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The Crucifixion of Our Lord

Good Friday

T April 1, 2021 T

Old Testament Reading:

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

ESV

[Through the Prophet Isaiah, the Lord God of Israel says concerning His Suffering Servant:]

Behold, My servant shall act wisely; He shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted. As many were astonished at you [My people] – His appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and His form beyond that of the children of mankind – so shall He sprinkle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of Him; for that which has not been told them they see, and that which they have not heard they understand.

Who has believed what they heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For He grew up before Him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; He had no form or majesty that we should look at Him, and no beauty that we should desire Him. He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces He was despised, and we esteemed Him not. Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth. By oppression and judgment He was taken away; and as for His generation, who considered that He was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of My people? And they made His grave with the wicked and with a rich man in His death, although He had done no violence, and there was no deceit in His mouth.

Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush Him; He has put Him to grief; when His soul makes an offering for sin, He shall see His offspring; He shall prolong His days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in His hand. Out of the anguish of His soul He shall see and be satisfied; by His knowledge shall the righteous one, My servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and He shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the many, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong, because He poured out His soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet He bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Because of the solemnity of this day
on which Jesus died for our sins,
please ENTER and LEAVE the church in SILENCE.

Likewise, ENTER the church in SILENCE
on EASTER SUNDAY morning.

Service of the Word & Prayer

Collect of the Day

P Together, let us pray:

C Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

A Collect

P Together, let us pray:

C Merciful and everlasting God, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all to bear our sins on the cross. Grant that our hearts may be so fixed with steadfast faith in Him that we fear not the power of sin, death, and the devil; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Epistle Reading:

Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

ESV

[By the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, it is written:]

Since then we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. ...

In the days of His flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to Him who was able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His reverence. Although He was a son, He learned obedience through what He suffered. And being made perfect, He became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey Him...

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

A Collect

P Together, let us pray:

C Almighty and everlasting God, You willed that Your Son should bear for us the pains of the cross and so remove from us the power of the adversary. Help us so to remember and give thanks for our Lord's passion that we may receive forgiveness of sin and redemption from everlasting death; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Hymn:

“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”

LSB # 440:1-2



1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now On Your ho - ly pas - sion;
2 Make me see Your great dis - tress, An - guish, and af - flic - tion,



With Your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.
Bonds and stripes and wretch - ed - ness And Your cru - ci - fix - ion;



Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish
Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound You,



Of Your suf - f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.
How for them You died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned You.

Public Domain

Readings from The Passion of our Lord Jesus from the Gospels

T Gethsemane T

[Having sung a hymn, they left the upper room and] started out for the Mount of Olives.

Jesus took His disciples to the other side of the Kidron Valley, and Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane.

He told them. “Sit down here while I go over there and pray. Pray that you may not be tempted.”

He took Peter and Zebedee's two sons, James and John, with Him, and He began to feel alarmed and distressed. Then He said to them. “My soul is full of sorrow that I am at the point of death. Stay here and keep watching with Me.”

He withdrew from them about a stone's throw, fell to the ground, and prayed that if it were possible He might not have to suffer what was ahead of Him. He said, “Abba! Father! You can do anything. If it is possible, and if You wish, take this cup away from Me; but let it not be as I want it but as You want it.”

An angel from heaven appeared to Him and gave Him strength. And as He began to struggle inwardly, He prayed more earnestly, and His sweat became like drops of blood falling on the ground.

After praying, He got up, went to the disciples, and found them sleeping because they were feeling sad. He asked Peter, “Simon, are you sleeping? Then He said to them, “So you could not keep watch with Me one hour! Why are you sleeping? Get up, keep watching, and pray that you may not be tempted. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

Then He went away a second time and prayed the same as before: “My Father, if this cup cannot pass by without My drinking it, Your will be done.”

He came again and found them asleep – they could not keep their eyes open, and they did not know what to say to Him.

