



Order of Service for Good Friday

April 10th, 2020

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Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
38 Grand Ave, Swanton VT 05488
The Rev. J. Robert Spainhour
802-868-7185 – Parish Office

Announcements

Good Friday Offering – *This traditional Episcopal offering on Good Friday goes to the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem*

Call to Silence

“Jesus, remember me” *With microphones muted, we chant prayerfully:*

Je-sus, re-mem-ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Je-sus, re-mem-ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Celebrant: Blessed be our God

People: Forever and ever. Amen.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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 Solemn Collects

Celebrant: 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.

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 Shannon, our Bishop, and all the people of this diocese
For all Christians in this community
For those about to be baptized.
That God will confirm his Church in faith, increase it in love, and preserve it in peace.

Silence

Celebrant: 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.**

Let us pray for all nations and peoples of the earth, and for those in authority among them;
For Donald, the 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

Celebrant: 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.**

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

Celebrant: 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.**

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

Celebrant: 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.**

Celebrant: 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

Celebrant: 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 tranquillity 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.**

The Way of the Cross (*The Stations*)

Trisagion (*Sing three times*)

Alexander Archangelsky

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy up - on us.

Opening Devotions

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Officiant and People

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.

V. We will glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ:
R. **In whom is our salvation, our life and resurrection.**

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

First Station

Jesus is condemned to death

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:
Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

This station is written about in all four of the Gospels. Pilate found himself in a bind. He had to choose between what was politically expedient and what was right, so he did what was expedient... and had Jesus crucified.

Meditation:

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests, with the elders and scribes, and the whole council, held a consultation; and they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him to Pilate. And they all condemned him and said, "He deserves to die." When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called the Pavement, but in the Hebrew, Gabbatha. Then he handed Jesus over to them to be crucified.

V. God did not spare his own Son:
R. **But delivered him up for us all.**

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen.**

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

Second Station

Jesus takes up his Cross

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:
Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Both history and scripture tell us that it was the Roman practice to scourge, whip, and insult a prisoner convicted of a capital offense, then make him carry the crossbeam of the cross to the site of the crucifixion. On the way, they made a public spectacle of the prisoner and encouraged the crowds to insult him.

Meditation:

Jesus went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. Like a lamb he was led to the slaughter; and like a sheep that before its shearers is mute, so he opened not his mouth. Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing.

V. The Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all:
R. **For the transgression of my people was he stricken.**

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Almighty God, whose beloved Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption: Give us courage to take up our cross and follow him; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

Third Station

Jesus falls the first time

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:
Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

There is no scriptural reference that says Jesus stumbled and fell, but the fact that the soldiers later had another man carry His cross for Him strongly implies that it happened.

Meditation:

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped; but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, and was born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him, and bestowed on him the name which is above every name. Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, and kneel before the Lord our Maker, for he is the Lord our God.

V. Surely he has borne our griefs:
R. **And carried our sorrows.**

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

O God, you know us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: Grant us such strength and protection as may support us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

Fourth Station

Jesus meets his afflicted mother

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:
Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

There is no scriptural reference that says Jesus encountered His mother along the way to the site of the crucifixion, but it is very likely that it happened. We know that Mary was at the crucifixion, so she would have been strongly motivated to make her way to Him while He was carrying the cross.

Meditation:

To what can I liken you, to what can I compare you, O daughter of Jerusalem? What likeness can I use to comfort you, O virgin daughter of Zion? For vast as the sea is your ruin. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. The Lord will be your everlasting light, and your days of mourning shall be ended.

V. A sword will pierce your own soul also:

R. **And fill your heart with bitter pain.**

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

O God, who willed that in the passion of your Son a sword of grief should pierce the soul of the Blessed Virgin Mary his mother: Mercifully grant that your Church, having shared with her in his passion, may be made worthy to share in the joys of his resurrection; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

Fifth Station

The Cross is laid on Simon of Cyrene

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Jesus had been up all night – at the Passover Seder, in the garden, then being arrested and tried. He was exhausted even before He was scourged and whipped. The Romans didn't want Him to die of exhaustion, because that would have been merciful. They would only get someone else to carry the cross for Him if they had reason to think He might die too early and thus escape the torture of the cross.

Meditation:

As they led Jesus away, they came upon a man of Cyrene, Simon by name, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross to carry it behind Jesus. "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

V. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me:

R. **Cannot be my disciple.**

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be served but to serve: Bless all who, following in his steps, give themselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience, and courage, they may minister in his Name to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy; for the love of him who laid down his life for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

Sixth Station

A woman wipes the face of Jesus

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Jesus was bloody and sweaty from His ordeal. According to Christian tradition, a woman came and wiped His face with a cloth. When she took the cloth back, it had an image of His face on it. She is often referred to as Veronica, from the Greek meaning “true image.”

Meditation:

We have seen him without beauty or majesty, with no looks to attract our eyes. He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces, he was despised, and we esteemed him not. His appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of men. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that made us whole, and with his stripes we are healed.

V. Restore us, O Lord God of hosts:

R. **Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

Seventh Station

Jesus falls a second time

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

There is no scriptural reference that says Jesus stumbled and fell again, but considering His situation there is no reason to think that He didn't.

Meditation:

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth. For the transgression of my people was he stricken.

V. But as for me, I am a worm and no man:

R. **Scorned by all and despised by the people.**

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

Eighth Station

Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:
Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Under Jewish law, women could not be witnesses in a trial. That protected women from violence by men who might want to influence their testimony beforehand or punish them for it afterward. This meant that the women had greater freedom of movement than the men, because they could not be required to give an account of what they had seen or heard. That is why women figured prominently here and at the crucifixion.

