

Epiphany Episcopal Church

3111 Ritchie Road
Forestville, MD 20747

Good Friday



Meditation & Reflections on the Seven Last Words of Jesus Friday, March 29, 2024 at 12:00Noon

The Rt. Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde, Bishop of Washington
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GOOD FRIDAY

March 29, 2024

Liturgical Notes: Austerity and silence mark the Good Friday liturgy. The altar is bare, and there are no candles. No music is appropriate during the entrance. All sit at the end of the procession, through the collect. The Seven Last Words of Jesus help us to share the last three hours of Jesus' life. Those wishing to receive Holy Communion are welcome to come forward following the Lord's Prayer. The administration will be in silence. The bread and wine are consecrated and reserved during Maundy Thursday Liturgy. There will be no blessing or dismissal at the end of the service. Depart in silence. The minister will not be greeting at the door.

Silent Procession

After the entrance, all sit for a period of silence, and then the following

Hymn 474 "When I Survey"

- 1 When I survey the wondrous cross
 where the young Prince of Glory died,
 my richest gain I count but loss,
 and pour contempt on all my pride.
- 2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
 save in the cross of Christ, my God:
 all the vain things that charm me most,
 I sacrifice them to his blood.
- 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
 sorrow and love flow mingled down!
 Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
 or thorns compose so rich a crown?
- 4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,
 that were an offering far too small;
 love so amazing, so divine,
 demands my soul, my life, my all.

The Collect for Good Friday

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. (Together)

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

A reading from the Prophet 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.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm

Psalm 22

The Psalm for Today is Psalm 22. We will read it responsively by half verse breaking at the asterisk

1. **M**y God, my God, why have you forsaken me? *
and are so far from my cry and from the words of my distress?
2. O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; *
by night as well, but I find no rest.
3. Yet you are the Holy One, *
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
4. Our forefathers put their trust in you; *
they trusted, and you delivered them.
5. They cried out to you and were delivered; *
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.

6. But as for me, I am a worm and no man, *
scorned by all and despised by the people.
7. All who see me laugh me to scorn; *
they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,
8. "He trusted in the LORD; let him deliver him; *
let him rescue him, if he delights in him."
9. Yet you are he who took me out of the womb, *
and kept me safe upon my mother's breast.
10. I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; *
you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.
11. Be not far from me, for trouble is near, *
and there is none to help.
12. Many young bulls encircle me; *
strong bulls of Bashan surround me.
13. They open wide their jaws at me, *
like a ravening and a roaring lion.
14. I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint; *
my heart within my breast is melting wax.
15. 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.
16. 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.
17. They stare and gloat over me; *
they divide my garments among them; they cast lots for my clothing.
18. Be not far away, O LORD; *
you are my strength; hasten to help me.
19. Save me from the sword, *
my life from the power of the dog.
20. Save me from the lion's mouth, *
my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.
21. I will declare your Name to my brethren; *
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,*
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Hebrews

The Holy Spirit testifies saying, "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds," he also adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more." Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin. Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn: AAHH 244 *"On A Hill Far Away"*

1 On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
The emblem of suffering and shame;
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain.

Refrain:

*So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it some day for a crown.*

2 O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,
Has a wondrous attraction for me;
For the dear Lamb of God left his glory above
To bear it to dark Calvary. *[Refrain]*

3 In that old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
A wondrous beauty I see,
For 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,
To pardon and sanctify me. *[Refrain]*

4 To that old rugged cross I will ever be true,
Its shame and reproach gladly bear;
Then he'll call me some day to my home far away,
Where his glory forever I'll share. *[Refrain]*

Speaker: Mr. S'Lemuel Ezekwerre

1st Word: *"Father, forgive them, for they don't know what they're doing."*
(Luke 23:34)



Silence

Priest: O Savior of the world, who by thy cross and precious blood hath redeemed us:

People: *Save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.*

Prayer: Give us, O Lord, the spirit of humility, that we may never presume upon your mercy, but live as those who have been much forgiven. Make us tender and compassionate towards others; and grant that we may show forth in our lives that enduring love which alone can triumph over all powers of evil; after the example of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Speaker: Pastor Prince Decker

2nd Word: *"Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise."* (Luke 23:43)

Silence

Priest: O Savior of the world, who by thy cross and precious blood hath redeemed us:

