



Order of Worship

March 30th, 2018



Good Friday

(Passion Gospel Service)

*This liturgy was written by the Rev. Dr. Scotty J. Williams
and was celebrated in St. Gallen, Switzerland at
All Souls Protestant Church which is now dissolved.*

LITURGY

March 30, 2018

Good Friday

† WELCOME

Pastor: The Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Pastor: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise!

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: See, God's servant will act wisely; He will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted. Just as there were many who were appalled at Him. His appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any human being and His form marred beyond human likeness.

People: So He will sprinkle many nations, and kings will shut their mouths because of Him. For what they were not told, they will see, and what they have not heard, they will understand.

Pastor: Let us pray.

ALL: Almighty Father, look with mercy upon this Your family for which Your Son, Jesus, was willing to be betrayed, rejected, and to suffer death that we might live. Father, as we fix our eyes upon His cross, let us see Your deepest love in sorrow and pain. And let us understand the costliness of grace, the grace that rests upon us now and makes us righteous in Your sight. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

How deep the Father’s love for us,
 How vast beyond all measure,
 That He should give His only Son
 To make a wretch His treasure.
 How great the pain of searing loss
 The Father turns His face away,
 As wounds which mar the Chosen One
 Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross,
 My sin upon His shoulders;
 Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
 Call out among the scoffers.
 It was my sin that held Him there
 Until it was accomplished;
 His dying breath has brought me life
 I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything,
 No gifts, no power, no wisdom;
 But I will boast in Jesus Christ,
 His death and resurrection.
 Why should I gain from His reward?
 I cannot give an answer;
 But this I know with all my heart
 His wounds have paid my ransom.

Lector: Children of God and friends of Christ, a reading from the
 book of Hebrews:

¹² But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, He sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³ waiting from that time until His enemies should be made a footstool for His feet. ¹⁴ For by a single offering He has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

¹⁵ And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying,

¹⁶ “This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: I will put My laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds,”

¹⁷ then He adds,

“I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.”

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

¹⁹ Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by the new and living way that He opened for us through the curtain, that is, through His flesh, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near 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.

Lector: This is the Word of God for you, the people of God!

People: Thanks be to God!

† SECOND SONG

“Nothing But The Blood of Jesus”

words and music by Robert Lowrey, 1876 (Indelible Grace)

What can wash away my sin?
 Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
 What can make me whole again?
 Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

[CHORUS]

*Oh! Precious is the flow
 That makes me white as snow;
 No other fount I know,
 Nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

For my pardon, this I see,
 Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
 For my cleansing, this my plea,
 Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

[CHORUS]

Nothing can for sin atone,
 Nothing but the blood of Jesus
 Naught of good that I have done,
 Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

[CHORUS]

This is all my hope and peace,
 Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
 This is all my righteousness,
 Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

[CHORUS]

† THE PASSION GOSPEL I

John 18-19:3

Pastor: And now let us read together the Passion of our Lord according to St. John the Apostle...

Jesus went out with His disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which He and His disciples entered. Now Judas, who betrayed Him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with His disciples. So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to Him, came forward and asked them,

Jesus: Whom are you looking for?

Pastor: And they answered,

People: *Jesus of Nazareth.*

Pastor: Then Jesus replied,

Jesus: I am He.

Pastor: And Judas, who betrayed Him, was standing with them, and when Jesus said to them, ‘I am He,’ they stepped back and fell to the ground. Then again He asked them,

Jesus: Whom are you looking for?

Pastor: And they said,

People: *Jesus of Nazareth.*

Pastor: Then Jesus answered,

Jesus: I told you that I am He. So if you are looking for Me, let these men go.

Pastor: This was to fulfil the word that He had spoken, ‘I did not lose a single one of those whom You gave Me.’ Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest’s slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave’s name was Malchus. Then Jesus said to Peter,

Jesus: Put your sword back into its sheath.
Am I not to drink the cup
that the Father has given me?

Pastor: So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him. First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people. Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. Then the woman said to Peter,

Woman: You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?

Pastor: And Peter said,

Peter: I am not.

Pastor: Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself. Then the high priest questioned Jesus about His disciples and about His teaching. And Jesus answered him,

Jesus: I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask Me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said.

