



—Michael D. O'Brien

Holy Week Prayers

Tuesday Morning

You are invited to pray these words at any time before noon.

Before beginning...

- ✚ *Light a candle as a sign that God is with you in Spirit.*
- ✚ *If you're using the audio recording, feel free to stop and start it as necessary. If you're not using the recording, you are free to pray through the material as you wish.*
- ✚ *If you're with a group, you may wish to have different people read different sections. Or you may have a leader read the light print, and have the group read together the text in bold print.*
- ✚ *Where you see a + you are invited to make the sign of the cross.*
- ✚ *You may want to create a family "altar" in your home for Holy Week. Pick a spot in your house where you can gather by yourself or with others, and there place a candle, a cross, and a bowl.*



THE CALL TO PRAYER

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting; and let all the people say, "Amen!"

-Psalm 106:48

THE GREETING

O God of hosts, show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved. *-Psalm 123:1-3*
Let my soul rise up to meet you as the day rises to meet the sun.
Glory to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.

SONG FOR THE DAY ~ *O Lord Have Mercy*

O Lord, have mercy.
O Lord, have mercy.
O Lord, have mercy.
Have mercy on us.

-Tom Wuest

In your great mercy, O God: answer me with your unfailing love.

-Psalm 69:15

PRAYER OF ORIENTATION

I love you, O Lord my strength, O Lord my stronghold, my crag, and my haven. My God, my rock in whom I put my trust, my shield, the horn of my salvation, and my refuge; you are worthy of praise. I will call upon the Lord, and so shall I be saved from my enemies. The breakers of death rolled over me, and the torrents of oblivion made me afraid. The cords of hell entangled me, and the snares of death were set for me. I called upon the Lord in my distress and cried out to my God for help. God heard my voice from the heavenly dwelling; my cry of anguish came to God's ears.

-Psalm 18:1-7

In your great mercy, O God: answer me with your unfailing love.

WORD OF GOD, WORD OF LIFE
(read by Mike Verde)

When Jesus had finished all he wanted to say, he told his disciples, "You know that Passover comes in two days. That's when the Son of Man will be betrayed and handed over to be crucified."

At that very moment, the party of high priests and religious leaders was meeting in the chambers of the Chief Priest named Caiaphas, conspiring to seize Jesus by stealth and kill him. They agreed that it should not be done during Passover Week. "We don't want a riot on our hands," they said.

That is when one of the Twelve, the one named Judas Iscariot, went to the cabal of high priests and said, "What will you give me if I hand him over to you?" They settled on thirty silver pieces. And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

-Matthew 26:1-5, 14-16

~ Listening Silence ~

Be attentive to what God wishes to communicate to you.

(Feel free to pause your playback device)

In your great mercy, O God: answer me with your unfailing love.

PRAYER FOR OTHERS

Take a few moments to cover your eyes with your hands. Notice how the darkness of your shut eyes is hazy. Feel the clammy warmth of your breath against your palms. How do your fears, your wishes, and your needs leave you isolated from others, oblivious to what's happening around you?

(Feel free to pause your playback device)

When ready, cup your hands in your lap, and open your eyes. Look around you. Take note of all the good things you see in the room right where you are. In the silence, offer the good, the bad, and the ugly up to God.

(Feel free to pause your playback device)

Merciful Lord, you revealed your glory by humbly serving the one who would betray you. Shower us with your mercy, Lord, and grow us up to be merciful. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.

THE PRAYER APPOINTED FOR THE WEEK

Almighty and ever living God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. +

THE CONCLUDING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought me in safety to this new day: Preserve me with your mighty power, that I may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity. Grant me and all your people the gift of your Spirit, that we may know Christ and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. In all I do direct me to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. +

