

# Good Friday

March 29, 2024



*On this day the clergy enter in silence. All then kneel for silent prayer, after which the Celebrant stands and begins the liturgy with the Collect of the Day. Immediately before the Collect, the Celebrant says*

*People* Blessed be our God,  
**For ever and ever. Amen.**  
Let us pray.

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, 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.**

## ISAIAH 52:13-53:12

### PSALM 22

<sup>1</sup>My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? \*

**and are so far from my cry and from the words of my distress?**

<sup>2</sup>O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; \*

**by night as well, but I find no rest.**

<sup>3</sup>Yet you are the Holy One, \*

**enthroned upon the praises of Israel.**

<sup>4</sup>Our forefathers put their trust in you; \*

**they trusted, and you delivered them.**

<sup>5</sup>They cried out to you and were delivered; \*

**they trusted in you and were not put to shame.**

<sup>6</sup>But as for me, I am a worm and no man, \*

**scorned by all and despised by the people.**

<sup>7</sup>All who see me laugh me to scorn; \*

**they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,**

<sup>8</sup>"He trusted in the LORD; let him deliver him; \*

**let him rescue him, if he delights in him."**

<sup>9</sup>Yet you are he who took me out of the womb, \*

**and kept me safe upon my mother's breast.**

<sup>10</sup>I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; \*

**you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.**

<sup>11</sup>Be not far from me, for trouble is near, \*

**and there is none to help.**

<sup>12</sup>Many young bulls encircle me; \*

**strong bulls of Bashan surround me.**

<sup>13</sup>They open wide their jaws at me, \*

**like a ravening and a roaring lion.**

<sup>14</sup>I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint; \*

**my heart within my breast is melting wax.**

<sup>15</sup>My mouth is dried out like a pot-sherd; my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; \*

**and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.**

<sup>16</sup>Packs of dogs close me in, and gangs of evildoers circle around me; \*

**they pierce my hands and my feet, I can count all my bones.**

<sup>17</sup>They stare and gloat over me; \*

**they divide my garments among them; they cast lots for my clothing.**

<sup>18</sup>Be not far away, O LORD; \*

**you are my strength; hasten to help me.**

<sup>19</sup>Save me from the sword, \*

**my life from the power of the dog.**

<sup>20</sup>Save me from the lion's mouth, \*

**my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.**

<sup>21</sup>I will declare your Name to my brethren; \*

**in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.**

<sup>22</sup>Praise the LORD, you that fear him; \*

**stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel; all you of Jacob's line, give glory.**

<sup>23</sup>For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither does he hide his face from them; \*

**but when they cry to him he hears them.**

<sup>24</sup>My praise is of him in the great assembly; \*

**I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.**

<sup>25</sup>The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: \*

**"May your heart live for ever!"**

<sup>26</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, \*

**and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.**

<sup>27</sup>For kingship belongs to the LORD; \*

**he rules over the nations.**

<sup>28</sup>To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; \*

**all who go down to the dust fall before him.**

<sup>29</sup>My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; \*

**they shall be known as the LORD's for ever.**

<sup>30</sup>They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn \*

**the saving deeds that he has done.**

## HEBREWS 10:16-25

# The Passion

*The Passion Gospel is announced in the following manner*

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*The customary responses before and after the Gospel are omitted.*

## JOHN 18:1-19:42

## THE SOLEMN COLLECTS

*(People may stand or sit for the prayers)*

Dear People of God: Our heavenly Creator sent his Son into the world to bring salvation to all people. We pray, therefore, for people everywhere according to their needs.

Let us pray for sacred communities of faith throughout the world;  
For unity in witness and service for the good of all humanity  
For leaders of faith in its many expressions  
For the Christian faith, the Episcopal Church, the Diocese of Florida, and for St. Cyprian's  
For our Standing Committee, our Assisting Bishops, and all the people of this diocese  
For all people of faith in this community and around the world

That God will confirm every community of faith, increase them in love, and preserve them 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 peoples of the world. Open their hearts in compassion, and strengthen them in service to each other. **Amen.**



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

For Joseph, the President of the United States  
For the Congress and the Supreme Court  
For all those who work for peace among 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 tranquility your dominion may increase, until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love. **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 all mercy will comfort and relieve them, and grant them the  
knowledge of divine 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. **Amen.**



Let us pray for all who are indifferent to the wonderful deeds of a loving  
God;

For those who have lost their faith  
For those hardened by sin or apathy  
For the contemptuous and the scornful  
For those who are enemies of your divine Spirit and persecutors  
of the faithful

For those who in the name of their faith have persecuted others  
That God will open their hearts to truth, and lead them to a faith and a  
life-giving wholeness.

*Silence*

Merciful God, creator of all the peoples of the earth and lover of souls:  
Have compassion on all who seek you by many paths; let your Word 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. **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 their faith, 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 creation, that wonderful and sacred mystery. By the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility 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. **Amen.**

Now in the words that Jesus taught us:

**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 for ever. Amen.**

**SOLO**

**“Were you There”**

**Lanny Ballard**

*The service concludes with the following prayer. No blessing or dismissal is added.*

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; and to your holy people everywhere, peace and concord.

**Amen.**

*Please depart in silence.*

## Regarding GOOD FRIDAY

The very earliest Christian customs place *The Passion according to John* at the center of the Good Friday liturgy. John's Passion is distinct in several ways, including how it assigns to "the Jews" particular responsibility for the death of Jesus. While Matthew, Mark and Luke assign some individuals and some Jewish groups to play particular roles in the events that led to the trial and death of Jesus, those gospels equally assign complicit roles to some who were most intimate with Jesus as well as Roman political and judicial leaders. But the language of John's Passion narrative singles out "the Jews" as a distinct category of people who bear unique blame.

Over the centuries some of the most influential Christian leaders, including John Chrysostom, Augustine, Thomas Aquinas and Martin Luther, continued and elaborated on this blame trope. An assumption that all Jews, past and present, bore special and perpetual blame for the death of Jesus seeped into Christian liturgies and preaching, particularly on Good Friday. From Medieval times into the Modern era, Jews were reluctant to go out in public in many places on Good Friday.

After the Holocaust, Christians confronted more honestly assumptions that singled out Jewish people for the death of Jesus. Important scholarly work was done by individual Christian theologians and Biblical scholars. National and international Christian communities began to confront this heritage. In 2006, the General Convention of The Episcopal Church directed that "materials that assist members of the Church to address Christian anti-Judaism expressed and stirred by portions of Christian scriptures and liturgical texts be developed...."

Because there is unfinished work and because anti-Semitism continues, this commentary is provided.

On this day, the Church confronts the failures in the whole human condition that result in injustice and violence. In the appointed prayers in the liturgy we pray for those who have persecuted the followers of Jesus and we also pray "For those who in the name of Christ have persecuted others."

# St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church

## Sunday Service 10am

### St. Cyprian's Staff

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