Pastor: When He had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying,

Police: Is that how You answer the high priest?

Pastor: Jesus answered,

Jesus: If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong.
But if I have spoken rightly,
Why do you strike Me?

Pastor: Then Annas sent Him bound to Caiaphas the high priest. Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. And they asked him,

People: You are not also one of His disciples, are you?

Pastor: Peter denied it and said,

Peter: I am not.

Pastor: Then One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked,

Relative: Did I not see you in the garden with Him?

Pastor: And again Peter denied it, and at that moment a rooster crowed. Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. So Pilate went out to them and said,

Pilate: What accusation do you bring against this man?

Pastor: They answered,

People: If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed Him over to you.

Pastor: Then Pilate said to them,

Pilate: Take Him yourselves and judge Him according to your law.

Pastor: But the Jews replied,

People: We are not permitted to put anyone to death.

Pastor: This was to fulfil what Jesus had said when He indicated the kind of death He was to die. Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked Him,

Pilate: Are you the King of the Jews?

Pastor: And Jesus answered,

Jesus: Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about Me?

Pastor: Then Pilate replied,

Pilate: I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed You over to me. What have You done?

Pastor: And Jesus answered him,

Jesus: My kingdom is not from this world. If My kingdom were from this world, My followers would be fighting to keep Me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, My kingdom is not from here.

Pastor: Then Pilate asked him,

Pilate: So you are a king?

Pastor: And Jesus answered,

Jesus: You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.

Pastor: Pilate asked Him,

Pilate: What is truth?

Pastor: After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them,

Pilate: I find no case against him. But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?

Pastor: But they shouted in reply,

People: *Not this man, but Barabbas!*

Pastor: Now Barabbas was a bandit. Then Pilate took Jesus and had Him flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on His head, and they dressed Him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to Him, saying,

People: *Hail, King of the Jews!*

+ THIRD SONG

“O Sacred Head Now Wounded”

words by Paul Gerhardt, 1656; music by Johann S. Bach, 1729

O sacred head, now wounded,
With grief and shame weighed down,
Now scornfully surrounded
With thorns, Your only crown.
O sacred head, what glory
And blessing You have known!
Yet, though despised and gory,
I claim You as my own.

My Lord, what You did suffer
was all for sinner's gain;
Mine, mine was the transgression,
But Yours the deadly pain.
So here I kneel, my Savior,
For I deserve Your place;
Look on me with Your favor
And save me by Your grace.

What language shall I borrow
To thank You, dearest Friend,
For this, Your dying sorrow,
Your pity without end?
Lord, make me Yours forever,
A loyal servant true,
And let me never, never
Outlive my love for You.

† THE PASSION GOSPEL II

John 19:4-42

Pastor: And striking Him on the face. Pilate went out again and said to them,

Pilate: *Look, I am bringing Him out to you to let you know that I find no case against Him.*

Pastor: So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them,

Pilate: *Here is the man!*

Pastor: When the chief priests and the police saw Him, they shouted,

People: *Crucify Him! Crucify Him!*

Pastor: Then Pilate said to them,

Pilate: *Take Him yourselves and crucify Him; I find no case against Him.*

Pastor: Then the Jews answered him,

People: *We have a law, and according to that law He ought to die because He has claimed to be the Son of God.*

Pastor: Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus,

Pilate: *Where are you from?*

Pastor: But Jesus gave him no answer. Pilate therefore said to Him,

Pilate: *Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release You, and power to crucify You?*

Pastor: Jesus answered him,

Jesus: *You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore, the one who handed Me over to you is guilty of a greater sin.*

Pastor: From then on Pilate tried to release Him, but the Jews cried out,

People: *If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor.*

Pastor: When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. Pilate said to the Jews,

Pilate: *Here is your King!*

Pastor: But they cried out,

People: *Away with Him! Away with Him! Crucify Him!*

Pastor: Then Pilate asked them,

Pilate: *Shall I crucify your King?*

Pastor: Then the chief priests answered,

People: *We have no king but the emperor.*

Pastor: Then he handed Him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by Himself, He went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. There they crucified Him, and with Him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, 'Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.' Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate,

