

# GOOD FRIDAY



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March 29, 2024

PRESERVICE

WELCOME

INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP – Isaiah 53

- P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C: **Amen.**  
P: He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering.  
C: **Like one from whom men hide their faces, He was despised, and we esteemed Him not.**  
P: Surely He took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows,  
C: **yet we considered Him stricken by God, smitten, and afflicted.**  
P: But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities;  
C: **the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed.**  
P: We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way;  
C: **and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.**

**HYMN** In the Cross of Christ I Glory **427**

**MESSAGE** “The Cross: The Journey to It, The Experience on It,  
The Reason for It, Our Part in It” **Pastor Goff**

**HYMNS** Lenten Sanctus **Adult Choir**  
How Deep the Father’s Love for Us  
When I Survey the Wondrous Cross **425**  
Jesus Paid It All  
Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain **435**  
Nothing but the Blood

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P: Lord Jesus, through Your suffering and death, You have brought life and forgiveness into the world.  
C: **Save us and help us, we humbly pray, O Lord.**  
P: Be gracious to us according to Your mercy and bless us. Shine the light of Your face on us and give us Your peace.

- C:** Gracious Jesus, You bore our sins in Your own body on the tree so that we, being dead to sin, might live in newness of life. Forgive us, and have mercy on us now and at the hour of our death. Give to us a holy and peaceful life in this world. And through Your grace, may we receive Your eternal glory in the life to come, where, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, You live and rule and have Your being. Amen.
- P:** Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
- C:** have mercy on us.
- P:** Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
- C:** have mercy on us.
- P:** Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
- C:** grant us Your peace.
- P:** Jesus, the Lamb of God, has taken away the sins of the world.
- C:** Amen.

**SONG**

Lamb of God  
(stanzas 1-3)

**550**

**THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF JESUS**

**THE FIRST WORD** – John 19:14-24; Luke 23:32-34a

*(“Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing.”)*

- P:** It was the day of Preparation of Passover week, about the sixth hour. “Here is your King,” Pilate said to the Jews. But they shouted,
- C:** **“Take Him away! Take Him away! Crucify Him!”**
- P:** “Shall I crucify your king?” Pilate asked.
- C:** **“We have no king but Caesar.”**
- P:** Finally Pilate handed Him over to the to be crucified. So the soldiers took charge of Jesus. Carrying His own cross, He went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). Here they crucified Him, and with Him two others – one on each side and Jesus in the middle. Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read:
- C:** **Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.**
- P:** Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic, Latin, and Greek. The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate.
- C:** **“Do not write, ‘The King of the Jews,’ but that this man claimed to be King of the Jews.”**
- P:** “What I have written, I have written.” When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took His clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom.
- C:** **“Let’s not tear it,” they said to one another. “Let’s decide by lot who will get it.”**

- P: This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled which said,  
**C: “They divided My garments among them and cast lots for My clothing.”  
 So this is what the soldiers did.**
- P: Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with Him to be executed. When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified Him, along with the criminals – one on His right, the other on His left. Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”

## PRAYER

- P: Lord Jesus Christ, You are the Prince of Peace. When You were mocked, You did not respond with harsh words. When you were tormented, You did not react in anger. When You were nailed to the cross, You prayed for forgiveness for those who caused You to suffer. Give to us the virtues of gentleness, patience, and a forgiving spirit, that we may repay evil with good. Teach us also to love our enemies, and as children of the heavenly Father, to live in peace with all people.
- C: Amen.**

HYMN 11:00a	What Wondrous Love is This (stanzas 1-3)	543
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ANTHEM 7:00p	What Wondrous Love is This	Adult Choir
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*(1<sup>st</sup> candle extinguished)*

## THE SECOND WORD – Luke 23:35-43

*(“I tell you the truth, today you will be with Me in paradise.”)*

- P: The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at Him. They said:
- C: “He saved others; let Him save Himself if He is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.”**
- P: The soldiers also came up and mocked Him. They offered Him wine vinegar and said,
- C: “If You are the king of the Jews, save Yourself.”**
- P: There was a written notice above Him, which read:
- C: This is the King of the Jews.**
- P: One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at Him:
- C: “Aren’t You the Christ? Save Yourself and us!”**
- P: But the other criminal rebuked Him.

**C:** “Don’t you fear God, since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this Man has done nothing wrong. Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.”

**P:** Jesus answered him, “I tell you the truth, today you will be with Me in paradise.”

**PRAYER**

**P:** Lord Jesus Christ, in Your infinite mercy You heard the plea of the thief dying on the cross next to You. We pray that You would open our hearts in mercy to welcome those who turn to You. When our last hour comes, hold us firm in our faith, and bring us also to live with you in paradise.

