

**Order of Worship
for
Good Friday**

April 7, 2023

PRELUDE

HYMN

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

ELW 351

FIRST READING

Mark 15:25-34

**The first reading for today is from the Gospel of Mark,
chapter fifteen, verse twenty-five through thirty-four.**

Mark writes:

²⁵ It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified Him. ²⁶ The inscription of the charge against Him read, "The King of the Jews." ²⁷ And with Him they crucified two rebels, one on His right and one on His left. ²⁹ Those who passed by derided Him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, ³⁰ save Yourself, and come down from the cross!" ³¹ In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking Him among themselves and saying, "He saved others; He cannot save Himself. ³² Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with Him also taunted Him. ³³ When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ³⁴ 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?"

SECOND READING

Luke 23:33-46

The second reading for today is from the Gospel of Luke, chapter twenty-three, verses thirty-three through forty-six.

Luke writes:

³³ When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on His right and one on His left. ³⁴ Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide His clothing. ³⁵ And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at Him, saying, "He saved others; let Him save Himself if He is the Messiah of God, His Chosen One!" ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked Him, coming up and offering Him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, "If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself!" ³⁸ There was also an inscription over Him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding Him and saying, "Are You not the Messiah? Save Yourself and us!" ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked Him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom." ⁴³ He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with Me in paradise." ⁴⁴ It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, ⁴⁵ while the sun's light failed, and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶ Then Jesus, crying out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into Your hands I commend My spirit." Having said this, He breathed His last.

HYMN

"Ah, Holy Jesus"

ELW 349

THIRD READING

Mark 8:31-34

The third reading for today is from the Gospel of Mark, chapter eight, verses thirty-one through thirty-four.

Mark writes of Jesus:

³¹ Then He began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes and be killed and after three days rise again. ³² He said all this quite openly. And Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him. ³³ But turning and looking at His disciples, He rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind Me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." ³⁴ He called the crowd with His disciples and said to them, "If any wish to come after Me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow Me."

FOURTH READING

1st Corinthians 1-17-25

The fourth reading for today is from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, chapter one, verse seventeen through twenty-five.

Paul writes:

¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. ¹⁸ For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." ²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

HYMN
“Chief of Sinners Thou I Be”
ELW 609

MESSAGE
“The Crucial Path”
Rev. David Hewitt

What makes Good Friday 'good'?
Not only does Jesus die for our sins, but Christ gives us the wonderful cross-filled
life too!

HYMN
“Were You There”
ELW 353

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
Of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through Him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation,
He came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered death and was buried.
On the third day He rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC
"It is Well with My Soul"
performed by King of Glory Choir
directed by Julie Shadinger

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*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.*

HYMN

**"Lift High the Cross"
ELW 660**

Depart in Silence

Minister: Rev. David Hewitt
Organist & Choir Director: Julie Shadinger

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