

Good Friday Stations of the Cross

A Joint Service of the Genesee Finger Lakes Conference



WELCOME

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom your Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen**

HYMN

O Sacred Head Now Wounded

ELW #351

- 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.
- 3 What language shall I borrow
to thank thee, dearest friend,
for this thy dying sorrow,
thy pity without end?
Oh, make me thine forever,
and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never
outlive my love to thee.
- 4 Lord, be my consolation;
shield me when I must die;
remind me of thy passion
when my last hour draws nigh.
These eyes, new faith receiving,
from thee shall never move;
for all who die believing
die safely in thy love.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, based on Arnulf of Louvain, d. 1250; tr. composite

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Look to Jesus, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

~ STATIONS OF THE CROSS ~

First Station: *Jesus is condemned to death*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you

Because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

Reading: Mark 15:15, 11-15

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. ²Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” He answered him, “You say so.” ³Then the chief priests accused him of many things. ⁴Pilate asked him again, “Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.” ⁵But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Meditation

Prayer

For those on trial this week and for those appointed to judge them:

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

The following refrain, ELW #751, will serve as an interlude between each station. Though the instrumentation will change, you are invited to sing along each time.

O Lord hear my pray'r. O Lord hear my pray'r. When I call, ans - wer me.

Lord hear my pray'r. O Lord hear my pray'r Come and lis - ten to me.

Text: Psalm 102:1-2; Taizé Community, adapt. Music: Jacque Berthier, 1923-1994

Second Station: *Jesus takes up his cross*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you

Because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

Reading: Mark 15:16-20

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters^[a]); and they called together the whole cohort. ¹⁷ And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. ¹⁸ And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ¹⁹ They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. ²⁰ After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

Meditation

Prayer

For those appointed to keep public order,
And for those tempted to abuse their power:
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

Sung refrain.

Third Station: *Jesus falls the first time*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you

Because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

Reading: Isaiah 53:1

Who would have believed what we now tell? Who could have seen God's hand in this?

Meditation

Prayer

For those who are tired or in pain:
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

Sung refrain.

Fourth Station: *Jesus meets his mother*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you

Because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

Reading: John 19:25-27

Meditation

Prayer

For parents whose children are in pain or in trouble:

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

Sung refrain.

Fifth Station: *Simon helps Jesus to carry his cross*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you

Because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

Reading: Mark 15:21

On their way through Jerusalem, they met a man named Simon, who was coming into the city from the country, and the soldiers forced him to carry Jesus' cross.

Meditation

Prayer

For a willingness to serve you, in friends and in strangers:

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

Sung refrain.

Sixth Station: *Veronica wipes the face of Jesus*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you

Because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

Reading: Matthew 25:35-36, 40

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' ... ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

Meditation

Prayer

For those whose faces we wipe, and for those who wipe away our tears:

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

Sung refrain.

Seventh Station: *Jesus falls the second time*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you

Because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

Reading: Isaiah 53:7

Ill-treated and afflicted,
he never said a word.

Like a lamb led to the slaughter-house,
like a sheep dumb before its shearers,
he never opened his mouth.

Meditation

Prayer

For those who today will struggle and fall:

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

Sung refrain.

Eighth Station: *Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you

Because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

Reading: Luke 23:27-28

²⁷ A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. ²⁸ But Jesus turned to them and said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.

Meditation

Prayer:

For those who live in places of conflict and danger,
for peacemakers and peacekeepers in every land:
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

Sung refrain.

Ninth Station: *Jesus falls the third time*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you

Because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

Reading: Isaiah 53:4-5

Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.

⁵ 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.

Meditation

Prayer

For those whom I love,
For those whom I struggle to love,
For those who find me difficult:
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

Sung refrain.

Tenth Station: *Jesus is stripped of his clothes*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you

Because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

Reading: Mark 15:22-24

²² Then they brought Jesus^[a] to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). ²³ And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. ²⁴ And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

Meditation

Prayer

For those deserted by friends,

For those who are alone and vulnerable:

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

Sung refrain.