**C:** Amen.

**HYMN**

Lord Jesus Think on Me  
(stanzas 1, 2, 4, 5)

**610**

*(2<sup>nd</sup> candle extinguished)*

**THE THIRD WORD** – John 19:25-27

*(“Jesus said to His mother, ‘Dear woman, here is your son,’ and to the disciple, ‘Here is your mother.’”)*

**P:** Near the cross of Jesus stood His mother, His mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw His mother there, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, “Dear woman, here is your son,” and to the disciple, “here is your mother.” From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

**PRAYER**

**P:** Lord Jesus Christ, while You suffered the agony of the cross, Your thoughts turned to the welfare of others. Your concern was for Your mother in her sorrow. We pray that You would regard with pity all parents who mourn the death of their children, and all parents who have sorrow because their children have suffered tribulations or forsaken their faith. By the power of Your healing, we pray that parents and children may know peace, and that relationships can be restored.

**C:** Amen.

**SONG**

Christ the Life of all the Living  
(stanzas 1, 2, 6)

**420**

*(3<sup>rd</sup> candle extinguished)*

**THE FOURTH WORD** – Matthew 27:45-47

*(“My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”)*

P: From the sixth hour until the ninth hour darkness came over all the land. About the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?” which means, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” When some of those standing there heard this, they said,

C: **“He’s calling Elijah.”**

**PRAYER**

P: Lord God, Father of all people and creator of all that exists, You hold all people in Your power. We pray that You would not forsake the world which Your Son died to redeem. Even though we still see the influence of sin and evil all around us, assure us of Your continued presence in our midst. Help us to know Your love in our lives, so we can show Your presence to others.

C: **Amen.**

**HYMN 11:00a**

Go to Dark Gethsemane  
(stanzas 1-3)

**436**

**ANTHEM 7:00p**

Thy Will Be Done

**Adult Choir**

*(4<sup>th</sup> candle extinguished)*

**THE FIFTH WORD** – Matthew 10:37-42; John 19:28-29

*(“I am thirsty.”)*

P: Jesus said, “Anyone who loves his father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me; and anyone who does not take his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me.

C: **Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.**

P: He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives the one who sent Me. Anyone who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and anyone who receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man’s reward.

C: **And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is My disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward.”**

- P: Later, knowing that all was not completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty."
- C: **A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips.**

**PRAYER**

- P: Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, You endured not only spiritual anguish but also physical pain on the cross in our place. We thirst for the healing that only You can provide. When we find ourselves suffering, give us peace and patience to endure the pain that comes our way. Comfort us with the memory of the cross, and use this to give us the strength we need to bear our burdens.
- C: **Amen.**

**HYMN**

Stricken, Smitten and Afflicted  
(stanzas 1-3)

**451**

*(5<sup>th</sup> candle extinguished)*

**THE SIXTH WORD** – Hebrews 9:11-12, 15, 27-28; John 19:30a

*("It is finished.")*

- P: When Christ came as high priest of the good things that are already here, He went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not man-made, that is to say, not a part of this creation. He did not enter by means to the blood of goats and calves; but He entered the Most Holy Place once and for all by His own blood, having obtained eternal redemption. For this reason, Christ is the Mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance – now that He has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under this first covenant.
- C: **Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and He will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for Him.**
- P: When He had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished."

**PRAYER**

- P: Lord Jesus Christ, You are the Author and Finisher of our faith. You did not stop short of finishing the task given to You by Your Father. We pray that You would complete in us also everything that You intend for us, so that as children of the heavenly Father, we may live for His glory.
- C: **Amen.**

**INSTRUMENTAL ANTHEM** “Were You There?”

*(6<sup>th</sup> candle extinguished)*

**THE SEVENTH WORD** – Luke 23:44-46; Matthew 27:54

*(“Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit.”)*

- P: It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain in the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice, “Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit.” When He had said this, He breathed His last.
- P: When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed,
- C: **“Surely, He was the Son of God!”**

**PRAYER**

- P: Lord Jesus Christ, as You gave Your life on the cross in our place, You commended Your spirit into the loving hands of Your heavenly Father. Give us the grace to trust in You for all things. When our last hour comes, grant us peace that we may close our eyes with confidence, knowing that we also will dwell forever in the hands of our heavenly Father.
- C: **Amen.**

**INSTRUMENTAL ANTHEM** “O Sacred Head Now Wounded”

**THE LORD’S PRAYER** – *spoken softly*

**CHRIST CANDLE IS REMOVED**

**SHUTTING THE TOMB (THE STREPITUS)**

*(Please exit in silence. You may place your Good Friday offering in one of the baskets on the table as you exit the sanctuary.)*