

Good Friday

April 2, 2021

video transcript

All gather in silence for meditation.



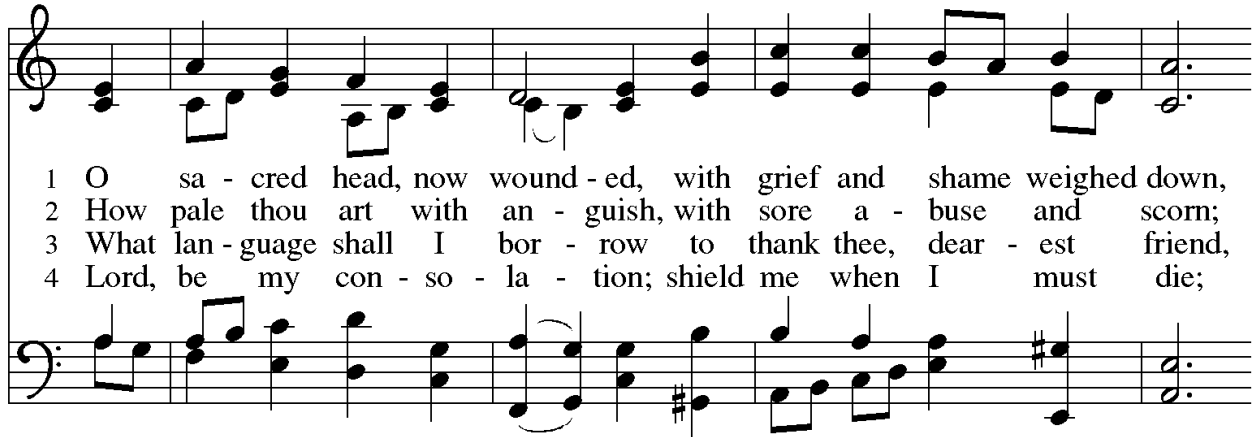
Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family,
for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed,
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 ever.
Amen.

