

Good Friday (virtual worship)
April 10, 2020 (7pm)
Order of Worship: Tenebrae



Welcome to this new way of gathering together! While we cannot be physically present with one another, we know that as we gather in God's name, Christ is truly present.

Each Sunday, we will gather at 9:30am via Facebook Live. It will later be posted on our YouTube page (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEBfzqqPTuf8fe3PjPr21gA?view_as=subscriber) and our website <http://trinitybrewsterny.org/wordpress/>.

You may join us live (and comment below the feed to let them know you're there) or worship at whatever time works best for you. Invite others to join us as well!

Listed here is the basic order of worship so that you are able to follow along. We have included links to the hymns picked by Franklyn that you may either listen to now or later. I will sing (at least) the first verse of each hymn which are printed in the order of worship if you would like to sing along.

Congregational responses are in bold, which I will still read, but invite you to read aloud wherever you may be worshipping. Though I cannot hear you, we know that we are speaking together from where we all are for God's ears and attention.

At the end of this document, you will find additional links for other service opportunities and brief announcements.

Setting up: Light a candle (or more), set out your Bible and/or a cross. Spend a few moments in silence before you begin.

Introduction: We walk humbly this way of the cross, recalling the sacrifice of Jesus. We witness the love that Christ gave for all as he walked this path of grace. We are transformed by the power of God's presence in this time.

GATHERING (in silence)

Call to worship

O God of grace, all our sin, all our hatred, all our violence,
all our apathy, all our convenient neglect,
came together in that dark hour

when they snuffed out the light of your goodness,
when they crucified your Son, our Lord.
And we come to remember.

O God of grace, all your love, all your compassion,
all your goodness, all your forgiveness,
came together in that life and that dying,
your undying and unending love,
when they crucified you Son, our Lord.
And we remember.

O God of grace, all of his story,
all of human history, all our story, repeats itself
where hate meets love, where injustice meets justice,
where despair meets hope, death meets life,
and we dare to believe we were there
when they crucified your Son, our Lord
and that this is none other than the way also to truth and life.
And we remember. Amen

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal God, Your Son lost everything when he gave himself up to be killed. May we remember his final hour with compassion and gratitude for all that we have received as a result of his selfless act. In Jesus' name we pray, **amen.**

Homily

Silence

Prayers of the People

If the cross tells us anything, O Lord, it is that You know and share our suffering:

Brief silence

This Good Friday we join our voices to the words of Jesus on the cross, and the cry of all who are abandoned, "My God, why have you forsaken me?"

Before we race in quickly with the triumphant answer, or the desire to set things right, we need to stand alongside this ancient cry of dereliction.

So today we place ourselves with all those who cry out
for food and justice,
for work and healing,
for hope and love,
for faith and for meaning:
we hear their pain and the pain of Jesus Christ.

And because we know that in two days we will be celebrating and singing, do not let us deny the suffering of Christ and of this world.

Today we cry out about:

(world and local situations may be named here)

O God, our God, we cry out to You do not forsake us.

Brief silence

Additional prayers may be offered here.

Pastor: Christ of the Cross, see our need of Your grace, Hear our prayer for Your mercy, And come to us again, to help and restore, because we cannot heal ourselves. **Amen.**

The Last Words of Jesus

First word

“Father, forgive them. They don’t know what they’re doing”

Matthew 26:1-35: When Jesus had finished saying all these things, he said to his disciples, ‘You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified.’

Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas, and they conspired to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. But they said, ‘Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.’ ...

Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, ‘What will you give me if I betray him to you?’ They paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

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. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.’ Judas, who betrayed him, said, ‘Surely not I, Rabbi?’ He replied, ‘You have said so.’

Then Jesus said to them, ‘You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written, “I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.” But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee.’ Peter said to him, ‘Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.’ Peter said to him, ‘Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.’ And so said all the disciples.

First Candle is extinguished

Silence

PRAYER

O my people, O my church,
What have I done to you,
or in what have I offended you?

