

GOOD FRIDAY
A Lenten Journey with Joseph
"It is Finished"
April 15, 2022

OPENING SENTENCES

**L: In this Lenten season, we have journeyed with Joseph in Genesis
C: and now come close to the cross of Christ on Calvary.**

**THE First READING for our Good Friday Worship is from St John, chapters 18-19.
(18:28–19:16a)**

Then they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the governor's headquarters. It was early morning. They themselves did not enter the governor's headquarters, so that they would not be defiled, but could eat the Passover. So Pilate went outside to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" They answered him, "If this man were not doing evil, we would not have delivered him over to you." Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law." The Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death." This was to fulfill the word that Jesus had spoken to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?" Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world." Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice." Pilate said to him, "What is truth?"

After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, "I find no guilt in him. But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover. So do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?" They cried out again, "Not this man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a robber.

Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. They came up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and struck him with their hands. Pilate went out again and said to them, "See, I am bringing him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in him." So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe.

Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!" When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him." The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God." When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. He entered his headquarters again and said to Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. So Pilate said to him, "You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have authority to release you and authority to crucify you?" Jesus answered him, "You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore he who delivered me over to you has the greater sin."

From then on Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are not Caesar's friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar." So when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Stone Pavement, and in Aramaic Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour.

He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" They cried out, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

ANTHEM **"Jesus Died on Calvary's Mountain"**
 Adult Choir & Soloist, Mary & Eric Stake
 American Folk Hymn **Arr. By John Leavitt**

Jesus died on Calvary's mountain long time ago.
And salvation's rolling fountain now freely flows.
Once His voice in tones of pity melted in woe,
And He wept o'er Judah's city long time ago.

On His head the dews of midnight fell, long ago,
Now a crown of dazzling sunlight sits on His brow.
Jesus died, yet lives forever, no more to die,
Bleeding Jesus, bleeding Savior, now reigns on high.

Children, let your lights be burning in hope of heaven,
Waiting for the Lord's returning at dawn of evening.
When He comes, a voice from heaven shall pierce the tomb,
"Come, ye blessed of My Father: children, come home.

**SELECTED VERSES FROM PSALM 38 WILL BE READ RESPONSIVELY. (*Psalm 38:1–4, 18, 22;*
antiphon: Isaiah 53:5)**

**L: He was wounded for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities;
C: upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His stripes we are
healed.**

**L: O LORD, rebuke me not in your anger,
C: nor discipline me in your wrath!**

**L: For your arrows have sunk into me,
C: and your hand has come down on me.**

**L: There is no soundness in my flesh because of your indignation;
C: there is no health in my bones because of my sin.
L: For my iniquities have gone over my head;
C: like a heavy burden, they are too heavy for me.**

**L: I confess my iniquity;
C: I am sorry for my sin.**

**L: Make haste to help me,
C: O Lord, my salvation!**

**L: He was wounded for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities;
C: upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His stripes we are
healed.**

***Let us pause in silence for reflection on the Word of God and our sins which were carried
by the Christ on the cross.***

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**L: Jesus, our Savior and Lord, lead us to behold the evil of a fallen creation, the agony
of Your rejection, the pain of Your condemnation, and the horror of Your crucifixion.
C: As we approach the cross on Calvary, let us become mindful of our sins and of our
willful rebellion against Your will and ways.**

**L: Eternal God, we confess that we have turned away from You in our thinking,
speaking, and doing.
C: We have lived for ourselves and have refused to bear the burdens of others.**

**L: We have not loved You with our whole heart,
C: and have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**L: We often fail to see the good You work at Your time and in Your way,
even amid the evil around us.
C: Our faith suffers in doubt, and we lose our trust in You.**

**L: We can only say:
C: Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!**

(Pastor Pronounces the Forgiveness of Sins)

PV: Even on this somber night with broken and contrite hearts and evil actions recalled, know and hear the Good News! Foreshadowed by Joseph and saints of old, Jesus is the fulfillment of all that was promised and written since the fall into sin. By His miraculous birth, perfect life, suffering, and sacrificial death, He has taken every sin upon Himself and brought them to the cross for you. For His sake, God forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

HYMN No. 439 "O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken" (vss. 1, 5)

**O dearest Jesus, what law hast Thou broken
That such sharp sentence should on Thee be spoken?
Of what great crime hast Thou to make confession,
What dark transgression?**

**The sinless Son of God must die in sadness;
The sinful child of man may live in gladness;
Man forfeited his life and is acquitted;
God is committed!**

☩ WORD ☩

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**L: Let us pray.
Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C: Amen.**

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING ACCORDING TO ISAIAH, CHAPTERS 52 & 53.