After leaving them again, He went away and prayed the same prayer a third time. Then He came back to the disciples a third time and said to them, “Sleep on and take your rest! It is enough. The time has come. Now the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us go. Look, here comes the one who is betraying Me!”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn:

“Go to Dark Gethsemane”

LSB # 436:1

1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, All who feel the
tempt - er's pow'r; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see,
Watch with Him one bit - ter hour; Turn not from His
griefs a - way; Learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.

Public Domain

T Judas Betrays Jesus & Jesus Is Arrested T

Judas, one of the Twelve, who was betraying Him, also knew the place because Jesus and His disciples often gathered there. So Judas took the troop of soldiers and Temple guards from the ruling priests, the scribes, and the elders of the people. Just then, while Jesus was still talking, they came there, a large crowd, with lanterns and torches, swords and clubs. The traitor had given them a signal. He said, “The One I kiss is the Man. Grab Him, take Him away, and do not let Him escape.”

Now Jesus went out, knowing exactly what was going to happen to Him. “Who is it that you are looking for?” He asked them.

“Jesus from Nazareth,” they answered Him.

“I am He,” Jesus told them.

Judas, who was betraying Him, was standing with them. When Jesus told them, “I am He,” they backed away and fell to the ground.

He asked them again, “Who is it that you are looking for?”

“Jesus from Nazareth,” they said.

Jesus answered, “I told you that I am He. Therefore, if you are looking for Me, let these others go.” In this way the statement which He had made was fulfilled: “I lost none of those You gave Me.”

Then Judas, who was leading them, quickly stepped up to Jesus and said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” and kissed Him.

“Friend, why are you here?” Jesus asked him. “Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?”

The men around Jesus, seeing what was going to happen, asked, “Lord, should we strike with our swords?”

Then the others came forward, took hold of Jesus, and arrested Him.

Simon Peter, one of those who were standing near Jesus, reached for his sword and drew it. He struck the high priest’s slave and cut off his right ear. The slave’s name was Malchus.

But Jesus said, “Let them do it. No more of this!” And, touching the ear, He healed him.

Jesus told Peter, “Put your sword into its scabbard. For all who take the sword will die by the sword. Or, do you think I could not call on My Father to send right now more than twelve legions [72,000] of angels to help Me? How then are the Scriptures to be fulfilled which say that this must happen? The cup My Father gave Me – should I not drink it?”

Then Jesus said to the crowd of ruling priests, captains of the Temple, and the elders who had come for Him, “Did you come out to take Me prisoner with swords and clubs as if I were a robber? Day after day I was with you as I sat and I taught in the Temple, and you laid no hands on Me and you did not arrest Me. But this is your time when darkness rules. All this has happened so that what the prophets have written would be fulfilled.”

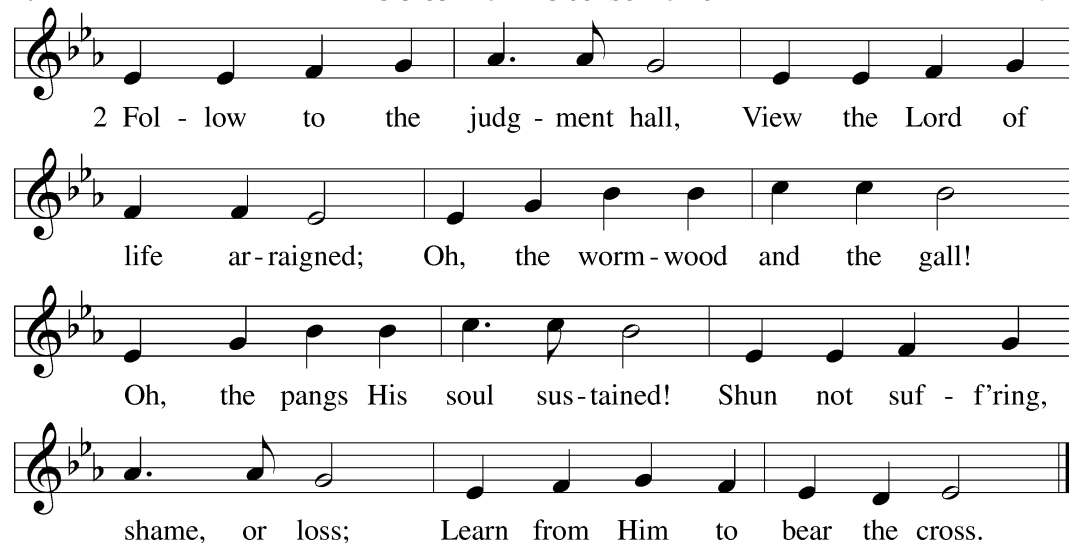
Then all the disciples left Him and ran away. A certain young man who also was following Him had nothing on but a linen cloth. They tried to grab him, but he left the linen cloth and ran away naked.

