

St Thomas Church, Lent 2024

Women of Holy Week: an Easter Journey

1 Miriam's Story

Women of Holy Week is a series of nine stories about nine different, but interlinked, women, written by Paula Gooder. During Lent we are looking at five of them. These stories imagine what it might have been like to accompany Jesus in this final week of his life from the perspective of nine women. Some women we know were there; Miriam is a fictional woman who represents the sort of woman who would have been present for the Passover, when Jesus rode into Jerusalem.

Listen to Miriam's Story, either read aloud from the book, or read by Paula Gooder from the link [here](#).

Discussion

The following questions may help to guide the discussion:

- What most struck you about Miriam's story?
- Was there anything in the story that surprised you or puzzled you?
- Was there an aspect that you particularly relate to?

Read Psalm 118 and Mark 11:1-11

- Are there any parts of Psalm 118 that jump out at you as particularly helpful for understanding what was going on when Jesus entered Jerusalem?
- When the crowd on the road to Jerusalem hailed Jesus and shouted 'Hosanna', what do you think they imagined was happening? (also see notes on page 67)
- Why do you think they, apparently, changed their minds so quickly that by the end of the week they called for Jesus to be crucified?
- What have you gained from thinking about this well-known story from a fresh perspective?
- What new insights are you going to take with you for your Lent journey?



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