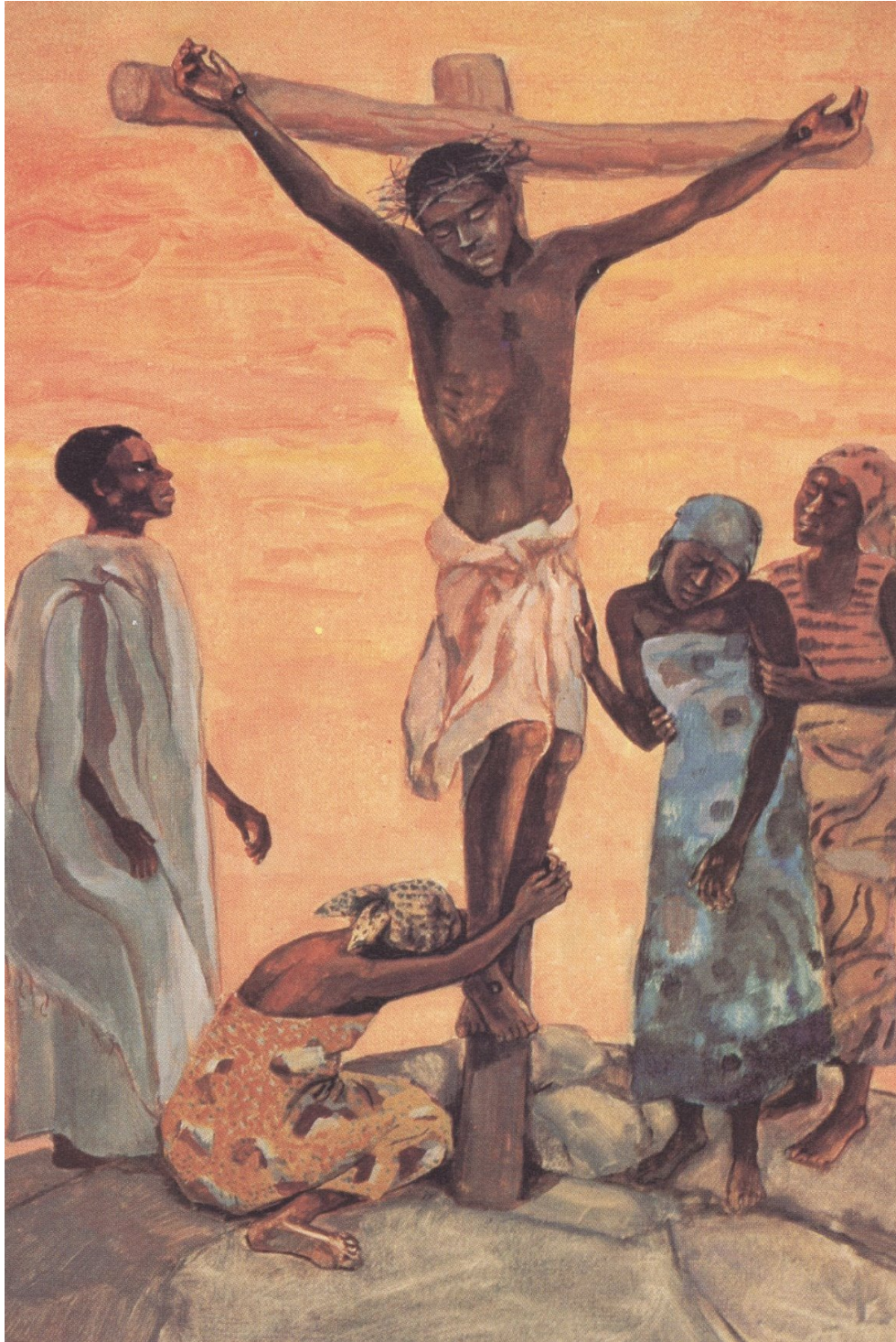


# The Great Three Days

Maundy Thursday • Good Friday • Holy Saturday



April 2021

# MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 1, 2021  
6:00 p.m.

## A Syrian Lamb Supper or other Agapé Meal

When Jesus shared Passover with his disciples, it was in the home. The washing of feet, the sharing of bread and wine, and the new commandment to love one another all happened in a home, in a room where Jesus drew his friends together as a host, teacher, friend, and master who was there to serve them all.

