

GOOD FRIDAY

COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Good Friday Service

April 3, 2026

Thank you for joining us for this somber meditation on the Lord's passion and crucifixion. Please maintain reverent silence in the sanctuary. Scriptures will be read and the congregation will remain seated for the duration. The hymns, if you choose to sing them, are found in the back of the bulletin. Alternatively, you may choose to sit in silent contemplation for the entire service.

Prelude and Instructions

JESUS ARRESTED AND TRIED BY THE PRIESTS

Mark 14.43-72

And immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man. Seize him and lead him away under guard." And when he came, he went up to him at once and said, "Rabbi!" And he kissed him. And they laid hands on him and seized him. But one of those who stood by drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. And Jesus said to them, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. But let the Scriptures be fulfilled." And they all left him and fled.

And a young man followed him, with nothing but a linen cloth about his body. And they seized him, but he left the linen cloth and ran away naked.

And they led Jesus to the high priest. And all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes came together. And Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he was sitting with the guards and warming himself at the fire. Now the chief priests and the whole council were

seeking testimony against Jesus to put him to death, but they found none. For many bore false witness against him, but their testimony did not agree. And some stood up and bore false witness against him, saying, "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.'" Yet even about this their testimony did not agree. And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?" But he remained silent and made no answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" And Jesus said, "I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven." And the high priest tore his garments and said, "What further witnesses do we need? You have heard his blasphemy. What is your decision?" And they all condemned him as deserving death. And some began to spit on him and to cover his face and to strike him, saying to him, "Prophesy!" And the guards received him with blows.

And as Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came, and seeing Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, "You also were with the Nazarene, Jesus." But he denied it, saying, "I neither know nor understand what you mean." And he went out into the gateway and the rooster crowed. And the servant girl saw him and began again to say to the bystanders, "This man is one of them." But again he denied it. And after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, "Certainly you are one of them, for you are a Galilean." But he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "I do not know this man of whom you speak." And immediately the rooster crowed a second time. And Peter remembered how Jesus had said to him, "Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times." And he broke down and wept.

JESUS TRIED BY THE GOVERNOR

Mark 15.1-15

And as soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. And they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate. And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" And he answered him, "You have said so." And the chief priests accused him of many things. And Pilate again asked him, "Have you no answer to make? See how many charges they bring against you." But Jesus made no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the feast he used to release for them one prisoner for whom they asked. And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the insurrection, there was a man called Barabbas. And the crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do as he usually did for them. And he answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" For he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered him up. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead. And Pilate again said to them, "Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" And they cried out again, "Crucify him." And Pilate said to them, "Why? What evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him." So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.

Instrumental Response

Ah, Holy Jesus
Arr. by David Blackwell

JESUS BEATEN, MOCKED, AND DELIVERED UP TO BE CRUCIFIED

Mark 15.16-20

And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him. And they began to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.

Instrumental Response

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted
(Hymnal No. 257)

THE CRUCIFIXION

Mark 15.21-32

And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. And they brought him to the place called Golgotha (which means 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 garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. And it was the third hour when they crucified him. And the inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left. And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!" So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.

THE DEATH OF THE SON OF GOD

Mark 15.33-41

And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” And some of the bystanders hearing it said, “Behold, he is calling Elijah.” And someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.” And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, “Truly this man was the Son of God!”

There were also women looking on from a distance, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. When he was in Galilee, they followed him and ministered to him, and there were also many other women who came up with him to Jerusalem.

Homily

Pastor Travis Hutchinson

THE PAYMENT

JESUS IS BURIED

Mark 15.42-47

And when evening had come, since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the Sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate was surprised to hear that he should have already died. And summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the corpse to Joseph. And Joseph bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud and laid him in a tomb that had been cut out of the rock. And he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph saw where he was laid.

