



GOOD FRIDAY

April 3, 2015



Preparation for Worship

*As you enter the Sanctuary, please prepare your heart for worship
and silence your mobile devices.*

Prayer of Preparation

O Father, who spared not Your only Son that You might spare us.
He was falsely accused, denied, handed over, mocked,
crucified, forsaken, and buried for us and our salvation.
Help me to adore You by lips and life.
Go forth, O conquering God, and show us the cross,
Mighty to subdue, comfort, and save. Amen.

*Adapted from A Puritan Prayer
"Love Lusters of Calvary" in The Valley of Vision*

We are all in the grip of the great lie
that we ourselves can set things right with God.
This lie is only broken by the greatest of lies:
God is guilty and He must die.

Richard Neuhaus, Death on a Friday Afternoon

O all ye who pass by, behold and see; man stole the fruit,
But I must climb the tree; The tree of life to all, but only me:
Was ever grief like mine?

From the poem "The Sacrifice" by George Herbert

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE: "Ah, Dearest Jesus"arr. Raymond Haan

Beth Luscombe, viola; Samuel Metzger, organ

CHORAL INTROIT: "O Come and Mourn" Frederick W. Faber

O come and mourn with me awhile; O come ye to the Savior's side;
O come, together let us mourn: Jesus, our Lord, is crucified!
Sev'n times He spake, sev'n words of love; and all three hours His silence cried
For mercy on the souls of men: Jesus, our Lord, is crucified!
O break, O break, hard heart of mine! Thy weak self-love and guilty pride
His Pilate and His Judas were: Jesus, our Lord, is crucified!
A broken heart, a fount of tears, ask, and they will not be denied;
A broken heart love's cradle is: Jesus, our Lord, is crucified!
O love of God! O sin of man! In this dread act Your strength is tried,
And victory remains with love: Jesus, our Lord, is crucified!

*The Westminster Singers
Gabriel C. Statom, Director of Music*

CALL TO WORSHIP: Isaiah 53:3-4 Ronald G. Sadlow

Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.

**But he was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his wounds we are healed.**

✦HYMN: No. 248

"Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended"HERZLIEBSTER JESU

✦PRAYER OF ADORATION

Falsely Accused

Mark 14:53-65

Ron Hickman, reader

And they led Jesus to the high priest. And all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes came together. And Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he was sitting with the guards and warming himself at the fire. Now the chief priests and the whole council were seeking testimony against Jesus to put him to death, but they found none. For many bore false witness against him, but their testimony did not agree. And some stood up and bore false witness against him, saying, "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.'" Yet even about this their testimony did not agree. And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?" But he remained silent and made no answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" And Jesus said, "I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven." And the high priest tore his garments and said, "What further witnesses do we need? You have heard his blasphemy. What is your decision?" And they all condemned him as deserving death. And some began to spit on him and to cover his face and to strike him, saying to him, "Prophecy!" And the guards received him with blows.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SILENT MEDITATION

CHORAL MEDITATION: "Miserere mei" Henry Purcell

Miserere mei, O Jesu. Have mercy on us, O Jesus.

Denied

Mark 14:66-72

Matt Johnson, reader

And as Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came, and seeing Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, "You also were with the Nazarene, Jesus." But he denied it, saying, "I neither know nor understand what you mean." And he went out into the gateway and the rooster crowed. And the servant girl saw him and began again to say to the bystanders, "This man is one of them." But again he denied it. And after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, "Certainly you are one of them, for you are a Galilean." But he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "I do not know this man of whom you speak." And immediately the rooster crowed a second time. And Peter remembered how Jesus had said to him, "Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times." And he broke down and wept.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SILENT MEDITATION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: "Jesus, Remember Me" Taize Chant

Choir to sing two times, followed by Congregation

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your King - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your King - dom.

Handed Over

Mark 15:1-15
Will Nease, reader

And as soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. And they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate. And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" And he answered him, "You have said so." And the chief priests accused him of many things. And Pilate again asked him, "Have you no answer to make? See how many charges they bring against you." But Jesus made no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed. Now at the feast he used to release for them one prisoner for whom they asked. And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the insurrection, there was a man called Barabbas. And the crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do as he usually did for them. And he answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" For he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered him up. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead. And Pilate again said to them, "Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" And they cried out again, "Crucify him." And Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him." So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified..

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SILENT MEDITATION

INSTRUMENTAL MEDITATION: "Were You There?" Spiritual

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
O sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Mocked

Mark 15:16-20
Arlene Roberts, reader

And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him. And they began to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SILENT MEDITATION

✦HYMN: No. 247 "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" PASSION CHORALE

Crucified

Mark 15:21-32
Ryan Williams, reader

And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. And they brought him to the place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. And they crucified him and divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. And it was the third hour when they crucified him. And the inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left. And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!" So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SILENT MEDITATION

CHORAL MEDITATION: "O Savior of the World" Goss

O Savior of the world, Who by Thy cross and Thy precious blood hast redeemed us, Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech Thee, O Lord. Amen.

Forsaken

Mark 15:33-41

Susan Warner, reader

And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" And some of the bystanders hearing it said, "Behold, he is calling Elijah." And someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!" There were also women looking on from a distance, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. When he was in Galilee, they followed him and ministered to him, and there were also many other women who came up with him to Jerusalem.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SILENT MEDITATION

CHORAL MEDITATION: "Bitter Cry" Amy Williams

Throned upon the awful tree, King of grief, I walk with Thee.
Darkness veils Your anguished face; none its lines of woe can trace.
None can tell what pangs unknown hold You silent and alone.

Silent through those three dread hours, wrestling with the evil powers,
Left alone with human sin, gloom around You and within,
Till the appointed time is nigh, till the Lamb of God may die.

Hark, that cry that peals aloud upward through the whelming cloud!
You, the Father's only Son, You, God's own Anointed One, God's Son!
Asking God how can it be, "Why have You forsaken Me?"

Lord, should fear and anguish roll darkly o'er my sinful soul,
You as one thus once bereft that Your own might ne'er be left,
Teach me by that bitter cry in the gloom to know You nigh.

Buried

Mark 15:42-47

Alyssa Champion, reader

And when evening had come, since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the Sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate was surprised to hear that he should have already died. And summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the corpse to Joseph. And Joseph bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud and laid him in a tomb that had been cut out of the rock. And he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where he was laid.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SILENT MEDITATION

CHORAL MEDITATION: "O Mortal Man" arr. John Scott

O mortal man, remember well, when Christ our Lord was born,
He was crucified between two thieves, and crowned with the thorn.

O mortal man, remember well, when Christ died on the rood,
'Twas for our sins and wicked ways Christ shed His precious blood.

O mortal man, remember well, when Christ was wrapped in clay,
He was taken to a sepulcher where no man ever lay.

HOMILY

The Gospel Must Be Received

T. Barton Kimbro

✠HYMN OF THE CROSS:

No. 252 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" HAMBURG
stanzas 1, 3 & 4

✠BENEDICTION

We depart in silence, awaiting the resurrection.

✠Indicates congregation standing

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