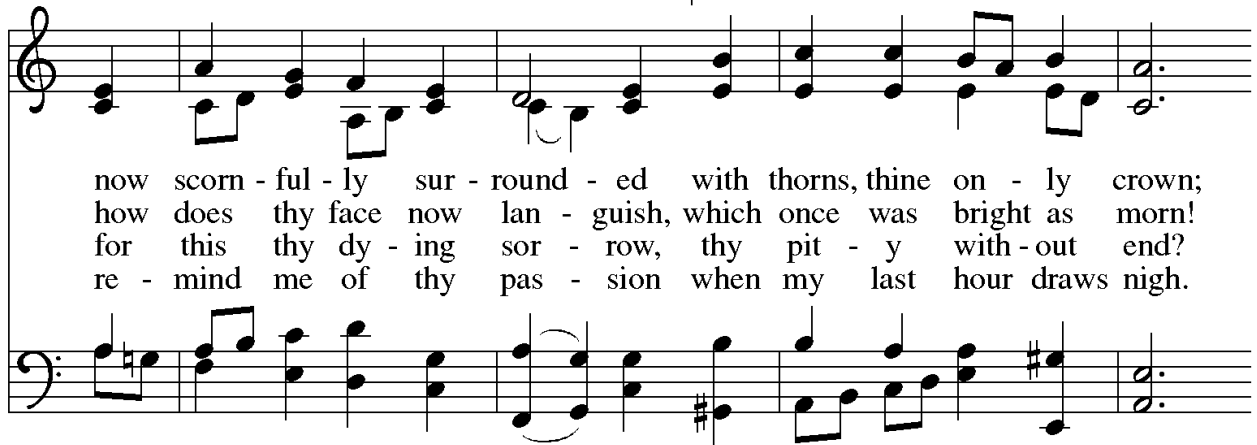
Hymn

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

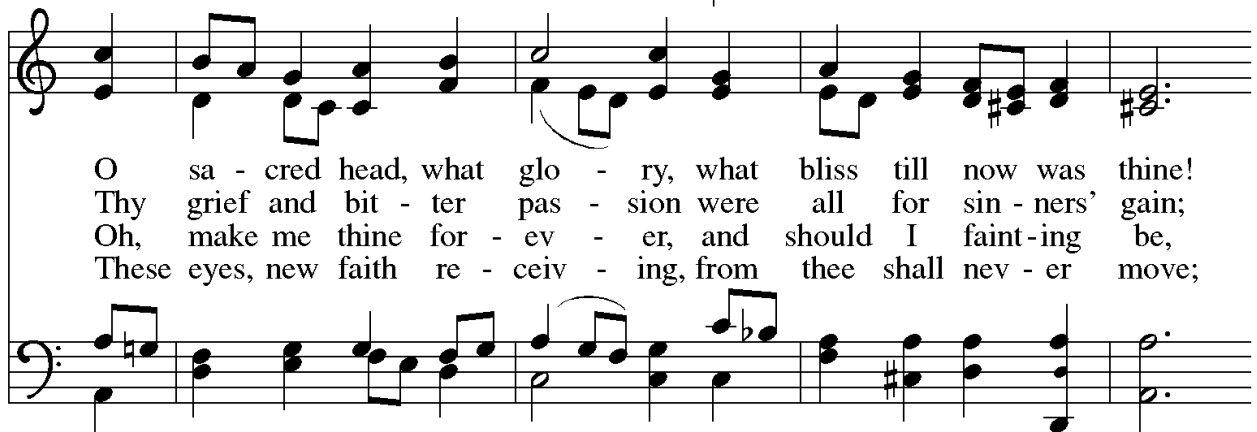
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1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,
2 How pale thou art with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;
3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; shield me when I must die;



now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!
for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?
re - mind me of thy pas - sion when my last hour draws nigh.



O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;
Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,
These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall nev - er move;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
mine, mine was the trans - ges - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.
Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.
for all who die be - liev - ing die safe - ly in thy love.

Bidding Prayer

On Good Friday, the ancient Bidding Prayer of the Church is said.

Let us pray, brothers and sisters, for the holy Church of God throughout the world, that God the Father guide it and gather it together, so that we may worship him in peace and tranquility.

Silent prayer.

Holy God, you have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ. Guide the work of the Church. Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name, and bring salvation to people everywhere. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us pray for our pastors and other ministers, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people of God.

Silent prayer.

Holy God, your Spirit guides the Church and makes it holy. Strengthen and uphold our pastors, musicians, and leaders; keep them in health and safety for the good of the Church, and 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 all our brothers and sisters who share our faith in Jesus Christ, that God may gather and keep together in one church all who know Christ as Lord.

Silent prayer.

Holy God, you give your church its unity. Look with favor on all who follow Jesus, your Son. We are all consecrated to you by our baptism. Make us one in the fullness of faith, and keep us one in the fellowship of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Let us pray for the Jewish people, the first to hear the Word of God, that they may receive the fulfillment of God's promise.

Silent prayer.

Holy God, long ago you gave your promise to Abraham and his children. Hear the prayers of your Church, that the people you first made your own arrive with us at the fullness of redemption. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Let us pray for those who do not believe in Christ, that the light of the Holy Spirit may shine upon them.

Silent prayer.

Holy God, enable those who do not acknowledge Christ to receive the truth of the Gospel. Help us, your people, to grow in love for one another, to grasp more fully your mysteries, to acknowledge your presence in Christ without arrogance, and to become more perfect witnesses of your love in the sight of all people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Let us pray for those who do not believe in God, that they may find the author and aim of our existence.

Silent prayer.

Holy God, you created humanity so that all might long to know you and have peace in you. Grant that, in spite of the hurtful things that stand in the way, all may recognize in the lives of Christians the signs of your love, and gladly acknowledge you as the God and Father of us all. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Let us pray for those who serve in public office, that God may guide their minds and hearts so that all may live in true peace, justice, and freedom.

Silent prayer.

Holy God, you are the champion of the poor and the oppressed. In your goodness, be present to those in authority, so that all 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 that God may heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, and rid the world of falsehood, hunger, and disease.

Silent prayer.

Holy God, you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart. Hear the prayers of all who call upon you in any trouble, that they may receive your help in their need. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask.

Amen

Tenebrae: The Liturgy of Shadows

The Tenebrae service or of Liturgy of the Shadows, follows the story of Jesus from the Last Supper to his Crucifixion and the laying of his body in the tomb. After each reading, we extinguish one of the seven candles, and invite you to do the same at home. The seventh candle remains lit, as a symbol of the fact according to the author of the Gospel of John that the light entered the world and the darkness did not overcome it.



I. **The Last Supper: Matthew 26:17-29**

The disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, "The Teacher says, 'My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal. When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve. And while they were eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, "Surely not I, Lord?" He answered, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" He replied, "You have said so." While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup and, after giving thanks. He gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

The first candle is extinguished.

