

Worship Plan Good Friday – March 29, 2024

Meditation 1:

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

By your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

May God be merciful to us and bless us, show us the light of his countenance, and come to us.

Let your ways be known upon the earth, your saving health among all nations.

Let all the people praise you, O God; let all the people praise you.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you. By your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

Silence

Hymn LBW#109

"Go to Dark Gethsemane"

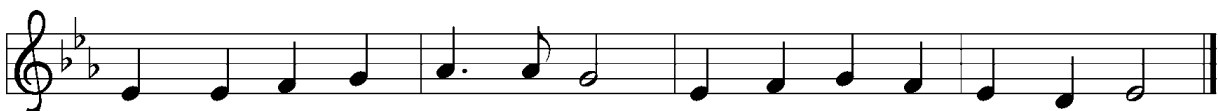
Verses 1 & 4



- 1 Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, all who feel the tempt - er's pow'r;
- 2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, view the Lord of life ar - rained;
- 3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; there, a - dor - ing at his feet,
- 4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath - less clay;



your Re - deem - er's con - flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;
oh, the worm - wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus - tained!
mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete.
all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?



turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.
"It is fin - ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.
Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Mediation 2 - Solemn Reproaches:

O my people, O my church, what have I done to you? How have I offended you? Answer me! I led you out of slavery into freedom, and delivered you through the waters of rebirth, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

Forty years I led you through the desert, feeding you with manna on the way; I saved you from the time of trial and gave you my body, the bread of heaven, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

I led you on your way in a pillar of cloud and fire, but you led me to the judgment hall of Pilate; I guided you with the light of the Holy Spirit, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

I planted you as my fairest vine, but you have brought forth bitter fruit; I made you branches of the vine and never left your side, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me! I poured out saving water from the rock, but you gave me vinegar to drink; I poured out my life and gave you the new covenant in my blood, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

Silence

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

Verses 1 & 4



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
 trib - ute far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all!

Meditation 3 - Solemn Reproaches:

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me! I gave you a royal scepter, but you gave me a crown of thorns; I gave you the kingdom and crowned you with eternal life, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

I struck down your enemies, but you struck my head with a reed; I gave you my peace, but you draw the sword in my name, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

I opened the waters to lead you to the promised land, but you opened my side with a spear; I washed your feet as a sign of my love, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me! I lifted you up to the heights, but you lifted me high on a cross; I raised you from death and prepared for you the tree of life, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

I grafted you into my people Israel, but you made them scapegoats for your own guilt, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

I came to you in the least of your brothers and sisters, but I was hungry and you gave me no food, thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

Silence

"Ah, Holy Jesus"
Verses 1 & 5



1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed that man to
 2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my
 3 Lo, the Good Shep - herd for the sheep is of - fered; the slave hath
 4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thine in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal
 5 There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -



judge thee hath in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,
 trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,
 sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for man's a - tone - ment,
 sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish
 dore thee, and will ev - er pray thee; think on thy pit - y



by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.
 I it was de - nied thee; I cru - ci - fied thee.
 while he noth - ing heed - eth, God in - ter - ced - eth.
 and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.
 and thy love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.

The Reading of The Passion of Our Lord According to St. John:

1st Reading: John 18: 1-11

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John:

Then Jesus went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden. He and his disciples went in.

Judas, his betrayer, knew this place, because Jesus and the disciples often met there.

So, Judas brought a band of soldiers along with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and went there with lanterns, torches, and weapons.

Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, "Who are you looking for?"

They answered, "Jesus of Nazareth."

Jesus stated, "I am."

Judas, his betrayer, was standing with them.

When Jesus said to them, "I am," they stepped back and fell to the ground.

Jesus repeated his question, "Whom are you looking for?"

And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth."

"I told you," Jesus answered, "I am. So if you are looking for me, let these men go."

(He said this to fulfill the words that he had spoke, "I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me.")

Then Simon Peter had a sword. He drew it, struck the servant of the high priest, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus.

"Put your sword back into its sheath," Jesus said to Peter, "Do you imagine I am not going to drink the cup my father has given me?"

Let us pray, brothers and sisters, for the holy church of God throughout the world, that God the Almighty Father guide it and gather it together, so that we may worship Him in peace and tranquility.

(Silent Prayer)

Almighty and eternal God, you have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ. Guide the work of the church. Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name, and bring salvation to people everywhere. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

(A candle is extinguished)

"Were You There"

Verse 1



1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



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Refrain



Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



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2nd Reading: John 18: 12-27

So the soldiers, their officer, and the Judean police, arrested Jesus and bound him. First, they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Judeans that it was better to have one person die for the people.

Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. The other disciple was known to the high priest; he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, but Peter stood outside the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in.

The woman at the gate spoke to Peter:

"You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?"

He replied, "I am, not."

It was cold. The slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire. They were standing around it, warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself.

Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching.

"I have spoken openly to the world," was Jesus' reply, "I have always taught in synagogues and in the Temple, where all the Judeans come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why are you asking me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said."

When Jesus said this, one of the police standing nearby slapped him on the face, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?"

"If I have spoken wrongly," Jesus answered, "testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?"

Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

Meanwhile, Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him, "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?"

He denied it saying, "No, I am not."

One of the high priest's servants, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, spoke up, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?"

Again Peter denied it, and instantly the cock crowed.

Let us pray for all our brothers and sisters who share our faith in Jesus Christ, that God may gather and keep together in one church all those who know Christ as Lord.

(Silent Prayer)

Almighty and eternal God, you give your Church its unity. Look with favor on all who follow Jesus your Son. We are all consecrated to you by our Baptism; make us one in the fullness of faith, and keep us one in the fellowship of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

(A candle is extinguished)

"Were You There"

Verse 2



- 1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
- 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
- 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
- 4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
- 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



- Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
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Refrain



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- Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
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3rd Reading: John 18: 28-40

Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to the Praetorium, where the governor was stationed. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the Praetorium, because they were anxious not to become ritually unclean, and unable to eat the Passover meal.

So Pilate went outside to ask, "What accusation do you bring against this man?"

"If he wasn't wicked," they replied, "we wouldn't be handing him over to you."

"Then take him yourselves and judge him by your law," Pilate replied to them.

"We are not allowed to put anyone to death," the Religious Leaders replied (This was so that the word of Jesus might come true, when he had indicated what sort of death he was going to die.)

So Pilate re-entered the Praetorium, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

"Was it your idea to ask that?" Jesus responded, "or did others tell you about me?"

"I am not a Jew, am I?" Pilate replied, "Your own people, and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?"

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Judeans. Clearly, my kingdom is not that sort of kingdom."

"So!" Pilate said, "you are a king?"

Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

"What is truth?" Pilate asked him.

With those words, he went back out to the Crowd, who had gathered, and told them, "You have no case, he is not guilty. But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you 'The King of the Jews'?"

"Not this man," they shouted in reply, "No, give us Barabbas!" (Barabbas was an insurgent.)

Let us pray for the Jewish people, the first to hear the Word of God, that they may receive the fulfillment of the covenant's promises.

(Silent Prayer)

Almighty and eternal God, long ago you gave your promise to Abraham and his posterity. Hear the prayers of your church that the people you first made your own may arrive with us at the fullness of redemption. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

(A candle is extinguished)

“Were You There”
Verse 3



1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



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4th Reading: John 19: 1-7

So Pilate re-entered the Praetorium. There he took Jesus and had him flogged. The soldiers wove a crown of thorns, put it on his head, and dressed him up in a purple robe. They would approach him, announcing, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and then strike him on the face.

Pilate went out yet again, "Look," he said, "I am bringing him out to you, so that you will know that I still find no case against him, he's without guilt."

So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe.

"Behold!" Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!"

When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find him not guilty."

They answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he claimed to be the Son of God."

Let us pray for those who do not believe in God, that they may find him who is the author and goal of our existence.

(Silent Prayer)

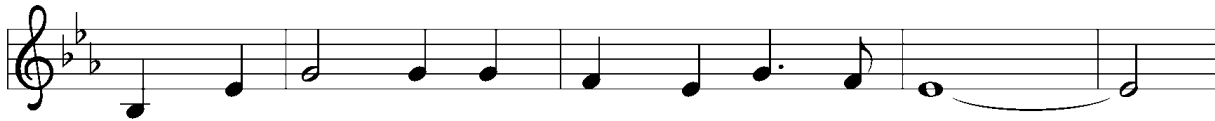
Almighty and eternal God, you created humanity so that all might long to know you and have peace in you. Grant that, in spite of the hurtful things that stand in their way, they may all recognize in the lives of Christians the tokens of your love and mercy, and gladly acknowledge you as the one true God and Father.

Amen

(A candle is extinguished)

"Were You There"

Verse 4



1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
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5th Reading: John 19: 8-16a

Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. He re-entered the Praetorium and asked Jesus, "Where are you from?"

