

PRAYERS AT THE CROSS

APRIL 18, 2025

7:00 P.M.

ALL GATHER IN SILENCE

VOLUNTARY

Adagio in G Minor

Tomaso Albinoni
Remo Giazotto

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 53:4

Surely He has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed Him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

PRAYERS AT THE CROSS

Scriptural Account

SCRIPTURE AND NARRATION

Luke 11:1b; Hebrews 2:17-18

NARRATION AND SCRIPTURE

Luke 23:33-34a

THE FIRST WORD:

“Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.”

ANTHEM

A Lenten Hymn
Chancel Choir

Robert Lau

Lord, who throughout these forty days for us did fast and pray;
Teach us, with You, to morn our sins, and close by You to stay.
As You with Satan did contend and did the victory win.
O give us strength in You to fight, in You to conquer sin.
Ah, Holy Jesus, how hast Thou offended,
That we to judge Thee have in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by Thine own rejected.
O most afflicted.
I crucified You, O Lord, my God, my King!
Abide with us, that so this life of suffering over-past,
An Easter of unending joy, we may attain,
An Easter joy attain at last!

NARRATION AND SCRIPTURE

Luke 23:34b-43

THE SECOND WORD:

“Truly I tell you, today you will be with Me in paradise.”

HYMN 215

What Wondrous Love Is This

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!
When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, sinking down, when I was sinking down
beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul!
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb who is the great I am,

(continued)

while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing; while millions join the theme, I will sing! And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be, and through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and through eternity I'll sing on.		
NARRATION AND SCRIPTURE	John 19:26-27	
THE THIRD WORD:	“Dear woman, here is your Son,” “Here is your mother”	
ANTHEM	God So Loved the World Chancel Choir	John Steiner
God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, That whoso believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; But that the world through Him might be saved. God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, That whoso believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.		
NARRATION AND SCRIPTURE	Mark 15:39	
THE FOURTH WORD:	“My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?”	
HYMN 216	Beneath the Cross of Jesus	
Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand, the shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land; a home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way, from the burning of the noontide heat, and the burden of the day. Upon the cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see the very dying form of One who suffered there for me; and from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess: the wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness. I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place; I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of His face; content to let the world go by, to know no gain or loss, my sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.		
SCRIPTURE	1 Timothy 2:5-6a	
NARRATION AND SCRIPTURE	John 19:28-29	
THE FIFTH WORD:	“I am thirsty.”	
ANTHEM	In Love Christ Came Among Us Chancel Choir	Joseph M. Martin
In love, Christ came among us, coming not as king, But as a tiny baby born in Bethlehem; and we knew Him not! With grace, He walked among us, showed us how to love: Giving, teaching, healing, calling us to God; and we followed not. Ah, Holy Jesus, who brought this upon Thee? Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone Thee! ‘Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied Thee. I crucified Thee. In love, Christ came among us and went to Calvary. The perfect Lamb of God died to set us free, And still we loved Him not, and we followed not, and we knew Him not. Kyrie, Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.		

NARRATION AND SCRIPTURE	John 19:30	
THE SIXTH WORD:	“It is finished”	
HYMN 221	O Sacred Head, Now Wounded	
O sacred head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down; now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thine only crown; O sacred head, what glory, what bliss till now was thine! Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine. What thou, my Lord, hast suffered was all for sinners’ gain: mine, mine was the transgression, but Thine the deadly pain. Lo, here I fall, my Savior! ’Tis I deserve Thy place; look on me with Thy favor, and grant to me Thy grace. What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend, for this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end? O make me thine forever; and should I fainting be, Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to thee.		
NARRATION AND SCRIPTURE	Luke 23:46	
THE SEVENTH WORD:	“Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit.”	
ANTHEM	Ave verum Corpus Chancel Choir	W.A. Mozart

	Latin	English
	Ave, verum corpus natum de Maria Virgine: vere passum, immolatum	Hail the true body, born of the Virgin Mary: You who truly suffered and were sacrificed on the cross for the sake of man. From whose pierced flank flowed water and blood: Be a foretaste for us
	in cruce pro homine: cuius latus perforatum fluxit aqua et sanguine: esto nobis praegustatum, in mortis examine.	

EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLES AND DRAPING THE CROSS
ALL DEPART IN SILENCE
✦ Narration and Scripture readings by Eric Schwartz, Gracy Thomas, Phil Johnson, and Rev. Dr. E. Jones Doughton, Pastor
✦ Ryoji Shimpō, Director of Music Ministries/Organist



As one climbs down the stairs from Golgatha, one sees these three mosaics. We see the Descent from the Cross, The Preparation of the Body, and the Burial of Jesus. You are invited to reflect during this service and for the days to follow.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MESQUITE

Good Friday



The Church of the Holy Sepulcher is built over the traditional site of Calvary. This worship space exists above the traditional place where they crucified Christ. Today we see this space with candles, precious metals, and beautiful works of art. On That Day so many years ago, this site saw great ugliness. As you behold the site of Crucifixion, remember that the glory of Resurrection will come.

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