



Additional Activity: Holy Week Church Prayer Walk

Holy Week is a time when many people who don't regularly attend church, will come to worship. In preparation, you may want to invite regular church members to join you and the staff in a church prayer walk. This can be done during an education hour on Palm Sunday or the Sunday before, you could do this after a worship service or even during the week as part of a church meeting or Bible study. As you walk through your church, you will stop and pray for worshippers, leaders, visitors, and others as you recall the journey Jesus took through this Holy Week.

Gather at the entrance to your church.

Pray: God of beginnings, we ask for you to bless those who will enter into this building with joy and excitement at the work of your hands. May they receive the gift of your Gospel and feel the movement of your Spirit that they leave energized to proclaim "Hosanna!" through the week. Amen.

Move to the altar where you receive communion.

Pray: God of remembering, you invite us to your table of grace and abundance to taste the promise of your mercy. This week embolden us to reach out to others to invite them to this feast without end so that your word of love may be shared with all. Amen.

Proceed to either a place of prayer or to a hallway.

Pray: Beautiful and holy Guide, you are the compass of those who feel lost. You are the shepherd who leaves the 99 for the 1. Fill the hearts of those who come to this space this week with the confidence of your presence. May they find the way made straight and may your word be near to their hearts. Amen.

Move to a space near a cross.

Pray: God of our tears, even in our grief and mourning you promise to be with us. We give into your hands all those who will feel sorrow during this week. May your Spirit be a balm and comfort to their hearts. Amen.

Walk to a sacristy or pastor's office or musical instrument.

Pray: We thank you, Lord of all, for the faithful leaders you have raised up (*name pastors, deacons, musicians, if appropriate*). Strengthen and sustain them through this holy but busy week as they guide our congregation in worship, praise, and thanksgiving. Amen.

Move to the typical worshipper exit.

Pray: God of resurrection, inspire your people with your promise of life overcoming death. As we are sent from each service give us the courage and confidence of faith that we might go into all the world proclaiming your Good News of Christ who lived and died and was raised to new life. Amen.