So the troop of soldiers, the tribune, and the Jewish Temple guards arrested Jesus, bound Him, led Him away, and took Him to the high priest's palace. They took Him first to Annas, because he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. It was Caiaphas who had advised the Jews, "It is better that one Man should die for the people."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn: "Go to Dark Gethsemane" *LSB # 436:2*



2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, View the Lord of
life ar-raigned; Oh, the worm-wood and the gall!
Oh, the pangs His soul sus-tained! Shun not suf - f'ring,
shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.

Public Domain

T Peter Follows Jesus and Denies Him Three Times T

Now, Simon Peter and another disciple were following Jesus at a distance. The other disciple was known to the high priest and went with Jesus into the high priest's courtyard. But Peter was standing outside the door. So the other disciple, whom the high priest knew, went out and talked to the girl watching the door and brought Peter into the high priest's courtyard.

The slaves and the Temple guards who were standing around had lit a fire in the middle of the courtyard and had made a heap of burning coals because it was cold. As they sat together and were warming themselves, Peter was also standing. Then he sat with the Temple guards, warming himself by the fire. He wanted to see how this would end.

While Peter was sitting in the light of the fire, one of the maids of the high priest, the doorkeeper, came to him and asked, "You aren't one of this Man's disciples too, are you? You were with the Man from Nazareth, this Jesus, the Galilean," she said, looking straight at him. "He, too, was with Him."

But he denied it in front of them all: "I don't know Him, woman, and I don't know what you're talking about."

He went out to the entrance. Then a rooster crowed.

A little later another maid saw him, "He was with Jesus from Nazareth," she also told those who were standing around.

Again Peter denied and swore, "I am not! I don't know the Man!"

About an hour later another insisted: "It's obvious that this man was also with Him. Why, he's a Galilean!" After a little while those who stood near approached Peter and said, "It's obvious you're also one of them. Why, your accent gives you away! You're a Galilean!" One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Didn't I see you with Him in the garden?"

Again Peter denied, "Man, I don't know what you're talking about." Then he began to curse and swear: "I don't know this Man whom you're talking about." Just then, while he was still speaking, a rooster crowed a second time.

Then the Lord turned and looked at Peter, and Peter remembered the Lord telling him, "Before the rooster crows twice today, you will deny Me three times." So he went outside and he broke down and wept bitterly.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

T Jesus' Trial before the High Priest and Jewish Council T

Then the high priest asked Jesus about His disciples and His teaching.

Jesus answered him, "I have spoken publicly to the world. I have always taught in a synagogue or in the Temple, where all the Jews gather, and I have not said anything in secret. Why do you ask Me? Ask those who heard Me what I said to them; they know what I said."

When He said this, one of the Temple guards standing near Jesus slapped His face. "Is that how You answer the high priest?" he asked.

Jesus answered him, "If I said anything wrong, tell us what was wrong. But if I told the truth, why do you hit Me?"

Annas sent Him, still bound, to Caiaphas the high priest.

All the ruling priests, elders, and scribes had been called together.

The ruling priests and the whole Jewish council tried to get some testimony against Jesus in order to kill Him, but they could not find any. Although many came forward and gave false testimony against Him, their statements did not agree.

At last two men came forward and gave this false testimony against Him: “We heard Him say, ‘I can tear down God’s Temple and build it in three days’; ‘I will tear down this Temple made by human hands, and in three days build another not made by human hands.’ But even on this point their statements did not agree.