People: *Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'*

Pastor: Pilate answered them,

Pilate: *What I have written I have written.*

Pastor: When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took His clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took

His tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another,

People: **Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it.**

Pastor: This was to fulfil what the Scripture says, ‘They divided My clothes among themselves, and for My clothing they cast lots.’ And that is what the soldiers did. Meanwhile, standing near 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 [John] whom He loved standing beside her, He said to His mother,

Jesus: **Woman, here is your son.**

Pastor: Then He said to John,

Jesus: **Here is your mother.**

Pastor: And from that hour John took her into his own home. After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, He said in order to fulfil the Scripture,

Jesus: **I am thirsty.**

Pastor: A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to His mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, He said,

Jesus: **It is finished.**

Pastor: Then Jesus bowed His head and gave up His spirit.

(Pause for a moment and extinguish the Christ candle and altar candles in silence)

Pastor: Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the Sabbath, especially because that Sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and their bodies removed. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. (He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, ‘None of His bones shall be broken.’ And again another passage of Scripture says, ‘They will look on the One whom they have pierced.’

After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed His body. Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds.

Then they took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where He was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

† THE PROCLAMATION OF THE CROSS

Pastor: Brothers and Sisters, St. Paul says that we have been crucified with Christ and all the burdens that we will bear (be they sins or sufferings) have been put to death with Him. Therefore, I invite you now to write down your burdens, and to leave them at the cross with the One Whose death has brought us life.

(As the people lay the strips of paper with their burdens before the cross, the minister will anoint them with oil and give them a blessing.)

+ FOURTH SONG

“Were You There”

words and music by African American Spiritual, Unknown

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?

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?

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

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?

+ INTERCESSIONS

Pastor: Brothers and Sisters, God sent His Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. Therefore, we pray to our heavenly Father for people everywhere according to their needs....

For the Church of God throughout the world

For unity in faith, in witness, and in service

For our Landeskirche, its leaders, and those we seek to serve

For all Christians in this place

For those to be baptized

And for those who are mocked and persecuted for their faith

Lord, in Your mercy

ALL: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: For the rulers of every land

For those who administer the law and serve in public office

And for all who strive for justice, peace, and reconciliation

Lord, in Your mercy

ALL: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: For the Jewish people, the first to hear the Word of God

And for the Palestinians, who were among the first that worshipped Christ, the Living Word God

For greater understanding between Christians, Jews, and Muslims and all others faiths around the world.

For those who are skeptical and doubt

And for those who have lost their faith and don't believe

Lord, in Your mercy

ALL: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: For those we hate and struggle to love
 For the contemptuous and the scornful
 For those who are our enemies
 And for those we often overlook
 Lord, in Your mercy

ALL: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: For those who are deprived and oppressed
 For all who are sick and suffering
 For those in darkness, despair, loneliness, and fear
 For prisoners and the victims of violence and war
 And for all at the point of death and those who care for them
 Lord, in Your mercy

ALL: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Almighty and everlasting God,
 the comfort of the sad, and the strength of the suffering;
 Hear the prayers of Your children who cry out in all of their
 troubles, and to every distressed soul grant mercy, relief, and
 joy. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**ALL: Merciful Father,
 accept these prayers,
 for the sake of Your Son,
 our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen**

CLOSING PRAYER

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, we pray that You set
 Your passion, cross, and death between all judgment and our
 souls, now and in the hour of our death. Give mercy and grace
 to the living; pardon and rest to the dead; to Your holy Church
 peace and harmony; and to us, Your people, everlasting life and
 glory; for You live and reign now and forever. Amen.

+ THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: And now let us pray the prayer Jesus taught us 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.**

+ BENEDICTION

Pastor: May the Holy Spirit, Who strengthens us
 to suffer with Christ, that we may share in His glory,
 set your minds on life and peace as You await the joy of Easter.
 And may the blessing of God Almighty,
 the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
 be upon you and with you always.

ALL: Amen.

† FIFTH SONG

“When I Survey The Wondrous Cross”

words by Isaac Watts; 17087; music by Lowell Mason, 1824

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God;
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small:
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

*(The minister covers the cross with a black cloth, the sanctuary's lights
are slowly turned off, and everyone silently leaves in darkness.)*