

APRIL WORSHIP

This booklet contains the outline for each worship service during the month of April. If you are able to watch online I encourage you to do so; even though we are not worshipping in the same building, we are still one body, one family, we are brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus. Look up the scriptures referenced in the following pages; pray the words, claim the promises for you and your family. This is a time of testing, but I know it will pass, and through it, we will become stronger, together. - Pastor Viv.

The following is an excerpt from Dr. David Jeremiah daily devotions. I share and agree with his sentiments and prayers. - Pastor Viv

There is no question, we are living in a time of unprecedented uncertainty—it is unlike anything I have experienced in my lifetime.

My prayer is that you are healthy, in a safe place, and surrounded by those you love. Many people around the globe are struggling with illness, loss of employment, or are experiencing lonely isolation—we need to keep them in prayer.

The temptation in times like these is to allow fear and worry to creep into our thoughts and to rob us of our joy. But in this uncertain world filled with many unknowns, we need to remember what we do know:

- God is still in control.
- He is on the throne.
- He is not surprised by the events in our world today!
- He is sovereign—nothing happens without His permission.
- He is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

You are loved by God and nothing can separate you from His love. You may feel isolated, but God is near to you through the working of the Holy Spirit. God is ready, right now, to communicate to you through prayer and His Word. You are His child and the Father is ever-present to give you comfort, guidance, and perfect peace.

He is the Great Physician, Jehovah-Rapha, the One who heals. Though sickness surrounds us, God's power and protection goes before you. Nothing is impossible for God. No force is insurmountable for Him to conquer, and no evil is too diabolical for Him to vanquish.

His Word remains a lamp unto your feet and a light unto your path. Your prayers are heard by the great I AM—the light of the world—the Good Shepherd. He delights in His children and longs to give you the desires of your heart.

He is the rock of your salvation. Your mighty fortress. Your strength. Your help. Your hiding place. Your shield.

And because you are a child of God, you can confidently rest in His providence and protection during this time of turmoil. God is our certainty in uncertain times.

God is in control.

April Worship - Cherryvale UMC

Worship April 5 Palm Sunday

Thought for the Day

Turn to God's Word for guidance. More to the point, follow Jesus.

Prayer of Confession

Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am in distress; my soul wastes away from grief. For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing.

Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

I am the scorn of all, an object of dread. I have become like a broken vessel.

Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

For I trust in you, O Lord; I say, "You are my God." My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.

Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

Sermon based on Matthew 21:1-11 (NIV) - Jesus Comes to Jerusalem as King

Additional Scriptures to read

Matthew 21:1-11, Matthew 26:14-75, Matthew 27:11-56, Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29, Isaiah 50:4-9, Psalm 31:9-16, Philippians 2:5-11

Worship April 9 Maundy Thursday

Thought for the Day

Picture yourself at the last supper. What will you say when Jesus kneels to wash feet? With Jesus our example, there can be no limit to what we should be willing to do for others in his name!

Prayer of Confession

For what we have received and what we have passed on to others in the word, your word, in the bread, your living bread, we give you thanks and praise. Yet now we pause. It is you who make us worthy to approach you and each other in faith and service. It is you who perfect us in love. At this special time, as we pause before our descent with you into the trauma and tribulation of the cross, draw our attention ever closer to your presence in our lives. We confess that we have taken more credit than we deserve, and given you less praise than you deserve. Refresh our hearts, that we recognize in our sufferings our share in the cross as well as in the life eternal. Grant us peace. Amen.

Sermon based on John 13:1-17, 31-35 (NIV) - Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet

Additional Scriptures to read

Exodus 12:1-14, Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19, I Corinthians 11:23-26, John 13:1-17, 31-35

Worship April 10 Good Friday

Thought for the Day

Everyone has to take a stand for something. On this day the choice is clear. Stand by the cross.

Prayer of Confession

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning? O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by night, but find no rest. All who see me mock me. Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help. Save me! I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters. In the midst of the congregation I will praise you. Hear the good news, all who suffer: Since Christ has offered a perfect sacrifice for sins, once and for all time, let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, and let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, encouraging one another as our feast of deliverance approaches. Amen.

Sermon based on John 18 & 19(NIV) - Jesus Arrested

Additional Scriptures to read

Isaiah 52:13-53:12, Psalm 22, Hebrews 10:16-25, John 18:1-19:42

April 12 Sunrise @ 6.45am – Resurrection Sunday – He is Risen, He is Risen indeed!

