

# Easter

at First Baptist Gainesville

PLEASE ENJOY THIS BOOKLET AS PART OF YOUR  
EASTER CELEBRATIONS. FILLED WITH  
DEVOTIONALS FROM OUR PASTORS, COLORING  
PAGES, A MUSIC PLAYLIST AND RECIPES!



# Holy Week Timeline

## Sunday

Jesus enters Jerusalem.  
Crowds lay down palm branches.

## Monday

Jesus enters the Temple.  
Judas agrees to betray Jesus.

## Wednesday

## Thursday

Last Supper.  
Jesus celebrates Passover with his  
disciples and celebrate first communion.  
Judas betrays Jesus and he is arrested.



# Holy Week Timeline

## Friday

“Good Friday”

Jesus is falsely accused and endures a trial.

Pilate sentences Jesus to crucifixion.

Jesus carries His cross and is nailed to the cross and dies.

His body is placed in a tomb.

## Saturday

Cheif Priests secure the tomb with a Roman Guard.

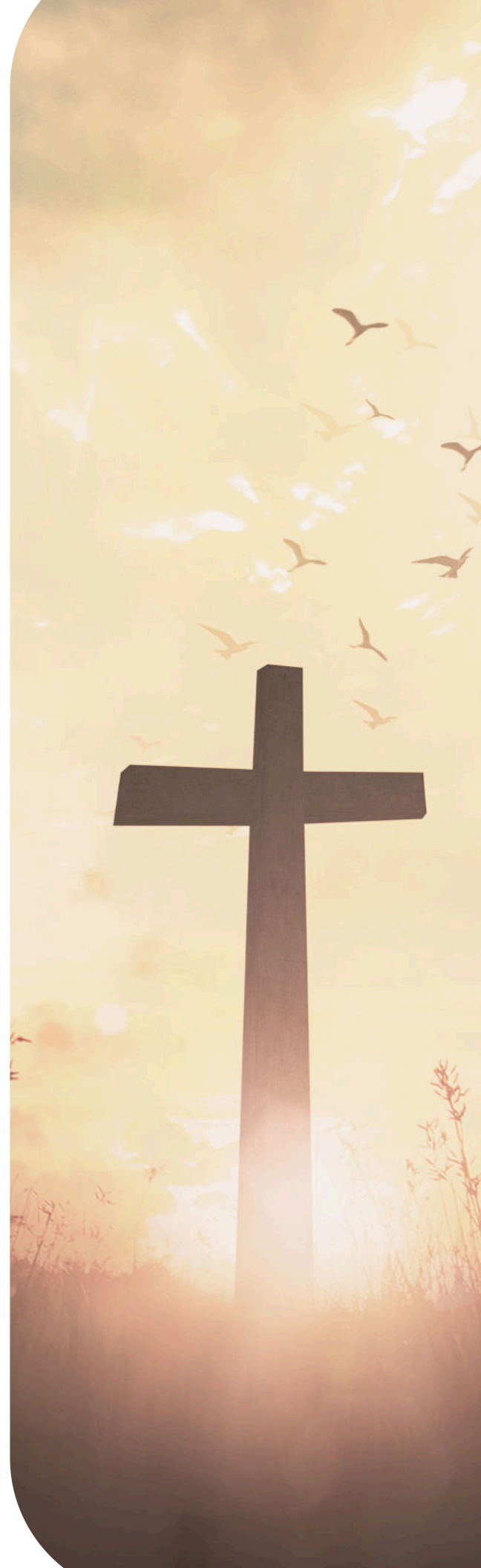
## Sunday

Easter Sunday.

Women visit the tomb and find it empty.

Angels proclaim: He is not here, He has risen!

Jesus appears to Mary Magdalene, Peter and the disciples.







# HOLY WEEK *Devotional* DAY 1

## **Scripture:**

As Jesus approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, "If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace." Luke 19:41-42a

## **Reflection:**

This emotional outpouring from Jesus is what leads us into Holy Week. Throughout the gospels Jesus is said to have "compassion" for those who are hurting or in need. This Greek word we translate as compassion isn't a slight or fleeting feeling, but literally means something you feel deep in your bowels or gut. On this day, that true, sincere, aching compassion brought Jesus to tears as he looked over a city full of people unaware of what could genuinely bring them peace. Jesus weeps over you and over me when we forsake His peace for the multitude of ways the world only offers empty stress and heartache. This Holy Week I pray you and I will take time to refocus on the deep, abiding, peace-giving love God has for you and me that is displayed most fully in the crucifixion AND resurrection of Jesus.

