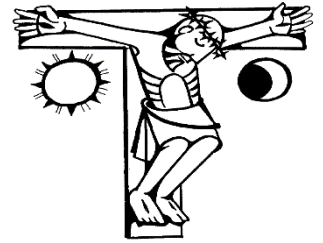


Zion Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, SD
Good Friday
zionlutheranaberdeen.org



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Son of God, with the meal over and the table now empty, you sought comfort in the garden and in conversation with God. You sought protection from those who promised never to forsake you. But promises were broken and betrayal imminent.

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for your willingness to go to the garden, knowing what the outcome would be—wrongfully accused, suffering, and death on the cross. Let us never forget the passionate love you continually displayed, even in the most horrendous of moments. In Jesus name. Amen.

THE PASSION ACCORDING TO THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 22:39-45

In the Garden

³⁹He came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives; and the disciples followed him. ⁴⁰When he reached the place, he said to them, "Pray that you may not come into the time of trial." ⁴¹Then he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and prayed, ⁴²Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done. [⁴³Then an angel from heaven appeared to him and gave him strength. ⁴⁴In his anguish he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down on the ground.] ⁴⁵When he got up from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping because of grief, ⁴⁶and he said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not come into the time of trial."

HYMN

Go to Dark Gethsemane

ELW #347

Verse 1

Go to dark Gethsemane,
all who feel the tempter's pow'r
our Redeemer's conflict see.
Watch with him on bitter hour:
turn not from his griefs away;
learn from Jesus Christ to pray.

Let us pray together: Son of God, **even in great despair, you teach us, Lord, to pray with a fervent heart let your will be done. As we go through dark days where there is great uncertainty, when we fall asleep because the unknown is too much for us, help us pray to you in confidence. Amen**

SCRIPTURE READING**Luke 22:47-53***Betrayed*

⁴⁷While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; ⁴⁸but Jesus said to him, "Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?" ⁴⁹When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked, "Lord, should we strike with the sword?" ⁵⁰Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. ⁵¹But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him. ⁵²Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him, "Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? ⁵³When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!"

HYMN***Ah, Holy Jesus*****ELW #349**

Verse 1

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.

Let us pray together: Son of God, **you stand firm in the face of those who come to harm, speaking truth in the places where fear could rule. You heal even when those you love cause injury. Teach us to stand tall in fear, to face accusers with grace, and offer healing instead of wounds. Hear us, Holy Jesus. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING**Luke 22:54-65***Denied*

⁵⁴Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. ⁵⁵When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. ⁵⁶Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, "This man also was with him." ⁵⁷But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." ⁵⁸A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!" ⁵⁹Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, "Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean." ⁶⁰But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about!" At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. ⁶¹The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." ⁶²And he went out and wept bitterly. ⁶³Now the men who were holding Jesus began to mock him and beat him; ⁶⁴they also blindfolded him and kept asking him, "Prophecy! Who is it that struck you?" ⁶⁵They kept heaping many other insults on him.

HYMN***Ah, Holy Jesus*****ELW #349**

Verse 2

Who was the guilty?
Who brought this upon thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus,

hath undone thee.
'Twas I, Lord Jesus,
I it was denied thee;
I crucified thee.

Let us pray together: Son of God, **you knew betrayal by those you call trusted and invited to live into your mission. You knew pain by those who did not believe and hurled insults your direction. Yet you loved them both the same. Love us the same when we, too, neglect to honor and live for you, when we hurl insults at you and others, rather than loving. Hear us, Holy Jesus. Amen.**

The first candle is extinguished.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 22:66-71

Are you the Messiah?

⁶⁶When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought him to their council. ⁶⁷They said, "If you are the Messiah, tell us." He replied, "If I tell you, you will not believe; ⁶⁸and if I question you, you will not answer. ⁶⁹But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God." ⁷⁰All of them asked, "Are you, then, the Son of God?" He said to them, "You say that I am." ⁷¹Then they said, "What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!"

HYMN

Ah, Holy Jesus

ELW #349

Verse 3

Lo, the Good Shepherd
for the sheep is offered;
The slave hath sinned,
and the Son hath suffered;
For our atonement
while we nothing heeded,
God interceded.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 23:1-12

Before the Authorities

¹Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. ²They began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king." ³Then Pilate asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" He answered, "You say so." ⁴Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no basis for an accusation against this man." ⁵But they were insistent and said, "He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place."

⁶When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. ⁷And when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. ⁸When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign.

⁹He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. ¹¹Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. ¹²That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies.

HYMN

Go to Dark Gethsemane

ELW #347

Verse 2

Follow to the judgement hall,
view the Lord of life arraigned;
oh, the wormwood and the gall!
Oh, the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss;
learn from him to bear the cross.

