PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Psalm 22:19, 21, 1, 7-8, 11
But You, O Lord, do not be far from Me;* O My Strength, hasten to help Me! Save Me from the lion’s mouth* and from the horns of the wild oxen! My God, My God, why have You for- saken Me?* Why are You so far from helping Me. All those who see Me ridicule Me;* they shoot out the lip, they shake the head. They say “He trusted in the Lord, let Him rescue Him:* let Him deliver Him, since He delights in Him!” But You, O Lord, do not be far from Me;* O My Strength, hasten to help Me! Save Me from the lion’s mouth* and from the horns of the wild oxen! My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?* Why are You so far from helping Me. All those who see Me ridicule Me;* they shoot out the lip, they shake the head. They say “He trusted in the Lord, let Him rescue Him:* let Him deliver Him, since He delights in Him!”

BLESS YOURSELF WITH THE HOLY CROSS AND SAY:
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

PRAY THE LORD’S PRAYER
Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon Him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross that all mankind should follow the example of His great humility, mercifully grant that we may both be guided by His patience in this life and also be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK
Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon Him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross that all mankind should follow the example of His great humility, mercifully grant that we may both be guided by His patience in this life and also be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

BLESS YOURSELF WITH THE HOLY CROSS AND SAY:
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

PRAY THE MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER
Morning. I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graced me this day; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Evening. I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands, I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

SAY THE APOSTLES’ CREED
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Psalm 22:19, 21, 1, 7-8, 11
But You, O Lord, do not be far from Me;* O My Strength, hasten to help Me! Save Me from the lion’s mouth* and from the horns of the wild oxen! My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?* Why are You so far from helping Me. All those who see Me ridicule Me;* they shoot out the lip, they shake the head. They say “He trusted in the Lord, let Him rescue Him:* let Him deliver Him, since He delights in Him!”

1. A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth, The guilt of all men bearing: And laden with the sins of earth, None else the burden sharing! Goes patient on, grow weak and faint, To slaughter led without complaint, That spotless life to offer; Bears shame and stripes, and wounds and death, Anguish and mockery, and saith, “Willing all this I suffer.”

4. From morn till eve my theme shall be Thy mercy’s wondrous measure; To sacrifice myself for Thee Shall be my aim and pleasure. My stream of life shall ever be A current flowing ceaselessly, Thy constant praise outpouring. I’ll treasure in my memory, O Lord, all Thou hast done for me, Thy gracious love adoring.

PRAY THE MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER
Morning. I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graced me this day; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Evening. I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands, I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.
**THEME OF THE WEEK: He Suffered All the Penalties of Human Sin**

Holy Week, it has all come down to this: Thirty-three years of doing the will of the Father for you; thirty-three years of overcoming temptations for you; thirty-three years of proclaiming the Gospel for you; thirty-three years of fulfilling the Law for you. He did it all, accomplished it all well almost all. The sin of the world is laid up on His perfect shoulders. He carried them to Jerusalem, with His face always turned toward the cross. He will not forsake it, not now, for this is His purpose! To suffer as a perfect sacrifice all the penalties of your sin and mine. He will be betrayed. Beatings and torture await. His disciples will flee. The Lamb will remain silent. The Father will forsake Him. He will die and be place in a tomb. And it is all for you!

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**SCRIPTURE:** Matthew 21:1-9—Lord Save Us Now

He comes riding into Jerusalem like a king: a new and greater Solomon. But His reign will not be a peaceful one: for you it will be, but not for Him. His throne will be a cross, His royal crest bloody wounds and bruises. No ring upon His finger, only a nail through His hand. No shiny crown of gold, just a blood smeared diadem of mat. Reign will not be a peaceful one; for you it will be, but not for Him. His throne will be wranglings and torture await. His disciples will flee. The Lamb will remain silent. The Father will forsake Him. He will die and be place in a tomb. And it is all for you!—*Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!*

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**SCRIPTURE:** John 12:1-23—The Hour Has Come For The Son Of Man To Be Glorified

Glory is a weird thing when seen through the eyes of the cross. It doesn’t have the luster and sheen that one would think. It is much more grisly and hideous and grim. But salvation is like this. It doesn’t pretend that sin, the grave, and the devil aren’t real. Instead, it sees these enemies for what they are and it does battle with them: battle to the death. The glory of God is the cross. The glorification of the Son of Man is His death upon it. Even today it is the same. The Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified. We preach that foolish stumbling block of the cross, for that is where the glory of God is found. The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. And He is glorified on the cross for you!—*Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!* 

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**SCRIPTURE:** John 12:23-50—Now Is The Judgement Of This World

“Now is the time for judgment.” All of the sin of the world, all of the death, all of the assaults of the devil, all of the guilt and shame, it is now time for all of that to be judged. We hear these words but do we understand what they mean. Is not the world still spinning 2000 years later? But the judgment is the cross. Jesus is about to be lifted up; naked and bloodied and bruised. And it is there, on that cross, in that perfect sacrifice, that the judgment of God will be enacted. “Guilty,” will be the verdict pronounced upon Jesus. All the wrath and punishment for all the sins of the entire world will be meted upon this innocent Lamb who is innocent no longer: He has become sin for us. “Now is the time for judgment.” Christ Jesus is to be judged the sinner that you are. And it is all for you!—*Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!* 

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**SCRIPTURE:** Matthew 27:57-66—Jesus Dead In The Tomb

Jesus rests in the tomb. His work is finished. Today He sanctifies the grave, tomorrow He will claim victory over it. And such is the promise for you. Where is death’s victory? Where is death’s sting? It is gone! It is buried deep in the ground with Jesus never to rise again. But Jesus did. So will you. This is your assurance: That God will keep your bodies in peaceful sleep until He comes again in glory. The stone will be rolled away. It has been already. The grave will release you from its grip just like it did Jesus. It must. You are one with the Lord of life! His victory is yours. The grave is open. Death is dead. Sins are forgiven. All is accomplished. It is finished! You were never here. A New Easter awaits. Fear not! For this eternal East- er is yours in Christ!—*Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!* 

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**SCRIPTURE:** John 13:16-38—The Rooster Will Not Crow Till You Have Denied Me Three Times

“Lord, I will lay down my life for you.” The arrogant words of an arrogant man. These are words that we all wish we would have the courage to say. But Peter had it wrong, and so do we. The Lord needs nothing from us, requires nothing from us. The sacrifice is not ours to give, but ours to receive. It is an odd thing to read: Peter so sure that he would give the ultimate sacrifice for Jesus. But Jesus knows this is not the case. And that is okay. Because while Peter runs and hides (and we do the same), Jesus takes these words and makes them His own. “I will lay down my life for you!” He declares. And by the time the rooster crows He is already well on His way. Jesus laid down His life for you; not the other way around!—*Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!*