

Holy Saturday

Dear PACRC,

On Holy Saturday, we sit in the tension.

As we remember in our communion liturgy, the mystery of faith is this:

Christ has died, Christ is Risen, Christ will come again.

And though we know the latter portions of the mystery of faith, for now, for today, we remember that Jesus Christ really has died.

Our God who is exalted in the highest somehow has descended to the lowest depths of hell, as the Apostle's Creed says, to redeem his people.

And on this day across the globe, Christians will gather in vigil waiting for the sunrise of Easter to inaugurate the greatest surprise our world has ever known.

But for today, what would it look like to sit in the tension?



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When I (Annie) was in labor with Cecilia, a friend of ours at our church sent me a picture of a candle in her home and said she was keeping vigil in prayer for me as I went through the agony of labor. That image of someone sitting at home remembering me while I was in pain was profoundly moving and both offered comforting support to me and showed me what keeping vigil really means: It means we are paying attention, we are not forgetting, we are remaining watchful for God to enter in.

There's a Taize hymn that echoes the words Jesus says to his disciples in Matthew 26 when Jesus is praying in the Garden of Gethsemane:

“Stay with Me, Remain here with me, watch and pray. Watch and pray.”

What would it look like for you to practice a vigil in your family as you wait for the good news of tomorrow to break forth?

Below, we have some ways to engage this Holy Saturday as you prepare your hearts and minds for the celebration of Easter tomorrow.

May the Holy Spirit meet you as you keep watch for Christ to break through.

In Christ,
Pastors Annie & Travis

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PRACTICE

Light a candle, or place a battery operated candle in a prominent spot in your house to serve as a visual reminder that today is a day to keep vigil.

MEDITATE

“STAY HERE AND KEEP VIGIL WITH ME.”

MATTHEW 26:38B MSG

READ

LAMENTATIONS 3:1-9; 19-24

MATTHEW 27:57-61

MARK 15:40-47

LISTEN



PRAY

Christ our God,
your love is poured out in death for
our sakes.

Hold us in your embrace
as we wait for Easter's dawn.