

Good Friday - Tre Ore

March 29, 2024, 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

(Congregation parts are in **bold** print.)

This is the fourteenth year we have offered this traditional Tre Ore (three hour) service at Faith. It is actually seven separate 20-25-minute devotional services marking the hours Jesus spent on the cross and based on the seven last words he spoke from the cross. Everyone is certainly invited to all of them, but more commonly people attend two or three of the seven as they are able. There are a few minutes of silence between each service, in which those who are staying for the next devotion may pray and meditate, while others quietly arrive or leave.

Meditations on the Seven Words from the Cross

The First Word from the Cross: "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Noon – 12:20 pm pages 2-4

Second Word from the Cross: "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." 12:25 – 12:45 pm pages 4-7

Third Word from the Cross: "Woman, behold, your son! Son, behold, your mother!" 12:50 – 1:10 pm pages 7-11

Fourth Word from the Cross: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" 1:15 – 1:35 pm pages 11-14

Fifth Word from the Cross: "I thirst." pages 15-16

Sixth Word from the Cross: "It is finished." 2:05 - 2:25 pm pages 17-19

Seventh Word from the Cross: "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" 2:30 – 2:50 pm pages 19-21

THE FIRST WORD FROM THE CROSS

"Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

Opening Sentences

Reproach has broken my heart, and I am full of heaviness; and I looked for some to take pity, but there was none, and for comforters, but I found none. Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow, which was brought upon me, which the LORD inflicted on the day of his fierce anger.

He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him, and with his stripes we are healed.

Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father and Savior of the world, hear us as with humble and adoring hearts we remember your seven words of love spoken on this day from the cross. Draw us into closer communion with your Spirit, that the mind which was in you may also be found in us. We remember that, as they crucified you, you said "Father," forgive them, for they know not what they do." If you, Lord should mark iniquities, O Lord who shall stand? But with you there is forgiveness that you may be feared. You yourself bore our sins in your own body on the tree that we, being dead to sin, should live to your righteousness. In thanksgiving for this word, we worship and adore your holy name.

Amen.

HYMN: "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" - LSB #449

> ALL stanza 1 ALL stanza 2 Choir stanza 3 ALI. stanza 4

Lesson Saint Luke 23:32-34

Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with Him to be executed. When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified Him, along with the criminals-one on His right, the other on His left. Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

Homily

Pastor Joshua Errer



"Behold the Lamb of God" - Healey Willan

Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world Surely He hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities.

Prayer

O Good Shepherd, who laid down your life for the sheep:

Remember us and have mercy upon us.

O everlasting Power and Wisdom of the Most High God, Word of the Father:

Remember us and have mercy upon us.

O Maker of the world, the Life of all, the Lord of angels:

Remember us and have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, who for us was led as a sheep to the slaughter:

Remember us and have mercy upon us.

You were seized, though guiltless, buffeted, given over to robbers:

Remember us and have mercy upon us.

You alone by your death overcame the death of our guilt:

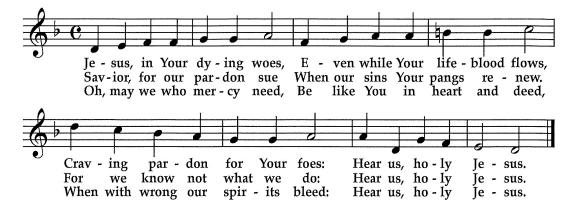
Remember us and have mercy upon us.

Collect on the First Word from the Cross

Lord Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God you were taken and crucified and slain by the hand of wicked people, and then you made intercession for the transgressors: we pray, grant unto us the blessed assurance that there is now no condemnation to those who are in you; and we pray that, if anyone sin, we have an Advocate with the Father in you, the Righteous, whose blood speaks better things than Abel's blood; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

HYMN: "Jesus, in Your Dying Woes" - LSB #447, stanzas 1-3



"O Dearest Jesus" - setting by David Cherwien

L MEDITATION

During this time of meditation, those who must leave may do so in silence, as others enter for the Meditation on the Second Word from the Cross at 12:25.

THE SECOND WORD FROM THE CROSS

"Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Opening Sentences

When Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the Holy Place, securing an eternal redemption.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father and Savior of the world, hear us as with humble and adoring hearts we remember your seven words of love spoken on this day from the cross. Draw us, we beseech you, into closer communion with your Spirit, that the mind which was in you may also be found in us. We remember your promise to the penitent thief, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." With you, O Lord, is the fountain of life, and in your light shall we see light. O Shepherd of the flock of God, who guides those who know your voice in green pastures and beside the waters of comfort, when we awake we shall be satisfied with your likeness. In thanksgiving for this word we worship and adore your holy name.

