

Sent: April 7, 2020 12:53 p.m.

Subject: An Invitation to Holy Week

Hi!

How is everyone doing this week? I hope you are staying home, staying healthy, and finding joy in the small things. And if you are in a position where you still go to work, I pray you are sensing God's presence with you. I know some days are easier than others. Who am I kidding? Some moments are easier than others! Yet God is still good, even when it doesn't seem like it. And God is still near, even when I struggle to find Him. Sometimes I call a friend and ask for help, truth, and perspective when these hard moments hit, and that always helps me.

On that note, I have some exciting news to share! We are going to feature different women in our church sharing a brief testimony of how God is meeting them in this season. I'm praying it puts a face to some of our emotions and shows us ways to find God in the midst of them. Check out our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/firstpresamarillo) and our website where all of our online connection is happening (www.firstpres.com/first-pres-live) to see these encouraging stories starting this week.

It is Holy Week! Thank you, Jesus, for what you did this week so many years ago. We want to remember Your great sacrifice and worship You, the Giver of eternal life because You gave up Your own life. Need some encouragement on how to experience God's presence this week? Here are a few ideas:

1. I like these Lent devotionals because they include music, art, and poetry along with scripture and a written devotional. You can find them here: <http://cca.biola.edu/lent/>
2. Want to read/listen to what the Bible says Jesus was doing each day of Holy Week? Author and speaker Annie Downs is sharing these verses daily on her podcast: <https://www.anniedowns.com/podcast/>
3. Check out all the great Holy Week services First Pres will be holding online at <http://firstpres.com/first-pres-live>: a Maundy Thursday service with communion (I'm excited to try this!), 4/9 at 7 p.m.; a Good Friday service, 4/10 at 7 p.m.; and then Easter Sunday traditional service at 8:30 a.m. and contemporary at 11 a.m. Lord, please transform our homes into holy and reverent places of worship.
4. Get outside, walk, and listen to the Bible through the Dwell app for free now through June 8! All you have to do is click on this link, create a free account, and download the app: <https://dwellapp.io/signup/with/FirstPres%20>

Please let me know if you need prayer or specific help of any kind. Our church is here for you!

May you worship God in spirit and in truth this Holy Week,



Emily Wood

First Pres Director of Women's Ministry

I'm working from home right now. I'd still love to hear from you!

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P.S. Don't forget to watch for our women's testimonies this week – you may see some familiar faces!