

Good Friday

Church of the Ascension

April 10, 2020 NOON & 7:00pm
www.churchofascension.org 727-447-3469

Tolling of the Bell

The ministers enter in silence.

All then kneel for silent prayer.

Liturgy of the Word

Celebrant: Blessed be our God,

People: For ever and ever. Amen.

Celebrant: Let us pray:

Celebrant and People

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lessons

First Lesson: Isaiah 52:13—53:12

See, my servant shall prosper;

he shall be exalted and lifted up,
and shall be very high.

Just as there were many who were astonished at him

—so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance,
and his form beyond that of mortals—

so he shall startle many nations;

kings shall shut their mouths because of him;

for that which had not been told them they shall see,

and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.

Who has believed what we have heard?

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,
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.
He was despised and rejected by others;
a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity;
and as one from whom others hide their faces
he was despised, and we held him of no account.

Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted 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 bruises we are healed.
All we 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.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.
By a perversion of justice he was taken away.
Who could have imagined his future?
For he was cut off from the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people.
They made his grave with the wicked
and his tomb with the rich,
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 with pain.
When you make his life an offering for sin,

he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;
through him the will of the Lord shall prosper.

Out of his anguish he shall see light;
he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.

The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.

Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;
because he poured out himself to death,
and was numbered with the transgressors;
yet he bore the sin of many,
and made intercession for the transgressors.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22:1-11 **Old Testament**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**8 'Commit your cause to the Lord; let him deliver—
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!'**

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

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

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

Reader and People:

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Second Lesson: Hebrews 10:1-25 *New Testament*

Since the law has only a shadow of the good things to come and not the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered year after year, make perfect those who approach. Otherwise, would they not have ceased being offered, since the worshippers, cleansed once for all, would no longer have any consciousness of sin? But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sin year after year. For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

‘Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;
in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, “See, God, I have come to do your will, O God”
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me).’

When he said above, ‘You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings’ (these are offered according to the law), then he added, ‘See, I have come to do your will.’ He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God’s will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

And every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, ‘he sat down at the right hand of God’, and since then has been waiting ‘until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet.’ For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying,

‘This is the covenant that I will make with them

after those days, says the Lord:

I will put my laws in their hearts,

and I will write them on their minds’,

he also adds,

‘I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.’

Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

***People:* Thanks be to God.**

Reading from the Gospel: Luke 23:13-23 *New Testament*

Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, and said to them, ‘You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. I will therefore have him flogged and release him.’

Then they all shouted out together, ‘Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!’ (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; but they kept shouting, ‘Crucify, crucify him!’ A third time he said to them, ‘Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him.’ But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed.

Hymn 168 vs 1-3 O sacred head, sore wounded

1 O sa - cred head, sore wound - ed, de - filed and put to scorn;
 2 Thy beau - ty, long - de - sir - ed, hath va - nished from our sight;
 3 In thy most bit - ter pas - sion my heart to share doth cry,
 *4 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
 *5 My days are few, O fail not, with thine im - mor - tal power,

1 O king - ly head, sur - round - ed with mock - ing crown of thorn:
 2 thy power is all ex - pir - ed, and quenched the light of light.
 3 with thee for my sal - va - tion up - on the cross to die.
 4 for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pi - ty with - out end?
 5 to hold me that I quail not in death's most fear - ful hour;

1 what sor - row mars thy gran - deur? Can death thy bloom de - flower?
 2 Ah me! for whom thou di - est, hide not so far thy grace:
 3 Ah, keep my heart thus mov - ed to stand thy cross be - neath,
 4 Oh, make me thine for ev - er! and should I faint - ing be,
 5 that I may fight be - friend - ed, and see in my last strife

1 O coun - te - nance whose splen - dor the hosts of heaven a - dore!
 2 show me, O Love most high - est, the bright - ness of thy face.
 3 to mourn thee, well - be - lov - ed, yet thank thee for thy death.
 4 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er, out - live my love for thee.
 5 to me thine arms ex - tend - ed up - on the cross of life.

The Meditations

Mark 15:33-36 *New Testament*

When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, 'Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?' which means, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, 'Listen, he is calling for Elijah.' And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, 'Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.'

Meditation: The Rev. Dr. Doris Buchanan Johnson

“FEAR: My God, My God, Why Have You Forsaken Me”

Silence (two minutes)

Prayers

Give to your Church grace to enter deeply into the sad mystery of this day. As we stand before the Cross of Jesus Christ, help us take up his Cross daily as the sign of our faith.

Lord, in your mercy, hear us.

As Jesus stretched out his arms of love on the hard wood of the cross so that everyone might come within the reach of his saving embrace, help us reach out in love and concern for one another.

Lord, in your mercy, hear us.

John 19:28-29 *New Testament*

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), 'I am thirsty.' A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth.

Meditation: The Rev. Leo Crawford “STRUGGLE: I am Thirsty”

Silence (two minutes)

Prayers

Your Son watched the soldiers gamble to share his clothes. Look with forgiveness on those whose hearts are hardened by their work, and those who know not what they do.

Lord, in your mercy, hear us.

