



# GOOD FRIDAY GATHERING GUIDE

Learn more about Good Friday, recognize its significance, and enter into an experience of the crucifixion of Jesus. More info can be found at [Expression58.org/GoodFriday](https://Expression58.org/GoodFriday)

## What is Good Friday?

Good Friday commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus and how He suffered and died on the cross. He *willingly* endured this, knowing it led to His resurrection, our salvation, and the beginning of God's reign of righteousness and peace. On the cross, we see the convergence of great suffering and God's forgiveness. So let us remember that no matter what you have done or how far you feel you've strayed – Jesus already paid the price for your sins and suffering because He loves you. You are set free and made righteous through Him.

## What is Communion?

It is a common Christian practice to take communion on Good Friday. Communion is a unique time of worship to memorialize the Lord's death through prayer, meditation, and the consumption of bread and wine. Consuming a small piece of bread and a sip of wine (or grape juice) symbolizes receiving the body and blood of Jesus and the sacrifice He made on the cross for us.

## Host a Good Friday Dinner Gathering

What you will need:

### 1. DINNER or POTLUCK

Good Friday meals are traditionally meatless. Here are a few suggestions:

- [Click here for 25 Fish Recipes](#)
- [Click here for Good Friday Recipes](#)

### 2. GUESTS

Invite friends, family, neighbors, or someone you just met!

### 3. COMMUNION

Have communion ready on a simple table as a focal point for the gathering.

- Use bread or crackers for the body of Christ
- Use grape juice, wine, or any beverage for the blood of Christ

### 4. E58 GOOD FRIDAY DINNER GATHERING

Continue to pages 2-3 for suggested prayers and prompts for the evening.

**\*\*\*We highly recommend reading through the guide and reviewing every prayer before the gathering.**

## 1 Minute of Silence

Have your guests sit and have the host open an invitation of 1 minute of silence.

Suggested script:

**Let's take 1 minute to silence our thoughts, surrender our will to God's will, and receive His love.**

## Opening Prayer

After 1 minute, follow with this prayer, '*The Collect for Good Friday*' :

**Almighty Father, look with mercy on this your family for which our Lord Jesus Christ was content to be betrayed and given up into the hands of wicked men and to suffer death upon the cross; who is alive and glorified with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## Scripture Reading

Transition into a time where we meditate on God's word. Suggested script:

**Let's take a moment to meditate on the significance of Christ's crucifixion and read through Hebrews 10:12-22 in the bible.**

Scripture | Hebrews 10:12-22 TEV:

**Christ offered one sacrifice for sins, an offering that is effective for ever, and then he sat down at the right-hand side of God. There he now waits until God puts his enemies as a footstool under his feet. With one sacrifice, then, he has made perfect for ever those who are purified from sin.**

**And the Holy Spirit also gives us his witness. First he says, 'This is the covenant that I will make with them in the days to come, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts and write them on their minds.' And then he says, 'I will not remember their sins and evil deeds any longer.' So when these have been forgiven, an offering to take away sins is no longer needed.**

**We have, then, my brothers and sisters, complete freedom to go into the Most Holy Place by means of the death of Jesus. He opened for us a new way, a living way, through the curtain -- that is, through his own body. We have a great priest in charge of the house of God. So let us come near to God with a sincere heart and a sure faith, with hearts that have been purified from a guilty conscience and with bodies washed with clean water.**

## Receive Communion + Pray the Lord's Prayer

Transition to receive communion. Suggested script:

**Now, let's take communion in remembrance of this new covenant made possible through Jesus Christ's sacrifice. We take the bread remembering how Christ's body was broken for us so we may be set free. We take the blood, remembering the blood that Jesus shed, to wash away our sins so we may be in complete union with our Father. Let us pray!**

Pray the *Lord's Prayer*:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.**

## Dinner and Connection

Enjoy dinner and the community around you, letting the crucifixion of Christ for all in your presence be forefront in your mind.

## Dinner Prompts and Questions to Ask

Here are a few suggestions of questions to ask around the dinner table:

1. What is one thing God has done for you this week?
2. What are you grateful for today?
3. What areas in your life are you hoping for new life, hope, or breakthrough in?

## Closing Prayer

Once the meal is finished, end this time with prayer. Pray the *Closing Prayer*:

**Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**