## **Prayer:**

Lord, as John 3:16 reminds us, it is only out of love that you sent your Son to offer me a grace I do not deserve. May I receive that compassion today and seek to live my life offering that kind of compassion to others.

## **Application or Discussion:**

Google the hymn "O the Deep Deep Love of Jesus" and play the first video that pops up, reflecting upon the words of his beautiful song.







# HOLY WEEK *Devotional* DAY 2

## **Scripture:**

"And Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priest and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. And he said this plainly." -Mark 8:31-32a

## **Reflection:**

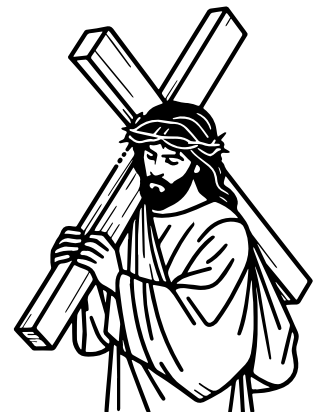
Our God is a God who suffers for us. We easily forget that the cross of Jesus Christ is what has brought us to freedom from slavery to sin and death. In Mark 8, Jesus turns his face to Jerusalem and begins his journey to that cross. Holy Week is the culmination of the pilgrimage he began when he was born in Bethlehem. His own disciples try to stop him and he corrects them: it is the one who denies himself and takes up his cross who saves his life, not the one who greedily clutches his worldly wealth. As we walk through Holy Week with Jesus, may we remember that it is not our earthly achievements and riches that bring us salvation, but the Suffering Servant who loves us so dearly.

## **Prayer:**

Father, I surrender my life and my all to you. Please let your will be done in my life. I am ready for whatever you have prepared for me, just as your Son was ready and willing. Amen.

## **Application/Discussion OR Activity:**

Fast in some way today. Give up social media or sweets or something dear to you.





# HOLY WEEK *Devotional* DAY 3

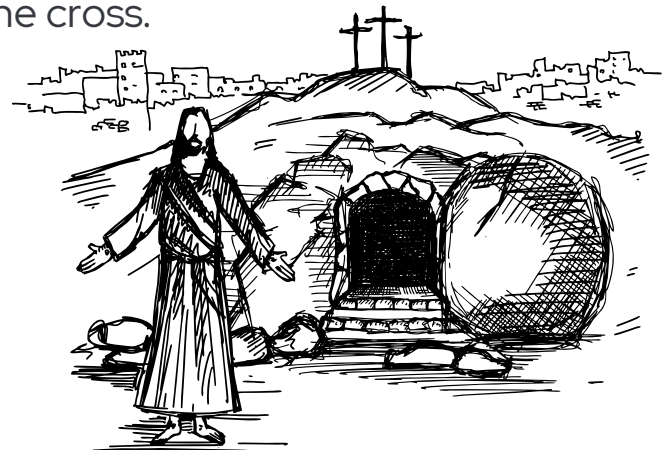
## **Scripture:**

Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb...He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb...Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb? When they looked up, they saw the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. (excerpt from Mark 15:46-47, 16:1-5)

## **Reflection:**

The women who witnessed the hasty burial of Jesus saw a heavy stone rolled over the entrance to the cave on that somber "Good" Friday, just before Sabbath began. On Sunday morning, they hurried back to the tomb carrying traditional spices used in Jewish burial rituals. Along the way they kept remembering that heavy stone – a great barrier blocking access to their beloved teacher and friend. The mass of that tremendous stone could only be eclipsed by the weight of their sorrow and grief. What they would soon discover is that the huge stone had already been removed, and that Jesus, their friend, was now Jesus, their living Savior. All barriers had been eliminated. Jesus was no longer entombed behind the stone – he was risen from the dead. Access to God's Son was limitless and free for all who would believe and call on the name of Jesus. What barrier, what grief, what guilt, what heavy load stands between you and your relationship with Jesus today? Lay that heavy burden at the foot of the cross.