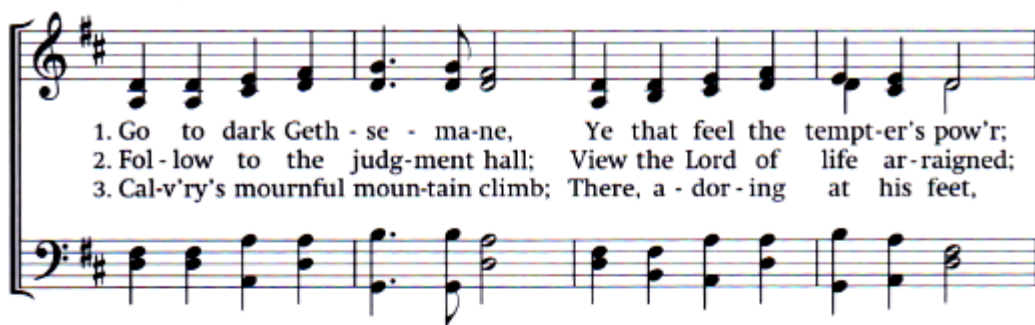
Response

Chimes

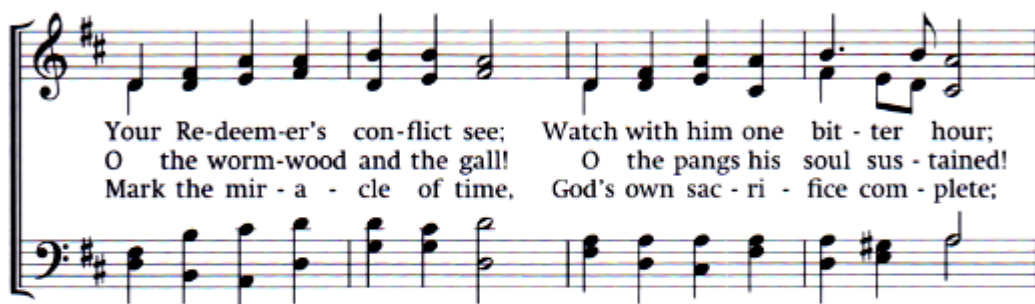
Silent Meditation and Prayer

Depart in Silence

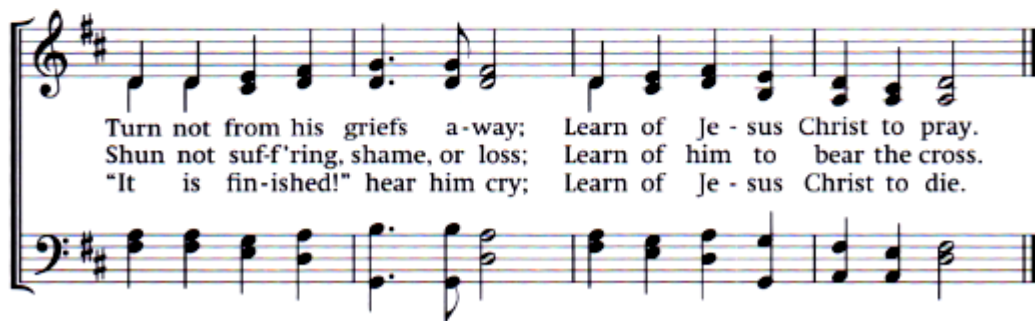
Go to Dark Gethsemane



1. Go to dark Geth - se - ma - ne, Ye that feel the tempt - er's pow'r;
2. Fol - low to the judg - ment hall; View the Lord of life ar - rained;
3. Cal - v'ry's mournful moun - tain climb; There, a - dor - ing at his feet,



Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see; Watch with him one bit - ter hour;
O the worm - wood and the gall! O the pangs his soul sus - tained!
Mark the mir - a - cle of time, God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete;



Turn not from his griefs a - way; Learn of Je - sus Christ to pray.
Shun not suff'ring, shame, or loss; Learn of him to bear the cross.
"It is fin - ished!" hear him cry; Learn of Je - sus Christ to die.

Text: James Montgomery, 1825
Tune: Richard Redhead, 1853

PETRA
7.7.7. 7.7.7

Were You There?

1. Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (Were you there?)
 2. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (Were you there?)
 3. Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (Were you there?)
 4. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? (Were you there?)
 5. Were you there when he rose up from the dead? (Were you there?)

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (Were you there?)
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (Were you there?)
 • Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (Were you there?)
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? (Were you there?)
 Were you there when he rose up from the dead? (Were you there?)

Oh! Some-times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble,
 (5.) Some-times I feel like shout - ing glo - ry, glo - ry,

trem - ble. Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? (Were you there?)
 trem - ble. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (Were you there?)
 • trem - ble. Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (Were you there?)
 trem - ble. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? (Were you there?)
 glo - ry! Were you there when he rose up from the dead? (Were you there?)

Spiritual

WERE YOU THERE? Irreg.
 Spiritual

Covenant Presbyterian Church

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