My peace I gave, which the world cannot give,
and washed your feet as a sign of my love,
but you draw the sword to strike in my name
and seek high places in my kingdom.
I offered you my body and blood,
but you scatter and deny and abandon me,
and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

Hymn "*Go to Dark Gethsemane*" (347, vs. 1-2)

- 1) *Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter's pow'r
Your Redeemer's conflict see, watch with him one bitter hour
Turn not from his griefs away; learn from Jesus Christ to pray*

- 2) *Follow to the judgment hall, view the Lord of life arraigned
Oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sustained
Shun not suffering, shame or loss; learn from him to bear the cross*

Second Word

"I Thirst"

Matthew 26:36-46: 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.'

Second Candle is extinguished

Silence

PRAYER

O my people, O my church, What have I done to you,
or in what have I offended you?

I gave you a royal scepter
and bestowed the keys of the kingdom,
but you deny me.

I raised you on high with great power,
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

Hymn "Ah, Holy Jesus"

(ELW 349, vs. 1,2)

- 1) *Ah, holy Jesus, how has though offended,
that we to judge thee have in hate pretended
By foes derided, by thine own rejected, O most afflicted*
- 2) *Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus hath undone thee.
Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee; I crucified thee.*

Third Word

"My God, My God, why have you forsaken me"

Matthew 26:47-56: 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.

Third Candle is extinguished

Silence

PRAYER

O my people, O my church, What have I done to you,
or in what have I offended you?

When Israel was in the wilderness, I went before you in a pillar of cloud,
but now you have led me to the judgment hall of Pilate.
I scourged your enemies and brought you to a land of freedom,
but you have scourged, mocked, and beaten me.

I grafted you into the tree of my chosen Israel,
I made you joint heirs with them of my covenants,
but you made them scapegoats for your own guilt,
and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

Hymn "*Alas, And Did My Savior Bleed*"

(ELW 337 vs. 1,5)

- 1) *Alas! And did my Savior bleed, and did my sovereign die?
Would he devote that sacred head for sinner's such as I?*

- 5) *But tears of grief cannot repay the debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away: 'tis all that I can do*

Fourth Word

"Woman, behold your son...behold your mother"

Matthew 26:57-75: Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, 'This fellow said, "I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days."' The high priest stood up and said, 'Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?' But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, 'I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.' Jesus said to him, 'You have said so. But I tell you, From now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.'

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, 'He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?' They answered, 'He deserves death.' Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, saying, 'Prophecy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?'

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said, 'You also were with Jesus the Galilean.' But he denied it before all of them, saying, 'I do not know what you are talking

about.' When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, 'This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.' Again he denied it with an oath, 'I do not know the man.' After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, 'Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you.' Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, 'I do not know the man!' At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: 'Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.' And he went out and wept bitterly.

Fifth Candle is extinguished

Silence

PRAYER

O my people, O my church,
What have I done to you,
or in what have I offended you?

I came that you might have life
And have it more abundantly
But you stripped me of humanity
And bargained for my possessions
and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

Hymn *Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross?* (ELW 335, vs. 1,3)

1) *Jesus, keep me near the cross, there's a precious fountain;
Free to all, a healing stream flows from Calv'ry's mountain*

*Refrain: In the cross, in the cross be my glory forever
Till my ransomed soul shall find rest beyond the river*

3) *Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes before me;
Help me walk from day to day with its shadow o'er me. (refrain)*

Sixth Word

"Father, into your hands, I commend my spirit"

Matthew 27:1-31: When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor.

Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus said, 'You say so.' But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him, 'Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?' But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, 'Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?' For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgement seat, his wife sent word to him, 'Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him.' Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them, 'Which of the two do you want me to release for you?' And they said, 'Barabbas.' Pilate said to them, 'Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?' All of them said, 'Let him be crucified!' Then he asked, 'Why, what evil has he done?' But they shouted all the more, 'Let him be crucified!'