Then the high priest stepped forward and asked Jesus, “Are You not going to reply to what these men are testifying against You?”

But He was silent and did not answer.

Again the high priest asked Him, “Swear by the living God and tell us, are You the Christ, the Son of God, the Son of the Blessed One?”

“I am,” Jesus said. “But tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of power and coming on the clouds of heaven.”

Then the high priest tore his robes and said, “He has blasphemed! Why do we need any more witnesses? You just heard the blasphemy. What is your verdict?”

Then they all condemned Him. “He is guilty and deserves to die!” they answered.

Then some of them began to spit in His face. The men who were holding Jesus were making fun of Him. They covered His face, struck Him with their fists, and some slapped Him, saying, “Prophecy, You Christ, and tell us: Who hit You?” And they went on insulting Him in many other ways. Even the Temple guards took Him and slapped Him.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

T Jesus before Pontius Pilate, the Roman Governor T

Then they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the governor’s headquarters. It was early morning. They themselves did not enter the governor’s headquarters, so that they would not be defiled, but could eat the Passover. So Pilate went outside to them and said, “What accusation do you bring against this man?”

They answered him, “If this man were not doing evil, we would not have delivered him over to you.”

Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law.”

The Jews said to him, “It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death.” This was to fulfill the word that Jesus had spoken to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?”

Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?”

Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?”

Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.”

Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?”

Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world – to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to My voice.”

Pilate said to him, “What is truth?”

After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, “I find no guilt in him. But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover. So do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?”

They cried out again, “Not this man, but Barabbas!”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

T Jesus Prepared for Crucifixion T

Pilate took Jesus and had Him whipped. The governor’s soldiers took Jesus into the palace (which is the Praetorium), and they called together and gathered the whole troop of soldiers around Him.

The soldiers took off His clothes and put a scarlet robe on Him. They twisted some thorns into a crown, placed it on His head, and put a stick in His right hand. Then they went up to Jesus, knelt before Him, and worshiped Him. Making fun of Him they began to greet Him: “Hail, King of the Jews!” After having spit on Him, they took the stick and began to beat Him on the head with it, and slapped His face.

After they had made fun of Him. Pilate went outside again and told them, “I am bringing Him out to you to let you know that find no guilt in Him.” Jesus came outside wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Look at the Man!”

When the ruling priests and the servants saw Him, they shouted, “Crucify, crucify Him!”

Pilate told them, “Take Him yourselves and crucify Him, for I do not find Him guilty of anything.”

The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and according to the law He deserves to die because He has claimed to be the Son of God.”

When Pilate heard them say that, he was frightened more than ever. He went into the palace again and asked Jesus, “Where are You from?” But Jesus did not give him an answer.

Pilate then asked Him, “Aren’t You going to speak to me? Don’t You know that I have the authority to free You or the authority to crucify You?”

Jesus answered him, “You would not have any authority over Me if it had not been given to you

from above. That is why the man who handed Me over to you is guilty of a greater sin.”

This made Pilate anxious to let Him go, but the Jews shouted, “If you let Him go, you are no friend of Caesar. Anyone who makes himself a king is speaking against Caesar.”

When Pilate heard these words, he took Jesus outside and sat in the judge’s seat at a place called Stone Pavement, or Gabbatha in Aramaic. It was the day of the preparation of the Passover and about six in the morning.

He said to the Jews, “Look at your King!”

Then they shouted, “Away with Him! Kill Him! Crucify Him!”

Pilate asked them, “Should I crucify your King?”

“We have no king but Caesar,” the ruling priests answered.

When he saw that he was not getting anywhere, but that a riot was breaking out instead, Pilate took water and washed his hands before the crowd. “I am innocent of this Man’s blood,” he said. “See to it yourselves!”

And all the people answered, “His blood be on us and on our children.”

Then Pilate, wanting to satisfy the people, decided that what they demanded should be done: he let them have Barabbas, who had been put in prison for revolt and murder, for whom they were asking.

