

# GOOD FRIDAY

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*The Seven Last Sayings of Christ on the Cross : April 2, 2021*



## PREACHERS

The Reverend Andy Call, *Church of the Saviour, United Methodist*

The Reverend Matthew Bauhof, *Plymouth Church United Church of Christ*

The Reverend Dr. Sandra Alexander, *First Baptist Church of Greater Cleveland*

The Reverend Dr. John Lentz, *Forest Hill Presbyterian Church*

The Reverend Jessica Shields, *Peace Lutheran Church*

The Reverend Thomas Fanta, *The Church of St. Dominic, Catholic*

The Reverend Jessie Gutgsell Dodson, *St. Paul's Episcopal Church*

## MUSICIAN

Karel Paukert, *Organist & Choirmaster, St. Paul's Episcopal Church*

## Welcome!

During this service of prayer, readings, meditations and music, we stand at the foot of the Cross, "the emblem of suffering and shame," as we marvel at the mystery that the Son of God, who took on human flesh in Jesus Christ, died for us.

The Good Friday offering will be given to Heights Emergency Hunger Center. All are invited to make a gift by texting "StPaulsCle" to 73256 or by visiting our online portal: [onrealm.com/StPaulsCle/give/now](http://onrealm.com/StPaulsCle/give/now)

The organ meditations offered throughout today's service are from Josef Haydn's "The Seven Last Words of Christ." More information on this piece can be found at the end of this bulletin.

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### THE FIRST SAYING

FATHER, FORGIVE THEM; FOR THEY DO NOT KNOW WHAT THEY ARE DOING

- Luke 23:34 -

*Officiant* Let us pray.

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, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*People* **Amen.**

PASSION READING

*Luke 23:34*

MEDITATION

The Reverend Andy Call  
*Church of the Saviour, United Methodist*

*A brief organ meditation follows.*

### THE SECOND SAYING

TODAY YOU WILL BE WITH ME IN PARADISE

- Luke 23:43 -

*Officiant* Let us pray.

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 life and glory; for with the Father and Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever.

*People* **Amen.**

PASSION READING

*Luke 23:43*

MEDITATION

The Reverend Matthew Bauhof  
*Plymouth Church United Church of Christ*

*A brief organ meditation follows.*

## THE THIRD SAYING

WOMAN, HERE IS YOUR SON : HERE IS YOUR MOTHER

- *John 19:26* -

*Officiant* Let us pray.

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.

*People* **Amen.**

PASSION READING

*John 19:26*

MEDITATION

The Reverend Dr. Sandra Alexander  
*First Baptist Church of Greater Cleveland*

*A brief organ meditation follows.*

## THE FOURTH SAYING

MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?

- *Mark 15:34 & Matthew 27:46* -

*Officiant* Let us pray.

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; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*People* **Amen.**

PASSION READING

*Matthew 27:46*

MEDITATION

The Reverend Dr. John Lentz  
*Forest Hill Presbyterian Church*

*A brief organ meditation follows.*

## THE FIFTH SAYING

I AM THIRSTY

- *John 19:28* -

*Officiant* Let us pray.

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 your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*People* **Amen.**

PASSION READING

*John 19:28*

MEDITATION

The Reverend Jessica Shields  
*Peace Lutheran Church*

*A brief organ meditation follows.*

**THE SIXTH SAYING**

**FATHER, INTO YOUR HANDS I COMMEND MY SPIRIT**

*- Luke 23:46 -*

*Officiant* Let us pray.

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; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

*People* **Amen.**

PASSION READING

*Luke 23:46*

MEDITATION

The Reverend Thomas Fanta  
*The Church of St. Dominic, Catholic*

*A brief organ meditation follows.*

**THE SEVENTH SAYING**

**IT IS FINISHED**

*- John 19:30 -*

*Officiant* Let us pray.

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.

*People* **Amen.**

PASSION READING

*John 19:30*

MEDITATION

The Reverend Jessie Gutgsell Dodson  
*St. Paul's Episcopal Church*

## HYMN No. 172 *Were you there when they crucified my Lord?*

## *Were You There*

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 tremble, tremble,  
 Some-times it caus - es me to tremble, tremble,  
 Some-times it caus - es me to tremble, tremble,  
 Some-times it caus - es me to tremble, tremble,

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

## About today's musical offering

The organ meditations offered throughout today's service are from Josef Haydn's *The Seven Last Words of Our Saviour on the Cross* (*Die sieben letzten Worte unseres Erlösers am Kreuze*) first performed on Good Friday, 1787. These meditations provide a musical complement to each homily, offering a commentary on each of the seven sayings that transcends words. As Haydn wrote, in describing his work in a letter to his publisher, "Each text is expressed, purely by instrumental music, in such a way as to leave a profound impression [even] on the spirits of those who are hardly familiar with the subject."

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