Sermon based on Matthew 28:1-10 (NIV) - Jesus Has Risen

April 12 Easter 10:30

Prayer of Confession

Why do we seek the living among the dead? All we have been told is true. History is folded in on itself, only to take shape as a dove given life, taking wing, and proclaiming, "Jesus is risen!" Now we take hold of the life that is real, your good gift, Gracious Giver of all Good Things, and set aside doubt, discouragement, and despair, and become your people! We will, like Mary of Magdala, run from the garden with this news, and whether the world believes or not, we will share boldly, joyfully, and sincerely, and begin to live now the life of resurrection! Behold, all is new! Amen.

Thought for the Day

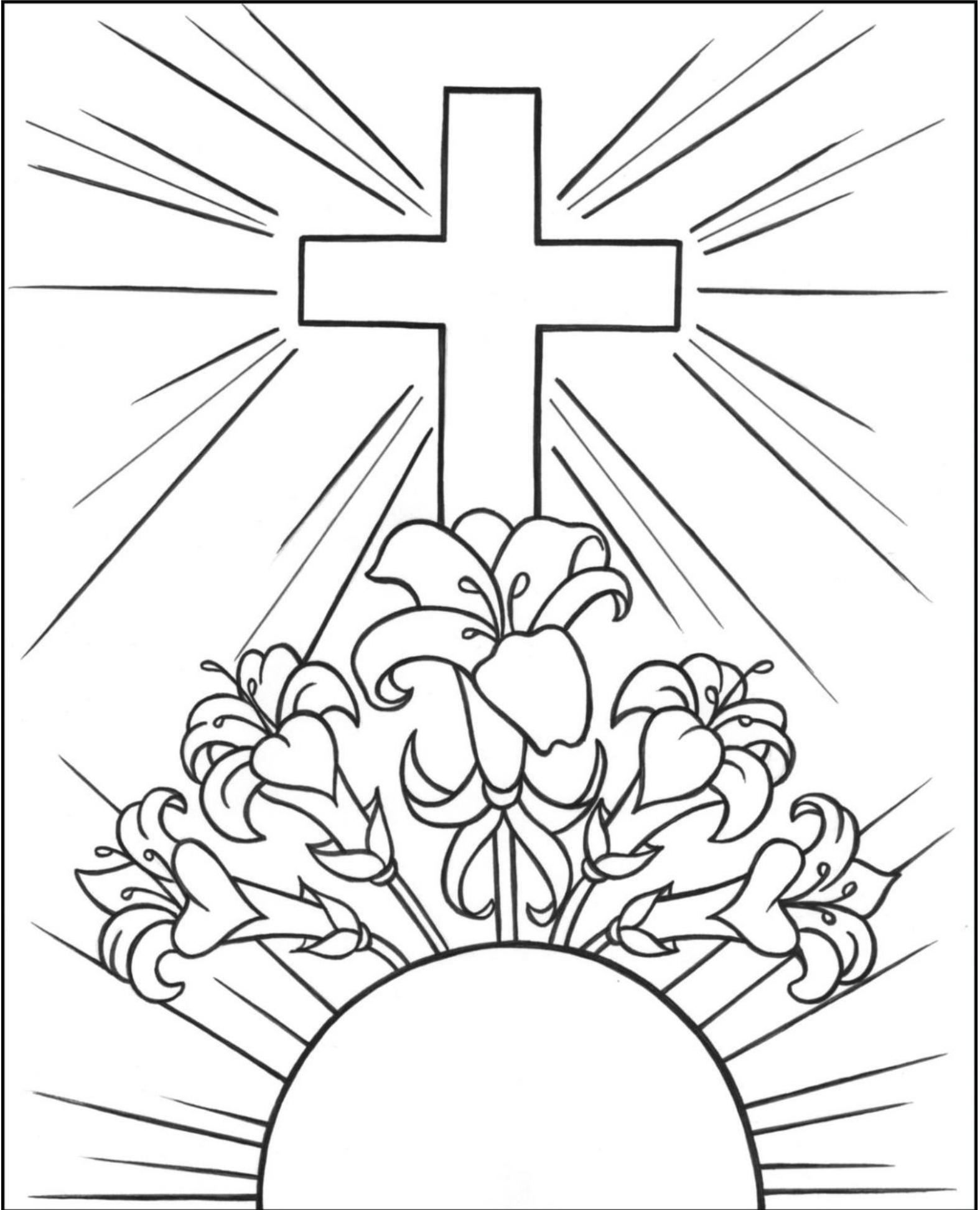
Don't try to freeze the moment. Live the moment! The risen Christ meets us in the world.

