

**Good
Friday**



Bethel Presbyterian (U.S.A.)
Good Friday Service
April 7, 2023 - 6:30 PM

** Indicates congregation standing if able.
Congregational responses indicated in bold.*

(All gather in silence)

Chiming of the Hour

GATHERING

Opening Sentences (*L = Leader, P = People*)

L: Christ Jesus bore our sins in his body on the cross
so that we might die to sin and live for righteousness.

P: Blessed is the name of the Lord.

Prayer

Let us pray:

Almighty God, 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, now and forever. Amen.

* Hymn No. 223 **“WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS”**

HAMBURG

*When I sur-vey the won-drous cross
on which the Prince of glo-ry died,
my rich-est gain I count but loss,
and pour con-tempt on all my pride.*

*For-bid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ my God;*

*all the vain things that charm me most,
I sac-ri-fice them to his blood.*

*See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sor-row and love flow min-gled down;
did e'er such love and sor-row meet,
or thorns com-pose so rich a crown?*

*Were the whole realm of na-ture mine,
that were a pres-ent far too small;
love so a-maz-ing, so di-vine,
de-mands my soul, my life, my all.*

CONFESSION

Call to Confession

L: Since we have a high priest who can sympathize with our weaknesses,
but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are,
yet without sin,

**P: Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness,
so that we may receive mercy and find grace
to help in time of need.**

Prayer of Confession

L: Christ Jesus was despised and rejected.

P: We thought nothing of him.

L: He was oppressed and afflicted.

P: We hid our face from him.

L: He bore our sickness and sin.

P: We believed God was punishing him.

L: We, like sheep, have gone astray.

P: Yet he, like a lamb, was led to the slaughter.

[silent confession]

L: Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

P: Lamb of God, grant us peace. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

L: Surely, Jesus Christ has borne our sin.

P: **By his wounds we are healed.**

Choral Anthem

“When Jesus Wept”

William Billings

*When Jesus wept, the falling tear in mercy flowed beyond all bound.
When Jesus groaned, a trembling fear seized all the guilty world around.*

THE WORD

First Reading

Gospel John 18:1-27 (*The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus*) Pg. 105

Hymn No. 228 “WERE YOU THERE” – Verse 1

*Were you there when they cru-ci-fied my Lord?
Were you there when they cru-ci-fied my Lord?
O! ---- Some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.
Were you there when they cru-ci-fied my Lord?*

Second Reading

Gospel John 18:28 – 19:18 (*Jesus before Pilate*) Pg. 106

Hymn No. 228 “WERE YOU THERE” – Verse 2

*Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
O! ---- Some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?*

Third Reading

Gospel John 19:19-37 (*The Crucifixion of Jesus*) Pg. 107

Hymn No. 228 “WERE YOU THERE” – Verse 3

*Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
O! ---- Some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.
Were you there when they pierced him in the side?*

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

O! ---- Some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

THE SOLEMN INTERCESSION

L: Beloved people of God, as Jesus stretched out his arms on the cross to offer life and salvation to all, let us pray for the world that God loves so much.

Let us pray for the church throughout the world.

Silent prayer.

P: 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.

L: Let us pray for this presbytery and congregation.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God, your Spirit guides the church and makes it holy. Strengthen and uphold pastors and other leaders; keep them in health and safety for the good of the church. Help each of us to do faithfully the work to which you have called us. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

L: Let us pray for people of other faiths.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God, gather into your embrace all those who call out to you under different names. Bring an end to inter-religious strife, and make us more faithful in our witness to the love made known to us in your Son. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

L: Let us pray for those who cannot believe.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you created humanity so that all might long to know you and find peace in you. Grant that all may recognize 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.

L: Let us pray for God's creation.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you are the creator of a magnificent universe. Hold this world in the arms of your care, heal the damage we have done, and bring all things to fulfillment in you. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

L: Let us pray for the leaders and people of all nations.

Silent prayer.

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

L: Let us pray for all who suffer or are in need.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart. 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 Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord's Prayer (*our sins / those who sin against us*) Hymnal Pg. 35

L: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

**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 sins,
as we forgive those who sin 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.
Amen.**

Hymn No. 221 "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" PASSION CHORALE

*O sa-cred head, now wound-ed, with grief and shame weigh-ed down;
now scorn-ful-ly sur-round-ed with thorns, thine on-ly crown;
O sa-cred head, what glo-ry, what bliss till now was thine!
Yet, though de-spised and gor-y, I joy to call thee mine.*

*What thou, my Lord, hast suf-fered was all for sin-ners' gain:
mine, mine was the trans-gres-sion, but thine the dead-ly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Sav-ior! 'Tis I de-serve thy place;
look on me with thy fa-vor, and grant to me thy grace.*

*What lan-guage shall I bor-row to thank thee, dear-est friend,
for this thy dy-ing sor-row, thy pit-y with-out end?
O make me thine for-ev-er; and should I faint-ing be,
Lord, let me nev-er, nev-er out-live my love to thee.*

*All depart in silence.
The service continues on Easter Sunday.*



MUSIC ATTRIBUTIONS

“Where You There”

Text: African American spiritual

Music: African American spiritual; arr. Melva Wilson Costen, 1987

Music Arr. © 1990 Melva Wilson Costen

PUBLIC DOMAIN

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

“O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

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