### WELCOME

### BLESSINGS OVER THE MEAL

#### OVER WINE

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe. You create the fruit of the vine, and you refresh us with the cup of salvation in the Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. May the time come quickly when we can share that cup again, even as you are with us now in our very thirst for you. Glory to you for ever and ever. **Amen.**

#### OVER BREAD

Blessed are you, O Lord God, Ruler of the universe. You bring forth bread from the earth, and you have fed us on our way with the bread of life in the Body of your Son Jesus Christ. Let us be fed again soon with that bread of life. And as grain scattered upon the earth is gathered into one loaf, so gather your Church in every place into the kingdom of your Son. To you be glory and power for ever and ever. **Amen.**

#### OVER THE OTHER FOODS

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe. You have blessed the earth to bring forth food to satisfy our hunger. Let this food strengthen us in the fast that is before us, that following our Savior in the way of the cross, we may come to the joy of his resurrection. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### THE MEAL

*You may wish to pause the video and eat your meal now. If several are gathered, first serve one another.*

## COLLECT

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*All* **And also with you.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.

O God of the crucified and risen One, from whom no trial or trouble can separate us: you feed us with your Word and soothe us with your Spirit, closer to us than breath itself. Make us glad this night for the life of your servant Jesus. Make us servants of all for the sake of Jesus, who for our sake gave his life for the salvation of all. In the name of Jesus, your Son, our Lord. **Amen.**

## PSALM

Psalm 63:1-8

- 1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you;  
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,  
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.
- 2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place;  
that I might behold your power and your glory.
- 3 For your loving-kindness is better than life itself;  
my lips shall give you praise.
- 4 So will I bless you as long as I live  
and lift up my hands in your Name.
- 5 My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness,  
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips.
- 6 When I remember you upon my bed,  
and meditate on you in the night watches.
- 7 For you have been my helper,  
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
- 8 My soul clings to you,  
your right hand holds me fast.

## GOSPEL

John 17:1-26

*Officiant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
*All* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When Jesus finished saying these things, he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, so that the Son can glorify you. You gave him authority over everyone so that he could give eternal life to everyone you gave him. This is eternal life: to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you sent. I have glorified you on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. Now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I shared with you before the world was created.

“I have revealed your name to the people you gave me from this world. They were yours and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. This is because I gave them the words that you gave me, and they received them. They truly understand that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me.

“I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those you gave me, because they are yours. Everything that is mine is yours, and everything that is yours is mine; I have been glorified in them. I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, even as I am coming to you.

“Holy Father, watch over them in your name, the name you gave me, that they will be one just as we are one. When I was with them, I watched over them in your name, the name you gave to me, and I kept them safe. None of them were lost, except the one who was destined for destruction, so that scripture would be fulfilled. Now I am coming to you, and I say these things while I am in the world so that they can share completely in my joy.

“I gave your word to them and the world hated them, because they don’t belong to this world, just as I don’t belong to this world. I am not asking that you take them out of this world, but that you keep them safe from the evil one. They don’t belong to this world, just as I don’t belong to this world. Make them holy in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. I made myself holy on their behalf so that they also would be made holy in the truth.


“I am not praying only for them, but also for those who believe in me because of their word. I pray they will be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. I pray that they also will be in us, so that the world will believe that you sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, so that they can be one just as we are one. I am in them and you are in me, so that they will be made perfectly one. Then the world will know that you sent me, and that you have loved them just as you loved me.

