

Life and death stand side by side as we enter into Good Friday. In John's passion account, Jesus reveals the power and glory of God, even as he is put on trial and sentenced to death. Standing with the disciples at the foot of the cross, we pray for the whole world in the ancient bidding prayer, as Christ's death offers life to all. We gather in solemn devotion, but always with the promise that the tree around which we assemble is indeed a tree of life. We depart silently, and we anticipate the culmination of the Three Days in the Easter Vigil.





Welcome to Zion!

"Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love..."

(Joel 2:13)

Welcome – whether this is your home congregation or your first visit, we're glad you're here!

We welcome all people in the name of Christ to experience God's goodness and grace in Word, water, and meal. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, there is a place for you to belong at Zion.

Get Connected at Zion

The best ways to stay connected are to visit our website, follow us on social media (@zionchurchdfb on Facebook and Instagram), and subscribe to our weekly newsletter.

Children in Worship

Children are God's gift to our church! They are not the future of our church; they are the right now. The way we welcome children here directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and to one another.

We welcome children and their families to sit near the Prayground at the front of the sanctuary. There are coloring activities, puzzles, books, and a toolbox to engage in our worship together.

Giving

We appreciate your stewardship of treasure, talent, and time at Zion. You may leave your offerings in the offering plates or give online via our website or this QR code.



Livestreaming

Zion livestreams all our services on Facebook and YouTube. Any person present gives consent to being filmed or photographed.



We Gather, Hear, and Respond to God's Word

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together...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.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 52:13—53:12

... The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

SECOND READING

Hebrews 10:16-25

... The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

HYMN

ELW Hymn #336

"Lamb of God"

THE PASSION ACCORDING TO JOHN

John 18:1—19:42

Silence for meditation follows the readings.

GOD'S MESSAGE FOR ALL

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW Hymn #353

"Were You There"

We Pray for the World

By ancient usage this series of specific intercessions, called the "Bidding Prayer," was specially appointed for Good Friday. A short pause of silence should be observed between each 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. **Amen.**

Let us pray for Elizabeth and Pedro our Bishops, for Kurt our Minister, Nancy our Pastor, and Peter our Cantor, for all servants of the church, and for all the people of God.

Almighty and eternal God, your Spirit guides the church and makes it holy. Strengthen and uphold our bishops, pastors, cantors, other ministers, and lay leaders. Keep them in health and safety for the good of the church, and help each of us in our various vocations to do faithfully the work to which you have called us. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those preparing for baptism.

Almighty and eternal God, you continue to bless the church. Increase the faith and understanding of those preparing for baptism. Give them new birth as your children, and keep them in the faith and communion of your holy church. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those 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. **Amen.**

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 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. **Amen.**

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 interreligious strife, and make us more faithful witnesses of the love made known to us in your Son. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

Let us pray for God's creation.

Almighty and eternal God, you are the creator of a magnificent universe. Hold all the worlds in the arms of your care and bring all things to fulfillment in you. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those who serve in public office.

Almighty and eternal God, you are the champion of the poor and oppressed. In your goodness, give wisdom to those in authority, so that all people may enjoy justice, peace, freedom, and a share in the goodness of your creation. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, 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.**

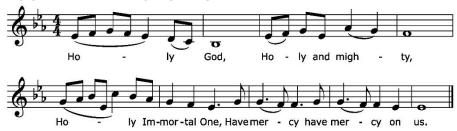
Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask:





We Contemplate the Cross of Christ

THE SOLEMN REPROACHES



O my people, O my church, what have I done to you? How have I offended you? Answer me. I led you out of slavery into freedom, and delivered you through the waters of rebirth, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior. *Refrain*

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. Forty years I led you through the desert, feeding you with manna on the way; I saved you from the time of trial and gave you my body, the bread of heaven, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior. *Refrain*

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I poured out saving water from the rock, but you gave me vinegar to drink; I poured out my life and gave you the new covenant in my blood, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior. *Refrain*

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I gave you a royal scepter, but you gave me a crown of thorns; I gave you the kingdom and crowned you with eternal life, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior. *Refrain*

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I struck down your enemies, but you struck my head with a reed; I gave you my peace, but you draw the sword in my name, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior. *Refrain*

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I came to you in the least of your brothers and sisters, but I was hungry and you gave me no food, thirsty and you gave me no drink, 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*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you. By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

MUSICAL REFLECTION

The worship concludes with a meditative period of silence, after which you are invited to depart in contemplation of our Lord's Passion.

