

March 2008

Dear Friends:

What is Holy Week? A time long ago when God did great things?
Or a set of special church services that happen every year? The answer is,
"Both. "

And the two are very much interconnected. God's acts and the church's
worship are not separate. They're integrated.

The Passover story from the Old Testament is a great example of this. God
freed the Israelite slaves by a great miracle called the Passover. The
Israelites celebrate this miracle every year with a meal called the Passover.
The miracle and the ritual are integrated. They go together.

Holy Week is when Christ initiated Holy Communion, died for us on the cross,
and rose from the dead. And Holy Week is that yearly time when the church
gathers to remember these events and worship the Crucified and Risen
Lord. The original events and the annual services are integrated - just like
our faith life and our church life.

Sincerely in Christ,

Pastor Carl L.M. Rasmussen