Amen.

HYMN: "Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle" - LSB #454

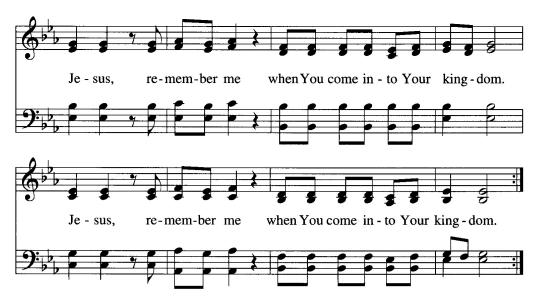
Lesson Saint Luke 23:35-43

The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at Him. They said, "He saved others; let Him save Himself if He is the Christ of God, the Chosen One."The soldiers also came up and mocked Him. They offered Him wine vinegar and said, "If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself."There was a written notice above Him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at Him: "Aren't you the Christ? Save Yourself and us!"But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong."

Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." Jesus answered him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Responsory Hymn: "Jesus, Remember Me" - LSB #767



Homily Pastor Joshua Errer



HYMN: "Jesus, in Your Dying Woes" - LSB #447, stanzas 4-6



Collect on the Second Word from the Cross

Lord Jesus Christ, you are our merciful King and Prince of Peace. You veiled your divine glory and robed yourself in humility, crowned with thorns, nailed upon the tree of shame, and numbered with the transgressors. We thank you that you have remembered us in our condemnation and have brought us into your Kingdom of Grace. We pray that you would rule in our hearts and lives with your Word; and when life's brief day is ended, take us with you into Paradise, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Collect for Good Friday

Lord Jesus, you carried our sins in your own body on the tree so that we might have life. May we and all who remember this day find new life in you now and in the world to come, where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Pie Jesu - Gabriel Fauré

Karin Barth, soloist

MEDITATION

During this period of meditation, those who must leave may do so in silence as others enter for the Meditation on the Third Word from the Cross at 12:50.

THE THIRD WORD FROM THE CROSS

"Woman, behold, your son! Son, behold, your mother!"

Invocation

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

HYMN: "Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow" - LSB #428

Psalm 130

Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD; LORD, hear my voice; let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

If you, LORD, were to note what is done amiss, O Lord, who could stand?

For there is forgiveness with you; therefore you shall be feared.

I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; in his word is my hope.

My soul waits for the LORD, more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.

O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is mercy; with him there is plenteous redemption, and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

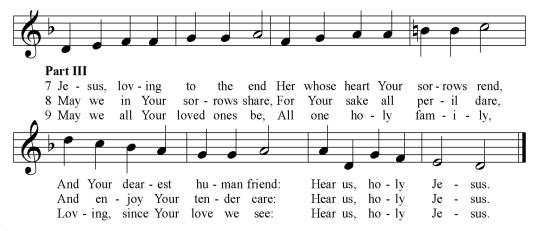
Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father and Savior of the world, hear us as with humble and adoring hearts we remember your seven words of love spoken on this day from the cross. Draw us, we beseech you, into closer communion with your Spirit, that the mind which was in you may also be found in us. We remember your word to your mother and the disciple of your love, "Woman, behold, your son!," and to the disciple, "Son, behold, your mother!" O Son of Man, who came to revive the spirit of the humble, and to bind up the broken in heart; your loving-kindness is better than life; therefore my lips shall praise you. My soul proclaims your greatness, O Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. Wherefore, we worship and adore your holy name.

Amen.

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HYMN: "Jesus, in Your Dying Woes" - LSB #447, stanzas 7-9



Lesson Saint John 19:25-27

Near the cross of Jesus stood His mother, His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdalene. When Jesus saw His mother there, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, "Dear woman, here is your son," and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