Then Pilate handed Jesus over to them to be crucified in line with their wishes.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn:

“Go to Dark Gethsemane”

Public Domain; *LSB # 436:3*

3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; There, a - dor - ing
at His feet, Mark that mir - a - cle of time,
God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete. "It is fin - ished!"
hear Him cry; Learn from Je - sus Christ to die.

T Jesus' Crucifixion T

They took Jesus to what was called Place of the Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha.

They tried to give Him wine mixed with myrrh and gall, but when He tasted it, He refused to drink it. They crucified Him there. At that time they crucified two robbers with Him, one at His right and the other at His left and Jesus in the middle. It was nine in the morning when they crucified Him.

Jesus' First Statement From The Cross

Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took His clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier, throwing dice for them to see what each one should get, and the tunic was left over. The tunic was without a seam, woven in one piece from top to bottom. They said to one another, “Let’s not tear it, but let’s throw dice and see who gets it” – in this way what the Scripture said was fulfilled: “They divided My clothes among them, and for My garment they threw dice.” So that is what the soldiers did. Then they sat down there and kept watch over Him.

Pilate also wrote a notice, the accusation that had been written against Him they placed above His head on the cross. It read: THIS IS JESUS FROM NAZARETH THE KING OF THE JEWS. Many Jews read this notice, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, Latin, and Greek.

Therefore the ruling priests of the Jews told Pilate, “Do not write: ‘The King of the Jews,’ but: ‘He said, “I am the King of the Jews.””

Pilate answered, “What I have written I have written.”

The people stood there watching. Those who passed by ridiculed Him, shaking their heads and saying, “Ha! You who are going to tear down the Temple and build it in three days – save Yourself if You are the Son of God, come down from the cross.”

In the same way the ruling priests together with the scribes and elders were sneering and made fun of Him among themselves and said, “He saved others – He cannot save Himself. He should save Himself if He is the Christ whom God has chosen. He is Israel’s King – He should come down from the cross now, and we shall believe Him. He has put His trust in God – let God rescue Him now if He so wishes, for He said, ‘I am the Son of God.’”

The soldiers also made fun of Him when they went up to Him and offered Him sour wine. They said, “If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself.”

Jesus' Second Statement From The Cross

In the same way the robbers who were crucified with Him also were insulting Him. One of the criminals who were hanging there was mocking Him: "Aren't You the Christ? Save Yourself and us!"

But the other, warning him, asked, "Aren't you afraid of God? You are condemned just as He is. Our punishment is just, for we are getting what we deserve for what we've done, but this One has done nothing wrong."

Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when You come into Your Kingdom."

"I tell you the truth," Jesus said to him, "today you will be with Me in Paradise."

Jesus' Third Statement From The Cross

Now, His mother and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary from Magdala were standing near the cross of Jesus.

Jesus saw His mother and the disciple whom He loved standing near. "Woman," He said to His mother, "there is your son!" Then He said to the disciple, "There is your mother!"

From that time on this disciple took her into his own home.

Jesus' Fourth, Fifth, And Sixth Statements From The Cross

It was about noon when darkness came over the whole land – lasting until three in the afternoon, because the sun stopped shining.

About three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" which means, "My God, My God, why did You forsake Me?"

When they heard Him say that, some of those standing nearby said, "Listen! He's calling Elijah."

After this, knowing that everything had now been finished, and to have the words of the Scripture come true, Jesus said, "I am thirsty."

A jar full of sour wine was standing there. Immediately one of the men ran, took a sponge, soaked it in sour wine, put it on a hyssop stem, held it to His mouth, and offered Him a drink. The others said, "Let's see if Elijah comes to save Him."

When Jesus had taken the wine, He said, "It is finished!"