“Father, I want those you gave me to be with me where I am. Then they can see my glory, which you gave me because you loved me before the creation of the world. Righteous Father, even the world didn’t know you, but I have known you, and these believers know that you sent me. I have made your name known to them and will continue to make it known, so that your love for me will be in them, and I myself will be in them.”

*Officiant* The Gospel of the Lord.  
*All* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**


## HOMILY

Verses




1. Let us break bread to-gether on our knees;      Let us break  
 2. Let us drink wine to-gether on our knees;      Let us drink  
 3. Let us praise God to-gether on our knees;      Let us praise

Refrain



1. bread to-gether on our knees;      When I fall on my knees,  
 2. wine to-gether on our knees;  
 3. God to-gether on our knees;



With my face to the ris-ing sun, O Lord, have mer-cy on me.

Text: 10 10 with refrain; Spiritual. Music: LET US BREAK BREAD.

## EUCHARISTIC PRAYER 1

*Enriching Our Worship*

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*          **And also with you.**  
 Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**  
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant proceeds*

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with angels and archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

*Celebrant and People*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
 Hosanna in the highest.**

*The Celebrant continues*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be

your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

Remembering now his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

*Celebrant and People*

**Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

*Celebrant*  
*All*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say

**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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

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

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*All* **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

*Celebrant* Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

*The priest does not receive, but begins the Prayer for Spiritual Communion.*

## SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

adapted from *Common Worship*

*Celebrant* Gracious God, you overflow with love,  
and you give of yourself that we might have life, and have it abundantly.

*All* **Although we cannot gather in person as a congregation  
and consume these gifts of bread and wine together,  
we thank you that we do receive the sacrament of Christ's presence,  
the forgiveness of sins, and all other benefits of Christ's passion.  
By the power of the Holy Spirit,  
may we embody your desire and be renewed for your service,  
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## BLESSING

## MEDITATION

Adagio, BWV 593

J. S. Bach

*The altar is stripped of all ornament and washed.*

*The liturgy continues tomorrow, Good Friday, at 12:00 p.m. with prayers and a reading of the Passion Gospel.*

# GOOD FRIDAY

April 2, 2021

12:00 p.m.

*Officiant* Blessed be our God.

*People* **For ever and ever. Amen.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be handed over, and given into the hands of sinners, 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.**

## FIRST READING

Isaiah 52:13—53:12

*Lector* A reading from Isaiah.

See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high. Just as there were many who were astonished at him—so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of mortals—so he shall startle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which had not been told them they shall see, and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.

Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account.

Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; 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. By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the Lord shall prosper. Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**



My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?  
and are so far from my cry and from the words of my distress?

O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer;  
by night as well, but I find no rest.

Yet you are the Holy One, enthroned upon the praises of Israel.

Our forefathers put their trust in you; they trusted, and you delivered them.

They cried out to you and were delivered; they trusted in you and were not put to shame.

But as for me, I am a worm and no man, scorned by all and despised by the people.

All who see me laugh me to scorn; they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,  
“He trusted in the Lord; let him deliver him;  
let him rescue him, if he delights in him.”

Yet you are he who took me out of the womb, and kept me safe upon my mother’s breast.

I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born;  
you were my God when I was still in my mother’s womb.

Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help.

Many young bulls encircle me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me.

They open wide their jaws at me, like a ravening and a roaring lion.

I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint;  
my heart within my breast is melting wax.

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.

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.

They stare and gloat over me;

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

Be not far away, O Lord; you are my strength; hasten to help me.

Save me from the sword, my life from the power of the dog.

Save me from the lion’s mouth, my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.

I will declare your Name to my brethren;

in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.

## SECOND READING

Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

*Reader* A reading from Hebrews.

