The Path to the Cross
Holy Week
Lent 2016
Week 6

This book belongs to: ___________________________
Dear Parents,

This Lenten season, Children's Ministry is providing something new for you and your children. Each week an installment of The Path to the Cross, a Lenten family devotional will be available in 3 ways:

- A booklet will be handed to children as they leave Sunday school each week,
- You can download a PDF version embedded in the Sunday "Read It, Teach It, Live It" emails or
- Find a link on the FPC website on the new Children’s Resource page: firstchurchtulsa.org.

These devotions are designed to be used by the parent and child together. There is a Bible verse, a thought, and a prayer given for each day.

Our prayer is that this booklet would cause/launch faith conversations to happen between parent and child. We want children to understand not only the importance of what Jesus did on the cross, but how that impacts them today and in the choices they make on life’s path.

Choose a time of day, whether it be breakfast, dinner or before bed, to sit where your eyes can meet and discuss the 40 days we celebrate as Christians....the most important 40 days in the Christian calendar.

As we take this journey together please let us know ways we can support and assist you in discipling your family.

Your Partners in the Journey,

The Children’s Ministry Team
of First Church Tulsa
Holy Week Events

**March 24**  The Living Last Supper  
7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

**March 25**  Good Friday Service  
12:00 p.m. in the Chapel

**March 26**  Spring Festival  
10:00 a.m. in the Courtyard

**March 27**  Easter Sunday Worship

Sunrise Service  
6:30 a.m. at Camp Loughridge

Traditional Services  
8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Contemporary Services  
8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. in Stephenson Hall

International Service  
11:00 a.m. in the  
Bernson Community Life Center
Maundy Thursday

The Thursday before Easter Sunday is the day to commemorate the Last Supper of Jesus with his disciples. The story of Jesus breaking and blessing bread at the Passover meal, as a reminder of his life given freely for all, is told in the books of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. This Passover act became the sacrament of holy communion in the Christian church. Celebration of communion is usually the centerpiece of a Maundy Thursday service.

Another element of a Maundy Thursday service may be the act of foot washing. Many scholars believe the term maundy is taken from the Latin word mandatum or mandate. John’s Gospel does not tell about the institution of communion at his last Passover meal; it highlights the story of Jesus girding himself with a towel, taking a basin of water, and washing his disciples’ feet. John 13:34 includes Jesus’ words, “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.” The observance of foot washing is practiced in some Presbyterian churches as a reminder of the kind of love and servanthood Christ asks of his disciples today.

Good Friday

The Friday before Easter is the day to remember the crucifixion and death of Jesus. Many wonder why this day is called good. This Friday is sometimes called Holy or Black Friday, but the term good reminds us of Jesus’ blameless, good, and pious life. Churches sometimes have a special worship service between noon and 3 p.m. to represent the hours that the sky turned dark as Jesus suffered and died. Many congregations base Good Friday worship on Jesus’ last words from the cross.

Information from:
Week 6 of Lent

Holy Week
Holy Week Road Map

Palm Sunday

Jesus enters Jerusalem as a king.

Monday

Jesus cleanses the temple.
Luke 19: 45-46

Tuesday

Jesus teaches in the temple.

Wednesday

Judas betrays Jesus for 30 pieces of silver.
Maundy Thursday

Jesus celebrates the Passover with his disciples at a meal we call the Last Supper. He offers himself as the body and blood broken so we can be forgiven.

Good Friday

Jesus dies on the cross.
Luke 23:44-46

Holy Saturday

A day of waiting for the promise to be fulfilled.

Easter Sunday

Luke 24:1-8

Ressurection Day, Jesus is alive!
Write or draw a picture about what God is teaching you:
This week I'm praying for:

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Palm Sunday

Scripture: “But I trust in you, Lord; I say, ‘You are my God.’ My times are in your hands; deliver me from the hands of my enemies; from those who pursue me. Let your face shine on your servant save me in your unfailing love.” Psalm 31:14-16

Thought: God loves you so much! On this Psalm Sunday, let your heart rejoice and tell of all your Savior has done for you! Write a letter or draw a picture for Jesus to tell him how much you love him!

Prayer: Dear Jesus, thank you for loving me and being king of my life! Help me to keep you on the throne of my heart. Amen.

Monday

Scripture: So he sent two of his disciples, telling them, “Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. Say to the owner of the house he enters, ‘The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there. The disciples left, went into the city and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover.” Mark 14:13-16

Thought: The Passover was a huge feast Jews celebrated every year to remember how God had delivered them long ago in Egypt. Jesus wanted to celebrate this important event with his friends, but he was also looking ahead to how his sacrifice would deliver all of God’s children.

