

GOOD FRIDAY

April 15, 2022

GOOD FRIDAY: A FAITHFUL SAVIOR

John 19:16-30

OPENING PRAYER

Holy and loving God,
as we prepare to set aside our busyness
and to focus intently on Jesus' suffering and death,
we ask for eyes to see all of the amazing things
that Jesus' death means for understanding you,
your love, and our salvation.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Who has believed what we have heard?
And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

**Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we account him stricken,
struck down by God and afflicted.**

But he was wounded for our transgressions;
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,

...and by his wounds we are healed.

Isaiah 53:1,4-5

LEADER

Today we remember that Jesus was crucified.
He was pierced for our transgressions,
and He suffered and died for our iniquities.
We remember the sacrifice of our Lord with gratitude
because his death gave us life and brings redemption to
the world.

God so loved the world that he gave his own dearly
beloved Son
so that everyone who believes in him
will not perish but have everlasting life.
On this day of remembrance and hope,
we declare with joy:

**God did not send his Son into the world
to condemn the world but to save it.**

John 3:16-17

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

To God be the glory, great things He hath done
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life gate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
Oh, come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He hath done.

Oh, perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
Oh, come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He hath done.

Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
Oh, come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He hath done.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
Oh, come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He hath done.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

King of glory,
we adore you, our Savior and Lord.
You suffered on the cross
and gave your life as a ransom for many.
We bless and thank you for the outpouring of your life
and offer our worship today our of unspeakable gratitude.

PRAYERS OF INVOCATION

O Christ, who forsook no one
but was forsaken by the closest of friends,
and who committed no crime yet was sentenced to a
criminal's death,
we enter your presence in awe and adoration.
On this day, centuries ago, you could have saved your life,
but you refused to betray the purpose for which you had
been born.
You had come into the world to love God
and neighbor as yourself,
and when that love required you to shoulder a cross,
you summoned the strength to bear it.
Today, O Christ, as we sing and pray about the cross,
teach us its meaning once again
and help us to take up our cross and follow you.

**Assist us mercifully with your help,
O Lord God of our salvation,
that we may enter with joy
upon the contemplation of those mighty acts,
whereby you have given us life
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

O God,
who for our redemption gave
your only Son to the death of the cross,
and by his glorious resurrection
delivered us from the power of our enemy:
Grant us so to die daily to sin,
that we may evermore live with him
in the joy of his resurrection,
now and for ever. Amen.

LET US REMEMBER

Let us remember Jesus,
who, though rich, became poor and dwelt among us;
who was mighty indeed,
healing the sick and the troubled;
who, as a teacher to his disciples,
was their companion and servant.
**May we ever be grateful for Jesus the Christ
and what he has done for us.**

Let us remember Jesus,
who prayed for the forgiveness of those who rejected him
and for the perfecting of those who received him;
who loved all people and prayed for them,
even if they denied and rejected him;
who hated sin because he knew the cost
of pride and selfishness, of cruelty and hatred,
both to people and to God.
**May we ever be grateful for Jesus the Christ
and what he has done for us.**

Let us remember Jesus,
who humbled himself, obedient unto the cross.
God has exalted him who has redeemed us
from the bondage of sin and given us new freedom.
**May we ever be grateful for Jesus the Christ
and what he has done for us and continues to do for us.**

[Silence of remembrance]

CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

O crucified Jesus, Son of the Father,
conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, eternal Word of God,
we worship you.

O crucified Jesus, holy temple of God,
dwelling place of the Most High,
gate of heaven, burning flame of love,
we worship you.

O crucified Jesus, sanctuary of justice and love,
full of kindness, source of all faithfulness,
we worship you.

O crucified Jesus, ruler of every heart,
in you are the treasures of wisdom and knowledge,
in you dwells all the fullness of the Godhead,
we worship you.

Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us peace.

[a moment of silent reflection]

CONFESSONAL PRAYER

Almighty God, look with mercy on your family
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 a cross;
through him who now lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.
Amen.

NOTHING BUT THE BLOOD

Words and Music by Robert Lowry

What can wash away my sin?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
What can make me whole again?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Oh! Precious is the flow
That makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

For my cleansing, this I see,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
For my pardon this my plea,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Oh! Precious is the flow
That makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Nothing can for sin atone,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
Naught of good that I have done,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Oh! Precious is the flow
That makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

This is all my hope and peace,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
This is all my righteousness,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Oh! Precious is the flow
That makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

LAMENT

Jesus expressed his own lament on the cross with the words of Psalm 22:1. The Psalms also provide us a wide scope of emotions, but also words to accommodate those emotions. These words help us to express honest lament, as well as trust and hope. The following rendering of Psalm 22 helps us to remember Jesus' lament, to express our own experiences of pain, to sense Jesus' identification with us in our suffering, and to conclude by offering words of trust and praise.

We hear Jesus say:

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

And we too at times pray:

**"Why are you so far from helping me,
from the words of my groaning?"**

O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;
and by night, but find no rest.

Yet you are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.

In you our ancestors trusted;
they trusted, and you delivered them.

To you they cried and were saved;
in you they trusted and were not put to shame."

We hear the words of the ancient psalm even as we see
Jesus:

"But I am a worm and not human;
scorned by others, and despised by the people.

All who see me mock at me;
they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;

'Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver—
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!'"

And we too pray:

"Yet it was you who took me from the womb;
you kept me safe on my mother's breast.

On you I was cast from my birth,
and since my mother bore me you have been my God.

Do not be far from me,
for trouble is near and there is no one to help."

[Silent reflection or individual laments]

Remembering Jesus, we make bold
even in our lament to offer words of trust and praise:

"I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:

You who fear the LORD, praise him!

All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

For he did not despise or abhor
the affliction of the afflicted;
he did not hide his face from me,
but heard when I cried to him.
From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the LORD.
May your hearts live forever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the LORD;
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before him.

For dominion belongs to the LORD,
and he rules over the nations.

To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
and I shall live for him.

Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the Lord,
and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that he has done it."

Let us worship the Lord in song

HIS MERCY IS MORE

What love could remember no wrongs we have done
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

What patience would wait as we constantly roam
What Father, so tender, is calling us home

He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

What riches of kindness He lavished on us
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

PROCLAIMING THE WORD – JOHN EISELT

John 19:16-30

The Crucifixion of Jesus

^{16b} So the soldiers took charge of Jesus. ¹⁷ Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). ¹⁸ There they crucified him, and with him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle.

¹⁹ Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. ²⁰ Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was

crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek. ²¹ The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate, "Do not write 'The King of the Jews,' but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews."

²² Pilate answered, "What I have written, I have written."

²³ When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom.

²⁴ "Let's not tear it," they said to one another. "Let's decide by lot who will get it."

This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled that said,

"They divided my clothes among them
and cast lots for my garment."
So this is what the soldiers did.

²⁵ Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, "Woman, here is your son," ²⁷ and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

The Death of Jesus

²⁸ Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." ²⁹ A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. ³⁰ When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.