



First Presbyterian Church
Good Friday Self-Directed Noon Service
April 10, 2020
(Individually or as Reader and Response)

Gathering

Gather in silence.

Opening Sentences

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

Blessed is the name of the Lord.

Prayer of the Day

After a brief silence, the following may be said:

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.**

Word

Prayer for Illumination

Holy One, our strength in suffering and our hope for salvation, lift up your Word of life and pour out your Spirit of grace so that we may follow faithfully all the way to the cross; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 52:13–53:12

Psalm: Psalm 22

Gospel Reading: John 18:1–19:42

Reflections on the Readings

The Solemn Intercession

Bidding prayers for the whole world and family of God are said.

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.

In the biddings that follow, the petitions may be adapted as appropriate. The silence should be of significant length.

Let us pray for the church throughout the world.

Silent prayer.

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.**

Let us pray for this presbytery and congregation.

Silent prayer.

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 Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those preparing for baptism.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, you continue to bless the church with new members. Increase the faith and understanding of those preparing for baptism. Give them new birth as your children. Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy church. Make all the baptized one in the fullness of faith and keep us united in the fellowship of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for people of other faiths.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, gather into your embrace all those who call out to you under different names. Bring an end to interreligious 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.**

Let us pray for those who cannot believe.

Silent prayer.

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.**

Let us pray for God's creation.

Silent prayer.

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.**

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

Silent prayer.

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.**

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

Silent prayer.

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 Christ our Lord. **Amen.** As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray: **Our Father . . .**

Solemn Reproaches of the Cross

A wooden, rough-hewn cross may be carried into the church and placed in front of the people. During the procession the following may be said or sung:

This is the cross that held the Savior of the world.

Come, let us worship God.

This is the cross that held the Savior of the world.

Come, let us worship God.

This is the cross that held the Savior of the world.

Come, let us worship God.

The people may kneel.

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me! I led you out of slavery into freedom, and delivered you through the waters of rebirth, but you have made a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy immortal One, have mercy upon us.

Forty years I led you through the desert, feeding you with manna on the way; I saved you from the time of trial and gave you my body, the bread of heaven, but you have made a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy immortal One, have mercy upon us.

I led you on your way in a pillar of cloud and fire, but you led me to the judgment hall of Pilate; I guided you by the light of the Holy Spirit, but you have made a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy immortal One, have mercy upon us.

I planted you as my fairest vineyard, but you brought forth bitter fruit; I made you branches of the vine and never left your side, but you have made a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy immortal One, have mercy upon us.

I poured out saving water from the rock, but you gave me vinegar to drink; I poured out my life and gave you the new covenant in my blood, but you have made a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy immortal One, have mercy upon us.

I gave you a royal scepter, but you gave me a crown of thorns; I gave you the kingdom and crowned you with eternal life, but you have made a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy immortal One, have mercy upon us.

I struck down your enemies, but you struck my head with a reed; I gave you my peace, but you draw the sword in my name, and you have made a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy immortal One, have mercy upon us.

I opened the waters to lead you to the promised land, but you opened my side with a spear; I washed your feet as a sign of my love, but you have made a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy immortal One, have mercy upon us.

I lifted you up to the heights, but you lifted me high on the cross; I raised you from death and prepared for you the tree of life, but you have made a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy immortal One, have mercy upon us.

I grafted you into my people Israel, but you made them scapegoats for your own guilt, and you have made a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy immortal One, have mercy upon us.

I was hungry and you gave me no food, thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me, and you have made a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy immortal One, have mercy upon us.

Depart in silence.

The service continues Easter Day at 10:45 a.m. live streaming .