



Holy Week Meditation Wednesday, April 8, 2020

“In your great mercy, O God : answer me with your unfailing help.”
(From Common Prayer: A Liturgy for Ordinary Radicals)

Lectionary for Tuesday of Holy Week

Isaiah 50:4-9
Hebrews 12:1-3

Psalm 70
John 13:21-32

By Wednesday, religious leaders were plotting to kill Jesus, and Judas began striking his deal of betrayal. Imagine people in positions of power plotting against you...intentionally planning to harm you. Imagine your closest friend or companion preparing to betray you. I cannot begin to fathom the weight that Jesus must have felt on this day. His entire earthly life was on the verge of being taken from Him and yet, He was faithful to God.

In times full of uncertainty like what we are living in today it can be tempting to lose faith, to direct your eyes upon something other than the promises of God but we have been given this perfect example of steadfastness through the storm found in the life and death of Jesus Christ.

Looking at the gospel reading for today, I encourage you to observe Jesus' temperament in this passage. It wasn't one of fear, full of accusatory angst or stress...He was honest, diplomatic and calm. Even though he was aware of what was to come, He trusted God. We don't have all of the answers and we don't know what is to come but we do know who has those answers and who is ultimately in control. That is where our hope can rest in this Easter season that is unlike any other we have experienced. We have a firm foundation because of the sacrifice made to provide eternal safety, health and peace that is offered to us all through Christ Jesus. In preparing our hearts for Easter my prayer is that you will all look to this passage of scripture as a reminder that we can remain steadfast in the midst of times that feel very weighty and challenging because of the example of Jesus's faithfulness to God during the ending of his life. Praying for a sense of peace and calm to reign over your households this Easter season.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Merciful God, we come to you with heavy but hopeful hearts this Easter season.

Today as we prepare to celebrate the life, death and resurrection of our Savior we pray for the courage to have a steadfast faith just as Jesus did throughout His lifetime.

Thank you for the gift of your son, Amen.