



# The Larchmont Avenue Church

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Director of Music: Douglas Kostner  
Interim Director of Youth and Family Ministries: Ekama Eni

## Good Friday

April 2, 2021

Bulletin for Online Worship | <http://www.lacny.org/worship/livestream/>

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 2, 2021

PRELUDE

*O Mensch, beweine deine Sünde groß*

J. S. Bach

Douglas Kostner, organ

WELCOME

Clark Morehouse

CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed be the name of the Lord our God,  
**Who redeems us from sin and death.**

For us and for our salvation, Christ became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Merciful God, you gave your Son to suffer the shame of the cross. Save us from hardness of heart, that, seeing him who died for us, we may repent, confess our sin, and receive your overflowing love, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

VOLUNTARY

*Were You There / Balm in Gilead*

Brant Adams

Rich Williams, Trombone

THE ARREST

Excerpts from John 18 (*The Message*)

Jesus left with his disciples and crossed over the brook Kidron at a place where there was a garden. He and his disciples entered it. Judas, his betrayer, knew the place because Jesus and his disciples went there often. So Judas led the way to the garden, and the Roman soldiers and police sent by the high priests and Pharisees followed. They arrived there with lanterns and torches and swords. Jesus, knowing by now everything that was imploding on him, went out and met them. He said, "Who are you after?"

They answered, "Jesus the Nazarene." He said, "That's me." The soldiers recoiled, totally taken aback.

Jesus asked again, "Who are you after?" They answered, "Jesus the Nazarene." "I told you," said Jesus, "that's me. I'm the one. So if it's me you're after, let these others go."

Just then Simon Peter, who was carrying a sword, pulled it from its sheath and struck the Chief Priest's servant, cutting off his right ear. Jesus ordered Peter, "Put back your sword. Do you think for a minute I'm not going to drink this cup the Father gave me?"

*(Continued)*

Then the Roman soldiers under their commander, joined by the Jewish police, seized Jesus and tied him up. They took him first to Annas, father-in-law of Caiaphas. Caiaphas was the Chief Priest that year. It was Caiaphas who had advised the Jews that it was to their advantage that one man die for the people.

Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. That other disciple was known to the Chief Priest, and so he went in with Jesus to the Chief Priest's courtyard. Peter had to stay outside. Then the other disciple went out, spoke to the doorkeeper, and got Peter in.

The young woman who was the doorkeeper said to Peter, "Aren't you one of this man's disciples?" He said, "No, I'm not." The servants and police had made a fire because of the cold and were huddled there warming themselves. Peter stood with them, trying to get warm.

VOLUNTARY

*Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted*

Lauran Delancey

### The Bells

THE INTERROGATION

Excerpts from John 18 (*The Message*)

Annas interrogated Jesus regarding his disciples and his teaching. Jesus answered, "I've spoken openly in public. I've taught regularly in meeting places and the Temple, where the Jews all come together. Everything has been out in the open. I've said nothing in secret. So why are you treating me like a traitor? Question those who have been listening to me. They know well what I have said. My teachings have all been aboveboard."

When he said this, one of the policemen standing there slapped Jesus across the face, saying, "How dare you speak to the Chief Priest like that!" Jesus replied, "If I've said something wrong, prove it. But if I've spoken the plain truth, why do you hit me?" Then Annas sent him, still tied up, to the Chief Priest Caiaphas.

Meanwhile, Simon Peter was back at the fire, still trying to get warm. The others there said to him, "Aren't you one of his disciples?" He denied it, "Not me." One of the Chief Priest's servants, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, said, "Didn't I see you in the garden with him?" Again, Peter denied it. Just then a rooster crowed.

ANTHEM

*Were You There*

Spiritual

Shawn Jeffery, soloist; James Jeffery, piano

*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?*

(Continued)

*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?*

## THE JUDGEMENT

Excerpts from John 19 (*The Message*)

They led Jesus then from Caiaphas to the Roman governor's palace. It was early morning. They themselves didn't enter the palace because they didn't want to be disqualified from eating the Passover. So Pilate came out to them and spoke. "What charge do you bring against this man?" They said, "If he weren't a criminal, why would we hand him over to you?" Pilate said, "You take him. Judge him by *your* law." The Jews said, "We're not allowed to kill anyone."

Pilate went back into the palace and called for Jesus. He said, "Are you the 'King of the Jews'?" Jesus answered, "Are you saying this on your own, or did others tell you this about me?" Pilate said, "Do I look like a Jew? Your people and your high priests turned you over to me. What did you do?"

"My kingdom," said Jesus, "doesn't consist of what you see around you. If it did, my followers would fight so that I wouldn't be handed over to the Jews. But I'm not that kind of king, not the world's kind of king." Then Pilate said, "So, are you a king or not?"

Jesus answered, "You tell me. Because I am King, I was born and entered the world so that I could witness to the truth. Everyone who cares for truth, who has any feeling for the truth, recognizes my voice." Pilate said, "What is truth?"

Then he went back out to the Jews and told them, "I find nothing wrong in this man. It's your custom that I pardon one prisoner at Passover. Do you want me to pardon the 'King of the Jews'?" They shouted back, "Not this one, but Barabbas!" Barabbas was a Jewish freedom fighter.

So Pilate took Jesus and had him whipped. The soldiers, having braided a crown from thorns, set it on his head, threw a purple robe over him, and approached him with, "Hail, King of the Jews!" Then they greeted him with slaps in the face.