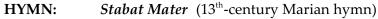
Responsory

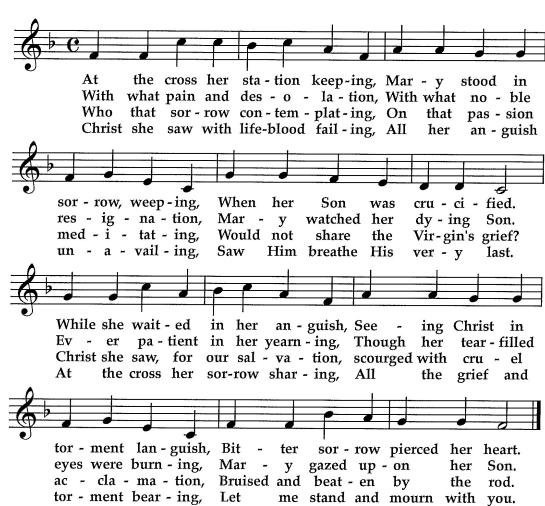
Heal me, O LORD, and I shall be healed; save me and I shall be saved, for you are my praise. Heal my soul, for I have sinned against you.

You have been my help; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation. Heal my soul, for I have sinned against you.

Homily Pastor Joshua Errer







Collect on the Third Word from the Cross

O Compassionate Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for your perfect obedience which you rendered for us even to the death of the cross. Grant us your Holy Spirit, we pray, that He may write your holy Law upon our hearts, so that, following your example of filial love and obedience, we may honor and serve our parents, and, from the least to the greatest, may learn obedience and walk in your footsteps. And let your strength be made perfect in our weakness; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

"This Much I Loved You"

Karin Barth soloist

MEDITATION

During this period of meditation those who must leave may do so in silence as others enter for the Meditation on the Fourth Word from the Cross at 1:15.

THE FOURTH WORD FROM THE CROSS

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

HYMN: "O Perfect Life of Love" - LSB #452

Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father and Savior of the world, hear us as with humble and adoring hearts we remember your seven words of love spoken on this day from the cross. Draw us, we beseech you, into closer communion with your Spirit, that the mind which was in you may also be found in us. We remember the loneliness of that loud cry which burst from your over-burdened heart, while the dread darkness lay upon the land, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" O Son of God, beloved of the Father, was ever sorrow like your sorrow? You were despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief. For our transgressions you were wounded; for our iniquities you were bruised; the chastisement of our peace was upon you, and with your stripes we are healed. All we, like sheep, had gone astray. We had turned every one to his own way, and God the Father laid on you the iniquity of us all. Wherefore we worship and adore your holy name.

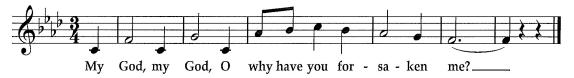
Amen.

Lesson Saint Mark 15:33-34

And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

PSALM 22 (cantor; then all)

Refrain



Cantor

- 1. All who see me laugh at me, they mock me and they shake their heads: "He relied on the Lord, let the Lord be his refuge." **Refrain**
- 2. As dogs around me, they circle me about.
 Wounded me and pierced me, I can number all my bones. **Refrain**
- 3. My clothing they divided, for my garments casting lots, O Lord, do not desert me, but hasten to my aid. **Refrain**
- 4. I will praise you to my people, and proclaim you in their midst, O fear the Lord, my people, give glory to God's name. **Refrain**

Homily Pastor Joshua Errer



Prayer

Show us your mercy, O Lord, grant us pardon, grant remission of our sins: **Have mercy on us.**

You came to save the world, but were brought to judgment; when you come again to judge the living and the dead, do not deliver us up with the ungodly:

Have mercy on us.

You hung on the cross, bearing the death due our guilt:

Have mercy on us.

You suffered once for the ungodly, and die no more; put to death our sins and heal us by the wound of the cross:

Have mercy on us.

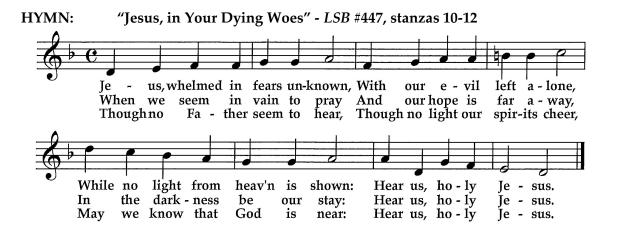
Do not turn your face from us, but remember us with pardon:

Have mercy on us.

Collect on the Fourth Word from the Cross

Lord Jesus Christ, Author and Finisher of our faith: you tread the winepress of God's wrath alone and you were made a curse for us on the accursed tree, forsaken of God. Grant that our faith in you may never know doubt or change. Strengthen us in the sure knowledge and confidence that nothing shall separate us from the love of God in you and that, though your Father hides His face from us in a little moment of wrath, we may never despair of His loving-kindness, for the sake of your bitter agony; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.