Run unencumbered to the empty tomb and call out to your risen Savior – He is alive!  
The stone is rolled away forever!





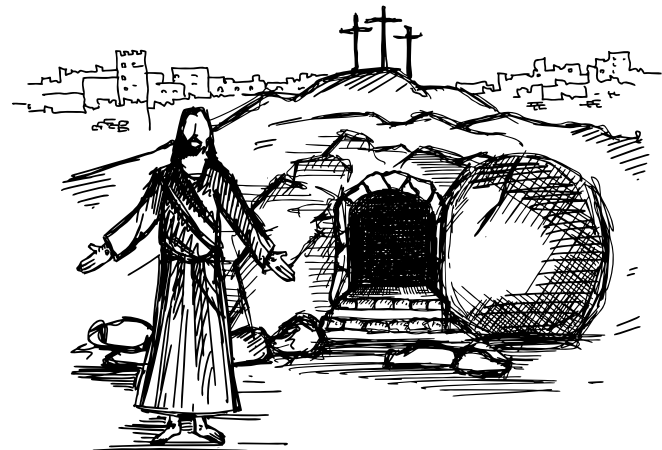
# HOLY WEEK *Devotional* DAY 3

## **Prayer:**

Thank you, dear God, for the incredible gift of Easter, the gift of salvation, and full access to your unconditional love and grace. Guide our steps as we seek to live fully in the light of Christ's resurrection.

## **Application/Discussion OR Activity:**

Take a walk in the woods, a garden, a mountain trail, or other quiet place as you prepare to observe Easter. Look for large rocks or other obstacles that may hinder your path. As you navigate your way over or around these barriers, breathe a prayer of praise and thanksgiving. Easter's coming – Jesus is alive!







# HOLY WEEK *Devotional* DAY 4

## **Scripture:**

"... Jesus took bread, and when He had given thanks He broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Luke 22:19

## **Reflection:**

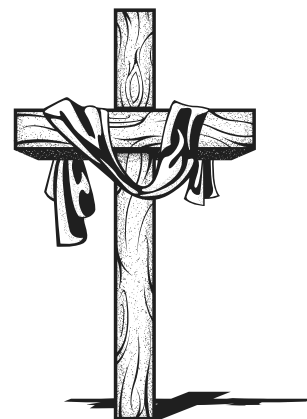
Many times at a meal, bread will be served. Perhaps your Mom or your Grandmother baked the bread. We usually place a dab of butter on the bread and watch the yellow goo slide over the bread. And oh, how we enjoy it! In this verse from Luke's Gospel, Jesus shared bread with the disciples and asked them to eat it. He said it was his body. It was a signal of what was ahead of Jesus and his followers as the cross was looming. Jesus was encouraging His disciples and us to think of Him as we broke bread in a worship service (the Lord's Supper). During this season of Easter, let's focus on what all Jesus has given to us and to our loved ones. Most of all Jesus has given to each of us His very self!

## **Prayer:**

Eternal God, we are grateful for baked bread which strengthens us, but even more we are grateful for the Bread of Heaven you supply repeatedly. Amen

## **Application/Discussion OR Activity:**

If you are able, watch someone in your family bake bread and serve it. Take a couple of minutes to think of the wonderful gift Jesus has given to us all of us.





# HOLY WEEK *Devotional* DAY 5

## **Scripture:**

"When he had received the drink, Jesus said. 'It is finished'.  
With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit." John 19:30

## **Reflection:**

"It is finished." Sometimes those three words can bring us relief. When we finish something significant in our lives, such as a large work project or home renovation plan, it can be very satisfying. At the end of a long school year we may hear our students say with a relieved or excited breath, "I'm finished!" signifying the end of exams and the beginning of summer or perhaps even graduation. When we think about finishing in this way it can be a joyous experience, one of accomplishment or crossing from one milestone to the next.

Other times when we hear the phrase "It is finished" the words sting, and they bring great sadness. It can indicate a harsh finality or something lost. A marriage or a relationship once loving and celebrated comes to an end; "We're finished." Even more difficult is going through the pain of loss from the death of a beloved family member who was struggling. The ending of a life feels so final that it can be hard to move forward. In these moments it is natural to feel confused, scared and in the dark.

