

## Holy Saturday

*Join us tomorrow for Easter Sunday tomorrow at 10:30 AM on Zoom.*

### In the Morning

*From Psalm 51*

Open my lips, O Lord, \*  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.  
Create in me a clean heart, O God, \*  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence \*  
and take not your holy Spirit from me.  
Give me the joy of your saving help again \*  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

### In the Evening

O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven, O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

### Read & Reflect: John 19:38-42

*A period of silence may follow.*

*Prayers may be offered for ourselves and others.*

### Respond

*The Lord's Prayer*

*The Collect of the Day:*

O God, Creator of heaven and earth: Grant that, as the crucified body of your dear Son was laid in the tomb and rested on this holy Sabbath, so we may await with him the coming of the third day, and rise with him to newness of life; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*Morning*

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Evening*

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. *Amen.*

# Holy Saturday

**Read: John 19:38-42**

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After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

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## Reflect

The Holy Saturday liturgy is not glamorous, not elaborate, nothing special. There is no Eucharist, there are no choirs of angels. A disciple of Jesus does what needed to be done; he ransoms the body of Jesus, and brings him to a tomb. They prepare his body for burial. They mourn. They are silent. They leave him in the tomb.

So too is Holy Saturday at church. We come, we do what needs to be done on Easter Sunday, and we pause and hear this gospel, remembering that Holy Saturday is indeed a day of mourning, a silent day, a fast day. It is not a lengthy funeral service, but a recognition of the time between Good Friday and Easter Sunday. It marks the meantime.

This year may have felt a lot like Holy Saturday. We have been anticipating Easter Sunday since, it seems, last Easter, and it may still feel like it hasn't come.

## How have we marked the meantime?

*For Children:* What do you do when do you don't get what you want right away? How can you practice patience?