



Note about this service: This was designed for a seminary community that, in their academic setting, couldn't celebrate all of Holy Week together. Despite the limitations, they did want to gather as a community and spend some quality time transitioning into Holy Week at the end of the Lenten Season before breaking apart into their individual Holy Week demands at various parish communities in the area.

Gathering: Space and Setting Details

This service is designed to be an informal meal that carries on throughout the service. Community members will be able to prepare small trays of items from a larger spread, and bring these into the worship space to share at their small tables with fellow community members,

*Space is set with yoga mats, pillows, bean bags gathered around low, small tables to facilitate small group type seating, on the ground and/or very low to the ground | **Presider and/or preacher** also has a low table and low-seating (as able, based on preferences). | Lighting is low. | Colors in the space shift toward reds with purples and blacks.*

NOTE: reading, preaching, etc. all take place on/from ground, among community. Use wireless mic + lapel mics.

NOTE: Invite our DL/Zoom folks to turn their cameras on, we love seeing their faces!

Community begins gathered on the opposite side of the room, prepping a large spread of charcuterie which they will take to tables in the worship space, together.

Guitar starts at 10 mins before, with two or three pieces of music to call people over to the worship space for gathering and settling in.

When Ready To Begin

Once **Guitar** finishes, **Assisting Minister welcomes and invites all to light their candles**, take preferred posture for prayer-shoes off, lay down, cross-legged, whatever works for you (in language comfortable to the speaker). This is a snack and enjoy throughout service. Feel free to move about as needed.

Litany

Community Member/Reader and Community

Litany for Lent: Reader 1 - Rayjenee TBD

Reader 1: Here we gather with open hands, bruised hearts, and bodies we've alienated. God, Would you guide us toward living fully, healing and transforming, despite our collective pain and suffering?

**C: We walk in a labyrinthine world,
attempting courageous and loving ways of living.
Careful listening guides us to where Spirit leads,
telling us how to be your prophetic change-makers.
As we yield to the path, Christ is at the center.**

Reader 1: We stumble and fall so often. And yet we return, parched and longing for life-giving water.

**C: Overwhelmed by your infinite, steadfast love,
we seek you and your purifying presence,
always praying that our choices support your transforming truth.**

Reader 1: Alpha and Omega, I Am, Abba, Giver of Life and Destroyer of Death, we thank you for this season where we return to the depths.

Together we draw down,
down,
down,
going deeper than death,
plummeting through remorse,
moving with and through scars and hurts,
examining blame, damage, and loss,
until we come to openness

C: Amen

Gospel Story:

A Queer Midrash, based on the mandatum; Dr. Adam Braun

Meditation

Musician's choice

Healing Prayers

Assisting Minister: Transition into healing prayer, reminders of prayers available, and potential ways (in group, may want to hold hands or lay on hands, or may not. All ok).

Zoom co-host to manage breakout rooms for this segment. In-person = group talk and prayer.

Text to go into ProPresenter/onto paper for tables:

Loving God, inspire by your Holy Spirit those who are afraid of losing hope, especially name/s, for whom we now pray. Give *them* a fresh vision of your love, that *they* may find again what *they* fear has been lost. Grant *them* your powerful deliverance; through the one who makes all things new, Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Amen.

Loving God, I pray for healing & comfort for name. I pray that they find refuge in You in the midst of their pain. May You continue to give them the strength to keep going. To push through the dark moments & know You are with them every step of the way.

Amen.

Dear Lord, I pray for my friend right now. I pray that you will help them with the struggles they are going through in this season. For you know exactly what they need in this moment. Draw near to them and let them feel your presence. Open their eyes, ears, and heart to you.

Amen.

Prayers of the Faithful:

From Holden Evening Prayer, Marty Haugen

God of mercy, hold us in love.

God of mercy, hold us in love.

In Peace, in peace, we pray to you.

God of mercy, hold us in love.

For peace and salvation we pray to you

God of mercy, hold us in love.

For peace between nations, for peace between peoples

God of mercy, hold us in love.

For us who are gathered to worship and praise you

God of mercy, hold us in love.

For all of your servants who live out your gospel

God of mercy, hold us in love.

For all those who govern, that justice might guide them

God of mercy, hold us in love.

For all those who labor in service to others

God of mercy, hold us in love.

Grant weather that nourishes all of creation

God of mercy, hold us in love.

Keep watch on our loved ones and keep us from danger

God of mercy, hold us in love.

For all the beloved who rest in your mercy

God of mercy, hold us in love.

Help us, comfort us, all of our days

Keep us, hold us, gracious God

Final Offering

***Musician:** transition into singing Cordero de Dios as signal to come back together, repeat as needed*

Cordero de Dios

Cordero de Dios que quitas el pecado del mundo,
Ten piedad de nosotros, ten piedad de nosotros.

Cordero de Dios que quitas el pecado del mundo,
Ten piedad de nosotros, ten piedad de nosotros.

Cordero de Dios que quitas el pecado del mundo,
Danos la paz, danos la paz
Danos, danos, danos la paz
Danos, danos, danos la paz

Closing Meditation:

Community Member

Final for ProPresenter

Don't Surrender
Your loneliness so quickly.
Let it cut more
Deep.
Let it ferment and season you
As few human
Or even divine ingredients can.
Something missing in my heart tonight
Has made my eyes so soft,
My voice so
Tender,
My need of God
Absolutely
Clear.

— Hafiz

Amen