

## Journeying Through Holy Week

*This liturgy was written for Passion Sunday when traditionally we focus on telling the whole of the passion story. We decided to do this through the characters of those who journeyed with Jesus through the events of Holy Week and to use these characters as a focus for our prayers for the wider world.*

Jesus calls us to journey with him  
To journey with him through the stories of Passion Sunday  
To journey with him in our preparations for Easter  
To journey with him as we meet to worship together.

**And Jesus calls us to celebrate with him**  
**To celebrate in sharing the stories of the people we encounter**  
**To celebrate in looking forward to Easter**  
**To celebrate in meeting and sharing together.**

Mary at Bethany:

Jesus calls us to journey with him  
To journey with him to encounter the rather controversial Mary of Bethany  
To journey with him as she anoints his feet and wipes them with her hair  
To journey with him as she claims the place of a disciple and sits at his feet.

**Jesus calls us to remember with him**  
**To remember those who are unconventional who dare to be different**  
**To remember those who live for the moment and share their pain**  
**To remember those who seek to follow in Christ's footsteps.**

Simon of Cyrene:

Jesus calls us to journey with him  
To journey with him to encounter the African-born Simon of Cyrene  
To journey with him as Simon is forced to carry the cross  
To journey with him as he seeks to share the burden and lighten the load.

**Jesus calls us to re-member with him**  
**To remember the story of the first African Christians**  
**To remember those forced to act against their will**  
**To remember those who share the burden of others.**

Judas Iscariot:

Jesus calls us to journey with him  
To journey with him to encounter a disillusioned Judas Iscariot  
To journey with him to the temptations of money and greed  
To journey with him to be betrayed by a kiss.

**Jesus calls us to remember with him**  
**To remember those who are disillusioned with their life's journey**  
**To remember those enslaved to debt, gambling or the pursuit of wealth**

**To remember those who feel so bad they think of taking their own lives.**

Nicodemus:

Jesus calls us to journey with him

To journey with him to encounter Nicodemus, the Pharisee

To journey with him as they debate Jesus' teachings around eternal life

To journey with him as Nicodemus prepares Jesus for burial.

**Jesus calls us to remember with him**

**To remember those who work in our justice system and decide laws**

**To remember those who debate theology and seek to change their lives**

**To remember those who care for people at the end of life.**

Pontius Pilate:

Jesus calls us to journey with him

To journey with him to encounter Pontius Pilate, ruler of Judea

To journey with him as the trial of Jesus finds no charges against him

To journey with him as Judas washes his hands and hands Jesus over.

**Jesus calls us to remember with him**

**To remember those in government ruling regions and countries**

**To remember those on trial or serve prison sentences**

**To remember those forced to act against their conscience.**

Samaritan Woman:

Jesus calls us to journey with him

To journey with him to encounter the Samaritan woman at the well

To journey with him to the controversy of breaking barriers and taboos

To journey with him to share hospitality with the outcast of society.

**Jesus calls us to remember with him**

**To remember those who see a person's inner worth**

**To remember those who courageously challenge convention**

**To remember those who share hospitality in inclusive community.**

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