(Isaiah 52:13—53:12)

**Behold, my servant shall act wisely;
he shall be high and lifted up,
and shall be exalted.**

**As many were astonished at you—
his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance,
and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—
so shall he sprinkle many nations.**

**Kings shall shut their mouths because of him,
for that which has not been told them they see,
and that which they have not heard they understand.**

**Who has believed what he has heard from us?
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?
For he grew up before him like a young plant,
and like a root out of dry ground;
he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,
and no beauty that we should desire him.
He was despised and rejected by men,
a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;
and as one from whom men hide their faces
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.**

**Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.
But he was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his wounds we are healed.
All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.**

**He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he opened not his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he opened not his mouth.**

By oppression and judgment he was taken away;
and as for his generation, who considered
that he was cut off out of the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people?
And they made his grave with the wicked
and with a rich man in his death,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him;
he has put him to grief;
when his soul makes an offering for guilt,
he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days;
the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied;
by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant,
make many to be accounted righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.

Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong,
because he poured out his soul to death
and was numbered with the transgressors;
yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" Adult Choir

THE EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS CHAPTERS 4 & 5. *(Hebrews 4:14–16; 5:7–9)*

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need...

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence...

Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him,

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

VERSE *Isaiah 53:4*

L: Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows;

C: yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

HOLY GOSPEL *John 19:16b–30* (The crucifixion and death of Jesus)

L: The Holy Gospel according to John, the nineteenth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

So they took Jesus, and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called The Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, in Latin, and in Greek. So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but rather, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom, so they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be." This was to fulfill the Scripture which says,

"They divided my garments among them,
and for my clothing they cast lots."

So the soldiers did these things, but standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst." A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN No. 437 "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed (vss. 1-3)

**Alas! And did my Savior bleed, And did my sov'reign die?
Would He devote that sacred head For such a worm as I?**

**Was it for crimes that I had done He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown, And love beyond degree!**

**Well might the sun in darkness hide And shut his glories in
When God, the mighty maker, died For His own creatures' sin.**

SERMON READING *Genesis 50:15–21* (God's good purposes)

L: The Reading from Genesis chapter 50 will be serving as the focus for today's message.

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, 'Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "It is Finished!"

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Let us stand before the Lord as we make our petitions to Him.

L: Heavenly Father, we are torn by so many conflicting thoughts and feelings on this holy night. We grieve our Savior's suffering and death and feel shame in the knowledge that our sin made His death necessary. We repent, Father, of our sin. Ease our grief and remove our shame. What was meant for evil, You made good. We are forgiven.

C: It is finished.

L: Amid sadness, Father, You bring us infinite joy and gladness. Though He could have called down a legion of angels to rescue, it is because of Jesus' complete and all-surpassing sacrifice that we can be forgiven. It was because of His love that we can be restored to Your good plans. It was because of His suffering and death that we have Your mercy. Lord, what we can understand of Jesus' sacrifice overwhelms us with amazement. Yet we cannot begin to grasp the extent of the ordeal He endured when the world's sin separated Him from You. Instill in us awe and wonder at His incredible love for us. What was meant for evil, You made good. We are forgiven.

C: It is finished.

L: Father, teach us to hear well the clear message of Your love for us that we may live as Your people every day. Through Jesus' separation from You on the cross, we have been restored. Through His shame, our shame is removed. Through His condemnation as the wages of sin, we have been freed. What was meant for evil, You made good. We are forgiven.

C: It is finished.