Let us pray together: Son of God, **you let yourself be tried by those who considered you to be an enemy. Give us faith to trust that you will never desert us, and teach us to not desert others you also call beloved. Hear us, Holy Jesus. Amen.**

The third candle is extinguished.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 23:13-25

Accused

¹³Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, ¹⁴and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him. ¹⁵Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. ¹⁶I will therefore have him flogged and release him."

¹⁸Then they all shouted out together, "Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!" ¹⁹(This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) ²⁰Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; ²¹but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!" ²²A third time he said to them, "Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him." ²³But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. ²⁴So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. ²⁵He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

HYMN

Ah, Holy Jesus

ELW #349

Verse 4

For me, kind Jesus,
was thine incarnation,
thy mortal sorrow,
and thy life's oblation;
Thy death of anguish

and they bitter passion,
for my salvation.

Let us pray together: Son of God, **you are a king, but not like earthly kings. You willingly laid down your life for all of your people, both those who follow you and those who clamor for other leadership. Give us faith to trust that you care for us and die for us, too. Hear us, Holy Jesus. Amen.**

The fourth candle is extinguished.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 23:26-31

Weep Not for Jesus

²⁶As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. ²⁷A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. ²⁸But Jesus turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹For the days are surely coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed.' ³⁰Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us'; and to the hills, 'Cover us.' ³¹For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

REFLECTIONS BY PASTOR

HYMN

Great God, Your Love Has Called Us

ELW #358

Verses 1 & 2

Great God, your love has called us here,
As we, by love, for love were made.
Your living likeness still we bear,
Through marred, dishonored, disobeyed.
We come, with all our heart and mind,
Your call to hear, your love to find.

We come with self-inflated pains
Of broken trust and chosen wrong.
Half-free, half-bound to inner chains,
By social forces swept along,
By pow'rs and systems close confined,
Yet seeking hope for human kind.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 23:32-38

Mocked & Hung from the Cross

³²Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [[³⁴Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others;

let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

HYMN

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

ELW #351

Verses 1 & 2

- 1 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
- 2 How pale thou art with anguish,
with sore abuse and scorn;
how does thy face now languish,
which once was bright as morn!
Thy grief and bitter passion
were all for sinners' gain;
mine, mine was the transgression,
but thine the deadly pain.

Let us pray together: Son of God, **stripped before all, you bore the weight of humiliation, exposed, and belittled. Shame is what they wanted you to feel. What they could not take was your title nor your integrity. You are our king, in all circumstances, help us to always look to your authority. Hear us, Holy Jesus. Amen.**

The fifth candle is extinguished.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 23:39-43

Mocked & Hung from the Cross

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?" ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴²Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

HYMN

Were You There

ELW #353

Verse 1

Were you there
when they crucified my Lord?
Where you there

when they crucified my Lord?
Ohhhh, sometimes it causes me
to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there
when they crucified my Lord?

Let us pray together: Son of God, **you bear the question of mockery, and greet it with humility and compassion. You respond to aggression with peace, forgiveness and invitation. Turn our hearts to do the same. Hear us, Holy Jesus. Amen.**

The sixth candle is extinguished.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 23:44-49

Mocked & Hung from the Cross

⁴⁴It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, ⁴⁵while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last. ⁴⁷When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, "Certainly this man was innocent." ⁴⁸And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. ⁴⁹But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

HYMN

Go to Dark Gethsemane

ELW #347

Verse 3

Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb;
there, adoring at his feet,
mark that miracle of time,
God's own sacrifice complete.
"It is finished!" hear him cry;
learn from Jesus Christ to die.

Let us pray together: Son of God, **even as you took your last breath, you touched those close to you—making connections even in your pain, revealing your kingship to all. Help us to look upon your pain, grief, and death and know that you do this for the whole world, teaching us to give selflessly for our neighbor. Hear us, Holy Jesus. Amen.**

The seventh candle is extinguished.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 23:50-56

The Tomb

⁵⁰Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, ⁵¹had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. ⁵²This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁵³Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn

tomb where no one had ever been laid. ⁵⁴It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was beginning. ⁵⁵The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. ⁵⁶Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments. On the sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

HYMN

Were You There

ELW #353

Verse 5

Were you there
When they laid him in the tomb?
Where you there
when they laid him in the tomb?
Ohhhh, sometimes it causes me
to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there
when they laid him in the tomb?

RECESSION OF THE CROSS

Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world.

Oh, come, let us worship him.

Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world.

Oh, come, let us worship him.

Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world.

Oh, come, let us worship him.

We go into our evening in silence, wondering...Where we will see and find God next? Where is God for you when the world is dark? The shadows in our sanctuary symbolize the darkness of Christ's three days in the tomb. But like God's love, this light is never entirely extinguished.

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