



First Presbyterian Church

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The Great Three Days: Good Friday

Good Friday

April 19, 2019

The liturgy of the Three Days declares one story in three parts. The worship services on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter are best understood as three parts of one service, beginning on Thursday and ending on Easter. Together they are a transforming event as we explore the holy mystery that is God's saving love.

Worship continues.

Gathering

All may stand as the presider and other worship leaders enter.

***WELCOME**

Rev. Michele R. Goff

***CALL TO WORSHIP - Responsive**

Christ Jesus bore our sins in his body on the cross so that we might die to sin and live for righteousness.

Blessed is the name of the Lord.

***HYMN #216**

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

Clephane, 1868

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Liturgist - Claudia Morgan-Gray

Almighty God, look with mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Bibles,p.642/LG.p.836

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE Hebrews 10:16-25

Bibles,p.210/LG.p.272

We proclaim Christ crucified- the wisdom and power of God.

Thanks be to God.

Please rise in body or in spirit and join in singing:

***HYMN #218**

"Ah, Holy Jesus"

Heermann, 1630

but you lifted me high on the cross;
I raised you from death
and prepared for you the tree of life,
but you have made a cross for your Savior.
Holy God . . .

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

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 made a cross for your Savior.
Holy God . . .

Sending

HYMN #228

"Were You There"

Costen, 1987

All depart quietly.

There is no benediction.

Worship continues on Easter morning.

A Note on Good Friday

Good Friday proclaims the good news of salvation through the paradoxical suffering and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. The center of this liturgy is the reading of the passion narrative from the Gospel of John, in which Christ is lifted up on the cross as a sign of God's great love for the world. In the Solemn Intercession, we join Jesus' prayer for the church and world, as he reaches out with compassion from the cross. Through the Solemn Reproaches of the Cross, we hear Christ's anguished lament: My people, my church, why have you forsaken me? – *The Book of Common Worship, 2018*

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 made a cross for your Savior.

Holy God . . .

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 by the light of the Holy Spirit,
but you have made a cross for your Savior.

Holy God . . .

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

Holy God . . .

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 made a cross for your Savior.

Holy God . . .

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 made a cross for your Savior.

Holy God . . .

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 made a cross for your Savior.

Holy God . . .

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 made a cross for your Savior.

Holy God . . .

I lifted you up to the heights,

GOSPEL SCRIPTURE

John 18:1-19:42

Bibles, p.105/ LG. p.137

SILENCE WILL BE KEPT FOR 3 MINUTES

DESCRIPTION OF PRAISE

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ we bend our knees and lift up our hearts, giving glory to God forever. **Amen.**

THE SOLEMN INTERCESSION

Bidding prayers for the whole world and family of God. Silence is kept after each bid.

Beloved people of God,
as Jesus stretched out his arms on the cross
to offer life and salvation to all,
let us pray for the world that God loves so much.
Let us pray for the church throughout the world.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God,
you have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ.
By your Holy Spirit, guide the church
and gather it throughout the world.
Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name,
and bring the good news of salvation in Christ to all people.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**
Let us pray for this presbytery and congregation.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God,
your Spirit guides the church and makes it holy.
Strengthen and uphold pastors and other leaders;
keep them in health and safety for the good of the church.
Help each us of to do faithfully
the work to which you have called us.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**
Let us pray for those preparing for baptism.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God,
you continue to bless the church with new members.
Increase the faith and understanding
of those preparing for baptism.
Give them new birth as your children.
Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy church.
Make all the baptized one in the fullness of faith

and keep us united in the fellowship of love.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**
Let us pray for people of other faiths.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God,
gather into your embrace
all those who call out to you under different names.
Bring an end to interreligious strife,
and make us more faithful in our witness
to the love made known to us in your Son.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**
Let us pray for those who cannot believe.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God,
you created humanity so that all might long to know you
and find peace in you.
Grant that all may recognize signs of your love and grace
in the world and in the lives of Christians,
and gladly acknowledge you as the one true God.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**
Let us pray for God's creation.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God,
you are the creator of a magnificent universe.
Hold this world in the arms of your care,
heal the damage we have done,
and bring all things to fulfillment in you.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**
Let us pray for the leaders and people of all nations.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God,
you are the champion of the poor and the oppressed.
In your goodness, give wisdom to 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.**
Let us pray for all who suffer or are in need.

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.**

LORD'S PRAYER - Unison

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

RITUAL OF THE NAILS

A wooden cross will be carried into the church and placed in front of the people.

When you entered this evening, you were given a post-it note and a nail. At this time, you are invited to write a sin on that paper and 'nail' it to the cross. Prayerfully, when you feel moved, approach the cross with your sin. Then leave it behind, as you accept Christ's merciful forgiveness and grace.

RITUAL HYMN #204

"Stay with Me"

Berthier, 1982

SOLEMN REPROACHES OF THE CROSS

This is the cross that held the Savior of the world.

Come, let us worship God.

This is the cross that held the Savior of the world.

Come, let us worship God.

This is the cross that held the Savior of the world.

Come, let us worship God.

O my people, O my church,
what more could I have done for you?
Answer me!

I led you out of slavery into freedom,
and delivered you through the waters of rebirth,
but you have made a cross for your Savior.

Holy God,

Holy and mighty,

Holy and immortal,

have mercy upon us.

Forty years I led you through the desert,