Eleventh Station: *Jesus is nailed to the cross*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you

Because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

Reading: Luke 23:35, 49

And 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!”

⁴⁹ But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Meditation

Prayer

For the depth of your love for us, we thank you:

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

Sung refrain.

Twelfth Station: *Jesus dies on the cross*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you

Because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

Reading: Luke 23:44-46

⁴⁴ It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land^[a] until three in the afternoon, ⁴⁵ while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶ Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last.

Meditation

Prayer

For those who have died today,

For those who love them and will miss them:

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

Sung refrain.

Thirteenth Station: *Jesus is taken down from the cross*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you

Because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

Reading: Mark 15:42-46

⁴² When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, ⁴³ Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁴⁴ Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. ⁴⁵ When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. ⁴⁶ Then Joseph^[a] bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body,^[b] wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb.

Meditation

Prayer

For our family and friends who have died, for ourselves as we carry their stories:
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

Sung refrain.

Fourteenth Station: *Jesus is laid in the tomb*

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

Reading: Mark 15:46-47

⁴⁶ Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. ⁴⁷ Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus saw where the body was laid.

Meditation

Prayer

For those who are waiting, for all who are longing for light:
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

Sung refrain.

CLOSING PRAYER

We glory in your cross, O Lord,
and we praise your holy resurrection,
for by your cross joy has come into the world.

May God be merciful and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

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

We glory in your cross, O Lord,
and we praise your holy resurrection,
for by your cross joy has come into the world.

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

May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

We glory in your cross, O Lord,

and we praise your holy resurrection,
for by your cross joy has come into the world.

After a brief silence, the presiding minister continues.

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

SONG *What Wondrous Love Is This* arr. Marie Pooler

This simple anthem is a joint project of the choirs of various participating churches. You may choose just to listen, or you may choose to sing along with the melody.

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul...
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing...
To God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM, 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 and joyful be throughout eternity I'll sing on.

~ ~ ~

Thank you to the following congregations who participated in this service by providing music, or one of the stations, or simply by praying along with us this evening:

Bethlehem, Fairport
St Paul's, Pittsford
Messiah, Greece
Immanuel, Webster
St Timothy's, Geneseo
St Paul's, Penn Yan
St. John's, Victor
Resurrection, Irondequoit
Transfiguration, Irondequoit

Special thanks to Matthew Robbins, whose beautiful photography accompanied our stations; to members of the Bethlehem, Fairport choir for leading us in *O Sacred Head Now Wounded*; and to Jonathan Madden (St. Paul's, Pittsford) for facilitating and creating *What Wondrous Love Is This* as an anthem sung by various choirs. Finally, thanks to all the musicians from many different congregations who provided our prayerful musical interludes.

Blessings to all as you prepare for the celebration of Christ's resurrection on the third day.

BLC Holy Week 2021 Continues!

Our Lenten plea – “We want to see Jesus!”– culminates in Holy Week, when we do see Jesus. As we observe Holy Week as a community this year, we want to see Jesus in all of these ways –not only through a screen in our homes, but in tangible signs and practices throughout the week. [Download the full details here](#) (or contact the church office for a copy) NOTE: Some activities require planning ahead, so don't wait to read this! Visit <https://blcfairport.org/share-in-worship/> for the link to worship, order of service, and any special instructions!

Easter Sunday, April 4: We see Jesus resurrected just as he promised!

Livestream worship at 8:30am (available to watch anytime afterwards)

Prepare your worship space by finding/unearthing the Alleluia coloring page that was hidden away on Transfiguration Sunday. ([Find it here](#) if you missed it at the start of Lent!) Find something that makes noise - some dry beans in a jar? jingle bells? - and shake them every time you hear "Alleluia" in worship!

Celebrate communion on April 4... Following the communion liturgy (online!), you are invited to make your way to Bethlehem before 11 am to receive the Sacrament. If you or a loved one would like to commune but can't make your way to BLC, please let Pastor Amy know.