

Good Friday



Sixth Presbyterian Church

April 15, 2022—12:00 pm

Good Friday
April 15, 2022, Noon

Prelude "Herzlich tut mich verlangen, op. 122/10" Johannes Brahms
"John 19:41" Andrew Lloyd Webber

Opening Statement

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 the world, as he reaches out with compassion from the cross.

Call to Worship

Isaiah 53:4, Philippians 2:8

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

Blessed be the name of the Lord our God, who redeems us from sin and death.

For us and for our salvation, Christ became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

Blessed be the name of the Lord.

Hymn "Go to Dark Gethsemane" 220, vs. 1-3

Prayer of Day

Gospel Reading

Matthew 26:36-39 (pg. 37)

Meditation

"When God Says No"

Rev. Vincent Kolb

The Solemn Intercession

Leader: Let us pray for the one holy catholic and apostolic church of Christ throughout the world: for its unity in witness and service, for all church leaders and ministers and the people whom they serve, for all the people of this Pittsburgh Presbytery, for all Christians in this community, that God will confirm the church in faith, increase it in love, and preserve it in peace.

All: Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Leader: For all nations and peoples of the earth, and for those in authority among them: for Joe Biden, the President of the United States, and the Congress and 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.

All: Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Leader: We pray for all who suffer and are afflicted in body, mind, or spirit: for the hungry and homeless, the destitute and the oppressed, and all who suffer persecution, doubt, and despair, for the sorrowful and bereaved, for prisoners and captives and those in mortal

220 Go to Dark Gethsemane

1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, all who feel the
 2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall; view the Lord of
 3 Cal - vary's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; there, a - dor - ing
 4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his

tempt - er's power; your Re - deem - er's con - flict see;
 life ar - raigned; O the worm - wood and the gall!
 at his feet, mark that mir - a - cle of time,
 breath - less clay: all is sol - i - tude and gloom.

watch with him one bit - ter hour; turn not from his
 O the pangs his soul sus - tained! Shun not suf - fering,
 God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete; "It is fin - ished!"
 Who has tak - en him a - way? Christ is risen! He

griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
 shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.
 hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.
 meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

The composer intended this tune for "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me" (no. 438), but its solemn tone and small range make it an effective setting for this series of somber vignettes portraying what Christians can learn from Christ: to pray, to bear the cross, to die, and to rise.

danger, that God will comfort and relieve them, and grant them the knowledge of God's love, and stir up in us the will and patience to minister to their needs.

All: Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Leader: Let us pray for all who have not received the gospel of Christ: or all who have lost their faith, for all whose sin has made them indifferent to Christ, for all who actively oppose Christ by word or deed, for all who are enemies of the cross of Christ, and persecutors of his disciples, for all 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.

All: Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Leader: Let us commit ourselves to God, and pray for the grace of a holy life, that with all who have departed this life 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.

All: Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Leader: Eternal God, bring to completion your saving work, so that the whole world may see the fallen lifted up, the old made new, and all things brought to perfection by him through whom all things were made, our Lord Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray saying...

**All: 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;
do not let us fall into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power
and the glory forever. Amen.**

Solemn Reproaches of the Cross

Leader: O my people, O my church, what have I done to you, or in what have I offended you? Answer me. I led you forth from the land of Egypt and delivered you by the waters of baptism, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: I led you through the desert forty years and fed you with manna: I brought you through tribulation and penitence, and gave you my body, the bread of heaven, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: What more could I have done for you that I have not done? I planted you, my chosen and fairest vineyard, I made you the branches of my vine; but when I was thirsty, you gave me vinegar to drink and pierced with a spear the side of your Savior, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: I went before you in a pillar of cloud, and you have led me to the judgment hall of Pilate. I scourged your enemies and brought you to a land of freedom, but you have scourged, mocked, and beaten me. I gave you the water of salvation from the rock, but you have given me gall and left me to thirst, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: I gave you a royal scepter, and bestowed the keys to the kingdom, but you have given me a crown of thorns. I raised you on high with great power, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: My peace I gave, which the world cannot give, and washed your feet as a sign of my love, but you draw the sword to strike in my name and seek high places in my kingdom. I offered you my body and blood, but you scatter and deny and abandon me, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: I sent the Spirit of truth to guide you, and you close your hearts to the Counselor. I pray that all may be one in the Father and me, but you continue to quarrel and divide. I call you to go and bring forth fruit, but you cast lots for my clothing, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: I grafted you into the tree of my chosen Israel, and you turned on them with persecution and mass murder. I made you joint heirs with them of my covenants but you made them scapegoats for your own guilt, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: I came to you as the least of your brothers and sisters; I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was 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 prepared a cross for your Savior.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Hymn

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

221

Silence

Chiming of the Hour

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded 221



1 O sa - cred head, now wound-ed, with grief and shame weighed down;
 2 What thou, my Lord, hast suf - fered was all for sin - ners' gain:
 3 What lan-guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear-est friend,



now scorn-ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
 mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.
 for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?



O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
 Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior! 'Tis I de - serve thy place;
 O make me thine for - ev - er; and should I faint - ing be,



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
 look on me with thy fa - vor, and grant to me thy grace.
 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.



This poignant hymn originated in a series of Holy Week meditations focused on the parts of Christ's crucified body: feet, knees, hands, side, breast, heart, face. First joined to secular words, this chorale melody has appeared with this text since the mid-17th century.