

The Easter Story

Sequencing Cards



Palm Sunday



The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Matthew 21:6-9

The Last Supper



While they were eating, Jesus took some bread. He thanked God for it and broke it. Then he gave it to his followers and said, "Take this bread and eat it. This bread is my body."

Then Jesus took a cup. He thanked God for it and gave it to the followers. He said, "Every one of you drink this. This is my blood which begins the new agreement that God makes with his people. This blood is poured out for many to forgive their sins. I tell you this: I will not drink of this fruit of the vine again until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

Matthew 26: 26-29

Washing of feet



"Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them."

John 13:12-17

Jesus is betrayed



Then one of the Twelve—the one called Judas Iscariot—went to the chief priests and asked, "What are you willing to give me if I deliver him over to you?" So they counted out for him thirty pieces of silver. From then on Judas watched for an opportunity to hand him over.

Matthew 26:14-16

Jesus prays



Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane...
Going a little farther, He fell with His face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as You will."
...He went away a second time and prayed, "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may Your will be done."

Matthew 26:36,39,42

Jesus is arrested



While Jesus was still speaking, Judas came up. Judas was 1 of the 12 followers. He had many people with him. They had been sent from the leading priests and the elders of the people. They carried swords and clubs. Judas had planned to give them a signal. He had said, "The man I kiss is Jesus. Arrest him." At once Judas went to Jesus and said, "Greetings, Teacher!" Then Judas kissed him.

Matthew 26:47-49

Peter Denies Jesus



Jesus told the followers, "Tonight you will lose your faith because of me. It is written in the Scriptures:

'I will kill the shepherd, and the sheep will scatter.' But after I rise from death, I will go ahead of you into Galilee." Peter said, "All the other followers may lose their faith because of you. But I will never lose my faith." Jesus said, "I tell you the truth. Tonight you will say you don't know me. You will say this three times before the rooster crows." But Peter said, "I will never say that I don't know you! I will even die with you!" And all the other followers said the same thing.

Matthew 26:31-35

Jesus is mocked



Pilate's soldiers took Jesus into the governor's palace. All the soldiers gathered around Jesus. They took off his clothes and put a red robe on him. Then the soldiers used thorny branches to make a crown. They put this crown of thorns on Jesus' head. They put a stick in his right hand. Then the soldiers bowed before Jesus and made fun of him. They said, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They spit on Jesus. Then they took his stick and hit him on the head many times. After they finished making fun of Jesus, the soldiers took off the robe and put his own clothes on him again. Then they led Jesus away to be killed on a cross.

Matthew 27:27-31

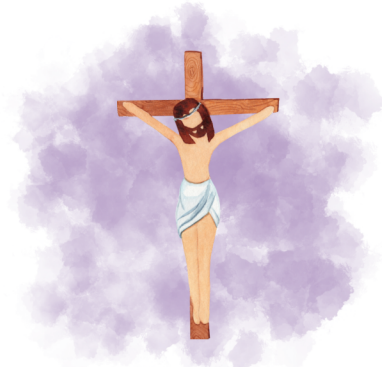
Jesus is crucified



When they had crucified him, they divided up his clothes by casting lots. And sitting down, they kept watch over him there. Above his head they placed the written charge against him: 'this is Jesus, the king of the Jews'.
Two rebels were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left.

John 19: 16-19

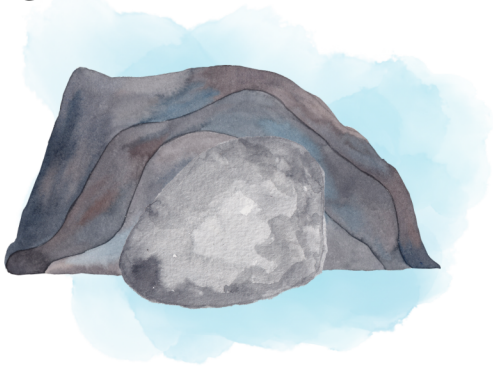
Jesus' dies



Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

John 19:28-30

Jesus is buried



Joseph, a rich man from Arimathea who had become a disciple of Jesus, asked Pilate for Jesus' body.
Pilate granted the request, and Joseph placed Jesus' body in his own new tomb, rolled a stone in front of the entrance, and left. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary sat opposite the tomb, watching over it.

Matthew 27:57-61

Jesus is risen!



Early on the first day of the week, the women went to visit Jesus' tomb, they found the big stone that covered the entrance had been rolled away. As they peered into the tomb, they saw an angel who told them not to be afraid. The angel said, "I know you're looking for Jesus who was crucified, but he is not here. He has risen, just as he said he would. Come and see the place where he lay." The angel instructed them to go quickly and tell the disciples that Jesus had risen from the dead and was going ahead of them to Galilee, where they would see him. They ran as fast as they could to tell the disciples the good news!

Matthew 28:5-8