

Ecumenical Good Friday Service April 3, 2026 at 12:00 noon

*The ministers enter in silence.*

Welcome and introduction.

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

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. *Amen.*

First Hymn – #168 - O sacred head, sore wounded



1 O sa - cred head, sore wound - ed, de - filed and put to scorn;  
2 Thy beau - ty, long - de - sir - ed, hath va - nished from our sight;  
3 In thy most bit - ter pas - sion my heart to share doth cry,  
\*4 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,  
\*5 My days are few, O fail not, with thine im - mor - tal power,



1 O king - ly head, sur - round - ed with mock - ing crown of thorn:  
2 thy power is all ex - pir - ed, and quenched the light of light.  
3 with thee for my sal - va - tion up - on the cross to die.  
4 for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pi - ty with - out end?  
5 to hold me that I quail not in death's most fear - ful hour;



1 what sor - row mars thy gran - deur? Can death thy bloom de - flower?  
2 Ah me! for whom thou di - est, hide not so far thy grace:  
3 Ah, keep my heart thus mov - ed to stand thy cross be - neath,  
4 Oh, make me thine for - ev - er! and should I faint - ing be,  
5 that I may fight be - friend - ed, and see in my last strife



1 O coun - te - nance whose splen - dor the hosts of heaven a - dore!  
2 show me, O Love most high - est, the bright - ness of thy face.  
3 to mourn thee, well - be - lov - ed, yet thank thee for thy death.  
4 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er, out - live my love for thee.  
5 to me thine arms ex - tend - ed up - on the cross of life.

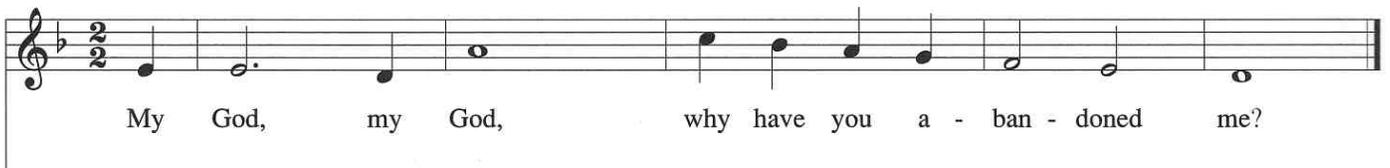
### Isaiah 53: 1-12

Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity, and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account. Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases, yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with affliction. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the Lord shall prosper. Out of his anguish he shall see; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out himself to death and was numbered with the transgressors, yet he bore the sin of many and made intercession for the transgressors.

Reader                    The word of the Lord.  
People                    **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 22

#### Refrain



My God, my God, why have you a - ban - doned me?

**Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9**

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

Reader                    The word of the Lord.  
People                    Thanks be to God.

**Second Hymn – #439: What wondrous love is this**

*Unison*



1 What        won - drous love is        this,        O my soul,        O my soul! What  
2 To        God and to the        Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to  
3 And        when from death I'm        free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and

won - drous love is        this, O my soul! What        won - drous love is        this that  
God and to the        Lamb, I will sing. To        God and to the        Lamb who  
when from death I'm        free, I'll sing on. And        when from death I'm        free I'll

caused the Lord        of bliss to        lay a - side his        crown for my  
is the great        I AM, while        mil - lions join the        theme, I will  
sing and joy - ful        be, and through        e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to        lay a - side his        crown for my soul.  
sing, I will sing, while        mil - lions join the        theme I will sing.  
on, I'll sing on, and        through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

## **The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 18:1-40**

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 people 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 Jewish 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 Jews 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 Jews 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 Jews 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 Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I?"



### **John 19:1-30**

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 Jews!" 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, "Behold 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 Jews 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 Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are no friend of Caesar. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against Caesar." 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 Jews, "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 Caesar." Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

*Ask the congregation to stand*

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. 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 Jews." Many of the Jews 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 Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" 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.

*Time of Silence*

**Anthem: At the Cross by Lani Smith**

**Combined Church Choir**

*All offerings from today's service will go toward the Refuge*

**The Solemn Collects**

*All stand as able*

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 ministers, Ordained and Lay, and the people whom they serve.

For all Christians in this community.

For all those about to be baptized.

That God will confirm God's 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*

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.*

**Fourth Hymn – There is a green hill far away**

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The first system contains five lines of lyrics, and the second system contains five lines of lyrics. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and single notes.

1 There is a green hill far a - way, out - side a ci - ty wall,  
2 We may not know, we can - not tell, what pains he had to bear,  
\*3 He died that we might be for - given, he died to make us good,  
\*4 There was no o - ther good e - nough to pay the price of sin,  
5 O dear - ly, dear - ly has he loved! And we must love him too,

1 where our dear Lord was cru - ci - fied who died to save us all.  
2 but we be - lieve it was for us he hung and suf - fered there.  
3 that we might go at last to heaven, saved by his pre - cious blood.  
4 he on - ly could un - lock the gate of heaven and let us in.  
5 and trust in his re - deem - ing blood, and try his works to do.

*A wooden cross is brought into the church and placed in the sight of the people.*

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.**

**Final Hymn – LEVAS #38: The Old Rugged Cross**

1. On a hill far a - way stood an old rug-ged cross,  
 2. Oh, that old rug - ged cross so de - spised by the world,  
 3. In the old rug - ged cross, stained with blood so di - vine,  
 4. To the old rug - ged cross I will ev - er be true,

1. The em - blem of suf - f'ring and shame;  
 2. Has a won - drous at - trac - tion for me;  
 3. A won - drous beau - ty I see;  
 4. Its shame and re - proach glad - ly bear;

1. And I love that old cross where the dear - est and best  
 2. For the dear Lamb of God left His glo - ry a - bove,  
 3. For 'twas on that old cross Je - sus suf - fered and died,  
 4. Then He'll call me some day to my home far a - way,

1. For a world of lost sin - ners was slain.  
 2. To bear it to dark Cal - va - ry.  
 3. To par - don and sanc - ti - fy me.  
 4. Where His glo - ry for - ev - er I'll share.

So I'll cher - ish the cross, the old rug - ged cross,

Till my tro - phies at last I lay down;\_\_\_\_\_

I will cling to the cross, the old rug - ged cross,

And ex - change it some day for a crown.\_\_\_\_\_

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

*The service concludes with the following prayer.*

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.**

*The Congregation leaves in silence*