Responsory

To know God's love, behold the cross! Who else would suffer such a loss? What gift is there of greater price Than this astounding sacrifice?!

Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy!

Who else could possibly atone For all the world, but you alone? None but a perfect Lamb could bear The curse that dooms all to despair.

Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy!

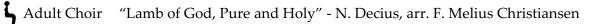
Like that amazed centurion We too exclaim: "You are God's Son!" Who else in heaven or earth but you Would do what only God could do?

Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy!

Unless you were to rise again, That Friday would have been the end; The creatures whom you came to save Would join you in your death and grave.

Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy!

Jarosalv Vajda translation of 18th-century Slovak hymn



Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross didst suffer, Ever patient and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer. All sins thou borest for us, Else had despair reigned o'er us: Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

MEDITATION

During this period of meditation those who must leave may do so in silence as others enter for the Meditation on the Fifth Word from the Cross at 1:40.



THE FIFTH WORD FROM THE CROSS

"I thirst."

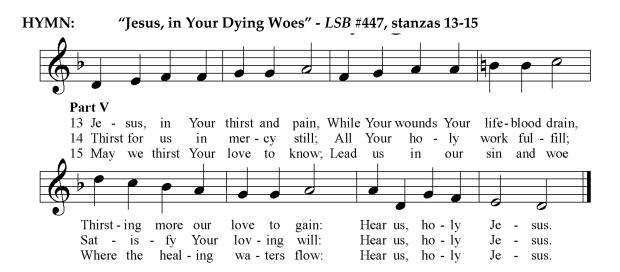
Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father and Savior of the world, hear us as with humble and adoring hearts we remember your seven words of love spoken on this day from the cross. Draw us, we beseech you, into closer communion with your Spirit, that the mind which was in you may also be found in us. We remember how, in fulfillment of the scriptures, you did say, "I thirst." Was it not written of you, "My mouth is dried out like a potsherd; my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; and you have laid me in the dust of the grave?" Yet your word endures. If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. O fount of life, who thirsts for the souls of all, my soul thirsts for you in a dry and thirsty land where there is no water. Wherefore we worship and adore your holy name.

Amen.

Lesson Saint John 19:28

Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I thirst."



Responsory

Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved, for you are my praise. **Heal my soul, for I have sinned against you.**

You have been my help; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation. **Heal my soul, for I have sinned against you.**

Homily

Pastor Joshua Errer

(reference front cover)

HYMN:

"Stricken, Smitten and Afflicted" - LSB #451

A Prayer

Turn away, O Lord, the fierceness of your wrath, and in pity spare your people.

Have mercy on us.

Grant a favorable and speedy answer to the prayers of all.

Have mercy on us.

O Christ, look on our groanings, loose the bands of death, and grant us life.

Have mercy on us.

Behold our tears – consider our sighs, and now at length in pity forgive our sins.

Have mercy on us.

Though none of us is worthy to be heard, O Christ, for your own sake, help us.

Have mercy on us.

Collect for Good Friday

Lord Jesus, you carried our sins in your own body on the tree so that we might have life. May we and all who remember this day find new life in you now and in the world to come, where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

"Were You There" - setting by Mary Beth Bennett

MEDITATION

During this period of meditation those who must leave may do so in silence as others enter for the meditation on the Sixth Word from the Cross at 2:05.

THE SIXTH WORD FROM THE CROSS

"It is finished."

Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father and Savior of the world, hear us as with humble and adoring hearts we remember your seven words of love spoken on this day from the cross. Draw us, we beseech you, into closer communion with your Spirit, that the mind which was in you may also be found in us. We remember that word which from your lips alone was very truth, "It is finished." O Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the author and finisher of the faith, for the joy that was set before you, you endured the cross, despising the shame, and now are seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Wherefore we worship and adore your holy name.

Amen

HYMN: "They Crucified My Lord" - African-American spiritual (stanza 1 - soloist; then ALL)



- 1. They cru ci fied my Lord, And He nev-er said a mum-ba-lin' word;
- 2. They nailed Him to the tree, And He nev-er said a mum-ba-lin' word;
- 3. They pierced Him in the side, And He nev-er said a mum-ba-lin' word; 5. He hung His headand died, And He nev-er said a mum-ba-lin' word;



They cru - ci - fied my Lord, And He nev-er said a mum-ba-lin' word, They nailed Him to __ the tree, And He nev-er said a mum-ba-lin' word, They pierced Him in __ the side, And He nev-er said a num-ba-lin' word, He hung His head and died And He nev-er said a mum-ba-lin' word,



Lesson Saint John 19:29-30

A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished."

