

# GATHERED WORSHIP SERVICE

for the  
**Glory of God**  
and the  
**Renewal of His People**

April 2, 2010

Good Friday

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(If the temperature of the building is too cool, please inform an usher and avail yourself of shawls in the lobby.)

*To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort;  
to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior;  
to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;  
and to all who will come, this church opens wide her doors  
and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*



This Friday in the Christian calendar is called Good Friday. On this day, the church commemorates Jesus' arrest (since by Jewish customs of counting days from sundown to sundown it was already Friday), his trial, crucifixion and suffering, death, and burial. It is *good* in the sense that the dark events of the day accomplished God's plan of redemption.

## REFLECTION and PREPARATION

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.”

*Matthew 5:4*

“Though the Witch knew the deep magic, there is a magic deeper still which she did not know. If she could have looked a little further back...she would have known that when a willing victim who had committed no treachery was killed in a traitor’s stead, the Table would crack and Death itself would start working backward.”

*Aslan, The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*

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

Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?

<sup>2</sup>O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer,  
and by night, but I find no rest.

<sup>3</sup>Yet you are holy,  
enthroned on the praises of Israel...

<sup>22</sup> I will tell of your name to my brothers;  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:...

<sup>24</sup>For he has not despised or abhorred  
the affliction of the afflicted,  
and he has not hidden his face from him,  
but has heard, when he cried to him...

<sup>26</sup> The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek him shall praise the LORD!  
May your hearts live forever!

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn to the LORD,  
and all the families of the nations  
shall worship before you.

<sup>28</sup>For kingship belongs to the LORD,  
and he rules over the nations.

*Psalms 22 – A Psalm of David*

“Christ’s desertion is preventive of your final desertion. Because he was forsaken for a time you shall not be forsaken forever.  
For he was forsaken for you.”

*John Flavel*

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## ADORING JESUS, MAN OF SORROWS

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(\*Congregation invited to stand, as able.)

### \*CALL to WORSHIP

*Minister: God forbid that we should glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*Galatians 6*

**People: Christ has humbled himself and become obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.**

*Philippians 2*

*Minister: God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.*

*Romans 5*

**People: He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.**

*Minister: By his wounds we have been healed.*

*I Peter 2*

**\*SONG of ADORATION**

**Hallelujah What A Savior!**

Words and Music: Philip P. Bliss

“Man of Sorrows!” What a name  
For the Son of God, who came  
Ruined sinners to reclaim!  
Hallelujah, what a Savior!

Guilty, vile and helpless we,  
Spotless Lamb of God was He;  
Full atonement! Can it be?  
Hallelujah, what a Savior!

*Chorus:*

*Hallelujah, Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, What a Savior!*

Lifted up was He to die,  
“It is finished!” was His cry;  
Now in heav’n exalted high:  
Hallelujah, what a Savior!

*Chorus*

When He comes, our glorious King,  
All His ransomed home to bring,  
Then anew this song we’ll sing:  
Hallelujah, what a Savior!

*Chorus Three Times*

**\*PRAYER of ADORATION**

**\*FIRST SCRIPTURE WITNESS**

Isaiah 52:13-53:12      *The Man of Sorrows was Wounded for our Transgressions*

*After the reading, please respond:*

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

**HYMN**

**O Sacred Head, Now Wounded**

Words: Bernard of Clairvaux  
Music: Johann Sebastian Bach, 1729

O sacred Head, now wounded,  
With grief and shame weighed down;  
Now scornfully surrounded  
With thorns Thine only crown;  
How pale Thou art with anguish,  
With sore abuse and scorn,  
How does that visage languish,  
Which once was bright as morn!

What Thou, my Lord, hast suffered  
Was all for sinners' gain:  
Mine, mine was the transgression,  
But Thine the deadly pain.  
Lo, here I fall, my Savior!  
'Tis I deserve Thy place;  
Look on me with Thy favor,  
Assist me with Thy grace.

What language shall I borrow  
To thank Thee, dearest Friend,  
For this, Thy dying sorrow,  
Thy pity without end?  
O make me Thine forever;  
And should I fainting be,  
Lord, let me never, never  
Outlive my love to Thee.

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## BETRAYAL AND ARREST

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### \*SECOND SCRIPTURE WITNESS

Matthew 26:47-67

*The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus*

*After the reading, please respond:*

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise be to you, Lord Christ!**

### SONG of MEDITATION

#### **How Deep the Father's Love for Us**

Words and Music: Stuart Townend

How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure,  
That he should send 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 pow'r, 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.

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## THE INTERROGATION, TRIAL AND MOCKING

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### \*THIRD SCRIPTURE WITNESS

Matthew 27:1, 2; 11-31

*Jesus is Delivered to Trial and Mocked*

*After the reading, please respond:*

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise be to you, Lord Christ!**

### \*HYMN

#### **When I Survey The Wondrous Cross**

Words: Isaac Watts, 1707

Music: Gregorian Chant

Arr. 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.

Demands my soul, my life, my all.

