**Good Friday: *The Journey to the Cross***

**A Service of Scripture, Song, and Reflection**

• This service is available as a playlist on our church’s youtube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLKBiEVOXnXWy0_nyqIJDdrXuc8RzwH2UU>

**• Welcome**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y1vXV8WKIi4&list=PLKBiEVOXnXWy0_nyqIJDdrXuc8RzwH2UU&index=2&t=0s>

This is a reflective service for you to do in your homes on Good Friday. Go through the service at your own pace, taking time to listen to the Scripture lessons and the music, and reflecting upon Jesus’ journey to the cross.

“*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*.”

(Isaiah 53:5)

**• Opening Prayer**

*• Click on the link below for a video of this prayer*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a9h-oMO1-SA&list=PLKBiEVOXnXWy0_nyqIJDdrXuc8RzwH2UU&index=3&t=0s>

Lord Jesus,

Help me to cling to the cross,
be crucified to the world by it,
and in it find,

humility, patience and self-denial,
grace for compassion toward others,
faith to grasp eternal life,
hope to lift up my head,
love to bind me for ever
to you who died and rose for me.

May your shed blood make me
more thankful for your mercies,
more humble under your correction,
more zealous in your service,
more watchful against temptation,
more contented in my circumstances,
more useful to others.

In Jesus’ Name, Amen

**• Opening Song**: **“O Sacred Head Now Wounded”**

*• Click on the link below for the words and the music of this song*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p5hjdz4xZF4>

**• Reading 1: The Suffering Servant**

**Isaiah 52:13-53:12** (read by Anya Knight)

• *Click on the link below to hear the passage read*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7zKAX8rc7hY&list=PLKBiEVOXnXWy0_nyqIJDdrXuc8RzwH2UU&index=17&t=0s>

• As this passage is read, reflect on the ways that Jesus lived out these words through his loving and sacrificial actions on Good Friday. Ponder the heart of God, exemplified in his loving determination to reach out to a broken and sinful humanity and reconcile us to himself through Jesus, who “was pierced for our transgressions” and “was crushed for our iniquities” (Isaiah 53:5).

**• Reading 2: Pilate Condemns Jesus**

**John 19:1-17** (read by Akshat Regani)

• *Click on the link below to hear this passage read*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sFk-6ywdFQo&list=PLKBiEVOXnXWy0_nyqIJDdrXuc8RzwH2UU&index=4>

• Think about the people in this passage. Who seems to have everything under control? Who is frantically running around? Who remains faithful to his convictions? Who is swayed by popular opinion? What enabled Jesus to face such a fearful situation with calmness and courage? How do I respond to situations of fear and stress?

• **Song:**  **“Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed”**

• *Click on the link below for the words and the music of this song*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-AkRqMeG3uI>

**Reading 3: On the Way of Sorrows**

**Luke 23:26-31** (read by Sandi Porter)

• *Click on the link below to hear this passage read*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cAJWEjSzjbQ&list=PLKBiEVOXnXWy0_nyqIJDdrXuc8RzwH2UU&index=6>

• Simon from Cyrene was pulled from the crowd and forced to carry Jesus’ cross. Am I willing to carry the cross for Jesus? What am I called to do for Jesus today?

**Reading 4: The Crucifixion**

**Luke 23:32-43** (read by Gabriel Pattenden)

 • *Click on the link below to hear the passage read*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AAQwDXGgO7g&list=PLKBiEVOXnXWy0_nyqIJDdrXuc8RzwH2UU&index=7>

• Jesus prays for his enemies to be forgiven and he offers salvation to the thief on the cross. Even in a moment of great suffering and pain, Jesus was compassionate and forgiving toward others. Spend some time in quiet reflection, making you confession of sin to Christ and receiving his forgiveness and salvation. Know that through the cross you are forgiven!

• **Song: Amazing Love (My Lord, What Love is This)**

• *Click on the link below for the words and the music of this song*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xrU145d4cKY>

**• Reading 5: Jesus Cares for his Mother**

**John 19:25-27** (read by Clotilda Joseph)

• *Click on the link below to hear this passage read*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Llw1Kd_RIg&list=PLKBiEVOXnXWy0_nyqIJDdrXuc8RzwH2UU&index=9>

• Even as Jesus was dying, he was thinking about his dear mother and her care. Through Jesus’ death, we are all joined together with other Christians to form a new family. How can we show care and love toward our brothers and sisters today?

**Reading 6: The Death of Jesus**

**Mark 15:33-41** (read by Rebecca Neal)

• *Click on the link below to hear this passage read*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wQE11sQaSZc&list=PLKBiEVOXnXWy0_nyqIJDdrXuc8RzwH2UU&index=10>

• **Song: “Were You There”**

• *Click on the link to hear this song*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fpSScICWJ9M>

**• Meditation: A Soldier’s Tale** (read by Jim Knight)

This meditation is a first-person account of the crucifixion, so there has been some creative license taken. I invite you to put on your imagination caps and listen to his story. Click on the link below to hear the meditation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HNtrcr585OA&list=PLKBiEVOXnXWy0_nyqIJDdrXuc8RzwH2UU&index=12>

**• Prayer of Reflection**

• *Spend some time in reflection and prayer using the prayer below.*

Christ Jesus you hung upon a cross and died for us,

So that we might live for you.

Your body was broken and your blood shed,

So that we might be healed and made whole.

You were faithful unto death ,

So that we might be faithful unto life.

Your last command was that we might love one another,

One family together from every tribe and nation,

A new creation united through your sacrifice.

Redeemed by your blood,

Healed by your love,

United by your covenant of peace.

In your death may we find life.

Amen.

**• Reading 7: Jesus’ Lament**

**Psalm 22:1-19** (read by Chuk Eke)

• *Click on the link below to hear the passage read*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fpAvIQifQMQ&list=PLKBiEVOXnXWy0_nyqIJDdrXuc8RzwH2UU&index=13>

• **Song: “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”**

• *Click on the link below for the words and the music of this song*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tkx8WAycYAc>

**• Closing Prayer**

• *Click on the link below for a video of this prayer*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qrWmNycyzDo&list=PLKBiEVOXnXWy0_nyqIJDdrXuc8RzwH2UU&index=15>

Jesus, we wait here by your tomb
carrying our grief;
the grief of the betrayer,
the grief of the denier,
the grief of the crucifiers.
We carry the grief of the lost,
the heartbroken, the bereft.
Upon you was laid the grief of us all.
It is finished.
God of endings, God of darkness,
God of the tomb, God of dark days and great loss,
be with us now as we wait with Jesus.

Amen.