So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, 'I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves.' Then the people as a whole answered, 'His blood be on us and on our children!' So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

Sixth Candle is extinguished

Silence

PRAYER

O my people, O my church,
What have I done to you,
or in what have I offended you?

I called you by name
Claiming you as a shepherd claims its flock
And yet families are torn apart,
Relationships wither from bitterness and anger
and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

HYMN "Lamb of God" (ELW 336 , vs. 1,2)

1) *Your only Son, no sin to hide,
but you have sent him from you side
to walk upon this guilty sod
and to become the Lamb of God*

*Refrain: O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God
I love the holy Lamb of God
Oh, wash me in your precious blood
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God*

2) *Your gift of love we crucified
We laughed and scorned him as he died
The humble king we named a fraud
And sacrificed the Lamb of God (refrain)*

Seventh Word

"Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise"

Matthew 27:32-50: As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.'

Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, 'You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.' In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, 'He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, "I am God's Son." ' The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

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, 'Eli, Eli, lema 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.

Seventh Candle is extinguished

Silence

PRAYER

O my people, O my church, what have I done to you,
or in what have I offended you?

I raised you from death and prepared for you the tree of life,

but you lifted me high on a cross;
I gave you my body, the bread of heaven,
but you pierced with a spear the side of your Savior,

I came to you as the least of your brothers and sisters;
I was hungry and you gave me no food,
I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,
I was a stranger and you did not welcome me,
naked and you did not clothe me,
and in prison and you did not visit me,
and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

Hymn “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” (ELW 351, vs. 1, 3)

1) *O Sacred head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down
Now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thine only crowned
O sacred head, what glory, what bliss till now was thine
yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine*

3) *What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend,
For this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?
Oh, make me thine forever, and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never out live my love to thee*

Final Word

“It is finished”

Matthew 27:51-66: 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. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. 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!’

Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had provided for him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

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 that the tomb 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.

Silence

Lord's Prayer

We let these familiar words sink into our hearts and rise before us as we pause after each phrase.

Our Father, who art in heaven, (pause)
hallowed be Thy name, (pause)
Thy kingdom come, (pause)
Thy will be done (pause)
on earth as it is in heaven. (pause)
Give us this day our daily bread; (pause)
and forgive us our trespasses (pause)
as we forgive those who trespass against us; (pause)
and lead us not into temptation, (pause)
but deliver us from evil. (pause)
For thine is the kingdom (pause)
and the power (pause)
and the glory (pause)
forever and ever. (pause)
Amen.

BEFORE THE CROSS OF JESUS

The response is said three times:

Behold the life-giving cross, on which was hung the Savior of the whole world.

Oh, come, let us worship him.

Silence is kept for meditation on the mystery of the crucified Savior, the mystery of redemption.

Conclusion

Jesus, we wait here by your tomb, carrying our grief;

the grief of the betrayer,

the grief of the denier,

the grief of the crucifiers.

We carry the grief of the lost,

the heartbroken, the bereft.

Upon you was laid the grief of us all.

It is finished.

God of endings,

God of darkness,
God of the tomb,
God of dark days and great loss,
be with us now as we wait with Jesus.

Lord Jesus, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that all people might come within the reach of your saving embrace. Clothe us in your Spirit, that we, stretching out our hands in loving service for others, may bring those who do not know you to an awareness and love of you; who with the Father and the Holy Spirit live and reign, **One God forever! Amen!**

The service ends in silence.

Worship notes: Prayers of Intercession (written by Ann Siddall, **Stillpoint Spirituality Centre**)

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Still
For Good Friday

This day
let all stand still
in silence,
in sorrow.

Sun and moon
be still.

Earth
be still.

Still
the waters.

Still
the wind.

Let the ground
gape in stunned
lamentation.

Let it weep
as it receives

what it thinks
it will not
give up.

Let it groan
as it gathers
the One
who was thought
forever stilled.

Time
be still.

Watch
and wait.

Still.

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