

Good Friday: the Way of the Cross

April 10, 2020 ✝ Mount Olive Lutheran Church



Focus on the Season: Good Friday, the Way of the Cross

The devotion known as the Way of the Cross is an adaptation to local usage of a custom widely observed by pilgrims to Jerusalem: the offering of prayer at a series of places in that city traditionally associated with our Lord's passion and death. It would be appropriate to gather today at noon, the hour of our Lord Jesus' crucifixion, and walk with him to his cross and burial.

Keep this document open on the screen, to aid in your worship today. The links are embedded in this pdf, so you don't have to return to the email. However, you can also print these pages and use the links in the email. Each station has its own link, plus the opening and closing are on their own links. Click on the boxed title each time to listen to each station prayed and sung last year, Good Friday, April 19, 2019.

The recording of the entire liturgy is provided for your worship in the home today. Participate as you wish, or listen and pray, whichever seems best.



Centering and Gathering

Light your candle.

OPENING DEVOTIONS – *Click this headline to listen*

- In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen

TRISAGION

The image shows musical notation for the Trisagion. It consists of two staves of music. The first staff is labeled 'Leader' and the second is labeled 'All'. The lyrics are: 'Ho - - - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us.'

PRAYERS

- Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

- Ⓐ Worthy is the Lamb that was slain
- ⓐ to receive honor and glory and blessing. (Revelation 5:12)
- Ⓐ Let us pray. All-loving and eternal God, in Christ you came to us to teach and embody your love for all humanity and the whole creation. On this day your Love goes to the cross and to death for our life. Open our hearts to see Christ's willing sacrifice and be transformed by your self-giving love, that our lives might praise you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- ⓐ Amen

I

+ Jesus is condemned to death +

- Ⓐ Jesus is condemned to death. *(brief silence)*
- Ⓐ Christ has humbled himself and become obedient unto death, *(bow the head)*
- ⓐ even death on the cross. (Philippians 2:8)

READING

(Mark 15:1, 14:64b; John 19:13, 16)

- Ⓐ As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes, and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away and handed him over to Pilate. And they all condemned him as deserving death. When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called the Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew, *Gabbatha*. Then he handed Jesus over to them to be crucified.
- Ⓐ For this I was born, and for this I came into the world,
- ⓐ to testify to the truth. (John 18:37)

PRAYER

- Ⓐ Let us pray. *(brief silence)*
- O God of truth, your thoughts are not our thoughts, your ways are not our ways. So teach us to trust in you, that, like Christ Jesus, who humbled himself for the life of the world, our lives may also testify to your truth, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord

ⓐ Amen

TRISAGION

Leader: Ho - - - ly God,

All: Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us.

MUSICAL MEDITATION

HYMN: ELW 349: "Ah, Holy Jesus" – stanza 1

- ☐ Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended
that we to judge thee have in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,
O most afflicted.

II

+ Jesus takes up his Cross +

- ☐ Jesus takes up his Cross. (*brief silence*)
- ☐ Christ has humbled himself and become obedient unto death, (*bow the head*)
- ☑ even death on the cross. (Philippians 2:8)

READING (John 19:17; Hebrews 5:8; Isaiah 53:7b; Revelation 5:12)

- ☐ Jesus went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the Place of a Skull, which in Hebrew, is called *Golgotha*. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. 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. Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing.
- ☐ The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance:
- ☑ Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. (1 Timothy 1:15)

PRAYER

- ☐ Let us pray. (*brief silence*)

Merciful God, in Christ you set aside your power and took up the cross to show us the power of your love. Give us courage to take up our cross and follow your Christ; and grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

- ☑ Amen

TRISAGION

Leader: Ho - - - ly God, All: Ho - ly and Might - y,
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us.

MUSICAL MEDITATION

HYMN: ELW 667, "Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said" – stanzas 1 and 2

- ☐ "Take up your cross," the Savior said, "if you would my disciple be; Forsake the past, and come this day, and humbly follow after me."

Take up your cross; let not its weight pervade your soul with vain alarm;
his strength shall bear your spirit up, sustain your heart, and nerve your arm.