The disciples and Jesus' mother must have felt the same...holding onto every scrap and glimmer of hope until the one they loved breathed his last breath. It is finished. It was over.

...and yet the Light could not be extinguished, and the darkness did not overtake them!



# HOLY WEEK *Devotional* DAY 5

## **Prayer :**

Dear God, help us to see past the darkness and look forward to the sun rise. Help us to remember as people of faith who believe in the resurrection that we always have hope and Your story does not end.

## **Application:**

You may experience finality or darkness at some point in your life leaving you fearful and anxious as the landscape seems to change; but, don't let the darkness overtake you. There is never a time when hope is absent.







HOLY WEEK  
*Devotional*  
DAY 6

**Scripture:**

Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you," says the LORD. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.

**Reflection:**

When we read this passage we may think, "If the Lord has plans of hope and good for us, then why do we have to suffer through bad things?" We often forget that something good can come from suffering. Of course, no one likes to suffer. We would all rather our whole entire lives be shiny and happy every single second. However, without any suffering, would we be able to appreciate the good things we have? I am not sure we would. However, we have all learned from our mistakes and misfortunes. Often, they give us wisdom, so we won't make the same mistakes again. The suffering we endure can never compare to the suffering Jesus endured. He knew that God had a plan for him. He knew that his time on Earth was to be spent teaching people the importance of knowing and following God. All throughout his life he faced difficulties. People mocked him. They called him a fake, a liar, a fraud. But at the same time, just as many (actually many, many more) believed him. Even if they just based their decision on seeing the many miracles he performed, they knew he was the Son of God. We certainly know great suffering was cast upon Jesus when he was crucified. What good could come from that? The good that came from that unthinkable act was that we would never have to endure anything that unthinkable. Jesus took an enormous amount of our suffering for us that day. So, while someday we think our suffering is unbearable, just think of the suffering Jesus did for us. He gave us a future of hope.

**Prayer:**

Heavenly Father, please help us to remember that the suffering we experience is just a tiny moment in our lives that will better prepare us for our eternal reward with you. May we always be grateful for all of the blessings you have given and will continue to give us...especially your precious Son, Jesus Christ!





# HOLY WEEK *Devotional* DAY 7

## **Scripture:**

Mark 4:13-20

Then Jesus said to them, "Don't you understand this parable? How then will you understand any parable? The farmer sows the word. Some people are like seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them. Others, like seed sown on rocky places, hear the word and at once receive it with joy. But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the word; but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful. Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop—some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown."

## **Reflection:**

PaPa Charlie, my dad, was an avid gardener and he loved to work in his garden daily. He worked to prepare the soil for the seed to grow. His preparation made the soil rich and fertile. The garden was his labor of love and brought joy through sharing the fruits from his labor with others. He was adamant that his garden tools be cleaned after working all day. He was a sower of seed in good soil. We were blessed by his love of growing a beautiful garden.

The word blessed means more than just making someone happy. Being blessed is like the long-lasting satisfaction you feel after eating a nourishing meal. Jesus wanted everyone to know they can have enduring joy and peace because of God's faithfulness. Following Jesus changes our hearts for good! It will also give us actions that show we follow Jesus.

## **Prayer:**

Lord, as Mark 4:20 says, "Others like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop – some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown." Please help guide us each day to be the sower you want us to be. Thank you for loving us so much!

## **Discussion or Activity:**

How would our actions show others that our hearts have changed for good because we follow Jesus?



# EASTER Playlist



*Be Still My Soul  
Amazing Grace  
He Lives  
When I Survey the Wondrous Cross  
Living Hope  
We Believe  
In Christ Alone  
Jesus Messiah  
Christ Our Hope in Life and Death  
Hymn of Heaven  
King of Kings  
Christ Is Risen. He Is Risen Indeed  
Up From the Grave He Arose  
Your Name Is Holy*

*Goodness of God  
Doxology Amen  
Jesus Paid It All  
Because He Lives  
Oceans  
10,000 Reasons  
Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing  
In The Garden  
Without Him  
Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus  
Who You Say I Am  
The Blessing  
Still Waters  
My Jesus  
Are You Washed in the Blood  
The Old Rugged Cross*