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Father forgive, and so forgiveness flows;
Flows from the very wound our hatred makes,
Flows through the taunts, the curses and the blows,
Flows through our wasted world, a healing spring,
Welling and cleansing, washing all the marks
Away, the scores and scars of every wrong.

Forgiveness flows to where we need it most:
Right in the pit and smithy of our sin,
Just where the dreadful nails are driven in,
Just where our woundedness has done its worst.
We know your cry of pain should be a curse,
Yet turn to you and find we have been blessed.
We know not what we do, but Heaven knows
For every sin on earth, forgiveness flows.

Malcolm Guite 2016



Today's Readings

Good Friday April 18, 2025

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.

First Reading

Isaiah 52:13—53:12 [not printed]

Psalm

Psalm 22; tone 9



My God, my God, why have you for-1 saken me? Why so far from saving me, so far from the words | of my groaning? ²My God, I cry out by day, but you! do not answer; by night, but I | find no rest.

³Yet you are the Holy One, enthroned on the prais- tes of Israel.

4Our ancestors put their | trust in you, they trusted, and you | rescued them.

⁵They cried out to you

and were delivered; they trusted in you and were not | put to shame.

⁶But as for me,

I am a worm | and not human, scorned by all and despised | by the people.

⁷All who see me laugh | me to scorn; they curl their lips; they I shake their heads.

8"Trust in the LORD;

let the | LORD deliver: let God rescue him

if God so de- | lights in him."

9Yet you are the one who drew me forth I from the womb, and kept me safe on my ^l mother's breast.

¹⁰I have been entrusted to you ever since | I was born;

you were my God when I was still in my | mother's womb.

¹¹Be not far from me, for trou- | ble is near,

and there is no I one to help. ¹²Many young bulls en- [‡] circle me; strong bulls of Ba-1 shan

surround me. ¹³They open wide their I jaws at me, like a slashing and 1 roaring lion.

14I am poured out like water; all my bones are | out of joint: my heart within my breast

is melting wax. 15My strength is dried up like a potsherd; my tongue sticks to the roof

of my mouth; and you have laid me in the I dust of death.

16 Packs of dogs close me in, a band of evildoers

circles round me;

they pierce my hands | and my feet.

¹⁷I can count | all my bones while they stare at 1 me and gloat.

18 They divide my gar- 1 ments among them;

for my clothing, they cast lots. ¹⁹But you, O LORD, be not ¹ far away; O my help, hasten I to my aid.

20 Deliver me 1 from the sword, my life from the power i of the dog.

²¹Save me from the | lion's mouth! From the horns of wild bulls you have I rescued me.

continued

Psalm, continued

²²I will declare your name | to my people; in the midst of the assembly | I will praise you.

²³You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's ¹ line, give glory. Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off- ¹ spring of Israel.

²⁴For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hid- den from them;

but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.

²⁵ From you comes my praise in the ¹ great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those

who | fear the LORD.

26 The poor shall eat | and be satisfied.

Let those who seek the LORD
give praise!

May your hearts | live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn ¹ to the Lord; all the families of nations shall bow ¹ before God.

²⁸For dominion belongs | to the LORD, who rules o- | ver the nations.

²⁹Indeed all who sleep in the earth shall bow ¹ down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel be- ¹ fore the LORD.

shall there be local and shall serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim
to genera-tions to come.

31 They shall proclaim God's deliverance
to a people yet unborn,

saying to them,
"The LORD has acted!"

Second Reading

Hebrews 10:16-25

"This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts,

I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds,"

17he also adds,

"I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."

¹⁸Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

¹⁹Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way

that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let 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. ²³Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

or Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9 [not printed]

Gospel

John 18:1—19:42 [not printed]

TODAY'S READINGS April 18, 2025

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Next Sunday's Readings: Acts 10:34-43 or isaiah 65:17-25; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26 or Acts 10:34-43; Luke 24:1-12 or John 20:1-18.

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