Father in heaven,
on the night before he died,
your son shared the Passover meal with his friends,
giving them bread to nourish their spirits
and wine, poured out as his blood,
for the forgiveness of their sins.
We pray that we may turn to him
for our strength,
and for forgiveness.
Through Christ, our Lord.
Amen.



II. The Betrayal: Matthew 26:36-56

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, 'Sit here while I go over there and pray.' He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, 'I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.' And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, 'My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want.' Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, 'So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and

pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.' Again he went away for the second time and prayed, 'My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.' Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, 'Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.' While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, 'The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him.' At once he came up to Jesus and said, 'Greetings, Rabbi!' and kissed him. Jesus said to him, 'Friend, do what you are here to do.' Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, 'Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?' At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, 'Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled.' Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

The second candle is extinguished.

Father in heaven,
your son, Jesus, prayed in the garden of Gethsemane,
seeking to understand what you were asking him to do.
Help us to pray,
to persevere in discovering
the thing you call us to do with our lives.
Give us the strength and courage to follow your calling
whatever the cost,
when we feel alone or betrayed,
afraid or helpless.
Through Christ, our Lord.
Amen.



III. The Trial: Mark 15:1-15

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' He answered him, 'It is you who say so.' Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again, 'Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.' But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed. Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now

a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them, 'Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?' For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again, 'Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?' They shouted back, 'Crucify him!' Pilate asked them, 'Why, what evil has he done?' But they shouted all the more, 'Crucify him!' So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them and, after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

The third candle is extinguished.

Father in heaven,
when we feel the whole world against us,
counting us of little worth,
give us your Spirit
that we may speak the truth
and stay firm in our calling to be like Jesus,
whatever the cost.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



IV. The Crucifixion: Mark 15:16-32

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him. They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take. It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, 'The King of the Jews.' And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!" In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

The fourth candle is extinguished.

Father in heaven,
we so often stand by,
as others are mocked or belittled,
as cruelty and injustice are allowed free reign,
afraid to speak,
afraid to act,
silent and guilty.
Give us strength to speak out,
and to witness always to the right,
and to the truth.
Through Christ, our Lord.
Amen.



V. The Death: Matthew 27:45-54

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." At once, one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." Then Jesus cried

again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, "Truly, this man was God's Son!"

The fifth candle is extinguished.

Father in heaven,
when we cannot find you,
and are not sure that you are there,
give us faith.
Let us understand that you are always faithful,
always present,
holding us and sustaining us,
even in the darkest moments
when all seems hopeless and lost,
and death surrounds us.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



VI. The Dereliction: Isaiah 52:13 – 53:5

See, my servant will prosper. He shall be lifted up, exalted, rise to great heights. As the crowds were appalled on seeing him, so disfigured did he look that he seemed no longer human, so will the crowds be astonished at him, and kings stand speechless before him. For they shall see something never told, and witness something never heard before. Who could believe what we have heard and to whom has the power of the Lord been revealed? Like a sapling he grew up in front of us, like a root in arid ground. Without beauty, without majesty we saw him, no looks to attract our eyes; a thing despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and familiar with suffering, a man to make people screen their faces. He was despised and we took no account of him. And yet ours were the sufferings he bore, ours the sorrows he carried. But we, we thought of him as someone punished, struck by God and brought low. Yet he was pierced through for our faults, crushed for our sins. On him lies punishment that brings us peace, and through his wounds we are healed.

The sixth candle is extinguished.

Father in heaven,
today we look on Jesus your Son,
stripped and humiliated,
scourged and crowned with thorns,
mocked and spat upon,
betrayed and led out to be nailed to a tree.
Yet this man
takes upon himself our sins,
our faults,
our failings,
and gives us new life
in his resurrection.
Through Christ, our Lord.
Amen.



VII. The Entombment: Matthew 27:62-66

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb. The next day, that is, after

the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, "Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' Therefore command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, 'He has been raised from the dead,' and the last deception would be worse than the first." Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can." So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

*The seventh candle, representing Jesus Christ,
Light of the world, remains.*

Lord's Prayer (*whispered*)

In some traditions, following the seventh reading, the Lord's Prayer is whispered. Let us therefore pray together quietly the prayer that Jesus taught us:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever.**

Amen.

*You are invited to meditate and reflect silently on the mystery of
the crucified Savior, the crucified God; the mystery of our redemption.
Once your meditation is complete, go in peace.*