III

+ Jesus meets his afflicted mother +

- ☐ Jesus meets his afflicted mother. (*brief silence*)
- ☐ Christ has humbled himself and become obedient unto death, (*bow the head*)
- ☑ **even death on the cross.** (*Philippians 2:8*)

READING

(Lamentations 2:13; Matthew 5:4; Isaiah 60:20b)

- ☐ What can I say for you, to what can I compare you, O daughter of Jerusalem? To what can I liken you, that I may comfort you, O virgin daughter of Zion? For vast as the sea is your ruin. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. The Lord will be your everlasting light, and your days of mourning will be ended.
- ☐ This child is destined for the falling and rising of many,
- ☑ **and a sword will pierce your own soul also.** (*Luke 2:34-35*)

PRAYER

- ☐ Let us pray. (*brief silence*)

O God of consolation, Mary, the mother of Jesus, stood in loving sorrow and pain at the foot of his cross, faithful to the end, pondering these things in her heart. So shape us that we, with Mary, participate in your love for the world, and in compassion stand with all those in affliction and suffering, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

- ☑ **Amen**

TRISAGION

Leader: Ho - - - ly God, All: Ho - ly and Might - y,
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us.

MUSICAL MEDITATION

HYMN: From *Stabat Mater*, G. B. Pergolesi – sung by soloists Tricia Van Ee and KrisAnne Weiss

*There stood the Mother grieving, beside the cross weeping,
while on it hung her Son.*

IV

+ *The Cross is laid on Simon of Cyrene* +

- 📖 The Cross is laid on Simon of Cyrene. (*brief silence*)
- 📖 Christ has humbled himself and become obedient unto death, (*bow the head*)
- 📖 **even death on the cross.** (*Philippians 2:8*)

READING

(*Luke 23:26; Matthew 16:24, 11:29a, 30*)

- 📖 As they led Jesus away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. “If any want to be my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”
- 📖 Whoever serves me must follow me,
- 📖 **and where I am, there will my servant be also.** (*John 12:26*)

PRAYER

- 📖 Let us pray. (*brief silence*)

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be served but to serve: Bless all who, following in his steps, give themselves to the service of others. As Simon took on the burden of the cross for Jesus, give us the willingness to share the burdens of all who are heavy-laden and weary of heart, walking the stony road with them; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

- 📖 **Amen**

TRISAGION

Leader: Ho - - - ly God, All: Ho - ly and Might - y,
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us.

MUSICAL MEDITATION

HYMN: *ELW 347*, “Go to Dark Gethsemane” – stanza 3

- 📖 Calv’ry’s mournful mountain climb; there, adoring at his feet,
mark that miracle of time, God’s own sacrifice complete.
“It is finished!” hear him cry; learn from Jesus Christ to die.

V

+ Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem +

- ☐ Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem. *(brief silence)*
- ☐ Christ has humbled himself and become obedient unto death, *(bow the head)*
- ☑ **even death on the cross.** *(Philippians 2:8)*

READING

(Luke 23:27-28)

- ☐ A great number of people followed after Jesus, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.”
- ☐ Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction,
- ☑ **and the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life.** *(Matthew 7:13)*

PRAYER

- ☐ Let us pray. *(brief silence)*

God of grace, you do not leave your people comfortless. Give us courage to mourn and repent the sins of which we are guilty and hope to trust in your pardoning grace. When grief and powerlessness overwhelm, lead us into the way of newness and life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

- ☑ **Amen**

TRISAGION

Leader: Ho - - - ly God,

All: Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us.

MUSICAL MEDITATION

HYMN: From *Stabat Mater*, G. B. Pergolesi – sung by soloists

*Who would not weep to see the Mother of Christ in such great distress?
Who could not be saddened to behold the Mother of Christ suffering with her only Son?*

VI

+ Jesus is stripped of his garments +

- 📖 Jesus is stripped of his garments. *(brief silence)*
- 📖 Christ has humbled himself and become obedient unto death, *(bow the head)*
- 📖 even death on the cross. *(Philippians 2:8)*

READING

(Matthew 27:33-34, 35b; John 19:24b)

- 📖 When they came to the place called Golgotha, they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And they divided his clothes among them by casting lots. This was to fulfill what the scripture says, “They divided my clothes among themselves; for my clothing they cast lots.”
- 📖 Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts;
- 📖 no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff. *(Matthew 10:9-10)*

PRAYER

- 📖 Let us pray. *(brief silence)*

God of abundance, in Christ Jesus you released all and became empty for the sake of the world. So strengthen us in trust of your goodness and love, that, following the example of Christ, we may also release all our grasping and clinging to the things of this world; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

- 📖 Amen

TRISAGION

Leader

All

Ho - - - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us.