Meditation:

There followed after Jesus a great multitude of the people, and among them were women who bewailed and lamented him. But Jesus turning to them said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.”

V. Those who sowed with tears:
R. **Will reap with songs of joy.**

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Teach your Church, O Lord, to mourn the sins of which it is guilty, and to repent and forsake them; that, by your pardoning grace, the results of our iniquities may not be visited upon our children and our children’s children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

Ninth Station

Jesus falls a third time

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:
Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

There is no scriptural reference that says Jesus stumbled and fell a third time, but considering His exhaustion there is no reason to think that He didn’t.

Meditation:

I am the man who has seen affliction under the rod of his wrath; he has driven and brought me into darkness without any light. He has besieged me and enveloped me with bitterness and tribulation; he has made me dwell in darkness like the dead of long ago. Though I call and cry for help, he shuts out my prayer. He has made my teeth grind on gravel, and made me cower in ashes. "Remember, O Lord, my affliction and bitterness, the wormwood and the gall!"

V. He was led like a lamb to the slaughter:

R. **And like a sheep that before its shearers is mute, so he opened not his mouth.**

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life: Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ, that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

Tenth Station

Jesus is stripped of his garments

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

The Romans not only tortured criminals who had been convicted of capital crimes, they also did everything they could to humiliate them. For that reason, people were crucified in the nude. We learn here what Jesus had worn to the Last Supper: a "himation," a sari-like garment, over a tunic. He had been dressed in what we would call His "Sunday best."

Meditation:

When they came to a place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull), they offered him wine to drink, mingled with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And they divided his garments among them by casting lots. This was to fulfill the scripture which says, "They divided my garments among them; they cast lots for my clothing."

V. They gave me gall to eat:

R. **And when I was thirsty they gave me vinegar to drink.**

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Lord God, whose blessed Son our Savior gave his body to be whipped and his face to be spit upon: Give us grace to accept joyfully the sufferings of the present time, confident of the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

Eleventh Station

Jesus is nailed to the Cross

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Jesus was crucified at about 9:00 in the morning.

Meditation:

When they came to the place which is called The Skull, there they crucified him; and with him they crucified two criminals, one on the right, the other on the left, and Jesus between them. And the scripture was fulfilled which says, "He was numbered with the transgressors."

V. They pierce my hands and my feet:

R. **They stare and gloat over me.**

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

Twelfth Station

Jesus dies on the Cross

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Jesus died about 3:00 in the afternoon – at the time of the evening sacrifice in the Temple. The Lamb of God was slain at the same time that the paschal lambs were killed in the Temple.

Meditation:

When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And when Jesus had received the vinegar, he said, "It is finished!" And then, crying with a loud voice, he said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." And he bowed his head, and handed over his spirit.

V. Christ for us became obedient unto death:

R. **Even death on a cross.**

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

O God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

Thirteenth Station

The body of Jesus is placed in the arms of his mother

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:
Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Jewish law required that the bodies of the crucified be removed from the crosses before sundown to avoid profaning the Sabbath. The bodies were customarily thrown into a common grave for criminals, but someone had asked for and received the custody of Jesus' body.

Meditation:

All you who pass by, behold and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow. My eyes are spent with weeping; my soul is in tumult; my heart is poured out in grief because of the downfall of my people. "Do not call me Naomi (which means Pleasant), call me Mara (which means Bitter); for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me."

V. Her tears run down her cheeks:
R. **And she has none to comfort her.**

Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Lord Jesus Christ, by your death you took away the sting of death: Grant to us your servants so to follow in faith where you have led the way, that we may at length fall asleep peacefully in you and wake up in your likeness; for your tender mercies' sake.
Amen.

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

Fourteenth Station

Jesus is laid in the tomb

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you:
Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

It was Joseph of Arimathea who had requested the body of Jesus, and he and Nicodemus prepared it for burial. Preparing bodies for burial was usually women's work, so this was an act of devotion. The women witnessed this from afar. Because they were at a distance and because it was so near to sundown, they could not see that the men had prepared the body, but they knew where the tomb was and planned to return when the Sabbath was over.

Meditation:

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body, and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock; and he rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb.

V. You will not abandon me to the grave:
R. **Nor let your holy One see corruption.**

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God, your blessed Son was laid in a tomb in a garden, and rested on the Sabbath day: Grant that we who have been buried with him in the waters of baptism may find our perfect rest in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

Concluding Prayers

Savior of the world, by your cross and precious blood you have redeemed us:
Save us, and help us, we humbly beseech you, O Lord.

Let us pray. *(Silence)*

We thank you, heavenly Father, that you have delivered us from the dominion of sin and death and brought us into the kingdom of your Son; and we pray that, as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his love he may raise us to eternal joys; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

To Christ our Lord who loves us, and washed us in his own blood, and made us a kingdom of priests to serve his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you now and always. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

Celebrant: 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 sinners everlasting in life and glory; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people are invited to dim their lights and light a candle in their own homes.

Hymn “Were you there when they crucified my Lord”

(While we have traditionally sung this hymn kneeling, the People are invited to sing at home in any posture.)

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you
 *3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side? Were you
 4 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you

there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Oh!
 there when they nailed him to the tree? Oh!
 there when they pierced him in the side? Oh!
 there when they laid him in the tomb? Oh!

Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,
 Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,
 Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,
 Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,

trem-ble. Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 trem-ble. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 trem-ble. Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 trem-ble. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

The People are invited to observe a period of silence in their homes.

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