



## Good Friday

April 2, 2021

12:00 & 7:00 p.m.

*At the heart of the Good Friday service is the reading of the Passion according to John. Contemplative prayer around the cross follows. As this, the second service of the Triduum, is a continuation of yesterday's service, there is no prelude.*

PSALM

Psalm 22



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*(Chanted by soloists)*

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me  
and are so far from my cry, and from the words of my distress?

O my God, I cry in the daytime but you do not answer;  
by night as well, but I find no rest.

Yet you are the Holy One,  
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.

Our forebearers put their trust in you;  
they trusted, and you delivered them.

They cried out to you and were delivered;  
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.

But as for me, I am a worm and no man,  
scorned by all and despised by the people.

All who see me laugh me to scorn;  
they curl their lips and wag their heads saying,

“He trusted in the Lord; let him deliver him;  
let him rescue him, if he delights in him.”

Yet you are the one who took me out \ of the womb,  
and kept me safe upon my mother’s breast.

I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born;  
you were my God when I was still in my mother’s womb.

Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help.  
<sup>1</sup>My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Merciful God, your Son was lifted up on the cross to draw all people to himself. Grant that we who have been born out of his wounded side may at all times find mercy in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

#### MUSICAL REFLECTION

Meditation on Lenten Hymns

Charles Callahan

#### HOMILY

#### GOSPEL

The Passion according to John

The Holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

After Jesus had been arrested, the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. <sup>20</sup>Jesus answered, "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jewish people come together. I have said nothing in secret. <sup>21</sup>Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said." <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?" <sup>23</sup>Jesus answered, "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?" <sup>24</sup>Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

<sup>25</sup>Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him, "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." <sup>26</sup>One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" <sup>27</sup>Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.

Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. <sup>29</sup>So Pilate went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" <sup>30</sup>They answered, "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you." <sup>31</sup>Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law." The religious leaders replied, "We are not permitted to put anyone to death." <sup>32</sup>(This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the people?" <sup>34</sup>Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" <sup>35</sup>Pilate replied, "I am not of the Jewish people, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" <sup>36</sup>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. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." <sup>37</sup>Pilate asked him, "So 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." <sup>38</sup>Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

Pilate went out to the religious leaders again and told them, "I find no case against him. <sup>39</sup>But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release Jesus for you?" <sup>40</sup>They shouted in reply, "Not this man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a bandit.

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. <sup>2</sup>And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. <sup>3</sup>They kept coming up to him, saying, "Hail, King!" and striking him on the face. <sup>4</sup>Pilate went out again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him." <sup>5</sup>So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!" <sup>6</sup>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 no case against him." <sup>7</sup>The chief priests answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God."

<sup>8</sup>Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. <sup>9</sup>He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. <sup>10</sup>Pilate therefore 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?" <sup>11</sup>Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin." <sup>12</sup>From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the people 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."

<sup>13</sup>When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at

a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. <sup>14</sup>Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the people, "Here is your King!" <sup>15</sup>They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but the emperor." <sup>16</sup>Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus; <sup>17</sup>and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. <sup>18</sup>There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. <sup>19</sup>Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jewish people." <sup>20</sup>Many of the Jewish people read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. <sup>21</sup>Then the chief priests said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jewish people,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jewish people.'" <sup>22</sup>Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

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; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. <sup>24</sup>So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots 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 cast lots." <sup>25</sup>And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup>When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." <sup>27</sup>Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

<sup>28</sup>After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." <sup>29</sup>A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. <sup>30</sup>When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

<sup>31</sup>Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. <sup>32</sup>Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. <sup>33</sup>But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. <sup>34</sup>Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. <sup>35</sup>(He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) <sup>36</sup>These things occurred so that the

scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken." <sup>37</sup>And again another passage of scripture says, "They will look on the one whom they have pierced."

<sup>38</sup>After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. <sup>39</sup>Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. <sup>40</sup>They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. <sup>41</sup>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 laid. <sup>42</sup>And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

#### MUSICAL REFLECTON

*Largo* from Sonata No. 3

Johann Sebastian Bach

#### PRAYERS AROUND THE CROSS

Let us pray, brothers and sisters and siblings for all the people of God:

*(Silent prayer)*

Almighty and eternal God,  
you have shown your love for all people in Jesus Christ.  
By your Holy Spirit guide us as we gather throughout the world.  
Strengthen and uphold each one of us.  
Keep us in health and safety for the good of the world,  
Sustain all in faith, inspire us to work for justice and peace,  
and fulfill each of us in our various vocations  
to do faithfully the work to which you have called us,  
And finally send us to bring the good news of healing to all people  
as you keep us united in the fellowship of love.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us pray for all people of faith and those who seek, question and wonder.

*(Silent prayer)*

Almighty and eternal God, you created humanity  
so that all may long to know you and find peace in you.  
Gather into your embrace  
all those who call out to you under different names.  
Grant that all who have questions and wonder may recognize the signs of your love  
and grace in the world.  
Bring an end to inter-religious strife,

and make us more faithful peacemakers  
by the love made known to us through Christ.  
We ask this in all the holy names of God.

**Amen.**

Let us pray for God's creation.

*(Silent prayer)*

Almighty and eternal God,  
you are the creator of a magnificent universe.  
Hold all the worlds in the arms of your care  
so that we may value and care for them as the whole cosmos is your very self.  
Where our actions and neglect have caused harm,  
restore, renew and replenish creation  
and bring all things to fulfillment in you.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us pray for those who serve for the greater good in health care and public life.

*(Silent prayer)*

Almighty and eternal God,  
you are the healer of all.  
In your goodness, give wisdom, strength and your presence  
to all who serve in health care during this pandemic.  
Support their families and sustain them in hope.  
In your goodness, give wisdom to those in authority,  
so that all people may enjoy justice, peace, freedom,  
and a share in the wonderment of your creation.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us pray for those in need.

*(Silent prayer)*

Almighty and eternal God,  
you give strength to the weary  
and new courage to those who have lost heart.  
Heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers,  
free those unjustly deprived of liberty,  
and deliver your world from falsehood, hunger, and disease.  
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.**

Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask.

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

MUSICAL REFLECTION (during prayer around the Cross)  
"Spiegel im Spiegel"

Arvo Pärt

*At the conclusion of the prayers:*

Behold, the life giving cross that opens us to God's vulnerability.

**Oh, come, let us worship him.**

Behold, the life giving cross that brings healing and hope.

**Oh, come, let us worship him.**

Behold, the life giving cross that reveals God's love for all.

**Oh, come, let us worship him.**

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

*The service ends in silence.*

*Online streaming of the sanctuary will continue for a time of reflection.*

PREACHING Pastor Stephanie Friesen  
PRESIDING Pastor Melissa Pohlman  
ASSISTING Pastor Peter Nycklemoe  
ORGANIST Deacon Cantor Mark Sedio  
VIOLIN: Ian Snyder  
VIDEO/SOUND Mark Kieffer

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*Prayer of the Day – <http://www.narrativelectionary.org>*