

Date 04-18-25 Season Good Friday (Black/No vestments)Pastor Rev. Orin W. Cummings, PhD

Lector 1 Katie Dogwiler

Lector 3 Jana Everett

Lector 5 Carter Bergin

Lector 7 Mary Keidle

A/V Drew BowmanPreaching Vicar Jackson Reynolds, MDiv

Lector 2 Ileen Kendall

Lector 4 Jack Dimond

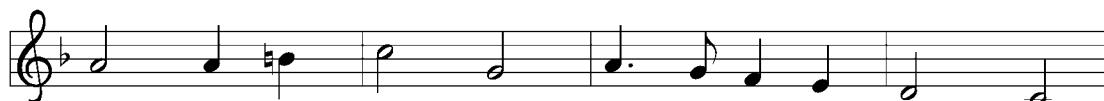
Lector 6 Jolynn Szesny

Special Music Revelations Praise Band, Alleluia SingersOrganist/Keyboardist Marilyn Boston & Karen Bowman**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN****ELW 342****There in God's Garden**

1 There in God's gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,  
 2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sav - ior!"  
 3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;  
 4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;



whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:  
 There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - f'ring;  
 our greed has starved it, our de - spite has choked it.  
 hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!"



Tree of all knowl - edge, Tree of all com -  
 see there the ten - drils of our hu - man -  
 Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -  
 Give me your sick - ness, give me all your



pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty.  
 self - hood feed on its life - blood.  
 stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.  
 sor - row, I will give bless - ing."

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**Amen.**

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

**Katie Dogwiler:** The Cross – the most visible symbol of Christianity. As we make our journey through the final week of the life of Jesus, let us focus on the cross. Beginning with his triumphal entry into Jerusalem, continuing with the final days of his ministry, the Last Supper, the trial and crucifixion, and ending with his glorious resurrection, may we always have the cross of Christ before us.

Ah, Holy Jesus, how have you offended, that we to judge you have in hate pretended? By foes derided, by your own rejected, O most afflicted.

Jesus... Teacher...Preacher...Friend...Messiah – God's sacrifice for us, sent in our place. Because man was born into sin, God came to us in the form of Jesus. By his death on the cross, he paid the price for our sins.

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon you? Alas, my treason hath undone you. I crucified you.

**For God so loved the world that he gave his only son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. – John 3:16-17**

THE FIRST CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

## SPECIAL MUSIC

O Dearest Lord, Thy Sacred Head

Alleluia Singers

**Ileen Kendall:** The drama surrounding the last week of Jesus' life began with a celebration. What could have been more joyous than a parade to welcome the Messiah into Jerusalem? Crowds gathered, cheering him as the procession moved into the city. People put their garments on the street and tore palm branches from the trees, placing them in his path as a welcoming gesture.

People of all ages welcomed him. The air was filled with cries of "Hosanna" and "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." Jesus entered the city on a lowly donkey – a symbol of peace.

The words of Matthew: When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethpage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone asks anything to you, just say this 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately." – Matthew 21:1-3

**Let us raise our voices as we join the procession that welcomed Jesus into the Holy City.**

THE SECOND CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

**SONG**

Hosanna, Blessed One

Revelations Praise Band

**Jana Everett:** The festival of the Passover was near. The authorities in Jerusalem became increasingly more nervous about Jesus and his disciples being in Jerusalem. They knew his influence over people was strong, and that crowds were spellbound by his teaching. The priests and scribes hoped to find some way to silence him. It was then that Judas, one of the twelve of Jesus' inner circle, met with the chief priests and officers of the temple, conspiring against Jesus about how he might betray him.

Jesus and the disciples gathered to celebrate the Passover. Jesus had frequently spoken to them using symbolic language they found difficult to understand. Tonight he would tell them that what they were about to eat and drink represented his body which he would sacrifice for them. How frightening it must have been for them to hear Jesus speak this way.

The words of Luke: When the hour came, he took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. He said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God."

**Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And he did the same thing with the cup after supper, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood" – Luke 22:14-16**

THE THIRD CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

**SONG**

Communion

Revelations Praise Band

**Jack Dimond:** After the supper, Jesus took his disciples to a place called the Garden of Gethsemane, just outside the walls of the city. Jesus told them to sit down and pray. After he went a bit further alone, Jesus threw himself on the ground, saying "Father, for you all things are possible, remove this cup from me; yet not what I want but what you want." – Mark 14:36

After praying for an hour, Jesus returned to his disciples, all of whom had fallen asleep in his absence. Judas appeared, betraying Jesus with a kiss. The soldiers seized Jesus and led him away to the house of the high priest, Caiaphas.

Go to dark Gethsemane, you that feel the tempter's power, your Redeemer's conflict see. Watch with him one bitter hour. Turn not from his griefs away; learn from Jesus Christ to pray.