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## THE CRUCIFIXION AND DEATH

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### **\*FOURTH SCRIPTURE WITNESS**

Matthew 27:32-54

*Jesus is Crucified and Dies*

*After the reading, please respond:*

**Reader:** The Gospel of our Lord.

**People:** Praise be to you, Lord Christ!

### **Confession of Sin**

*(Please pray silently, followed by praying together this prayer as the minister leads):*

**Almighty God, we are not worthy of your presence, but we look now to the Lamb of God, who takes away our sin. Through him we draw near to you: listening to your voice, trusting in your love, delighting in your word, and carried in your arms. Cleanse our minds of all error and our hearts of all idols, that we may share the radiant light of your Spirit and your character with the world. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.**

HYMN

**Beneath The Cross Of Jesus**

Words: Elizabeth C. Clephane; 1872

Music: Frederick C. Maker; 1881

Beneath the cross of Jesus  
I fain would take my stand,  
The shadow of a mighty Rock  
Within a weary land;  
A home within the wilderness,  
A rest upon the way,  
From the burning of the noontide heat  
And the burden of the day.

Upon the cross of Jesus  
Mine eyes at times can see  
The very dying form of One  
Who suffered there for me:  
And from my stricken heart with tears  
Two wonders I confess,  
The wonders of redeeming love  
And my unworthiness.

I take, O cross, thy shadow  
For my abiding place:  
I ask no other sunshine than  
The sunshine of His face;  
Content to let the world go by,  
To know no gain nor loss;  
My sinful self my only shame,  
My glory all the cross.

\*ASSURANCE of PARDON and the PEACE of GOD

from Colossians 1:20

*Minister:* Through Christ, God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**\*FIFTH SCRIPTURE WITNESS**

*Revelation 5:1-14*      *Jesus, the Lamb of God, Enthroned and Worshiped for Eternity*

Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals. And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?" And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. And one of the elders said to me, "Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals."

And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw **a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain**, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song, saying,

"Worthy are you to take the scroll  
and to open its seals,  
for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God  
from every tribe and language and people and nation,  
and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God,  
and they shall reign on the earth."

Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice,

**"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain**, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"

And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying,

"To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"

And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" and the elders fell down and worshiped.

*After the reading, please respond:*

Reader: The Gospel of our Lord.

People: **Praise be to you, Lord Christ!**

## OFFERING and OFFERTORY

*“The Day He Wore My Crown”*

Tonight’s offering collection will be distributed to two mercy ministry efforts one local and one international.

Locally, to Mission 911, a shelter and ministry to the homeless and poor; internationally, to Samaritan’s Purse for earth quakes relief effort in Chile and Haiti.

## PRAYER for GOD’S PEOPLE and HIS WORLD

## HOMILY

**Colossians 1:13-14**

<sup>13</sup>He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

## CELEBRATION of HOLY COMMUNION

*This is an opportunity for all to seek the Lord. The Lord's Supper is an occasion for all Christians to meet with their Savior by faith, to be strengthened and renewed by him, and celebrate him. All who trust alone in Christ as Savior and Lord, embrace the Gospel, seek peace with their neighbor, and seek strength to live more faithfully, are welcome to come forward. If this is not the substance of your faith, or if you choose not to share in this meal, we invite you to spend this time in prayer (see below for prayers).*

*All the cups contain grape juice.*

*Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

**People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Followed by proclaiming boldly:*

*Minister: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.*

**People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*Minister: Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.*

**People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.**

*Minister: The gifts of God are for the people of God.*

### **Words of Institution and Serving of the Elements**

#### **Communion Prayers**

##### ***Prayer for Those Searching for Truth***

*Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding for you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.*

##### ***Prayer of Belief***

*Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior. Amen.*

## At The Cross

Words: Isaac Watts; Ralph E. Hudson, Refrain

Music: Ralph E. Hudson

Alas and did my Savior bleed? And did my Sov'reign die?  
Would He devote that sacred head for sinners such as I?

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

*At the cross, at the cross, where I first saw the light,  
And the burden of my heart rolled away (rolled away).  
It was there by faith I received my sight,  
And now I am happy all the day!*

But drops of grief can ne'er repay the debt of love I owe.  
Here, Lord, I give myself away; 'tis all that I can do.

*At the cross, at the cross, where I first saw the light,  
And the burden of my heart rolled away (rolled away).  
It was there by faith I received my sight,  
And now I am happy all the day!  
(Repeat)*

**\*SONG of RESPONSE**

**You Are My King**

Words and Music: Billy Foote

I'm forgiven because You were forsaken.  
I'm accepted; You were condemned.  
I'm alive and well, Your Spirit is within me  
Because You died and rose again.

*Chorus:*

*Amazing love, how can it be  
That You my King would die for me?  
Amazing love, I know it's true;  
It's my joy to honor You. in all I do I honor You.*

I'm forgiven because You were forsaken.  
I'm accepted; You were condemned.  
I'm alive and well, Your Spirit is within me  
Because You died and rose again.

*Chorus*

You are my King, You are my King.  
Jesus, You are my King. Jesus, You are my King.

*Chorus*

In all I do I honor You. In all I do I honor You.  
In all I do I honor You. In all I do I honor You.

**\*BENEDICTION**

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

*Revelation 1:5-6*

**POSTLUDE**

*We praise the Lord for our accompanists this evening – vocalists and instrumentalists and audio and video technicians.*

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