People: *Save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.*



Prayer: O Savior Christ, who on the cross and by virtue of the cross, did accept the faith of the penitent thief and assure him a place with thee in paradise. Remember us too, O Lord, unworthy as we are, and open to us the kingdom of your grace, that hereafter we may be with you in the kingdom of glory, where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn AAHH 257 "There Is A Fountain"

- 1 There is a fountain filled with blood
 Drawn from Immanuel's veins;
 And sinners, plunged beneath that flood,
 Lose all their guilty stains:
 Lose all their guilty stains,
 Lose all their guilty stains;
 And sinners, plunged beneath that flood,
 Lose all their guilty stains.
- 2 The dying thief rejoiced to see
 That fountain in his day;
 And there may I, though vile as he,
 Wash all my sins away:
 Wash all my sins away,
 Wash all my sins away;
 And there may I, though vile as he,
 Wash all my sins away.

- 3 Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood
 Shall never lose its power,
 Till all the ransomed ones of God
 Be saved, to sin no more:
 Be saved, to sin no more,
 Be saved, to sin no more;
 Till all the ransomed ones of God,
 Be saved to sin no more.
- 4 E'er since by faith I saw the stream
 Thy flowing wounds supply,
 Redeeming love has been my theme,
 And shall be till I die:
 And shall be till I die,
 And shall be till I die;
 Redeeming love has been my theme,
 And shall be till I die.

Speaker: Ms Omega Marks

3rd Word: *"Woman, behold your son,
Son behold your mother" (John 19:26-27)*

Silence



Priest: O Savior of the world, who by thy cross and precious blood hath redeemed us:

People: *Save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.*

Prayer: O Lord Jesus Christ, who by your holy incarnation did enter the human family, and on the cross did commend your mother to the care of a beloved disciple. Purify our homes by your abiding presence; sanctify all our human relationships; and grant that unites one with another in you, we may together attain your heavenly kingdom; for the honor of your great name. Amen.

Speaker: Ms. Golda Gaskin

4th Word: *"Eloi, Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani;
My God, my God, why have you forsaken?" (Mark 15:34)*

Silence



Priest: O Savior of the world, who by thy cross and precious blood hath redeemed us:

People: *Save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.*

Prayer: O God, whose blessed Son endured the loneliness and darkness of the cross, that we might enjoy eternal fellowship with you; Grant that amid life's shadows we may know that we are never forsaken, but that we are ever walking in the light of your countenance; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn H-167 “*There is a Green Hill Far Away*”

1. There is a green hill far away,
Outside a city wall,
Where the dear Lord was crucified,
Who died to save us all.
2. We may not know, we cannot tell,
What pains He had to bear;
But we believe it was for us
He hung and suffered there.
3. He died that we might be forgiven,
He died to make us good,
That we might go at last to Heaven,
Saved by His precious blood.
4. There was no other good enough
To pay the price of sin;
He only could unlock the gate
Of heaven and let us in.
5. O dearly, dearly has He loved,
And we must love Him, too,
And trust in His redeeming blood,
And try His works to do.

Speaker: Ms. Avis Watts

5th Word: “*I thirst.*” (John 19:28)

Silence

Priest: O Savior of the world, who by thy cross and precious blood hath redeemed us:

People: *Save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.*

Prayer: Blessed lord, who on the cross did endure the thirst both of spiritual desire and of physical anguish. Satisfy the longings of our hearts, we humbly beseech you, and sanctify all our sufferings by your own; who lives and reigns with the Father and the holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



Speaker: Ms. Nikki Wilkins-Jones

6th Word: “*It is finished!*” (John 19:30)

Silence

Priest: O Savior of the world, who by thy cross and precious blood hath redeemed us:

People: *Save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.*



Prayer: O Lord Christ, as we thankfully recall your finished work for the redemption of the world, so we pray that we may ever be mindful of the unfinished task which you have committed to your Church; that constrained by your love we may labor to share your saving gospel with all mankind, for the furtherance of your kingdom and the glory of your name. Amen.

Hymn AAH-264 “At The Cross”

Alas! and did my Savior bleed
And did my Sovereign die?
Would He devote that sacred head
For sinners such as I?

