

Monday, 29 March 2021 – Weekly Inspiration from Rev. Jason

You might think it a non-issue, but there are fewer things as exhausting as keeping watch. The constant vigilance, the focus of energy into attentiveness, the act of keeping distraction at bay...it is all, frankly, exhausting.

On this Monday morning, we have come through our season of Lent (a time of preparation and awareness, a time of repentance and right-relationships) and entered into Holy Week. We usually move rather quickly from Palm Sunday to Maundy Thursday (or for some, directly from Palm Sunday to Easter morning), but there is much in the gospels that takes place in the days of this week. Even in Mark, the shortest and most direct of the gospels, there are at least two chapters worth of teachings and encounters that come in between the Triumphal Entrance and the betrayal/arrest.

Of note to me, this year, is Jesus' command to keep watch. Sandwiched in between teachings on the nature of the Kingdom of God and foretelling his death, Jesus encourages the disciples to "beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come" and also, "And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake" (Mark 13:33, 37).

While our attention may be focused on the services of Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter morning, the reminder is clear: In every day of this Holy Week we are to remain alert, keep watch for our Lord, and seek to recognize him in the faces of those we encounter. May we indeed keep watch, and may we be blessed in this week.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, help me to stay alert and keep watch for you, that I may rejoice at your presence in every person I meet this week. And keeping watch, may I remain with you throughout your Passion and our own grief, until we come together again. Amen.

Maundy Thursday service: 4/1, 7:00pm, in-person and Facebook Live.

Good Friday: 4/2, recording posted to Facebook page at 12:00pm.

Easter Sunrise: 4/4, 7:00am, in-person and Facebook Live.

Easter Communion: 4/4, 11:00am, in-person and Facebook Live.