Look with compassion on all who are bruised and smitten by suffering. In the sufferings of Christ, let them find healing.

Lord, in your mercy, hear us.

Luke 23:44-53 **New Testament**

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.' Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, 'Certainly this man was innocent.' And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid.

Meditation: The Rev. Dr. Randall Hehr

“HOPE: Into Your Hands”

Silence (two minutes)

Prayers

Have mercy on a world that goes its way ignorant or forgetful of Christ's sacrificial love. In the power of the Cross, let his true kingship be established.

Lord, in your mercy, hear us.

Joseph of Arimathea came to take your Son's body away. Give hope and faith to the dying and bereaved, gentleness to those who minister to them, and courage to those whose faith is secret.

Lord, in your mercy, hear us.

Hymn 707

Take my life and let it be

1 Take my life, and let it be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
2 Take my voice, and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;

take my mo - ments and my days, let them flow in cease - less praise.
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - ery power as thou shalt choose.

Take my hands, and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no long - er mine.

take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy roy - al throne.
Take my - self, and I will be ev - er, on - ly, all for thee.

Words: Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879), alt.
Music: Hollingside, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876)

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Solemn Collects

Leader: Dear People of God: Our heavenly Father sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved; that all who believe in him might be delivered from the power of sin and death, and become heirs with him of everlasting life.

We pray, therefore, for people everywhere according to their needs.

Let us pray for the holy Catholic Church of Christ throughout the world;
For its unity in witness and service For all bishops and other ministers
and the people whom they serve

For Dabney, our Bishop, and all the people of this diocese

For all Christians in this community

That God will confirm his Church in faith, increase it in love, and preserve it in peace.

Silence

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Let us pray for all nations and peoples of the earth, and for those in authority among them;

For Donald, the President of the United States

For the Congress and the Supreme Court

For the Members and Representatives of the United Nations For all who serve the common good

That by God's help they may seek justice and truth, and live in peace and concord.

Silence

Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth; that in tranquillity your dominion may increase, until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for all who suffer and are afflicted in body or in mind;
For the hungry and the homeless, the destitute and the oppressed
For the sick, the wounded, and the crippled
For those in loneliness, fear, and anguish
For those who face temptation, doubt, and despair For the sorrowful
and bereaved
For prisoners and captives, and those in mortal danger
That God in his mercy will comfort and relieve them, and grant them the
knowledge of his love, and stir up in us the will and patience to minister to
their needs.

Silence

Gracious God, the comfort of all who sorrow, the strength of all who suffer:
Let the cry of those in misery and need come to you, that they may find your
mercy present with them in all their afflictions; and give us, we pray, the
strength to serve them for the sake of him who suffered for us, your Son
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for all who have not received the Gospel of Christ;
For those who have never heard the word of salvation For those who
have lost their faith
For those hardened by sin or indifference
For the contemptuous and the scornful
For those who are enemies of the cross of Christ and persecutors of his
disciples
For those who in the name of Christ have persecuted others
That God will open their hearts to the truth, and lead them to faith and
obedience.

Silence

Merciful God, creator of all the peoples of the earth and lover of souls: Have
compassion on all who do not know you as you are revealed in your Son
Jesus Christ; let your Gospel be preached with grace and power to those who
have not heard it; turn the hearts of those who resist it; and bring home to
your fold those who have gone astray; that there may be one flock under one
shepherd, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us commit ourselves to our God, and pray for the grace of a holy life, that, with all who have departed this world and have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to God alone, we may be accounted worthy to enter into the fullness of the joy of our Lord, and receive the crown of life in the day of resurrection.

Silence

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquillity the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Anthem 1

We glory in your cross, O Lord,

People: And praise and glorify your holy resurrection; for by virtue of your cross joy has come to the whole world.

May God be merciful to us and bless us,
show us the light of his countenance, and come to us.

People: Let your ways be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

People: We glory in your cross, O Lord, and praise and glorify your holy resurrection; for by virtue of your cross joy has come to the whole world.

Anthem 2

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,

People: because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

If we have died with him, we shall also live with him; if we endure, we shall also reign with him.

***People: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,
because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.***

Anthem 3

O Savior of the world,
who by thy cross and precious blood hast redeemed us:

People: Save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant and People:

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Concluding Collect

Celebrant and People:

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, we pray you to set your passion, cross, and death between your judgment and our souls, now and in the hour of our death. Give mercy and grace to the living; pardon and rest to the dead; to your holy Church peace and concord; and to us sinners everlasting life and glory; for with the Father and Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

All kneel and pray at the altar while singing:

Hymn 172

Were you there

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you
 * 3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side? Were you
 4 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you

there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Oh! _____
 there when they nailed him to the tree? Oh! _____
 there when they pierced him in the side? Oh! _____
 there when they laid him in the tomb? Oh! _____

Some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,
 Some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,
 Some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,
 Some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,

trem-ble. Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 trem-ble. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 trem-ble. Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 trem-ble. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Words: Afro-American spiritual

Music: *Were You There*, Afro-American spiritual; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944)

Tr.

Tolling of the Bell

All depart in silence, to meditate on what Jesus has done for us.

The church will be open this afternoon for silent meditation and prayers.