

Good Friday

March 29, 2013 - 6:00 PM

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The Word of God

Prelude: O Sacred Head, Sore Wounded (Instrumental)

O sacred head, sore wounded, defiled and put to scorn; O kingly head, surrounded with mocking crown of thorn: What sorrow mars thy grandeur? Can death thy bloom deflower? O countenance whose splendor the hosts of heaven adore!

In thy most bitter passion my heart to share doth cry, with thee for my salvation upon the cross to die. Ah, keep my heart thus moved to stand thy cross beneath, to mourn thee, well-beloved, yet thank thee for thy death.

*Call to Worship

Priest:Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy SpiritAll:And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen

**All*: Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ According to John

(18:1-19; 42)

Narrator: After Jesus had spoken these words, he 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?"

Congregation: Jesus of Nazareth."

Jesus: "I am he."

Narrator: Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they stepped back and fell to the ground. Again he asked them,

Jesus: "Whom are you looking for?"

Congregation: "Jesus of Nazareth."

Jesus: "I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these men go."

Narrator: This was to fulfill 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.

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

Narrator: So the soldiers, their officer, and the 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. The woman said to Peter,

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

Peter: "I am not."

Narrator: 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. Jesus answered,

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."

Narrator: 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?"

Narrator: Jesus answered,

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

Narrator: Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest. Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him,

Congregation: "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?"

Narrator: He denied it and said,

Peter: "I am not."

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

Slave: "Did I not see you in the garden with him?"

Narrator: Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock 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?"

Congregation: "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you."

Narrator: Pilate said to them,

Pilate: "Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law."

Narrator: The crowd replied,

Congregation: "We are not permitted to put anyone to death."

Narrator: (This was to fulfill 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?"

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

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?"

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 crowd. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here."

Pilate: "So you are a king?"

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."

Pilate: "What is truth?"

Narrator: After he had said this, he went out to the crowd 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?"

Narrator: They shouted in reply,

Congregation: "Not this man, but Barabbas!"

Narrator: Now Barabbas was a bandit.

Narrator: 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,

Congregation: "Hail, King of the Jews!"

Narrator: 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."

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

Pilate: "Here is the man!"

Narrator: When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted,

Congregation: "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

Pilate: "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him."

Narrator: The crowd answered him,

Congregation: "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God."

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

Pilate: "Where are you from?"

Narrator: 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?"

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."

Narrator: From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the crowd cried out,

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

Narrator: 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. He said to the crowd,

Pilate: "Here is your King!"

Congregation: "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!"

Pilate: "Shall I crucify your King?"

Congregation: "We have no king but the emperor."

Narrator: Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

(Here, all stand, if they are not doing so already.)

Narrator: 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 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 said to Pilate,

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

Pilate: "What I have written I have written."

Narrator: 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,

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

Narrator: This was to fulfill 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 whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother,

Jesus: "Woman, here is your son."

Narrator: Then he said to the disciple,

Jesus: "Here is your mother."

Narrator: And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home. After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture),

Jesus: "I am thirsty."

Narrator: 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."

Narrator: Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

(Silence is kept for a few moments)

Narrator: 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 the 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 crowd, 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. 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.

Message (please be seated)

*Solemn Prayers

Priest: Dear People of God: Our heavenly Father sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved; that all who believe in him might be delivered from the power of sin and death, and become heirs with him of everlasting life.

We pray, therefore, for people everywhere according to their needs.

Leader: Let us pray for the holy Catholic Church of Christ throughout the world; For its unity in witness and service, for all bishops and other ministers and the people whom they serve, for Katharine, Shannon, and Ted, our Bishops, and all the people of this diocese, for all Christians in this community, that God will confirm his Church in faith, increase it in love and preserve it in peace. (*Silence*)

Priest: Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen**.

Leader: Let us pray for all nations and peoples of the earth, and for those in authority among them; for Barack Obama, President of the United States; for the Congress and the Supreme Court; for the Members and Representatives of the United Nations; for all who serve the common good; that by God's help they may seek justice and truth, and live in peace and concord. (*Silence*)

Priest: Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth; that in tranquility your dominion may increase, until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Leader: Let us pray for all who suffer and are afflicted in body or in mind; for the hungry and the homeless, the destitute, and the oppressed; for the sick, the wounded, and the crippled; for those in loneliness, fear, and anguish; for those who face temptation, doubt, and despair; for the sorrowful and bereaved; for prisoners and captives, and those in mortal danger, that God in his mercy will comfort and relieve them, and grant them the knowledge of his love, and stir up in us the will and patience to minister to their needs. (*Silence*)

Priest: Gracious God, the comfort of all who sorrow, the strength of all who suffer: Let the cry of those in misery and need come to you, that they may find your mercy present with them in all their afflictions; and give us, we pray, the strength to serve them for the sake of him who suffered for us, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Leader: Let us pray for all who have not received the Gospel of Christ; for those who have never heard the word of salvation; for those who have lost their faith; for those hardened by sin or indifference; for the contemptuous and the scornful; for those who are enemies of the cross of Christ and persecutors of his disciples; for those who in the name of Christ have persecuted others; that God will open their hearts to the truth, and lead them to faith and obedience. (*Silence*)

Priest: Merciful God, creator of all the peoples of the earth and lover of souls: Have compassion on all who do not know you as you are revealed in your Son Jesus Christ; let your Gospel be preached with grace and power to those who have not heard it; turn the hearts of those who resist it; and bring home to your fold those who have gone astray; that there may be one flock under one shepherd, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Leader: Let us commit ourselves to our God, and pray for the grace of a holy life, that, with all who have departed this world and have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to God alone, we may be accounted worthy to enter into the fullness of the joy of our Lord, and receive the crown of life in the day of resurrection. (*Silence*)

Priest: O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Veneration of the Cross

A wooden cross is now brought into the church and placed in the sight of the people.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world. If we have died with him, we shall also live with him; if we endure, we shall also reign with him. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

*Song: Were You There

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 pierced him in the side? Were you there when they pierced him in the side? Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble. Tremble. 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? Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

Priest: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

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, for ever and ever. Amen

Priest: Let us pray:

All: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, we pray you to set your passion, cross, and death between your 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 concord; and to us redeemed everlasting life and glory; for with the Father and Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. Amen.



St. Francis Episcopal Church 1484 Hockett Road Manakin Sabot, Virginia 23103 Phone: (804) 784-6116

Please visit our website: stfrancisva.org E-Mail Addresses: office@stfrancisva.org