

SILENT REFLECTION

THE PASTORAL PRAYER LORD'S PRAYER

Infinite heavenly Father, our hearts weigh heavy, confusion clouds our minds, and words fail us as we speak during this Passion Week. Our world around us appears to be in a constant upheaval from various unfamiliar changes, cultural disunity, economic collapse, political bickering, religious disagreements, international squabbling, and a medical pandemic. The family unit is being attacked on all sides, while our churches are looking inwardly instead of upwardly and outwardly.

Help us to keep our attention firmly fixed upon our Lord as we seek to find sound answers in the Holy Scriptures and listen patiently for that still quiet voice of God as we humbly pray. Enable us to bind ourselves into the body of Christ, the Church, as we obediently serve the Kingdom of God.

Allow the Holy Spirit to calm our fears so that the Word of God can penetrate our body, soul and spirit. Help the water of the Word to wash over our confusion and grant us understanding. Enable our minds to comprehend fully the vast faithfulness, love, and obedience of Jesus Christ our Lord, who became a loving sacrifice for our benefit.

In the name of Jesus the Christ let us pray the prayer he taught his disciples:

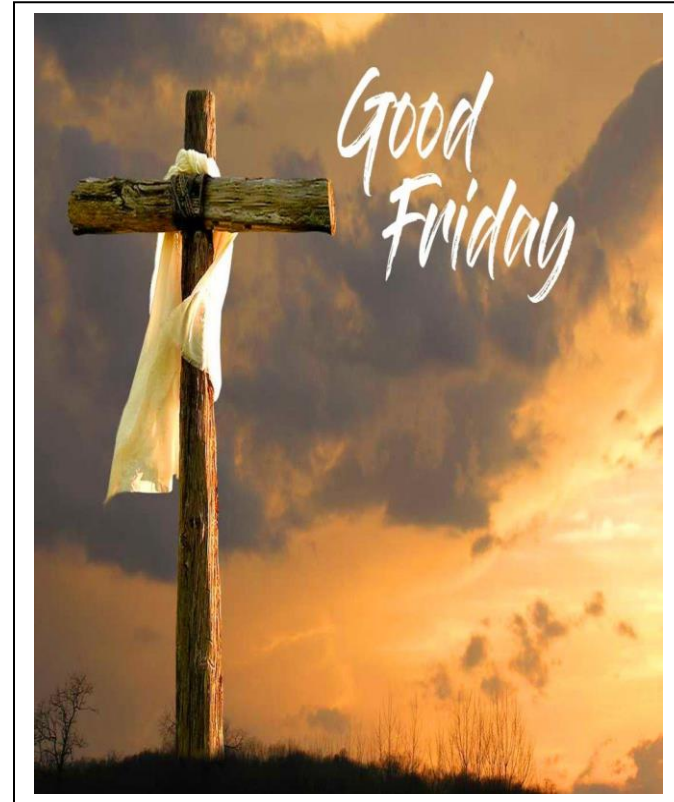
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

***HYMN** *Were You There*

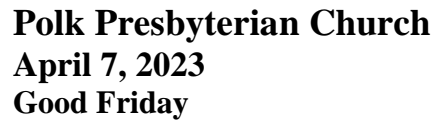
228

The Light of Christ goes before us.

Depart in Silence.



**Pastor: Rev. Larry Myers
Music: Deb Myers**



Lighting of Christ Candles

CALL TO WORSHIP **Hebrews 10:19-25**

P: By the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh),

P: 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.

P: And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds,

All: 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.

L: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

**P O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and
by night, but find no rest.**

P: In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them.

L: To you they cried, and were saved; in you they trusted,
and were not put to shame.

L: All who see me mock at me; they make mouths at me;
they shake their heads;

L: Yet it was you who took me from the womb; you kept me safe on my mother's breast.

L: Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.

L: I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast; my mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death.

L: My hands and feet have shriveled; I can count all my bones.

**P: They stare and gloat over me; they divide my clothes
among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.**

All: But you, O Lord, do not be far away! O my help, come quickly to my aid!

***Praise Hymn** *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* #407

PRAAYER OF ILLUMINATION

*THE DOXOLOGY # 39

SCRIPTURE READING: John 18:1-19:42
John 19:16-42

(P) Thanks be to God