MUSICAL MEDITATION

HYMN: ELW 352, “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” – stanza 2

- 📖 How pale thou art with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn;
how does thy face now languish, which once was bright as morn?
Thy grief and bitter Passion were all for sinners’ gain;
mine, mine was the transgression, but thine the deadly pain.

VII

+ Jesus is nailed to the Cross +

☐ Jesus is nailed to the Cross. (*brief silence*)

☐ Christ has humbled himself and become obedient unto death, (*bow the head*)

☑ even death on the cross.

(*Philippians 2:8*)

READING

(*Luke 23:33; Mark 15:28*)

☐ At Golgotha, the Place of the Skull, they crucified Jesus, and with him they crucified two criminals, one on his right, the other on his left. And the scripture was fulfilled that said, “He was counted among the lawless.”

☐ I am the way, and the truth, and the life.

☑ No one comes to the Father except through me.

(*John 14:6*)

PRAYER

☐ Let us pray. (*brief silence*)

All-gracious God, in Christ you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace. So clothe us in your Spirit that we, opening wide our hands in love, may bear your encircling love to all people; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

☑ Amen

TRISAGION

Leader

All

Ho - - - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us.

MUSICAL MEDITATION

HYMN: *ELW 342*, “There In God’s Garden” – stanza 1

☑ There in God’s garden stands the Tree of Wisdom,
whose leaves hold forth the healing of the nations:
Tree of all knowledge, Tree of all compassion, Tree of all beauty.

VIII

+ Jesus dies on the Cross +

- ☐ Jesus dies on the Cross. *(brief silence)*
- ☐ Christ has humbled himself and become obedient unto death, *(bow the head)*
- ☑ even death on the cross. *(Philippians 2:8)*

READING

(John 19:26-27a, 30; Luke 23:46a; John 19:30b)

- ☐ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, “Woman, here is your son.” Then he said to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” After Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “It is finished!” Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.” Then he bowed his head, and gave up his spirit.
- ☐ I tell you the truth, unless a grain of wheat dies, it remains just a single grain;
- ☑ but if it dies, it bears much fruit. *(John 12:24)*

PRAYER

- ☐ Let us pray. *(brief silence)*

God of wisdom, who creates all things new, out from the tree of the cross a new vine grows forth, shading the faint and sheltering the fearful under the embracing arms of your loving Christ. Give us courage to daily commit our spirits into your loving care, that our hearts may ever sing in eternal gratitude; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstfruit of the dead.

- ☑ Amen

TRISAGION

Leader

All

Ho - - - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us.

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Silence is kept in lieu of a hymn stanza.

IX

+ Jesus is laid in the tomb +

☐ Jesus is laid in the tomb. *(brief silence)*

☐ Christ has humbled himself and become obedient unto death, *(bow the head)*

☑ even death on the cross.

(Philippians 2:8)

READING

(Luke 23:50a, 51b; Matthew 27:57c-60)

☐ When it was evening, there came a good and righteous man named Joseph, from the town of Arimathea, who also was a disciple of Jesus and was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus, and Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock; and he rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb.

☐ Blessed are the pure in heart,

☑ for they shall see God.

(Matthew 5:8)

PRAYER

☐ Let us pray. *(brief silence)*

God our Creator and giver of all good, into the arms of the dark and gentle earth the body of Jesus was laid. Grant us grace, that buried with him in the waters of baptism, we may trust the power of your Godly darkness in which our new life and the completion of all things is being woven together through your everpresent and undying love; in Jesus Christ our Lord.

☑ Amen

TRISAGION

Leader

All

Ho - - - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us.

MUSICAL MEDITATION

HYMN: From *Stabat Mater*, G. B. Pergolesi – sung by soloists

When my body perishes, grant that my soul be given the glory of Paradise.

CONCLUDING PRAYER – *Click this headline to listen*

🔊 Holy and Triune God, on the cross you have reconciled the world to yourself:

🔊 **Make in us your new creation, that we may bear your love as Christ.** (2 Corinthians 5)

🔊 Let us pray. (*brief silence*)

Blessed are you, all-merciful and holy God, who in the lifting up of your Son you draw all people to yourself. Grant that we who have been born out of his wounded side may at all times find mercy in you. So imprint our hearts and minds with the mind of Christ that we, like him, may become loving and merciful servants, for the sake of the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

🔊 **Amen**

🔊 To Christ our Lord who loves us, and stretched out his arms on the cross in order to embrace the world, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever.

🔊 **Amen**

All leave in silence.