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Officiant* The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*At the verse that announces the arrival at Golgotha, all are invited to stand.*

Jesus went out with his disciples and crossed to the other side of the Kidron Valley. He and his disciples entered a garden there. Judas, his betrayer, also knew the place because Jesus often gathered there with his disciples. Judas brought a company of soldiers and some guards from the chief priests and Pharisees. They came there carrying lanterns, torches, and weapons. Jesus knew everything that was to happen to him, so he went out and asked, “Whom are you looking for?” They answered, “Jesus of Nazareth.” He said to them, “I Am.” (Judas, his betrayer, was standing with them.) When he said, “I Am,” they shrank back and fell to the ground. He asked them again, “Whom are you looking for?” They said, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus answered, “I told you, ‘I Am.’ If you are looking for me, then let these people go.” This was so that the word he had spoken might be fulfilled: “I didn’t lose anyone of those whom you gave me.”

Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it and struck the high priest’s servant, cutting off his right ear. (The servant’s name was Malchus.) Jesus told Peter, “Put your sword away! Am I not to drink the cup the Father has given me?” Then the company of soldiers, the commander, and the Judean police took Jesus into custody. They bound him and led him first to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. (Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Judean leaders that it was better to have one person die for the people.)

Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Because this other disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the high priest’s courtyard. However, Peter stood outside near the gate. Then the other disciple (the one known to the high priest) came out and spoke to the woman stationed at the gate, and she brought Peter in. The servant woman stationed at the gate asked Peter, “Aren’t you one of this man’s disciples?” “I’m not,” he replied. The servants and the guards had made a fire because it was cold. They were standing around it, warming themselves. Peter joined them there, standing by the fire and warming himself.

Meanwhile, the chief priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. Jesus answered, “I’ve spoken openly to the world. I’ve always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews gather. I’ve said nothing in private. Why ask me? Ask those who heard what I told them. They know what I said.” After Jesus spoke, one of the guards standing there slapped Jesus in the face. “Is that how you would answer the high priest?” he asked. Jesus replied, “If I speak wrongly, testify about what was wrong. But if I speak correctly, why do you strike me?” Then Annas sent him, bound, to Caiaphas the high priest.

Meanwhile, Simon Peter was still standing with the guards, warming himself. They asked, “Aren’t you one of the disciples?” Peter denied it, saying, “I’m not.” A servant of the high priest, a relative of the one whose ear Peter had cut off, said to him, “Didn’t I see you in the garden with him?” Peter denied it again, and immediately a rooster crowed.

The Jewish leaders led Jesus from Caiaphas to the Roman governor’s palace. It was early in the morning. So that they could eat the Passover, the Jewish leaders wouldn’t enter the palace; entering the palace would have made them ritually impure. So Pilate, the Roman governor, went out to them and asked, “What charge do you bring against this man?” They answered, “If he had done nothing wrong, we wouldn’t have handed him over to you.” Pilate responded, “Take him yourselves and judge him

according to your Law.” The Jewish leaders replied, “By Law we are not permitted to put anyone to death.” (This was so that Jesus’ word might be fulfilled when he indicated how he was going to die.)

Pilate went back into the palace. He summoned Jesus and asked, “Are you the king of the Jews?” Jesus answered, “Do you say this on your own or have others spoken to you about me?” Pilate responded, “I’m not a Judean, am I? Your nation and its chief priests handed you over to me. What have you done?” Jesus replied, “My kingdom does not originate from this world. If it did, my guards would fight so that I wouldn’t have been arrested by the Judeans. My kingdom is not from here.” “So you are a king?” Pilate questioned. Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. I was born and came into the world for this reason: to testify to the truth. Whoever belongs to the truth listens to my voice.” Pilate asked, “What is truth?”

Pilate returned to the Judeans and said, “I find no grounds for any charge against him. You have a custom that I release one prisoner for you at Passover. Do you want me to release for you the king of the Jews?” They shouted, “Not this man! Give us Barabbas!” (Barabbas was an outlaw.)

Then Pilate had Jesus taken and whipped. The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and dressed him in a purple robe. Over and over they went up to him and said, “Greetings, king of the Jews!” And they slapped him in the face. Pilate came out of the palace again and said to them, “Look, I’m bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no grounds for a charge against him.” When Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe, Pilate said to them, “Here is the man.” When the chief priests and their deputies saw him, they shouted out, “Crucify, crucify!” Pilate told them, “You take him and crucify him. I don’t find any grounds for a charge against him.” The Judeans replied, “We have a Law, and according to this Law he ought to die because he made himself out to be God’s Son.”

