**NAME OF CHURCH**



**Good Friday
Meditation on the Cross**

The Gathering

*Welcome to NAME OF LOCATION, as we join together to worship God.*

*The service will proceed without announcements. You are invited to stand for the hymns, and to be seated for everything else. If it is not comfortable for you to stand for the hymns, please remain seated for those as well..*

*The congregation gathers in silence.*

**Collect for Good Friday**

Eternal God,

 in the cross of Jesus

 we see the depths of our sin

 and the depths of your love:

 in humble hope and fear

 may we place at his feet

 all that we have and all that we are,

 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

***All* Amen**

**Hymn**

*ADD HYMN NUMBER OR LYRICS
(Suggestion: When I survey the Wondrous Cross)*

**Reading: A Song of the Lord’s Gracious Deeds
(Isaiah 63)**

***All* I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,
the praises of the Most High.**Who is this that comes from Edom,
coming from Bozrah, his garments stained crimson?
Who is this in glorious apparel,
marching in the greatness of his strength?
‘It is I, who announce that right has won the day,
it is I,’ says the Lord, ‘for I am mighty to save.’
Why are your robes all red, O Lord,
and your garments like theirs who tread the winepress?
‘I have trodden the winepress alone,
and from the peoples no one was with me.’
I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,
the praises of the Most High;
All that God has done for us in his mercy,
by his many acts of love.
For God said, ‘Surely, they are my people,
my children who will not deal falsely,’
and he became their Saviour in all their distress.
So God redeemed them by his love and pity;
he lifted them up and carried them through all the days of old.

***All*** **I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,
the praises of the Most High.**

**Hymn**

*ADD HYMN NUMBER OR LYRICS
(Suggestion: My song is love unknown)*

**Reading: Jesus is sentenced to death (Luke 23:1-25)**

**Good Friday anthem: The Reproaches**

 Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by?
 Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow
 which was brought upon me,
 which the Lord inflicted on the day of his fierce anger.

**All Holy God,
 holy and strong,
 holy and immortal,
 have mercy upon us.**

 O my people, O my Church, what have I done to you,
 or in what have I offended you?
 Testify against me.
 I led you forth from the land of Egypt,
 and delivered you by the waters of baptism,
 but you have prepared a cross for your Saviour.

**All Holy God,
 holy and strong,
 holy and immortal,
 have mercy upon us.**

 I led you through the desert for forty years,
and fed you with manna.
I brought you through tribulation and penitence,
and gave you my body, the bread of heaven,
but you prepared a cross for your Saviour.

**All Holy God,
 holy and strong,
 holy and immortal,
 have mercy upon us.**

 What more could I have done for you that I have not done?
 I planted you, my chosen and fairest vineyard,
 I made you the branches of my vine;
 but when I was thirsty, you gave me vinegar to drink,
 and pierced with a sword the side of your Saviour.

**All Holy God,
 holy and strong,
 holy and immortal,
 have mercy upon us.**

 I went before you in a pillar of cloud,
 and you have led me to the judgement hall of Pilate.
 I scourged your enemies and brought you to a land of freedom,
 but you have scourged, mocked and beaten me.
 I gave you the water of salvation from the rock,
 but you have given me gall and left me to thirst.

**All Holy God,
 holy and strong,
 holy and immortal,
 have mercy upon us.**

 I gave you a royal sceptre,
 and bestowed the keys of the kingdom,
 but you have given me a crown of thorns.
 I raised you on high with great power,
 but you have hanged me on the cross.

**All Holy God,
 holy and strong,
 holy and immortal,
 have mercy upon us.**

 My peace I gave, which the world cannot give,
 and washed your feet as a sign of my love,
 but you draw the sword to strike in my name,
 and seek high places in my kingdom.
 I offered you my body and blood,
 but you scatter and deny and abandon me.

**All Holy God,
 holy and strong,
 holy and immortal,
 have mercy upon us.**

 I sent the Spirit of truth to guide you,
 and you close your hearts to the Counsellor.
 I pray that all may be one in the Father and in me,
 but you continue to quarrel and divide.
 I call you to go and bring forth fruit,
 but you cast lots for my clothing.

**All Holy God,
 holy and strong,
 holy and immortal,
 have mercy upon us.**

I came as the least of your brothers and sisters;
 I was hungry and you gave me no food,
 I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,
 I was a stranger and you did not welcome me,
 naked and you did not clothe me,
 sick and in prison and you did not visit me.

**All Holy God,
 holy and strong,
 holy and immortal,
 have mercy upon us.**

**Hymn**

*ADD HYMN NUMBER OR LYRICS
(Suggestion: Were you there when they crucified my Lord?)*

**Reading: Jesus dies on the cross (Luke 23:44-49)**

**The Cross**

*(If your church has a cross, you are invited to place this in a central position. As a selection of hymns are sung, the congregation remains seated, and are invited to place a nail in a basket at the foot of the cross, leaving with God all guilt and burdens.)*

*ADD HYMN NUMBER OR LYRICS
(Suggestions:
Come and See
How deep the Father’s love for us
My Lord, what love is this*

***All* May God,
 who gave us his crucified Son
 as a sure and certain sign of his infinite mercy,
 grant us forgiveness and newness of life. Amen.**

**Anthem: A Song of Praise**

 You are worthy, O Lamb, for you were slain,

 and by your blood you ransomed for God

 saints from every tribe and language and nation;

 you have made them to be a kingdom and priests

 serving our God.

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

 To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood,

 and made us a kingdom of priests

 to stand and serve before our God;

**All to him who sits upon the throne and to the Lamb**

 **be praise and honour, glory and might,**

 **for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Hymn**

*ADD HYMN NUMBER OR LYRICS
(Suggestions: O sacred head, sore wounded or Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow)*

**The Lord’s Prayer**

Standing at the foot of the cross,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**All Our Father in heaven …**

*(or)*

 Standing at the foot of the cross,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**All Our Father, who art in heaven …**

*If Holy Communion is to be distributed from reserved sacrament consecrated on Maundy Thursday, the altar is covered with a linen cloth and the consecrated elements are placed on it in silence. (If there is no Liturgy of the Sacrament, conclude with the closing prayer.)*

 Draw near with faith.
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you,
and his blood which he shed for you.
Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

 Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

**Closing Prayer**

 Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

**All Amen.**

*The people depart in silence*.

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