



# ▶ DAILY DEVOTIONAL.

**Saturday/Sunday, 4/13-14/19**

**“I Heard”**

**John 12:12-19**

*The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting,*

*“Hosanna!*

*Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord —  
the King of Israel!”*

*Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written:*

*“Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion.*

*Look, your king is coming,  
sitting on a donkey’s colt!”*

*His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him. So the crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to testify. It was also because they heard that he had performed this sign that the crowd went to meet him. The Pharisees then said to one another, “You see, you can do nothing. Look, the world has gone after him!”*

**Family Activity:** When Jesus arrived in Jerusalem he was treated like royalty. Today, we might see the same excitement if a celebrity came into town. Unfortunately, as we will see later this week it didn’t take very long for people to change their minds from loving Jesus to despising him. There is a lot to the story this week: take the time as a family to make resurrection eggs and share the story. (Instructions on the back page.)

**Monday, 4/15/19**

**“Children of Light”**

**John 12:27-36**

*“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say — ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. The crowd answered him, “We have heard from the law that the Messiah remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?” Jesus said to them, “The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.”*

- I can still remember vividly being terrified of the dark when I was a child. I can recall waking up early in the morning and seeing the shadows and my imagination often got the best of me. I can also remember the relief I felt when my father got up in the morning to start getting ready and I could see the light under my door. The light dispelled the shadows that I thought were threatening to overtake me. How has Jesus, the light, helped you to overcome the darkness in your life?
- What does it mean to you to believe in the light and become a child of light?

**Prayer:** Holy God, I praise you for your presence with us. Help us to see the light that you offer us and dispel the darkness from our lives. Guide us as we grow in our faith and in our relationship with you. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray, Amen.

**Tuesday, 4/16/19**

**“In Denial”**

**John 13:36-38**

*Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, where are you going?” Jesus answered, “Where I am going, you cannot follow me now; but you will follow afterward.” Peter said to him, “Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you.” Jesus answered, “Will you lay down your life for me? Very truly, I tell you, before the cock crows, you will have denied me three times.”*

- In reading this scripture, I often ask myself what I truly think I would have done if I were Peter. His enthusiasm for following Jesus is true and genuine, and yet, he still does what he thinks he will never do, which is deny Jesus. How have you denied Jesus?
- “Will you lay down your life for me?” This is a question that we each get to answer for ourselves. Even though we may not be faced with this in the same way Peter was, it is still a question that we must answer. How would you hope to answer this?

**Prayer:** Good and gracious God, we thank you for your faithfulness. We ask for your forgiveness for the ways that we have denied you. Help us to be strengthened to follow you in times of trial and adversity as well as in times that are trouble free. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

**Wednesday, 4/17/19**  
**“Peace I Leave With You”**  
**John 14:26-31**

*But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe. I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no power over me; but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us be on our way.*

- In this passage, Jesus gives us a reassurance to not let our hearts be troubled. He does this, of course, with the knowledge of the difficulties lying ahead. How have you been able to take these words to heart?
- What words or phrases stand out to you today? What truth is God speaking to you through this scripture today?

**Prayer:** Dear God, we thank you for your assurance of peace and comfort. Give us the wisdom to rest on this promise even when the rest of the world would say otherwise. Strengthen us for this journey to the cross. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

**Thursday, 4/18/19**  
**“The Last Supper”**  
**Matthew 26:26-29**

*While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”*

- Forgiveness is an important part of our journey toward the resurrection. What has held you back from forgiving yourself? What are you asking for God’s forgiveness for today?
- God’s forgiveness being poured out is a beautiful image. When I think of this, I imagine an overwhelming cascade that cannot be contained. How are you able to see and receive forgiveness today?

**Prayer:** Holy God, we thank you for the beautiful gift of forgiveness that you have planned and prepared for us. Help us to truly receive this gift for ourselves so that nothing will hinder us from our relationship with you. May we fully receive so that we may also extend your grace and mercy and forgiveness to those around us. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.

**Friday, 4/19/19**

**“I Thought”**

**John 19:25-37**

*Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, “Woman, here is your son.” Then he said to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.*












*After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), “I am thirsty.” A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, “It is finished.” Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.*

*Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. (He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, “None of his bones shall be broken.” And again another passage of scripture says, “They will look on the one whom they have pierced.”*

- “It is finished” is a powerful statement for us to consider. In the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ eternal life has been accomplished. What does this statement mean for you?
- We thankfully know that this moment is not truly the end of the story. However, in this moment, we leave the story unfinished. In our lives, it is often the case that we live in the discomfort of things that are unresolved. Where are you currently struggling with this reality?

**Prayer:** Dear God, we thank you that you have gone ahead of us to make a way for us. Help us to see that you are always working in our lives, even when we do not see the path ahead. Thank you for the power of the cross and the sacrifice that you made for us. In the name of Jesus Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit we pray, Amen.

***This week’s devotional was written by  
Pastor Jessica Richard (jrichard@plattewoodschurch.org).***

<p>1</p>  <p>Palm Sunday</p> <p><b>Matthew 21:1-11</b></p>	<p>2</p>  <p><b>Matthew 26:6-13</b></p>	<p>3</p>  <p><b>Matthew 26:17-30</b></p>
<p>4</p>  <p><b>Matthew 26:36-46</b></p>	<p>5</p>  <p><b>Matthew 26:14-16</b> <b>Matthew 26:47-50</b></p>	<p>6</p>  <p><b>Matthew 27:27-31</b></p>
<p>7</p>  <p><b>John 19:23</b></p>	<p>8</p>  <p><b>John 19:16-18</b></p>	<p>9</p>  <p><b>John 19:28-30</b></p>
<p>10</p>  <p><b>John 19:38-42</b></p>	<p>11</p>  <p><b>Matthew 27:59-66</b></p>	<p>12</p> <p><b>Matthew 28:1-20</b></p>

1. Cut out each image
2. Place each image in a plastic egg
3. Use the eggs to tell the story of the Resurrection!