Dear Friends,

For centuries, Christians have gathered to remember the hallowing and hopeful story of Jesus' death and resurrection. The journey of Holy Week is a drama without parallel, a story of friendship and betrayal, faith and fear, hope and despair. Ultimately, it is the greatest love story ever told, and we are invited into the story anew each year.

The journey begins with Palm Sunday, the recollection of an historical event some 2,000 years ago. On that day, during the religious festival of the Passover, Jesus entered Jerusalem. He had a crowd of peasant followers cheering him on, laying palm branches at his feet. They praised him as a prophet and believed him to be the Messiah, the chosen one of Israel. He carried no weapons and rode a donkey, the lowliest of animals.

At the same time, on the other side of Jerusalem, a Roman convoy entered the city. Pontius Pilate, the governor of the region, arrived alongside a host of imperial soldiers, mounted on horses and armed to the hilt. They had come in a show of force, lest any Jewish subjects entertain thoughts of revolt during the festival commemorating their liberation from slavery.*

These contrasting processions illustrate the clash that culminates on the cross: the decaying nature of fear and power, contrasted with the boundless possibility of love. It is a timeless story, made new by the hurts and hopes of every generation. In the days ahead, let us enter this story once more. Let us remember the last supper Jesus shared with his disciples, remember the way he washed their feet, and remember those who carried his cross and wiped his tears. Let us remember our way through the darkness and despair, until the first light dawns on Easter morn and the trumpets begin to sound. Let us remember, and join the story.

Palm Sunday, April 14
8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m., Holy Eucharist with Passion Drama, in the Church

Holy Wednesday, April 17
12:00 p.m., Holy Eucharist with healing, in the Lady Chapel

Maundy Thursday, April 18
5:45 p.m., Fellowship Meal, in White Hall
7:00 p.m., Holy Eucharist with Foot-washing and Stripping of the Altar, in the Church

Good Friday, April 19
12:00 p.m., Solemn Liturgy, in the Church
7:00 p.m., Contemporary Stations of the Cross, in the Church

Easter Sunday, April 21
8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m., Festival Eucharist, in the Church
9:00 a.m., Continental Breakfast in White Hall
11:30 a.m., Outdoor Egg Hunt on the Front Grounds
Nursery care available from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
Families also may bring flowers to decorate the cross on the front steps.

Faithfully,
The Rev. John D. Rohrs