

Good Friday Morning Service

9:30AM, 15 April 2022

GREETING

Prophet Isaiah speaks in Isaiah 53:4-6,

Yet it was our weaknesses he carried;
it was our sorrows that weighed him down.

And we thought
his troubles were a punishment from God,
a punishment for his own sins!

But he was pierced for our rebellion,
crushed for our sins.

He was beaten so we could be whole.

He was whipped so we could be healed.

All of us, like sheep, have strayed away.

We have left God's paths to follow our own.

Yet the Lord laid on him
the sins of us all.

The minister welcomes all members and guests.

CALL TO WORSHIP AND OPENING PRAYER

We gather this morning before the cross
in sorrow and in shame.

We look for forgiveness, strength and mercy –
though we know we deserve none.

We gather to remember
how it was the day that our Saviour died
to remember, to mourn, and to try
to understand what happened that day,

the day that Jesus showed
the depth of his love for us
by suffering and dying
in our place.

Let us pray:

Heavenly Father,
our hearts are heavy
as we gather in the name of our crucified Lord.
He died for our sins.

We watch with horror
as we see him hanging on the cross
He died for our sins.

We see the evil in the world around him.
He died for our sins.

We, too, Father, have denied our Lord.
He died for our sins.

We, too, have betrayed our Lord.
He died for our sins.
Forgive us, Lord,
and love us still. Amen.

HYMN Jesus, remember me (TIS 730)

Jesus remember me
when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus remember me
when you come into your kingdom.

The Gospel of John 19:17-30

The Crucifixion of Jesus

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.

Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

HYMN O sacred head sore wounded (TIS 339)

O sacred head sore wounded,
with grief and shame weighed down;
O kingly head surrounded
with thorns your only crown.
Death’s shadows rise before you,
the glow of life decays;
yet hosts of heaven adore you
and tremble as they gaze.

What language shall I borrow
to praise you, heavenly friend,
for this your dying sorrow,
your mercy without end?
Such agony and dying!
Such love to sinners free!
O Christ, all grace supplying,
turn now your face on me.

In this your bitter Passion,
 good Shepherd, think of me
 look on me with compassion,
 unworthy though I be:
 beneath your cross abiding
 for ever would I rest,
 in your dear love confiding,
 and with your presence blest.

Lord, be my consolation,
 my shield when death is near;
 remind me of your Passion,
 be with me when I fear.
 My eyes shall then behold you,
 upon your cross shall dwell,
 my heart by faith enfold you;
 and who dies thus, dies well.

DEVOTIONS AT THE CROSS

Minister: Behold the cross
 on which was hung
 the salvation of the world.

**All: Come, let us worship
 and bow down.**

A brief silence is observed.

1.
 Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by?
 Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow
 which is brought upon me.

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy and Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

2.

O my people, O my Church,
 what have I done to you,
 or in what have I offended you?
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 Saviour.

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy and Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

3.

I led you through the desert for forty years
 and fed you with manna;
I brought you through times
 of persecution and renewal
and gave you my body, the bread of heaven;
but you have prepared a cross
 for your Saviour.

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy and Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

4.

I made you branches of my vineyard
and gave you the water of salvation,
but when I was thirsty
 you gave me vinegar and gall
and pierced with a spear
 the side of your Saviour.

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy and Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

5.

I went before you in a pillar of cloud,
but you have led me to the judgment hall of Pilate.
I brought you to a land of freedom
 and prosperity,
but you have scourged, mocked
 and beaten me.

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy and Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

6.

I gave you a royal sceptre,
 and bestowed the keys of the kingdom,
but you have given me a crown of thorns.
I raised you on high with great power,
but you have hanged me on the cross.

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy and Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

7.
My peace I gave,
 which the world cannot give,
and washed your feet as a servant,
but you draw the sword to strike in my name
and seek high places in my kingdom.

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy and Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

8.
I accepted the cup of suffering and death for your sakes,
but you scatter and deny and abandon me.
I sent the Spirit of truth to guide you,
but you close your hearts to guidance.

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy and Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

9.
I call you to go out and bear fruit,
but you cast lots for my clothing.
I prayed that all may be one,
but you continue to quarrel and divide.

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy and Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

10.

I grafted you onto the tree
 of my chosen people Israel,
but 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.

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy and Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

11.

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.

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy and Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

A brief silence follows.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Jenny Keast

Our dear Heavenly Father,

As we come before you on this day, Good Friday, we not only remember the tragedy of Jesus' death on the cross but also the many tragic circumstances for so many in our world today.

We feel helpless in Australia to assist the brave citizens of Ukraine in their fight to save their independence and freedom. We honour the bravery of so many who are willing to sacrifice their lives to defend their homeland. We pray for shelter for the millions of fleeing Ukrainians who have no idea what the future holds for them or their families. We pray for an end to this senseless invasion.

In our own land, we know many have endured a second round of flooding and the devastating aftermath of the clean-up. We pray for the spirit of determination to get through this yet again and we are thankful for the willingness of others to lend assistance. Help individuals and governments to make wise decisions about future planning that might avoid this terrible decimation again.

We pray for the ability to live a life that involves COVID and its impacts. We continue to be guided to make safe and sensible decisions for ourselves and others.

We pray for safety for all those travelling and being reunited with loved ones.

Remind us that this day is significant for all of mankind and may we reflect on its significance in our troubled world.

**Lord, hear our prayers,
in Jesus Name.**

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,

我們在天上的父，
願人都尊祢的名為聖，
하늘에 계신 우리 아버지，
아버지의 이름을 거룩하게 하시며，

your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

願祢的國降臨，
願祢的旨意行在地上，
如同行在天上。
아버지의 나라가 오게 하시며，
아버지의 뜻이 하늘에서와 같이
땅에서도 이루어지게 하소서.

Give us today our daily bread.

我們日用的飲食 今日賜給我們，
오늘 우리에게 일용할 양식을 주시고，

Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.

免我們的債

如同我們免了人的債

우리가 우리에게 잘못한 사람을

용서하여 준 것같이 우리 죄를 용서하여 주시고,

Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.

不叫我們遇見試探，

救我們脫離兇惡，

우리를 시험에 빠지지 않게 하시고

악에서 구하소서.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours now and for ever.

因為國度，權柄，榮耀，

全是祢的，直到永遠。

나라와 권능과 영광이

영원히 아버지의 것입니다.

Amen.

HYMN

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood,
from thy wounded side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure;
save from wrath and make me pure.

Not the labors of my hands
 can fulfill thy law's demands;
 could my zeal no respite know,
 could my tears forever flow,
 all for sin could not atone;
 thou must save, and thou alone.

While I draw this fleeting breath,
 when mine eyes shall close in death,
 when I soar to worlds unknown,
 see thee on thy judgment throne,
 Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
 let me hide myself in thee.

United Methodist Hymnal, 1989

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Let us pray:

**All: Lord Jesus Christ,
 the story of your suffering
 is written on our hearts,
 and the salvation of the world
 is in your outstretched hands.
 Keep your victory always
 before our eyes,
 your praise on our lips,
 your peace in our lives.
 Amen.**

Minister: May you find in the cross
 a sure ground for faith,
 a firm support for hope,
 and the assurance of sins forgiven. **Amen.**

DEPARTING PRAYER (unison)

Lord, as we depart this morning
help us reflect in our hearts upon who you are
and what you have done for us.

Help us to understand – and understanding,
to accept your love and your forgiveness.

**All: Make us a people
who have your faith and your courage
during the time of darkness,
a people who, like you,
walk in humble obedience
to the Father's will.
Amen.**

All depart in silence.