When Pilate heard this word, he was even more afraid. He went back into the residence and asked Jesus, “Where are you from?” Jesus didn’t answer. So Pilate said, “You won’t speak to me? Don’t you know that I have authority to release you and also to crucify you?” Jesus replied, “You would have no authority over me if it had not been given to you from above. That’s why the one who handed me over to you has the greater sin.” From then on, Pilate wanted to release Jesus; however, the Judeans cried out, saying, “If you release this man, you aren’t a friend of the emperor! Anyone who makes himself out to be a king opposes the emperor.”

When Pilate heard these words, he led Jesus out and seated him on the judge’s bench at the place called The Stone Pavement, or in Aramaic, *Gabbatha*. It was about noon on the Preparation Day for the Passover. Pilate said to the Judeans, “Here’s your king.” The Judeans cried out, “Take him away! Take him away! Crucify him!” Pilate responded, “What? Do you want me to crucify your king?” “We have no king except the emperor,” the chief priests answered. Then Pilate handed Jesus over to be crucified. The soldiers took Jesus prisoner. Carrying the cross by himself, he went out to a place called The Skull, which in Aramaic is called *Golgotha*.

*All stand as able.*

That is where they crucified him—and two others with him, one on each side and Jesus in the middle. Pilate had a public notice written and posted on the cross. It read “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” Many of the Judeans read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, Latin, and Greek. Therefore, the chief priests complained to Pilate, “Do not write, ‘The king of the Jews’ but ‘This man said, ‘I am the king of the Jews.’” Pilate answered, “What I have written, I have written.”

When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and his sandals, and divided them into four shares, one for each soldier. His shirt was seamless, woven as one piece from the top to the bottom. They said to each other, "Let's not tear it. Let's cast lots to see who will get it." This was to fulfill the scripture, "They divided my clothes among themselves, and they cast lots for my clothing." And that is what the soldiers did.

Jesus' mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene stood near the cross. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

After this, knowing that everything was already completed, in order to fulfill the scripture, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." A jar full of sour wine was nearby, so the soldiers soaked a sponge in it, placed it on a hyssop branch, and held it up to his lips. When he had received the wine, Jesus said, "It is finished." Bowing his head, he gave up his spirit.

*A brief silence is kept.*

It was the Preparation Day and the Jewish leaders did not want the bodies to remain on the cross on the Sabbath, especially since that Sabbath was an important day. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of those crucified broken and the bodies taken down. Therefore, the soldiers came and broke the legs of the two men who were crucified with Jesus. When they came to Jesus, they saw that he was already dead, so they did not break his legs. However, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. The one who saw this has testified, and his testimony is true. He knows that he speaks the truth, and he has testified so that you also can believe. These things happened to fulfill the scripture, "None of his bones shall be broken." And another scripture says, "They will look at him whom they have pierced."

After this, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate if he could take away the body of Jesus. Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but a secret one because he feared the authorities. Pilate gave him permission, so he came and took the body away. Nicodemus, the one who at first had come to Jesus at night, was there, too. He brought a mixture of myrrh and aloe, nearly seventy-five pounds in all. Following Jewish burial customs, they took Jesus' body and wrapped it, with the spices, in linen clothes. There was a garden in the place where Jesus was crucified, and in the garden was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. Because it was the Jewish Preparation Day and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus in it.

## **HOMILY**

### **CHORAL ANTHEM**

Drop, Drop, Slow Tears

Orlando Gibbons

Drop, drop, slow tears, and bathe those beauteous feet  
which brought from Heaven the news and Prince of Peace.

Cease not, wet eyes, his mercy to entreat;  
to cry for vengeance, sin doth never cease.