L: Father, while we delight in the wonder and mystery of this holy night and rejoice in the grace won for us on the cross, the world continues in its futile and empty course, ignorant of what You have done. Give us courage and boldness to speak the truth of Your story to those around us. Keep us in Your care during these lonely hours and return us soon to this place to celebrate the completion of the story of Your great love manifest in our Savior, Jesus. What was meant for evil, You made good. We are forgiven.

C: It is finished.

L: We pray all these things in His holy name.

C: Amen.

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

**All: 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.

✘ SERVICE OF DARKNESS ✘

L: Also called “The Tenebrae Service” this Service of darkness focuses our thoughts on the deep agony of our Lord Jesus as He completes the work of our salvation on the cross. One candle will be extinguished following each reading, until we come to the Lord commending His Spirit to God in the darkness of death. The readings are taken from the Gospels of Matthew, Luke and John.

FIRST WORD *Luke 23:32–34a* (“Father, forgive them.”)

Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. [33] And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. And Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”

HYMN No. 440 “Jesus I Will Ponder Now” (vs. 1)

Jesus, I will ponder now On your holy Passion;
With Your Spirit me endow For such meditation.
Grant that I in love and faith May the image cherish
Of your suff’ring, pain, and death That I may not perish.

SECOND WORD *Luke 23:35–43*

And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!” The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, “Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!” But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.” And he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” And he said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

HYMN No. 611 “Chief of Sinners Though I Be” (vs. 1)

**Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed His blood for me,
Died that I might live on high, Lives that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.**

THIRD WORD *John 19:25–27*

But standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son!” Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

HYMN No. 752 “Be Still, My Soul” (vs.1)

**Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side;
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to your God to order and provide;
In ev’ry change He faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul; your best, your heav’nly Friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.**

FOURTH WORD *Matthew 27:45–47*

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, “This man is calling Elijah.”

HYMN No. 752 “Be Still, My Soul” (vs.4)

**Be still, my soul; the hour is hast’ning on
When we shall be forever with the Lord,
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
Sorrow forgot, love’s purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.**

FIFTH WORD *John 19:28–29*

After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), “I thirst.” A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth.

HYMN No. 107 (LBW) “Beneath the Cross of Jesus” (vss. 1-2)

Beneath the Cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand
The shadow of a mighty rock Within a weary land
A home within a wilderness, A rest upon the way
From the burning of the noon-tide heat And burdens of the day.

Upon the Cross of Jesus, Mine eye at times can see
The very dying from of One Who suffered there for me
And from my smitten heart, with tears, Two wonders I confess
The wonder of His glorious love, And my own worthlessness.

SIXTH WORD *John 19:29–30*

A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “It is finished,” and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

HYMN No. 547 “The Lamb” (vss. 1-3)

The Lamb, the Lamb, O Father, where's the sacrifice?
Faith sees, believes God will provide the Lamb of price!
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

The Lamb, the Lamb, One perfect final offering.
The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

The Lamb, the Lamb, As wayward sheep their shepherd kill
So still, His will On our behalf the Law to fill.
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

SEVENTH WORD *Luke 23:44–46; Matthew 27:54*

It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last.

When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!"



Let us take a Moment of silence to contemplate the mystery of God's love which led Jesus to His death for us

SOLO "Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted" sung by Fernando Ortega

CLOSING SENTENCES *Genesis 50:20; Isaiah 53:5; John 19:30*

L: In this Lenten season, we have journeyed with Joseph in Genesis
C: and now come to the cross of Christ on Calvary and His crucifixion.

L: What was meant for evil,
C: God meant for good.

L: He was wounded for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities;
C: upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His stripes we are healed.

L: It is finished.
C: In Christ, we are forgiven.

L: The God of all grace, who gave His Son for us, facing the death we deserved and laid in the tomb, has done this for us. Even and especially on Good Friday with sadness and sorrow, be thankful—this is Jesus Christ, our Savior.
C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN No. 456 "Were You There" (vss 1-2)

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?

READING *John 19:38–42*

After these things Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took away his body. Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight. So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

HYMN No. 456 “Were You There” (vs. 3)

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

STREPITUS

A loud sound is heard, signifying the closing of the tomb.

Silence for meditation.

The congregation exits in silence.