



TAKE NOTHING WITH YOU

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF OAK PARK

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

We invite you to enter into the season of Lent considering how you can grow spiritually. Each week we will have the opportunity to think about what we need to “leave behind” as we seek to enrich our spiritual grounding and grow in our commitment to follow Jesus.

Two resources may be helpful for the entire season, both available through the website Busted Halo.

Daily devotions:
bit.ly/LentenDevotions

An Instagram challenge:
bit.ly/InstagramLent

Palm Sunday: Luke 19: 29-40

On the first Palm Sunday, Jesus was the center of attention, and our annual re-enactment of this event gives us an opportunity to focus on him again. What about Jesus captures your imagination? His humanity? His love and tenderness? His politics? His fierce advocacy for the least, the lost, the lonely? All these are on display as Jesus rides into the city on a donkey. What might we need to leave behind, in order to see him again through the lenses of holy imagination?

FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

Engage in prayer as you take a 3 minute retreat and reflect on the themes of Lent: <http://bit.ly/ShortRetreat>

Or ponder the political implications of Palm Sunday as you listen to this podcast, a conversation with former White House Press Secretary, Mike McCurry, about the place of faith in public life. <http://bit.ly/FaithAndPublicLife>

PRAYER

Prayer of an African Christian

O God, enlarge my heart
that it may be big enough to receive the greatness of your love.
Stretch my heart
that it may take into it all those who with me around the world believe in Jesus Christ.
Stretch it
that it may take into it all those who do not know him,
but who are my responsibility because I know him.
And stretch it
that it may take in all those who are not lovely in my eyes
and whose hands I do not want to touch.
Through Jesus Christ, my Savior.
Amen.