Prayer: Dear Jesus, thank you for delivering me from my sins! Thank you for preparing the way for us and to be with you forever! Amen.
Tuesday

**Scripture:** “Jesus answered, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’”
John 14:6

**Thought:** Without Jesus we would not be able to be in relationship with God. Jesus came to earth to show us the way to God and to explain the truth about how much He loves us and wants to be our friend forever. When we live our life with Jesus we get to experience the fullness of His joy, love, and peace.

**Prayer:** Dear Jesus, thank you for forgiving my sins. Thank you for making a way for me to live today and every day with you! Help me understand the truth of just how much you love me.

Wednesday

**Scripture:** “When [Jesus] had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. ‘Do you understand what I have done for you?’ he asked them. ‘You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.”” John 13:12-15

**Thought:** The world likes to tell us that if we are in power, others should be serving us, but here again Jesus shows us a better way. He says that the best way to be a leader and loving friend is to serve others. We become more like Jesus when we put others first.

**Prayer:** Dear Jesus, thank you for showing me how to be a servant-leader. Help me become like you and serve those around me. Amen.
Maundy Thursday

Scripture: “Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.” Luke 23:42

Thought: Jesus was fully God, but he was also fully human. He knew what was coming and that it would be painful and hard. He prayed this prayer the night he was arrested. Asking God one more time if there was any other way, but here we see Jesus make the ultimate choice to put God’s will before His own feelings.

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus to pay the price for our sins. Help me be like Jesus and choose your will over my own. Amen.

Good Friday

Scripture: “It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice, ‘Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.’ When he had said this, he breathed his last.” Luke 23:44-46

Thought: Before Jesus died there had always been a big curtain that separated people in the temple from God’s presence, but when Jesus paid the price for our sins that curtain was torn by God. He wanted to show people that they could be made clean and pure because of what Jesus had done for them. Now we can be with God forever.

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for loving me so much that you stopped at nothing to be with me. Thank you for making me clean and pure so I can be with you today and every day! Help me remember how important Jesus’ sacrifice is in my life. Amen.
Holy Saturday

Scripture: “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.” John 14:1-4

Thought: On the Saturday after Jesus died and before he was raised from the dead, it looked like all was lost. It looked like there was no hope. That is why Jesus told his disciples before he died that he would be back. Sometimes we can feel without hope too, but Jesus gives us this same promise!

Prayer: Dear Jesus, thank you for preparing a place for me to be with you forever! Help me remember this even when it looks like there is no hope. Amen.

While it might feel like all hope is lost at this point in the story, with Jesus there is always hope!

See if you can find these windows in the sanctuary on Sunday!

Sunday is Easter! Next week we’ll explore what happens now that Jesus is risen.
Activity Idea

Jelly Bean Prayer

Supplies:

- Bag of Jelly Beans that include the colors listed
- Small plastic bags
- Hole Punch
- Scissors
- Ribbon
- Jelly Bean Prayer Tags

Throughout Lent we have talked about a lot of really big topics. Now it’s time to review and share these truths with our friends.

Take your bag of Jelly Beans and look at all the colors. Separate them into piles according to color. As you do this read through the poem on the following page and talk about what you have learned over the last several weeks.

Now put one Jelly Bean of each color in the plastic bags. Make your own “Jelly Bean Prayer” tags or cut out ones you printed from the Children’s Resources page of the website. Punch a whole in the upper left corner so you can attach it to the bag.

Cut the ribbon a comfortable length to close your bags and tie a bow if you so desire. Put your ribbon through the whole on the tag and tie it around the tops of your Jelly Bean filled bags.

Make as many of these as your family wants. Then deliver them to your friends and neighbors! Don’t forget to sign your tags!
Jelly Bean Prayer

Red is for the blood Christ gave
Green is for the grass he made.
Yellow is for the sun so bright.
Orange is for the edge of night.
Black is for the sins we made.
White is for the grace Christ gave.
Purple is for the hour of sorrow.
Pink is for a new tomorrow. Amen!

Happy Easter!
Your Friend:

You might also think of whom who would enjoy coming with you to the Spring Festival and invite them to join you this Saturday March 26.

You can print Jelly Bean Prayer Tags and Spring Festival Invitations from the Children’s Resources page on the church website: firstchurchtulsa.org
This week!

Join Us For

The Spring Festival
in the courtyard at First Church
March 26, 10:00

The Children’s Ministry of First Presbyterian Church, Tulsa...
Where our mission is to encourage children and their families to trust and know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and grow in faith; connect with others in FPC’s Christ-centered community; learn to serve Christ at home, school and the neighborhood.

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