



**Good Friday**

**April 10, 2020**

*We glory in your cross, O Lord,  
and we praise your holy resurrection,  
for by your cross joy has come into the world.*

### GATHERING

#### **Welcome and Worship Announcements**

#### **Call To Worship (Isaiah 53)**

He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground.

**He was despised and rejected by others; he was a man of suffering acquainted with infirmity.**

He was a man of sorrows, familiar with suffering.

**He was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.**

We all, like sheep, have gone astray.

**We have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.**

Life and death stand side by side as we enter into Good Friday.

**Jesus reveals the power and glory of God, even as he is put on trial and sentenced to death.**

Standing with the disciples at the foot of the cross, we pray for the whole world.

**Christ's death gives life to all.**

We gather in solemn devotion,

**But always with the promise that the cross around which we gather is indeed a tree of life.**

#### **Words of Consolation (Hebrews 10)**

We have, then, my friends, complete freedom to go into the Most Holy Place by means of the death of Jesus. <sup>20</sup>He opened for us a new way, a living way, through the curtain—that is, through his own body. <sup>21</sup>We have a great priest in charge of the house of God. <sup>22</sup>So let us come near to God with a sincere heart and a sure faith, with hearts that have been purified from a guilty conscience and with bodies washed with clean water. <sup>23</sup>Let us hold on firmly to the hope we profess, because we can trust God to keep his promise. <sup>24</sup>Let us be concerned for one another, to help one another to show love and to do good. <sup>25</sup>Let us not give up the habit of meeting together, as some are doing. Instead, let us encourage one another all the more, since you see that the Day of the Lord is coming nearer.

## **Prayer**

Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, 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, forever and ever.

**Amen**

## **Lord's Prayer**

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 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.

## **Hymn: "Were you there?"**

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

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
Oh sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble  
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?  
Oh sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble  
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?  
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?  
Oh sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble  
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

## **THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST**

*A service of Tenebrae*

*Tenebrae is a Latin word that means "darkness" or "shadows." Light 8 candles. Read each of the Seven Last Words and pray after each reading. Extinguish one candle after each of the seven readings about our Lord's passion and death. Finally, only a single candle, considered a symbol of our Lord, remains. Alternatively, light just one candle, extinguishing it at the end of all seven readings. As it gets darker and darker we can reflect on the great emotional and physical pain that was very real for Jesus that day.*

The First Word .....Luke 23:33-38

*"Father forgive them, they know not what they do."*

33 When they came to the place called "The Skull," they crucified Jesus there, and the two criminals, one on his right and the other on his left. 34 Jesus said, "Forgive them, Father! They don't know what they are doing." They divided his clothes among themselves by throwing dice. 35 The people stood there watching while the Jewish leaders made fun of him: "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah whom God has chosen!" 36 The soldiers also made fun of him: they came up to him and offered him cheap wine, 37 and said, "Save yourself if you are the king of the Jews!" 38 Above him were written these words: "This is the King of the Jews."

### **Prayer**

Almighty God, our redeemer,

In our weakness we have failed to be your messengers of forgiveness and hope in the world. Renew us by your Holy Spirit that we may follow your commands and proclaim your reign of love. Amen.

*the first candle is extinguished.*

The Second Word.....Luke 23:39-43

*"Today you will be with me in paradise"*

<sup>39</sup> One of the criminals hanging there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" <sup>40</sup> The other one, however, rebuked him, saying, "Don't you fear God? You received the same sentence he did. <sup>41</sup> Ours, however, is only right, because we are getting what we deserve for what we did; but he has done no wrong." <sup>42</sup> And he said to Jesus, "Remember me, Jesus, when you come as King!" <sup>43</sup> Jesus said to him, "I promise you that today you will be in Paradise with me."

### **Prayer**

Lord Jesus,

You have called us to follow you. Grant that our love may not grow cold in your service and that we may not fail or deny you in the hour of trial. Amen.

*The second candle is extinguished.*

The Third Word .....John 19:25-27

*"Woman, behold your son... behold your mother."*

25 Standing close to Jesus' cross were his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. 26 Jesus saw his mother and the disciple he loved standing there; so he said to his mother, "He is your son." 27 Then he said to the disciple, "She is your mother." From that time the disciple took her to live in his home.

**Prayer**

Father of our Lord, Jesus Christ:

You have sent your son to show us your love and the way of life. Make us sincerely thankful for this gift and for your patience with our sins and sorrow. Amen

*The third candle is extinguished.*

The Fourth Word..... Matthew 27:45-49

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

45 At noon the whole country was covered with darkness, which lasted for three hours. 46 At about three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud shout, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why did you abandon me?" 47 Some of the people standing there heard him and said, "He is calling for Elijah!" 48 One of them ran up at once, took a sponge, soaked it in cheap wine, put it on the end of a stick, and tried to make him drink it. 49 But the others said, "Wait, let us see if Elijah is coming to save him!"

**Prayer**

Lord God, our strength,

The battle of good and evil rages within and around us, and our ancient foe tempts us with deceits and empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word and, when we fall, raise us again and restore us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The fourth candle is extinguished.*

The Fifth Word .....John 19:28-29

*"I thirst"*

28 Jesus knew that by now everything had been completed; and in order to make the scripture come true, he said, "I am thirsty." 29 A bowl was there, full of cheap wine; so a sponge was soaked in the wine, put on a stalk of hyssop, and lifted up to his lips.

**Prayer**

Merciful Lord,

You sent your son to be our peace. Help all who suffer pain or grief to find in him strength and peace, so that their trust in your promises may be renewed. Amen.

*The fifth candle is extinguished.*

The Sixth Word.....John 19:30

*"It is finished"*

30 Jesus drank the wine and said, "It is finished!" Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

**Prayer**

O God,

Your son chose the path which led to pain before joy and the cross before glory. Plant his cross in our hearts, so that in its power and love we come to the final joy and glory. Amen.

*The sixth candle is extinguished.*

The Seventh Word .....Luke 23:44-49

*"Into thy hands, I commit my spirit."*

44-45 It was about twelve o'clock when the sun stopped shining and darkness covered the whole country until three o'clock; and the curtain hanging in the Temple was torn in two. 46 Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Father! In your hands I place my spirit!" He said this and died. 47 The army officer saw what had happened, and he praised God, saying, "Certainly he was a good man!" 48 When the people who had gathered there to watch the spectacle saw what happened, they all went back home, beating their breasts in sorrow. 49 All those who knew Jesus personally, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance to watch.

**Prayer**

Lord Jesus,

You carried our sins in your own body on the tree so that we might have life. May we and all who remember this day find new life in you now and in the world to come, where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

*The seventh candle is extinguished.*

*Pray aloud together:*

We glory in your cross, O Lord,  
and we praise your holy resurrection,  
for by your cross joy has come into the world.

    May God be merciful and bless us;  
    may the light of God's face shine upon us.  
    Let your way be known upon earth,  
    your saving health among all nations.

We glory in your cross, O Lord,  
and we praise your holy resurrection,  
for by your cross joy has come into the world.

    Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
    let all the peoples praise you.  
    May God give us blessing,  
    and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

We glory in your cross, O Lord,  
and we praise your holy resurrection,  
for by your cross joy has come into the world.  
Amen and Amen.