Refrain

*At the cross, at the cross where I first saw the light,
And the burden of my heart rolled away,
It was there by faith I received my sight,
And now I am happy all the day!*

Was it for crimes that I had done
He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity! grace unknown!
And love beyond degree! *Refrain:*

Well might the sun in darkness hide
And shut his glories in,
When Christ, the mighty Maker died,
For man the creature's sin. *Refrain:*

But drops of grief can ne'er repay
The debt of love I owe:
Here, Lord, I give my self away
'Tis all that I can do. *Refrain:*

Speaker: Pastor Prince

7th Word: “Father into your hands, I commit my spirit.”
(Luke 23:46)

Silence

Priest: O Savior of the world, who by thy cross and precious blood hast redeemed us:

People: Save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.

Prayer: O heavenly Father, in whose hands are the hearts of all thy children: grant us the faith that commits all to thee, without question and without reserve; that trusting ourselves wholly to thy love and wisdom, we may meet all that life may bring, and death itself at last, with serenity and courage, through thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.



Hymn H-168 O Sacred Head, Sore Wounded”

(A wooden cross is brought into the church)

1. O sacred head, sore wounded, defiled and put to scorn;
O kingly head surrounded with mocking crown of thorn:
What sorrow mars thy grandeur? Can death thy bloom deflower?
O countenance whose splendor the hosts of heaven adore!
2. Thy beauty, long-desired, hath vanished from our sight;
thy power is all expired, and quenched the light of light.
Ah me! for whom thou diest, hide not so far thy grace:
show me, O Love most highest, the brightness of thy face.
3. In thy most bitter passion my heart to share doth cry,
with thee for my salvation upon the cross to die.
Ah, keep my heart thus moved to stand thy cross beneath,
to mourn thee, well-beloved, yet thank thee for thy death.

The Veneration of the Cross

The Anthems:

We glory in your cross, O Lord.

And praise and glorify your holy resurrection; for by virtue of your cross joy has come to the world.

May God be merciful to us and bless us, show us the light of his countenance, and come to us.

Let your ways be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations.

Let the people praise you, O God; let the peoples praise you.

We glory in your cross, O Lord, and praise and glorify your holy resurrection; for by virtue of your cross joy has come to the whole world.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

If we have died with him, we shall also live with him; if we endure, we shall also reign with him.

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

O Savior of the world, who by thy cross and precious blood hast redeemed us;

Save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.

Solemn Reproaches of the Cross

Refrain: Holy, holy, holy God, holy almighty God, holy, holy almighty God, have mercy upon us.

O my people, O my church, what have I done to you, or in what have I offended you? Answer me. 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 Savior. ***Refrain:***

I led you through the desert forty years, and fed you with manna:
I brought you through tribulation and penitence, and gave you my body, the bread of heaven, but
you have prepared a cross for your Savior. **Refrain:**

What more could I have done for you that I have not done? I planted you, my chosen and fairest
vineyard, I made you the branches of my vine; but when I was thirsty, you gave me vinegar to
drink and pierced with a spear the side of your Savior, and you have prepared a cross for your
Savior. **Refrain:**

I went before you in a pillar of cloud, and you have led me to the judgment hall of Pilate. I
scourged your enemies and brought you to a land of freedom, but you have scourged, mocked, and
beaten me. I gave you the water of salvation from the rock, but you have given me gall and left me
to thirst, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior. **Refrain:**

I gave you a royal scepter, 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 prepared a cross for your Savior.
Refrain:

My peace I gave, which the world cannot give, and washed your feet as a sign of my love, but you
draw the sword to strike in my name and seek high places in my kingdom. I offered you my body
and blood, but you scatter and deny and abandon me, and you have prepared a cross for your
Savior. **Refrain:**

I sent the Spirit of truth to guide you, and you close your hearts to the Counselor. I pray that all
may be one in the Father and me, but you continue to quarrel and divide. I call you to go and bring
forth fruit, but you cast lots for my clothing, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.
Refrain:

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, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior. **Refrain:**

A period of silence during which all are invited to contemplate the mystery and meaning of the crucifixion.

Hymn L 37 “Were You There When They Crucified My Lord”

1. Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
2. Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
3. Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

The Confession of Sin

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen

The Priest says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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

The Administration of the Sacrament

After all have received; all sit or kneel.

Hymn AAH-230

“Jesus Remember Me”

1. Jesus, remember me
when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me
when you come into your kingdom. *(Repeat)*

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Concluding Collect

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. Amen.

The tower bell will toll 33 times of each year of the human life of Jesus.

Leave in Silence