Responsory

He was brought as a lamb to the slaughter. He was oppressed and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth.

He was delivered up to death that he might quicken his people.

His abode has been established in Salem, his dwelling place in Zion.

He was delivered up to death that he might quicken his people.

HYMN: "Jesus, in Your Dying Woes" - LSB #447, stanzas 16-18



Homily Pastor Joshua Errer



Collect for the Sixth Word from the Cross

Lord Jesus, on the cross you cried out, "It is finished! We thank you that you completed the work which your Father gave you to do: you fulfilled the Law of God for us; you bore the curse of the Law in our place; you reconciled all people to God. Grant that we may with our whole heart believe this and may never rely on any merit of our own, but always trust in your finished work on Calvary; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

HYMN: "O Darkest Woe" - LSB #448

"How Deep the Father's Love For Us" - Stuart Townend Karin Barth, soloist

MEDITATION

During this period of meditation, those who must leave may do so in silence as others enter for the meditation on the Seventh Word from the Cross at 2:30.

THE SEVENTH WORD FROM THE CROSS

"Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!"

The Reproaches

My people, what have I done to you? How have I offended you? Answer me! I led you out of Egypt, from slavery to freedom, but you led your savior to the cross.

Holy is God! Holy and strong! Holy immortal One, have mercy on us!

For forty years I led you safely through the desert. I fed you with manna from heaven, and brought you to a land of plenty; but you led your savior to the cross.

Holy is God! Holy and strong! Holy immortal One, have mercy on us!

I opened the sea before you, but you opened my side with a spear.

Holy is God! Holy and strong! Holy immortal One, have mercy on us!

I led you on your way in a pillar of cloud, but you led me to Pilate's court.

Holy is God! Holy and strong! Holy immortal One, have mercy on us!

I gave you saving water from the rock, but you gave me gall and vinegar to drink. Holy is God! Holy and strong! Holy immortal One, have mercy on us!

For you I struck down the kings of Canaan, but you struck my head with a reed. Holy is God! Holy and strong! Holy immortal One, have mercy on us!

I gave you a royal scepter but you gave me a crown of thorns.

Holy is God! Holy and strong! Holy immortal One, have mercy on us!

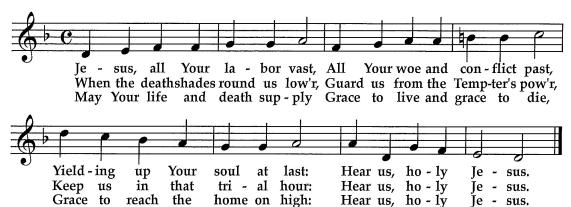
I raised you to the height of majesty, but you have raised me high on a cross.

Holy is God! Holy and strong! Holy immortal One, have mercy on us!

What more could I have done for you I planted you as my fairest vine, but you yielded only bitterness. When I was thirsty you gave me vinegar to drink, and you pierced your savior's side with a lance.

Holy is God! Holy and strong! Holy immortal One, have mercy on us!

HYMN: "Jesus in Your Dying Woes" - LSB #447, stanzas 19-21



Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father and Savior of the world, hear us as with humble and adoring hearts we remember your seven words of love spoken on this day from the cross. Draw us, we beseech you, into closer communion with your Spirit, that the mind which was in you may also be found in us. We remember that when you had cried with a loud voice, you said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit," and then, bowing your head you breathed your last. O Savior of the world, whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing upon earth that I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion for ever. Into your hands I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God. Wherefore we worship and adore your holy name.

Amen

Lesson Saint Luke 23:44-46

Darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit." When He had said this, He breathed His last.

Homily Pastor Joshua Errer (reference front cover)

HYMN "Abide With Me" - *LSB* #878, stanzas 1, 5, 6

- 1. Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.
 The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
 When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
 Help of the helpless, O abide with me.
- I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?I triumph still if Thou abide with me.
- 6. Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes,
 Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
 Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
 In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

MEDITATION

Prayers

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

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 forever and ever. Amen.

The Collect for Good Friday

Almighty God, we ask you to look with mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and 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.

(We depart in silence or remain for a quiet time of contemplation.

Offerings will be received at the door)

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