

## HOLY WEEK DEVOTIONS FOR FAMILIES

### I Spy: a Holy Week Poem

#### PREPARATION AND DIRECTIONS

*Invite children to find the items in bold, either as the poem is read or in preparation to read the poem. Take a picture of the gathered items and share it on social media using the hashtag #myelcic and #mnosynod so we can share these images together. A suggestion for follow-up conversation/prayer and the scripture references for each item is included below the poem.*

#### READ

I spy a **donkey** who helps Jesus  
Parade like a king,  
As people lay down **jackets**  
And wave **branches** and sing.

I spy a **plate** on a table  
As disciples sit by,  
A **bowl** and a **towel**  
For wet feet to dry.

I spy a **magnifying glass**  
That helps me to see  
That what Jesus did then  
Is also for me.

I spy a **candle and match**  
For the fire that burned  
As people who were cheering  
Now against Jesus turned.

I spy a **knife** for the soldiers  
Who flogged and arrested,  
A **crown** or some **thorns**  
For all the ways he was tested.

I spy a **rooster** that crowed  
When Peter denied him,

A **question mark** for the trial  
As the sunlight grew dim.

I spy a **cross** that was carried  
By several different men,  
As Jesus was crucified--  
It felt like the end.

They put a sign on the cross  
So the whole crowd could see.  
I spy the letters to spell King:  
**K-I-N-G**

I spy a **cork** for the wine  
And a **bandage** for wounds.  
I spy a **long piece of cloth**  
Wrapping a body in the tomb.

The story's not over  
There's one more great scene  
Where God defeats death  
Like nothing we've ever seen!

I spy an **angel** declaring  
He's risen indeed!  
A **lightning bolt** striking  
The tomb open with speed.

I spy some **shoes** for the running  
The disciples all did.  
While the soldiers escaped  
And in fear they all hid.

From the Palms to the Tomb  
Lots of story to swallow  
As through Holy Week we journey  
And the disciples we follow.

### **QUESTIONS FOR CONVERSATION**

1. What surprised you most about this story? What confused you?
2. How do you think the disciples felt at the different parts of the story:
  - a. When the crowds were cheering Jesus' entry into Jerusalem
  - b. When Jesus was arrested and went through a trial
  - c. When Jesus was on the cross
  - d. When the angel told them Jesus was risen
3. When have you felt excited recently? Scared? Confused?

### **PRAY**

Sustaining God, as we hear the story of Jesus' journey to the cross, may we remember that you are with us even when things around us feel overwhelming and scary. Give us comfort and courage when we're scared, and fill us with your enduring love through Christ Jesus. Amen.

### **GOING DEEPER**

You might choose a few of these references to look up and learn more about the items in the Holy Week story.

#### **Scripture references**

Palm Sunday:

- Donkey (Matt. 21:2, 7)
- Jacket/cloak (Matt. 21:8)
- Branches (Matt. 21:8)

Maundy Thursday

- Plate (John 13:4)
- bowl/basin (John 13:5)
- Towel (John 13:4)
- Magnifying glass (John 13:15)

Good Friday

- Match and a candle (John 18:18)

- Knife (John 18:12)
- Crown of thorns (John 19:2)
- Rooster (John 18:27)
- Question mark (John 18:33-38)
- Cross (John 19:17, Matt. 27:32)
- K-I-N-G (John 19:19)
- Wine cork (John 19:29)
- Bandage (John 19:34)
- Long piece of cloth (John 19:40)

#### Easter Sunday

- Angel (Matt. 28:2)
- Lightning bolt (Matt. 28:3)
- Running shoes (Matt. 28:8)