In your deep flood drown all my faults and fears,  
nor let his eye see sin, but through my tears.

*Officiant* God, our loving Creator, sent Jesus into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved; that all who believe in him might be delivered from the power of sin and death, and become heirs with him of everlasting life. We pray, therefore, for people everywhere according to their needs.

Let us pray for the Jewish people who possess an eternal covenant with the Lord, who delivered them from bondage to freedom: for continued faithfulness to God's covenant with them; for their flourishing in peace as witnesses to God's sustaining love; for safety from all malice and harm; for the fullness of redemption for the sake of God's Name; that unity and concord may exist between Israel and the Church, Jews and Gentiles, in obedience to God's will.

*Silence*

*Celebrant* God of Abraham, you planted your people Israel as the root and grafted us as wild branches into a single olive tree of praise to you: As we come near to the cross, we lament the history of prejudice and violence we have fomented between ourselves and your faithful people, of whom Jesus was born. Bless the children of your covenant, Jew and Gentile alike, as we strive together to attain the fullness of your blessing for the world. **Amen.**

*Officiant* Let us pray for the holy catholic Church of Christ throughout the world; for its unity and witness; for all bishops and other ministers and the people whom they serve; for Bonnie, our bishop, and all the people of this diocese; for all Christians in this community; for all who meet in homes or experiencing isolation on these holy days, that all your people might be one.

*Silence*

*Celebrant* 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 members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*Officiant* Let us pray for those who have not embraced Christ's redemptive love; for those who have not received the Gospel of Christ; for those who have been wounded by the people of Christ; for those who have persecuted others in the name of Christ; for those who have lost their faith; for those without faith; for those hardened by sin and indifference; for the contemptuous and the scornful; that God will lead sinners to repentance, and sustain all in a life of faith and obedience.

*Silence*

*Celebrant* Merciful God, the source of life and fountain of mercy, let the Gospel of your Son Jesus Christ be preached with grace and power; turn the hearts of the followers of Jesus who have harmed others in his name; lead us to repentance and amendment of life; and sustain by your loving grace all who lift their eyes to you. **Amen.**

*Officiant* Let us pray for all nations and peoples of the earth, and for those to whom their care is entrusted; for Joe our president, Gretchen our governor, and Michael our mayor; for the Congress and the Supreme Court; for the members and representatives of the United Nations; for members of the City Council; and for all in public office, that by God's help they may seek justice and truth, and serve the common good.

*Silence*

*Celebrant* 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; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Officiant* Let us pray for all who suffer and are afflicted in body, mind, or spirit; for those who are sorrowful and bereaved; for those in loneliness, fear, and anguish; for those experiencing homelessness or hunger; for those in the grip of doubt or despair; for prisoners, refugees, and captives; for victims of war, genocide, and trafficking, and all those in mortal danger; that God will comfort and relieve them, and grant them awareness of God's unfailing love, and stir up in us the will and patience to minister to their needs.

*Silence*

*Celebrant* 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 our Lord. **Amen.**

*Officiant* 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 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.

*Silence*

*Celebrant* O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, 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 by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

# VENERATION OF THE CROSS

## HYMN

### Were you there?

LEVAS II 37

1. Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? \_\_\_\_\_ Were you  
 2. Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree? \_\_\_\_\_ Were you  
 3. Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb? \_\_\_\_\_ Were you  
 4. Were you there when He rose up from the grave? \_\_\_\_\_ Were you

1. there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
 2. there when they nailed Him to the tree?  
 3. there when they laid Him in the tomb?  
 4. there when He rose up from the grave?  
 O! \_\_\_\_\_

Some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem - ble. \_\_\_\_\_

1. Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree? \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb? \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. Were you there when He rose up from the grave? \_\_\_\_\_

## LORD'S PRAYER

*Officiant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
*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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## FINAL PRAYER

*Officiant* 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; to your holy Church peace and concord; and to us sinners everlasting life and glory; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever.