Jesus gave him no answer, so Pilate said to him, "Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?"

"You would have no power over me," Jesus replied, "unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin."

From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the crowd cried out, "If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor."

When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and he sat on the judge's bench,

The bench called "The Stone Pavement" (or in the Hebrew, Gabbatha).

It was about noon on the day of Preparation for the Passover. "Look," said Pilate, "Here is your King!"

They cried out: "Away with him! Away with him!" and "Crucify him!"

Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?"

The chief priests answered, "We have no king but the emperor."

Then he handed him over to them to be crucified and they took Jesus away.

Let us pray for those who serve in public office, that God may guide their minds and hearts, so that all of us may live in true peace and freedom.

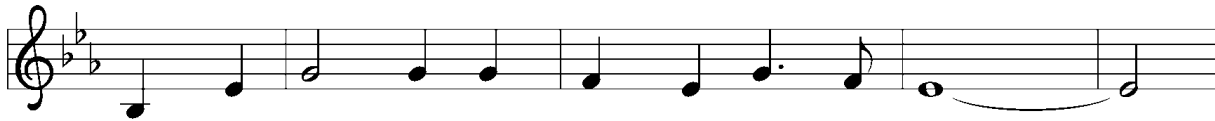
(Silent Prayer)

Almighty and eternal God, you are the champion of the poor and oppressed. In your goodness, watch over those in authority, so that people everywhere may enjoy justice, peace, freedom, and a share in the goodness of your creation. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

(A candle is extinguished)

"Were You There"
Verse 5



1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
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4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
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Refrain



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6th Reading: John 19: 16b – 22

Jesus carried his own cross and he went out to what is called "The Place of the Skull," (or in the Hebrew, Golgotha), that was where they crucified him. They also crucified two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them.

Pilate also had a notice written and put on the cross.

*JESUS OF NAZARETH
THE KING OF THE JEWS*

Many Judeans read this notice, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek.

Then the chief priests said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'"

"What I have written I have written," Pilate answered.

Let us pray that God, the almighty and merciful Father, may heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, and rid the world of falsehood, hunger, and disease.

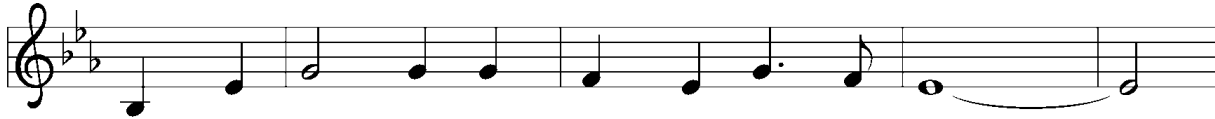
(Silent Prayer)

Almighty and eternal God, you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart. Hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble, that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

(A candle is extinguished)

"Were You There"
Verse 1



1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
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7th Reading: John 19: 23-25a

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic, which was made of a single piece of cloth. So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but diced for it, to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says, "They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they decide with dice."

And that is what the soldiers did.

Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world.

Oh, come, let us worship him.

(A candle is extinguished)

8th Reading: John 19: 25b-30

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

Jesus saw his mother and beside her, the disciple whom he loved.

"Mother," he said to her, "here is your son."

Then he spoke to the disciple.

"Here is your mother."

From that hour the disciple welcomed Mary into his own home.

After this, when Jesus knew that all was completed, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty."

A jar full of sour wine was standing nearby, so they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth.

Jesus drank it, and then said, "It is finished."

Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world.

Oh, come, let us worship him.

(Silence while the Christ Candle is removed)

9th Reading: John 19: 31-42

It was the day of Preparation. The coming Sabbath was an especially solemn and sensitive one, so the Judeans did not want the bodies left on the cross during that time. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed.

The soldiers came and broke the legs of the men who were crucified with Jesus, first the one, then the other. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead. They did not break his legs.

Instead, one of the soldiers thrust a spear into his side, and at once blood and water came out.

(He who saw this has testified truthfully. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth, so that you too may believe.)

These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken."

And again another passage of scripture says, "They will look on the one whom they have pierced."

After all this, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Religious Authorities.

Pilate gave him permission; so he came and took his body.

Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, came too. He brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took Jesus' body and wrapped it with spiced cloth, according to the burial custom of the Jews.

Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been buried. So, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world.

Oh, come, let us worship him.

(A loud noise is heard, signifying the earthquake and closing of The Tomb).

Leave in Silence