Jesus' Seventh Statement From The Cross and His Death

And Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Father, into Your hands I entrust My spirit." After He said this, He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn:

"O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken"

LSB # 439:1-5



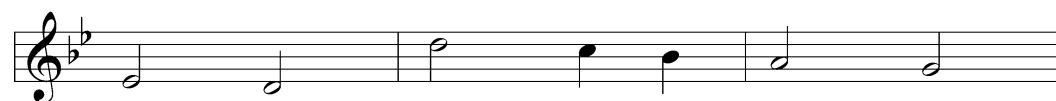
1 O dear - est Je - sus, what law hast Thou bro - ken
2 They crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;
3 Whence come these sor - rows, whence this mor - tal an - guish?
4 What pun - ish - ment so strange is suf - fered yon - der!
5 The sin - less Son of God must die in sad - ness;



That such sharp sen - tence should on Thee be spo - ken?
With cru - el mock - ings to the cross they urge Thee;
It is my sins for which Thou, Lord, must lan - guish;
The Shep-herd dies for sheep that loved to wan - der;
The sin - ful child of man may live in glad - ness;



Of what great crime hast Thou to make con -
They give Thee gall to drink, they still de -
Yea, all the wrath, the woe, Thou dost in -
The Mas - ter pays the debt His ser - vants
Man for - feit - ed his life and is ac -



fes - sion, What dark trans - gres - sion?
cry Thee; They cru - ci - fy Thee.
her - it, This I do mer - it.
owe Him, Who would not know Him.
quit - ted; God is com - mit - ted.

Public Domain

T Events surrounding Jesus' Death and Burial T

Just [as Jesus gave up His spirit] the inner curtain in the Temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook and the rocks were split. The tombs were opened, and the bodies of many believers who had been sleeping were brought back to life. They came out of the tombs after He had risen and went into the Holy City where they appeared to many people.

When the captain who stood facing Jesus saw how He gave up His spirit, he praised God. He said, "Certainly this Man was righteous!" Now when the captain and those watching Jesus with him saw the earthquake and the other things happening, they were terrified. "Certainly this was the Son of God!" they said. When all the people who had gathered to view this incident saw what was happening, they beat their breasts and turned back.

All His friends, including many women, stood at a distance and watched. Among them were Mary from Magdala and Mary the mother of James the Younger and of Joseph, and Salome, the mother of Zebedee's sons. While He was in Galilee, they had followed Him and supported Him. They had followed Jesus from Galilee and had come up to Jerusalem with Him.

Since it was the day of preparation and the Jews did not want the bodies to stay on the crosses on the Sabbath, because that Sabbath was an important day, they asked Pilate to have the legs of the men broken and the bodies taken away. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first man and then of the other who had been crucified with Him.

But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was dead already, they did not break His legs; but one of the soldiers stuck a spear into His side, and immediately blood and water came out. He who saw it has testified about it, and his testimony is true, and he knows he is telling the truth so that you also will believe.

In this way what the Scripture said was fulfilled: "None of His bones shall be broken." And another Scripture passage says: "They will look at Him whom they pierced."

In the evening, there came a rich man by the name of Joseph from Arimathea, a Jewish town. He was an important member of the Jewish council, a good and righteous man, who was waiting for the Kingdom of God. He was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because he was afraid of the Jews. He had not voted for their plan and action.

Since it was already evening on the day of preparation, which is the day before the Sabbath, Joseph from Arimathea dared to go to Pilate and ask Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus.

Pilate wondered whether Jesus was already dead. So he called the captain and asked him, "Has He died already?" And when he was assured of this by the captain, Pilate ordered that the body be given to Joseph.

Joseph bought some linen and came and took Jesus' body down. Then Nicodemus also came, the one who had first come to Jesus at night. He brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about 75 pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in a clean linen cloth according to the Jewish custom of burying the dead.

There was a garden at the place where Jesus was crucified, and in the garden was Joseph's own new tomb that he had cut in the rock, in which no one had yet been laid. So they laid Jesus there, because it was the Jewish day of preparation and the Sabbath was just beginning and the tomb was near.