Sermon based on John 20:1-18 (NIV) - The Empty Tomb

Additional Scriptures to read

Acts 10: 34-43, Psalm 118: 1,2, 14-24, Col 3: 1-4, Matt 28: 1-10, John 20: 1-18

Coloring is not just for kids. It is proven to have calming and therapeutic effects on grown ups too.





Finished!

*When Jesus had tasted it, he said, "It is finished!"
Then he bowed his head and released his spirit. —John 19:30*

The cross was the goal of Jesus from the very beginning. His birth was so there would be His death. The incarnation was for our atonement. He was born to die so that we might live. And when He had accomplished the purpose He had come to fulfill, He summed it up with a single word: "finished."

In the original Greek, it was a common word. Jesus probably used it after He finished a project that He and Joseph might have been working on together in the carpentry shop. Jesus might have turned to Joseph and said, "Finished. Now let's go have lunch." *It is finished. Mission accomplished. It is done. It is made an end of.*

So what was finished? Finished and completed were the horrendous sufferings of Christ. Never again would He experience pain at the hand of wicked men. Never again would He have to bear the sins of the world. Never again would He, even for a moment, be forsaken of God. That was completed. That was taken care of.

Also finished was Satan's stronghold on humanity. Jesus came to deal a decisive blow against the devil and his demons at the cross of Calvary. Hebrews 2:14 says, "Only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who had the power of death." This means that you no longer have to be under the power of sin. Because of Jesus' accomplishment at the cross, finished was the stronghold of Satan on humanity.

And lastly, finished was our salvation. It is completed. It is done. All of our sins were transferred to Jesus when He hung on the cross. His righteousness was transferred to our account. So Jesus cried out the words, "It is finished!" It was God's deliberate and well-thought-out plan. It is finished—so rejoice!

Dear Lord, may I realize afresh today what
Your death and resurrection mean for me. For-
giveness, freedom, and the ability to walk with
You through this fallen world into eternity.
May I always find my satisfaction in You and
Your willingness to offer Yourself to me.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

April 19 Worship

Thought for the Day

Doubting can provide a deep spiritual journey into community and connection with Christ.

Prayer of Confession and Assurance

God, we are people full of doubts, worries, and concerns. We constantly see evidence that seductively testifies against the salvation that Christ brought into this world. The violence and death we witness on a daily basis leave us doubtful that a peaceable kingdom can ever come to pass. Forgive us for our doubts, Holy God, and help us to use those doubts to deepen our faith. We know that nothing good in this world will come to pass unless we put aside our fears and act bravely, testifying to the love and grace you came to bring us all. Thank you for our doubts, God, and help us use them to deepen our faith and deepen our commitment to being your servants in this world.

Sermon based on John 20:19-31 (NIV)

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

Additional Scriptures to read

Acts 2:1-32, Psalm 16, I Peter 1:3-9, John 20:19-31

April 26 Worship

Thought for the Day

The road to Emmaus invites us to pay attention to the journey we are on and who it is that walks with us.

Prayer of Confession

The road of life sometimes seems lonely, God. Often we are tempted to abandon the journey, or to take the path of least resistance. Forgive us when we have not lived up to the challenges you have given us in this life. Forgive us when we have retreated from the difficult journeys in life. Remind us, God, that you hear our voices, that you notice our despair, and that you will never leave us. Remind us, God, that when we feel alone on our journey, all we need do is open our eyes and our hearts, and we will see you there, walking beside us.

Sermon based on Luke 24:13-35 (NIV)

On the Road to Emmaus

Additional Scriptures to read

Acts 2:14, 36-41, Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19, I Peter 1:17-23, Luke 24:13-35

Bible Characters

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

Habakkuk	Solomon	Naomi	Bartholomew	Daniel	Jude
Luke	Samuel	Paul	Joel	Malachi	Jeremiah
Judah	Jehovah	Josiah	Isaiah	John	Elijah
Nebuchadnezzar	Ruth	Peter	Gideon	Joseph	Abel
Hannah	Eve	Nahum	David	Deborah	Hosea
Jesus	James	Ezekiel	Mark	Mary	
Barnabas	Obadiah	Aaron	Amos	Jonah	
Paul	Elisha	Job	Elizabeth	Timothy	
Adam	Moses	Matthew	Samson	Hezekiah	