

CALVARY EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
CINCINNATI, OHIO



GOOD FRIDAY  
APRIL 3, 2026  
NOON

*People respond with text in **Bold**.*

*(The ministers enter in silence. All kneel for silent prayer.)*

Officiant      Blessed be our God.  
People         **For ever and ever. Amen.**

Let us pray.

Lord, you are punctured, no longer divided inside and out, knowing in your flesh the sharp violence that kills what it fears: take us through the narrow door from which an endless river flows into a new body - - wounded and unafraid; through Jesus Christ, the passion of God. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

Also, let's hold on to the confession since we have a great high priest who passed through the heavens, who is Jesus, God's Son; because we don't have a high priest who can't sympathize with our weaknesses but instead one who was tempted in every way that we are, except without sin.

Finally, let's draw near to the throne of favor with confidence so that we can receive mercy and find grace when we need help.

During his days on earth, Christ offered prayers and requests with loud cries and tears as his sacrifices to the one who was able to save him from death. He was heard because of his godly devotion. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience from what he suffered. After he had been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for everyone who obeys him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**PSALM 22** said by ALL

- 1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? and are so far from my cry and from the words of my distress?
- 2 O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; by night as well, but I find no rest.
- 3 Yet you are the Holy One, enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
- 4 Our forefathers put their trust in you; they trusted, and you delivered them.
- 5 They cried out to you and were delivered; they trusted in you and were not put to shame.
- 6 But as for me, I am a worm and no man, scorned by all and despised by the people.
- 7 All who see me laugh me to scorn; they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,
- 8 "He trusted in the LORD; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, if he delights in him."
- 9 Yet you are he who took me out of the womb and kept me safe upon my mother's breast.
- 10 I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.
- 11 Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help.
- 12 Many young bulls encircle me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me.
- 13 They open wide their jaws at me, like a ravening and a roaring lion.
- 14 I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint; my heart within my breast is melting wax.
- 15 My mouth is dried out like a pot-sherd; my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;  
and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.
- 16 Packs of dogs close me in, and gangs of evildoers circle around me; they pierce my hands and my feet; I can count all my bones.
- 17 They stare and gloat over me; they divide my garments among them; they cast lots for my clothing.
- 18 Be not far away, O LORD; you are my strength; hasten to help me.
- 19 Save me from the sword, my life from the power of the dog.
- 20 Save me from the lion's mouth, my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.
- 21 I will declare your Name to my brethren; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.
- 22 Praise the LORD, you that fear him; stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel; all you of Jacob's line, give glory.

- 23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither does he hide his face from them; but when they cry to him he hears them.
- 24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: "May your heart live for ever!"
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations bow before him.
- 27 For kingship belongs to the LORD; he rules over the nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; they shall be known as the LORD'S for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn the saving deeds that he has done.

*People remain seated during the Passion.*

## The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

The Congregation loudly says the text in **BOLD** together.

*Note: This document prepared by the Rev. Jane L. Patterson, Ph.D of Seminary of the Southwest is designed to show the rhetorical form of the John's passion narrative and how translation choices might be deployed to lessen potential anti-Jewish readings.*

After Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered.

Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons.

then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" They answered, "Jesus of Nazareth."

Jesus replied, "I am he."

Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them.

When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they stepped back and fell to the ground.

Again, he asked them, "Whom are you looking for?"

And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth."

Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he.

So, if you are looking for me, let these men go."

[This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken, "I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me."]

Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus.

Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?"

So, the soldiers, their officer, and the Judean police arrested Jesus and bound him.

First, they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year.

Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Judean leadership that it was better to have one person die for the people.

Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, but Peter was standing outside at the gate.

So, the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in.

The woman said to Peter, "You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not."

Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself. Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. Jesus answered, "I have spoken openly to the world;

I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the *Judeans* come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said."

When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?"

Jesus answered, "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong.

But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?"

Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself.

They asked him, "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?"

He denied it and said, "I am not."

One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?"

Again, Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.

Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning.

They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover.

So, Pilate went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?"

They answered, "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you."

Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law." The *Judeans* replied, "We are not permitted to put anyone to death."

*(This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)*

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the *Judeans*?"

Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?"

Pilate replied, "I am not a Judean, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me.

What have you done?"

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the *Judeans*. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here."

Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?"

Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

Pilate asked him, "What is truth?" After he had said this, he went out to the *Judeans* again and told them, "I find no case against him.

But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover.

Do you want me to release for you the King of the *Judeans*?"

They shouted in reply, "**Not this man, but Barabbas!**" Now Barabbas was a bandit.

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged.

And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe.

They kept coming up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the *Judeans*!" and striking him on the face.

Pilate went out again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him." So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe.

Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!"

When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him."

The *Judeans* answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God."

Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, "Where are you from?"

But Jesus gave him no answer.

Pilate therefore said to him, "Do you refuse to speak to me?"

Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?"

Jesus answered him,

"You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore, the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin."

From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the *Judeans* cried out, "If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor."

When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha.

Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon.

He said to the *Judeans*, "Here is your King!"

They cried out, **"Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!"**

Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?"

The chief priests answered, "We have no king but the emperor."

Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

So, they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha.

***The people stand in reverence to Christ for the remainder of the narrative.***

***We pause for a period of silence as we recall Christ's saving death.***

There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them.

Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross.

It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the *Judeans*."

Many of the *Judeans* read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek.

Then the chief priests of the *Judeans* said to Pilate,

"Do not write, 'The King of the *Judeans*,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the *Judeans*.'"

Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; (now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top).

So, they said to one another,

"Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." (This was to fulfill what the scripture says,

"They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.")

And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son."

Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother."

And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth.

When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Since it was the day of Preparation, the *Judeans* did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed.

Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. (He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.)

These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken." And again, another passage of scripture says, "They will look on the one whom they have pierced." After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the *Judean authorities*, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body.

Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds.

They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews.

Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid.

And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

*Please be seated.*

## THE SERMON

Stephanie Townes, Youth Minister

## SOLEMN COLLECTS

*On this day we pray these special solemn prayers for all the world's needs. Please stand if you are able, until directed to kneel.*

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 Kristin, 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*

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*

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*

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*

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.**

Let us commit ourselves to 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*

*The Presider concludes*

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 tranquility 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 people kneel as a Wooden Cross is brought into the church and placed in the sight of the people.*

*Venerating the cross can be as simple as gently touching it. Some people choose to bow before the cross, kneel, or even lie prostrate as a sign of offering their whole selves to Christ. Each gesture is a way of expressing prayer, gratitude, and reverence for the love revealed in the cross. You are invited to approach in whatever way feels most authentic and prayerful for you.*

## THE VENERATION OF THE CROSS (with Rubric)

*All are invited to come forward to venerate the cross as they feel moved.*

## THE GOOD FRIDAY ANTHEMS (spoken)

### ANTHEM 1

We glory in your cross, O Lord, **and praise and glorify your holy resurrection; for by virtue of your cross joy has come to the whole world.**

May God be merciful to us and bless us, show us the light of his countenance, and come to us.

**Let your ways be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

**We glory in your cross, O Lord, and praise and glorify your holy resurrection; for by virtue of your cross joy has come to the whole world.**

### ANTHEM 2

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, **because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.** If we have died with him, we shall also live with him; if we endure, we shall also reign with him.

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

### ANTHEM 3

O Savior of the world, who by thy cross and precious blood hast redeemed us: Save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.

The Rector sings verse 1 of the Hymn. The congregation joins in singing verses 2-4.

HYMN ('82) 172 *Were you there when they crucified my Lord*

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?

Words: African-American spiritual. Music: *Were you There*, Afro-American spiritual; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944). Harmonization Copyright © by The Church Pension Fund.

*The people kneel or stand as they are able to confess their sins.*

## THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept*

### Presider and People

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*The Presider stands and pronounces absolution, God's forgiveness, saying*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER said by ALL

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

## THE COMMUNION

*(The remaining consecrated elements from the last celebration of Eucharist on Maundy Thursday are now consumed.)*

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

*The service concludes with the following prayer. No blessing or dismissal is added.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

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 the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## PLEASE DEPART IN SILENCE.

✠ ✠ ✠

**The Good Friday Offering is designated for the ministries of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem, as has been traditional in the Episcopal Church throughout the dioceses. Please make checks payable to Calvary Episcopal Church and write "Good Friday Offering" on the memo line.**

**Offering plates can be found at each entrance.**

## **Worship Leaders**

**Officiant:** The Rt. Reverend Nedi Rivera, Interim Assisting Clergy

**Assisting Clergy:** The Reverend Allison English. Rector

**Preacher:** Stephanie Townes, Youth Minister

**Organist:** Howard Helvey

**Readers:** Jeff Spero and Tammy Bowman

**Greeters and Ushers:** Caroline Bieser and Stephen Percer



**Easter  
Sunday**  
April 5th

**6:30 a.m.**  
**The Great Vigil  
of Easter**

**9:15 a.m.**  
**Family  
Worship with  
Communion  
followed by  
Easter Egg  
Hunt**

**11:00 a.m.**  
**Festival Choral  
Eucharist**

**Festive coffee  
hour follows  
each worship  
service.**

# CONFIDENT IN GOD'S LOVE FOR US FEARLESS IN OUR LOVE FOR ALL



TO GROW INWARDLY IN FAITH THROUGH WORSHIP, MUSIC, AND EDUCATION AND OUTWARDLY THROUGH INVITATION, WELCOME, AND CONNECTION

TO BE JESUS' HEART, HANDS AND FEET, HUMBLY COLLABORATING WITH OUR NEIGHBORS TO REALIZE BELOVED COMMUNITY



TO OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD'S GRACE, RECOGNIZING THAT WE ARE ALL BROKEN SAINTS AND REDEEMED SINNERS



**CALVARY**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH CLIFTON