*People* **Amen.**

*The liturgy continues tomorrow with 9:00am Morning Prayer.*



# HOLY SATURDAY

April 3, 2021

9:00 a.m.

## COLLECT

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.

O God, Creator of heaven and earth: Grant that, as the crucified body of your dear Son was laid in the tomb and rested on this holy Sabbath, so we may await with him the coming of the third day, and rise with him to newness of life; who new lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*All* **Amen.**

## FIRST READING

Lamentations 3:1-9,19-24

*Lector* A reading from Lamentations.

I am one who has seen affliction under the rod of God's wrath;  
he has driven and brought me into darkness without any light;  
against me alone he turns his hand, again and again, all day long.

He has made my flesh and my skin waste away, and broken my bones;  
he has besieged and enveloped me with bitterness and tribulation;  
he has made me sit in darkness like the dead of long ago.

He has walled me about so that I cannot escape;  
he has put heavy chains on me.

Though I call and cry for help,  
he shuts out my prayer.

He has blocked my ways with hewn stones;  
he has made my paths crooked.

The thought of my affliction and my homelessness is wormwood and gall!  
My soul continually thinks of it and is bowed down within me.  
But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases;  
his mercies never come to an end.

They are new every morning;  
great is your faithfulness.

"The LORD is my portion," says my soul,  
"therefore I will hope in him."

The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

Psalm 31:1-4,15-16

- 1 In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; \*  
deliver me in your righteousness.
- 2 Incline your ear to me; \*  
make haste to deliver me.
- 3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*  
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.
- 4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
for you are my tower of strength.
- 15 My times are in your hand; \*  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.
- 16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, \*  
and in your loving-kindness save me.

## SECOND READING

1 Peter 4:1-8

*Lector* A reading from First Peter.

Since Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same intention (for whoever has suffered in the flesh has finished with sin), so as to live for the rest of your earthly life no longer by human desires but by the will of God. You have already spent enough time in doing what the Gentiles like to do, living in licentiousness, passions, drunkenness, revels, carousing, and lawless idolatry. They are surprised that you no longer join them in the same excesses of dissipation, and so they blaspheme. But they will have to give an accounting to him who stands ready to judge the living and the dead. For this is the reason the gospel was proclaimed even to the dead, so that, though they had been judged in the flesh as everyone is judged, they might live in the spirit as God does.

The end of all things is near; therefore be serious and discipline yourselves for the sake of your prayers. Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins.

The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL

Matthew 27:57-66

*Priest* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then 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. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

The next day, that is, after the day of preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, "Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' Therefore command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples

may go and steal him away and tell the people, 'He has been raised from the dead,' and the last deception would be worse than the first."

Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can."

So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## HOMILY

## PRAYERS

BCP 283

*Officiant* In the midst of life, we are in death; from whom can we seek help?  
From you alone, O Lord, who by our sins are justly angered.

*All* **Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and merciful Savior,  
deliver us not into the bitterness of eternal death.**

*Officiant* Lord, you know the secrets of our hearts;  
shut not your ears to our prayers, but spare us, O Lord.

*All* **Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and merciful Savior,  
deliver us not into the bitterness of eternal death.**

*Officiant* O worthy and eternal Judge,  
do not let the pains of death turn us away from you at our last hour.

*All* **Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and merciful Savior,  
deliver us not into the bitterness of eternal death.**

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.

*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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

*Officiant* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all evermore.

*All* **Amen.**

### **ABOUT THE ART AND MUSIC**

The art on the cover is called *The Crucifixion* (1973). It is from the JESUS MAFA collection. JESUS MAFA is a response to the New Testament readings by a Christian community in Cameroon, Africa. Each of the readings was selected and adapted to dramatic interpretation by the community members. Photographs of their interpretations were made, and these were then transcribed to paintings. *The Crucifixion* is reprinted here with permission under the Creative Commons Attribution Noncommercial License of Vanderbilt University.

All music is reprinted and streamed with permission under OneLicense account #A-725867.