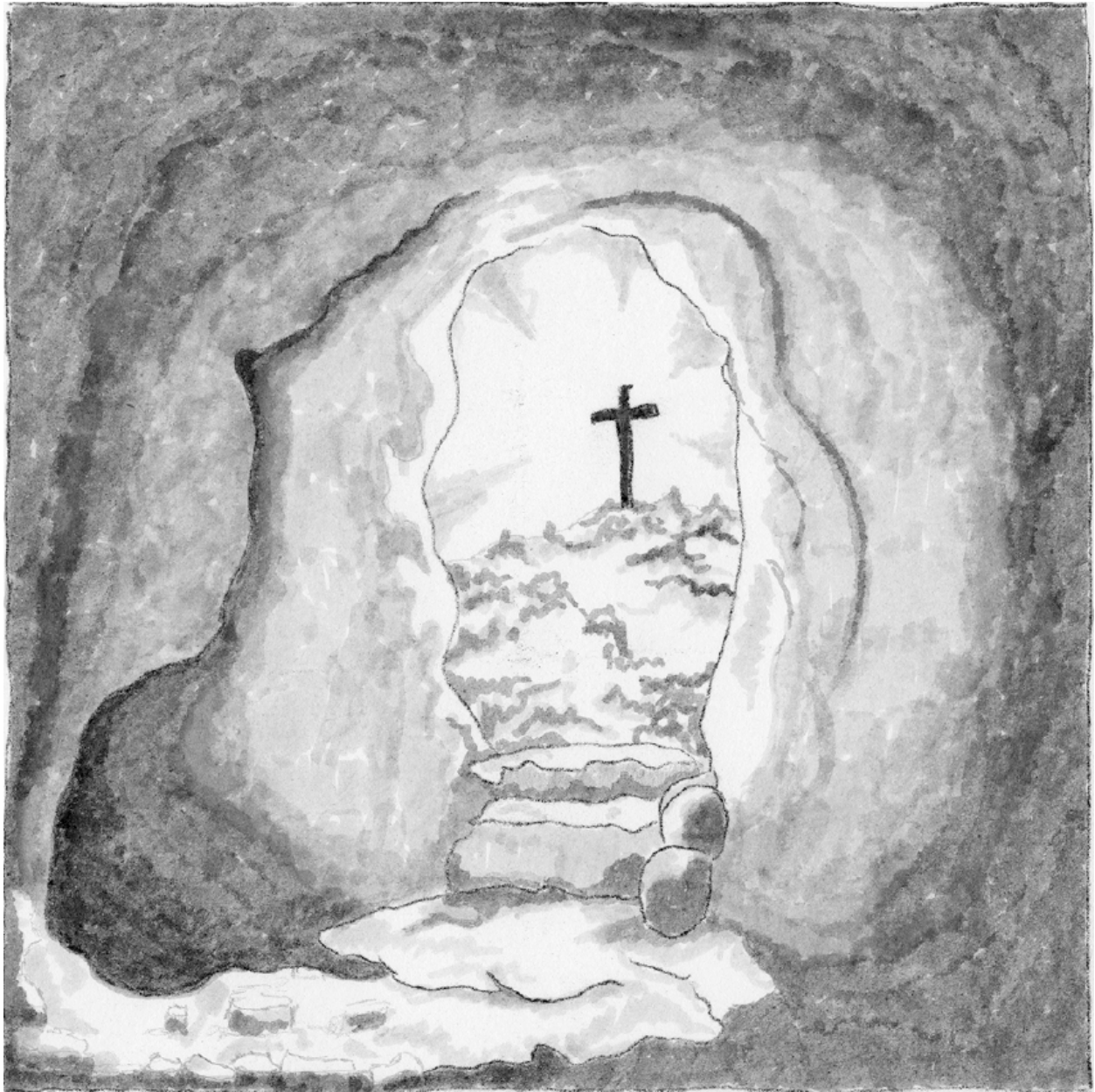
O victory in Jesus  
My Savior forever  
He sought me and bought me  
With His redeeming blood  
He loved me ere I knew Him  
And all my love is due Him  
He plunged me to victory  
Beneath the cleansing flood

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free  
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me  
You have broken every chain  
There's salvation in Your name  
Jesus Christ my living hope

Message  
Pastor Wyman

# Easter Sunday Worship

9 and 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary



## Seven Words of the Resurrection

### Song “I Believe”

#### Prayer and Welcome

#### Holy Week Congregational Reading of 1 Corinthians 15

51 Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

*52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.*

53 For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality.

*54 When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory.”*

55 “O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?”

*56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.*

57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

*58 Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.*

#### Songs

“In Christ Alone” | “This is Our God  
“Because He Lives” | “Because of Jesus”

#### Message

“Above All Rule and Authority and Power and Dominion”  
Ephesians 1:15 – 23

#### Invitation

Video Conclusion  
“He’s Still Risen”





“Seven Stanzas at Easter”

John Updike (1960)

Make no mistake: if he rose at all  
It was as His body;  
If the cell’s dissolution did not reverse, the molecules  
reknit,  
The amino acids rekindle,  
The Church will fall.

It was not as the flowers,  
Each soft spring recurrent;  
It was not as His Spirit in the mouths and fuddled eyes of  
the  
Eleven apostles;  
It was as His flesh; ours.

The same hinged thumbs and toes  
The same valved heart  
That—pierced—died, withered, paused, and then  
regathered  
Out of enduring Might  
New strength to enclose.

Let us not mock God with metaphor,  
Analogy, sidestepping, transcendence,  
Making of the event a parable, a sign painted in the faded

Credulity of earlier ages:

Let us walk through the door.

The stone is rolled back, not papier-mâché,

Not a stone in a story,

But the vast rock of materiality that in the slow grinding  
of

Time will eclipse for each of us

The wide light of day.

Let us not seek to make it less monstrous,

For our own convenience, our own sense of beauty,

Lest, awakened in one unthinkable hour, we are  
embarrassed

By the miracle,

And crushed by remonstrance.