Pilate went back out again and said to them, "I present him to you, but I want you to know that I do not find him guilty of any crime." Just then Jesus came out wearing the thorn crown and purple robe. Pilate announced, "Here he is: the Man." When the high priests and police saw him, they shouted in a frenzy, "Crucify! Crucify!" Pilate told them, "You take him. You crucify him. I find nothing wrong with him."

(Continued)

The Jews answered, “We have a law, and by that law he must die because he claimed to be the Son of God.” When Pilate heard this, he became even more scared. He went back into the palace and said to Jesus, “Where did you come from?” Jesus gave no answer.

Pilate said, “You won’t talk? Don’t you know that I have the authority to pardon you, and the authority to—crucify you?” Jesus said, “You haven’t a shred of authority over me except what has been given you from heaven. That’s why the one who betrayed me to you has committed a far greater fault.”

At this, Pilate tried his best to pardon him, but the Jews shouted him down: “If you pardon this man, you’re no friend of Caesar’s. Anyone setting himself up as ‘king’ defies Caesar.” When Pilate heard those words, he led Jesus outside. He sat down at the judgment seat in the area designated Stone Court. It was the preparation day for Passover. The hour was noon. Pilate said to the Jews, “Here is your king.” They shouted back, “Kill him! Kill him! Crucify him!”

Pilate said, “I am to crucify your king?” The high priests answered, “We have no king except Caesar.” Pilate caved in to their demand. He turned him over to be crucified.

VOLUNTARY

*Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley*

Jason Krug

Larchmont Symphonia

THE CRUCIFIXION

Excerpts from John 19 (*The Message*)

They took Jesus away. Carrying his cross, Jesus went out to the place called *Golgotha*, where they crucified him, and with him two others, one on each side, Jesus in the middle. Pilate wrote a sign and had it placed on the cross. It read:

JESUS THE NAZARENE  
THE KING OF THE JEWS.

Many of the Jews read the sign because the place where Jesus was crucified was right next to the city. It was written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek. The Jewish high priests objected. “Don’t write,” they said to Pilate, “‘The King of the Jews.’ Make it, ‘This man said, ‘I am the King of the Jews.’” Pilate said, “What I’ve written, I’ve written.”

When they crucified him, the Roman soldiers took his clothes and divided them up four ways, to each soldier a fourth. But his robe was seamless, a single piece of weaving, so they said to each other, “Let’s not tear it up. Let’s throw dice to see who gets it.”

While the soldiers were looking after themselves, Jesus’ mother, his aunt, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene stood at the foot of the cross. Jesus saw his mother and the disciple he loved standing near her. He said to his mother, “Woman, here is your son.” Then to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” From that moment the disciple accepted her as his own mother.

(Continued)

Jesus, seeing that everything had been completed so that the Scripture record might also be complete, then said, "I'm thirsty." A jug of sour wine was standing by. Someone put a sponge soaked with the wine on a javelin and lifted it to his mouth. After he took the wine, Jesus said, "It's done . . . complete." Bowing his head, he offered up his spirit.

After all this, Joseph of Arimathea petitioned Pilate to take the body of Jesus. Pilate gave permission. So Joseph came and took the body.

Nicodemus, who had first come to Jesus at night, came now in broad daylight carrying a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds. They took Jesus' body and, following the Jewish burial custom, wrapped it in linen with the spices. There was a garden near the place he was crucified, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been placed. So, because it was Sabbath preparation for the Jews and the tomb was convenient, they placed Jesus in it.

VOLUNTARY

*O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*

Charles Evans

Don Downs & Colin Brigstock, trumpet; Rheagan Osteen, horn  
Clint Sharman, trombone; Chris Olness, bass trombone

SENDING

The story has been told, and now we return to the world where we live and wait.

**The worship is over?**

No, the worship continues while we wait and watch. Our worship will close after the stone has been removed and the flame of hope has been re-lit.

**So we go out to wait, we watch for the hope that defies despair, the life that defies death, the beginning that defies the end.**

While we wait, while darkness covers the land of faith, remember that no matter how abandoned we may feel we are not alone.

**God has not and will not abandon us. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

POSTLUDE

*Jesus Paid It All / O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*

Brant Adams

Alex Pak, violin

MENTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Worship Today*

**Thank you, Larchmont Symphonia!** We are grateful to the Larchmont Symphonia for sharing music with us this week!

Violin 1: Sasha Bilik, Nicole Sharlow

Violin 2: Brynn Coady, Elyse Gellert, Morris Schoeneman

Viola: Annie Jaswal, Mila Kinnear, Katherine Sinsabaugh

Cello: Nola Coady, E. Zoe Hassman, Gent Malashuga, Lulu Tantillo

Bass: Joel Fivis

Throughout this service, you will see art by Mary Button from her exhibit *Stations of the Cross: Pandemic Hope*. Button juxtaposes scenes from traditional stations of the cross with images of hope, resiliency, and relationship from the COVID-19 pandemic. Each station is paired with a stanza from Emily Dickinson’s “Hope is the thing with feathers.” On the cover, a COVID-19 patient lies in her ICU bed as family members say goodbye via FaceTime at Roseland Community Hospital on the South Side of Chicago. Below, in the cosmic storyline, Jesus dies on the cross.

## THE LARCHMONT AVENUE CHURCH

The Larchmont Avenue Church is a member church of the Presbyterian Church USA ([pcusa.org](http://pcusa.org)) and the Hudson River Presbytery ([hudrivpres.org](http://hudrivpres.org)).

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