*If you have a Spotify Account, Scan the QR Code to listen to our playlist!*





# PALM SUNDAY

MATTHEW 21:6-11

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

**"Hosanna to the Son of David!**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!**

**Hosanna in the highest heaven!"**

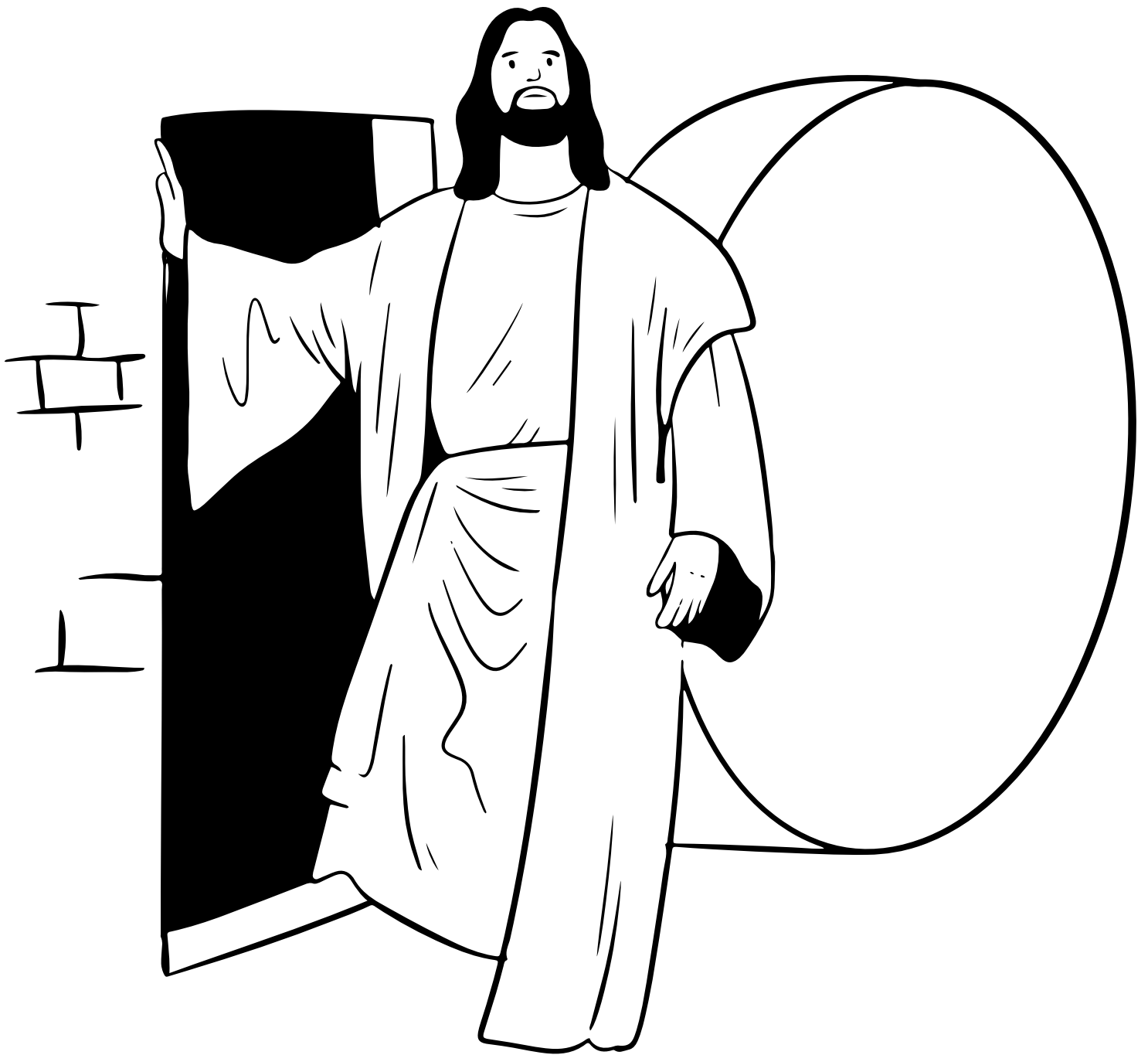
When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, "Who is this?" The crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

# JOHN 13:1-11

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already decided that Judas son of Simon Iscariot would betray Jesus. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from supper, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."