The women who had come with Him from Galilee followed closely behind. Mary from Magdala and the other Mary, the mother of James, were there. Sitting opposite the tomb, they watched where and how His body was laid. After rolling a large stone against the door of the tomb, Joseph went away. Then the women went back and prepared spices and perfumes. But on the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn:

"Jesus, I Will Ponder Now"

LSB # 440:3-4

3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a-lone Make me see Your pas-sion,
4 Grant that I Your pas-sion view With re-pen-tant griev-ing.
But its cause to me make known And its ter-mi-na-tion.
Let me not bring shame to You By un-ho-ly liv-ing.
Ah! I al-so and my sin Wrought Your deep af-flic-tion;
How could I re-fuse to shun Ev-'ry sin-ful plea-sure.
This in-deed the cause has been Of Your cru-ci-fix-ion.
Since for me God's on-ly Son Suf-fered with-out mea-sure?

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The Litany

P O Lord, C have mercy.

P O Christ, C have mercy.

P O Lord, C have mercy.

P O Christ, C hear us.
P God the Father in heaven,
C have mercy.
P God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
C have mercy.
P God the Holy Spirit,
C have mercy.
P Be gracious to us.
C Spare us, good Lord.
P Be gracious to us.
C Help us, good Lord.
P From all sin, from all error, from all evil;
From the crafts and assaults of the devil; from sudden and evil death;
From pestilence and famine; from war and bloodshed; from sedition and from rebellion;
From lightning and tempest; from all calamity by fire and water; and from everlasting death:
C Good Lord, deliver us.
P By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity;
By Your baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your cross and
passion; by Your precious death and burial;
By Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit,
the Comforter:
C Help us, good Lord.
P In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day
of judgment:
C Help us, good Lord.
P We poor sinners implore You
C to hear us, O Lord.
P To rule and govern Your holy Christian Church; to preserve all pastors and ministers of Your
Church in the true knowledge and understanding of Your wholesome Word and to sustain
them in holy living;
To put an end to all schisms and causes of offense; to bring into the way of truth all who have
erred and are deceived;

To beat down Satan under our feet; to send faithful laborers into Your harvest; and to
accompany Your Word with Your grace and Spirit:
C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.
P To raise those who fall and to strengthen those who stand; and to comfort and help the
weakhearted and the distressed:
C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.
P To give to all peoples concord and peace; to preserve our land from discord and strife; to give
our country Your protection in every time of need;
To direct and defend our president and all in authority; to bless and protect our magistrates
and all our people;
To watch over and help all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation; to protect and guide
all who travel;
To grant all women with child, and all mothers with infant children, increasing happiness in
their blessings; to defend all orphans and widows and provide for them;
To strengthen and keep all sick persons, including Ray Hilken and all those suffering from
CoViD-19 or any other disease, injury, or condition, and young children; to free those in
bondage; and to have mercy on us all:
C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.
P To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers and to turn their hearts; to give and
preserve for our use the kindly fruits of the earth; and graciously to hear our prayers:
C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.
P Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
C we implore You to hear us.
P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
C have mercy.
P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
C have mercy.
P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
C grant us Your peace.
P O Christ, C hear us.
P O Lord, C have mercy.
P O Christ, C have mercy.
P O Lord, C have mercy. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P Having been taught by our Lord Jesus and trusting in His promises, we are bold to pray:

C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by Thy name,

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;

give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory

forever and ever. Amen.

A Concluding Collect

P Together we pray:

C We implore You, O Lord, that Your abundant blessing may be upon Your people who have held the passion and death of Your Son in devout remembrance, that we may receive Your pardon and the gift of Your comfort, and may increase in faith and take hold of eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Hymn:

“Jesus, I Will Ponder Now”

LSB # 440:5-6

5. If my sins give me alarm
And my conscience grieve me,
Let Your cross my fear disarm;
Peace of conscience give me.
Help me see forgiveness won
By Your holy passion.
If for me He slays His Son,
God must have compassion!

6. Graciously my faith renew;
Help me bear my crosses,
Learning humbleness from You,
Peace mid pain and losses.
May I give You love for love!
Hear me, O my Savior,
That I may in heav'n above
Sing Your praise forever.

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Remaining Holy Week Schedule

T Saturday, April 3 T

NO Service

T Sunday, April 4 T

Easter Service

9:00 am

T T T

Please LEAVE the church in SILENCE.

Likewise, ENTER the church in SILENCE

on EASTER SUNDAY morning.

Acknowledgments:

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