**If we had been there would we like the disciples – have fallen asleep? Could we not watch one hour? Would we have allowed Jesus to be betrayed by one of our own, then arrested and taken away by the authorities?**

THE FOURTH CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

## HYMN

(vs. 1, 2 & 3)

ELW 347

### Go to Dark Gethsemane



1 Go to dark Geth-sem - a - ne, all who feel the tempt - er's pow'r;  
 2 Fol - low to the judg-ment hall, view the Lord of life ar - raigned;  
 3 Cal - v'ry's mourn-ful moun-tain climb; there, a - dor - ing at his feet,  
 4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb where they laid his breath - less clay;



your Re - deem - er's con - flict see. Watch with him one bit - ter hour;  
 oh, the worm-wood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sus - tained!  
 mark that mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com-plete.  
 all is sol - i - tude and gloom. Who has tak - en him a - way?



turn not from his griefs a - way; learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.  
 Shun not suf - f'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.  
 "It is fin - ished!" hear him cry; learn from Je - sus Christ to die.  
 Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

**Carter Bergin:** The trial for Jesus took place the next day. It was the custom at the Feast of Passover for the authorities to release a prisoner. Pilate, the Roman governor, realizing that Jesus was not guilty of the charges against him, asked the people if he should be released. The crowd, however, called for the release of Barabbas, a common criminal. Pilate then asked the crowd what he should do with Jesus. They shouted back, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Although Pilate could find no fault with him, he allowed the soldiers to lead Jesus away to be crucified.

The words of John: Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. Then he handed him over to be crucified. So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha.

**There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. – John 19: 1, 2; 16-18**

THE FIFTH CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

### SPECIAL MUSIC

What Have We Done?                      Lenten Male Quartet  
by John Newton (1779 arr. Stephan DeCesare)

**Jolynn Szesny:** Jesus' fate was sealed. The crowd would have its way. Dragged from the trial, Jesus was made to carry his own cross to the hill where he would be crucified. Many who suffered this cruel punishment lingered for days until the last ounce of air was choked from their bodies. Already weakened from his beatings, Jesus would die within hours. Attended by a few of the disciples, his mother, Mary, and some soldiers, Jesus, the Son of God, died between two common thieves.

The words of Luke: 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. <sup>34</sup>Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." – Luke 23:33-34

The words of Matthew: From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock, Jesus cried with a loud voice, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last.

(PAUSE for 10 seconds—*Loud sound followed by a moment of silence*)

At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said,

**"Truly this man was God's Son." – Matthew 27:45-46, 50-51, 54**

## THE SIXTH CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

HYMN

ELW 353

## Were You There



- 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 pierced him in the side?
- 4 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?
- 5 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?  
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
 Were you there when the sun re - fused to shine?  
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

**Mary Keidle:** The disciples scattered, undoubtedly fearing for their own safety. How could the triumph of a few days ago end in such a tragic way? What would become of his followers? Who would be responsible for bringing the message to others now that he was dead?

Jesus was hastily removed from the cross. Granted permission by Pilate, Joseph of Arimathea, also a follower of Jesus, took the body and wrapped it in a clean cloth and put it in a temporary tomb which he owned. Then he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. There the body would remain until after the Sabbath.

HOMILY

Vicar Jackson Reynolds

**SPECIAL MUSIC**    *At The Cross (Love Ran Red)*

*Revelations Praise Band*

### **BIDDING PRAYER**

Let us pray for the holy church throughout the world. Almighty and eternal God,  
**You have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ. By your Holy Spirit guide the church and gather it throughout the world. Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name, and bring the good news of salvation in Christ to all people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

Let us pray for our sisters and brothers who share our faith in Jesus Christ. Almighty and eternal God,

**You give your church unity. Look with favor on all who follow Jesus your Son. Make all the baptized one in the fullness of faith, and keep us united in the fellowship of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

Let us pray for the Jewish people, the first to hear the word of God. Almighty and eternal God,

**Long ago you gave your promise to Abraham and Sarah, and your teaching to Moses. Hear our prayers that the people you called and elected as your own may receive the fulfillment of the covenant's promises. We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

Let us pray for those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ. Almighty and eternal God,

**Gather into your embrace all those who call out to you under different names. Bring an end to inter-religious strife, and make us more faithful witnesses of the love made known to us in your Son. We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

Let us pray for those who do not believe in God. Almighty and eternal God,

**You created humanity so that all may long to know you and find peace in you. Grant that all may recognize the signs of your love and grace in the world and in the lives of Christians, and gladly acknowledge you as the one true God. We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

Let us pray for those in need. Almighty and eternal God,

**You give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart. Heal the sick, especially JP, Scott, Mark, Ian, Harper, Rosalie, Kateryna, Karen, Laurie, Carol, Joe, Linda, Casey, Mark, Scott, Bob, Tommy, and Beverly. Give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, especially Ukrainians, and deliver your world from falsehood, hunger, and disease. Hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE SEVENTH CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

We Know How the Story Ends  
by Mary Kay Beall

Alleluia Singers

*The church is darkened, silence for meditation, prayer and departure*

**CELEBRATE THE RESURRECTION WITH US THIS WEEKEND**

Easter Service on Saturday, April 19 at 5:30 p.m.

Easter Service on Sunday, April 20 at 9:30 a.m.

Easter Breakfast on Sunday, April 20 following worship.

Easter Egg Hunt for all children on Sunday, April 20 following worship.