HE HAS  
RISEN





# Easter WORD SEARCH

B	A	Z	T	A	R	V	E	E	R	H	A	N	H
A	M	I	P	E	R	V	E	E	R	O	A	N	H
E	A	S	T	E	R	V	E	E	R	L	A	N	H
F	E	P	E	O	S	P	M	E	R	Y	S	S	E
I	I	R	L	Y	M	S	A	D	E	W	S	E	S
R	N	O	F	A	G	T	N	S	C	E	E	U	N
M	T	V	F	E	B	E	G	T	R	E	R	V	T
S	U	N	D	A	Y	L	E	L	O	K	T	A	A
C	M	R	N	O	N	T	L	O	S	I	I	E	N
T	I	A	N	N	R	E	I	O	S	U	V	E	T
R	D	M	Y	S	O	I	P	O	E	R	E	U	P
E	A	R	O	F	R	O	S	C	N	I	V	A	E
J	E	S	U	S	T	L	E	E	S	I	L	E	T
O	E	C	Y	N	O	E	Y	O	N	M	S	L	E
I	D	A	N	E	M	A	T	I	V	E	R	T	R
C	R	N	R	H	B	I	B	L	E	E	N	U	N
E	I	S	L	E	R	V	E	E	R	E	A	N	H

EASTER  
CROSS  
JESUS

PETER  
TOMB  
RISEN

BIBLE  
HOLY WEEK  
PALM

ANGEL  
SUNDAY  
REJOICE





## *Brenda's Bread* *Hannah's Mother's Recipe*

Starter:  $\frac{3}{4}$  c. sugar, 1 Pkg. yeast, 3 T. Potato Flakes, 1 C. Water. Mix above in quart jar with very warm water. Cover jar with lid (poked holes with ice pick). Place in refrigerator and leave for 3 to 5 days.

Day 3-5. To Make bread: Take starter out of refrigerator to room temp.

Mix 6 c. plain flour,  $\frac{1}{3}$  cup sugar, 1 T. salt, 1 pkg yeast. Rub behands with  $\frac{1}{2}$  c. veg. oil mixed in.

Add 1 c room temp. starter & 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  c. very warm water. Mix very well & knead just a few times. Then place in large greased bowl (turn once). Let rise in warm/draft free area till doubled. Then place in 2 greased loaf pans. Let rise well (but not till it spills over the top)

Bake 30 min. in 350\* oven. Take bread from pans quickly so bread won't sweat.

*A Bread Recipe to go with  
Pastor Ron's Devotion.*





# *Resurrection Rolls*

We usually start our Easter with these sweet rolls for breakfast. They can also be eaten as an appetizer, side dish or dessert. No matter when you eat them, they will make a great addition to your Easter celebration.

## Resurrection Rolls Ingredients

To make this easy resurrection roll recipe, all you'll need is:

- Frozen bread rolls (thawed) or use crescent dough or make your own dough
- Marshmallows: you'll want the large size
- Granulated Sugar: adds sweetness
- Cinnamon: adds flavor and warmth
- Melted Butter: used to coat the marshmallows and rolls helping to make the caramel and help the cinnamon sugar to stick to the outside.

## How to Make Resurrection Rolls

Start out with your favorite homemade crescent rolls. In fact, you can get frozen dough in balls into the fridge the day before so they can defrost if frozen.

Press each dough ball into a flat circle. Then, dip your marshmallow in melted butter and then into the cinnamon-sugar mixture. Place it in the middle of the dough circle and seal it up around the marshmallow and roll it in more butter and cinnamon sugar and place it in a greased baking dish, baking sheet or muffin tin. Bake until golden brown.

Let the empty tomb rolls rest for 15 minutes and then bake at 350°F. When you open the rolls the marshmallow will have melted down into a caramel like sauce that you can barely see.

You can now talk to your children or grandchildren about the resurrection and how Christ's body wasn't there because He is Risen!

# *Easter*

at First Baptist Gainesville

SUNRISE SERVICE | 7:00 AM

CHAPEL SERVICE | 8:45 AM

SANCTUARY SERVICE | 11:00 AM

BREAKFAST | 8:00 AM-10:30 AM | BANQUET HALL

