

A PRAYER FOR HOLY WEEK



Leader: As Jesus emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, humbling himself and being obedient to the point of death, so inspire your church to follow faithfully in the way that he had led us, that we may share in his exaltation and resurrection.

PEOPLE: Make your face to shine upon your servants, and in your loving kindness, save us, O God.

Leader: As Jesus confronted the powers and principalities of this world, so empower us to unmask all injustice, envy, violence, and greed, and live in your divine light which casts out all darkness.

PEOPLE: Make your face to shine upon your servants, and in your loving kindness, save us, O God.

Leader: As Jesus became one with the poor, the criminal, the outcast, and the dying, so send your resurrection grace unto all who suffer, that they may be comforted by the promise of your heavenly Kingdom.

PEOPLE: Make your face to shine upon your servants, and in your loving kindness, save us, O God.

Leader: As Jesus embraced the outcast and suffering, be with us in this community that we may be a people of compassion and peace, bringing everyone into your healing presence.

PEOPLE: Make your face to shine upon your servants, and in your loving kindness, save us, O God.

ALL: Through the humble trust of Jesus on the cross you have showed us the path of eternal life, O God. Give us the courage and grace to follow his example of obedient love, to walk in the way of the cross, and to share in his glorious resurrection, that we may live in the power of his Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

A BENEDICTION FOR PALM SUNDAY

Leader: God of Joy and Arrival, enter our lives as Christ entered Jerusalem.

PEOPLE: MAY WE CONTINUE TO CELEBRATE YOUR COMING.

Leader: May we cry out with the stones so the world might hear your glad arrival.

PEOPLE: YET DO NOT LEAVE US IN THE EVENTS TO COME.

Leader: This joyous crowd which greets you will turn and flee...

PEOPLE: FROM A CROWD OF HOSANNAS, WE TURN INTO A SILENT, DENYING CROWD AT THE CROSS.

Leader: Do not leave us, we pray, in the events to come.

PEOPLE: EVEN THOUGH WE MAY LEAVE YOU, DO NOT LEAVE US, O CHRIST.

ALL: THEN FORGIVE US, WE ASK, SO THAT WE CAN RETURN TO YOU A CHANGED PEOPLE ON EASTER MORNING. HOSANNA !

