

Order of Worship

Good Friday

April 18, 2025 7:00 PM

Welcome to this time of worship, as we gather in the name of Jesus Christ.

Prelude

Ah, Holy Jesus

Lisa Gibbs-Smith, piano

Johann Crüger
arr. Larry Shackley

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!

Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee,
I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee,
think on thy pity and thy love unswerving,
not my deserving

Welcome

Rev. Nilse Furtado-Gilliam

Greeting

Fran Underwood

Leader: On this Holy Friday,
we follow Jesus' labored steps up the hill to Golgotha,
all the while questioning:

People: My God, my God, where are you?

Leader: We follow the women who held vigil at the foot of the cross,
all the while despairing:

People: My God, my God, where are you?

Leader: We come near to Jesus as soldiers mock him,
all the while crying out:

People: My God, my God, where are you?

Leader: We sit in grief and dismay, once again confronted
with the horrible reality of sin and evil in our world
that people just like us would crucify Love Incarnate.
And all the while, God sits with us, saying:

People: My child, my child, I am here.

Leader: Come, let us worship God who, even on this day, is never far from us.

All: Amen.

Hymn

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

UMH 297

Opening Prayer

Fran Underwood

Leader: Now we know: our glory is all the cross
all is grace, all is gift.

**People: You give us all good things:
life and love;
daily bread and water that quenches our thirst;
friends and faith.**

Leader: Most of all, in your Son, Jesus,
you meet us with a love that will never let us go;
you utter words of mercy and forgiveness
that override the hurts,
and heal our brokenness;
you offer new beginnings
where we had expected only dead ends.

**People: We give you thanks and praise
for the mystery of your suffering love
that gives us life.**

Leader: We give you thanks and praise
that you know our weakness
and hear our prayers.

**People: We give you thanks and praise
that all our dying and living
is held in your good keeping.**

Leader: Now we know: our glory is all the cross,
all is grace,
all is gift,
all is Love.

People: Amen.

THE PASSION OF JESUS CHRIST

Scripture

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

Rev. Furtado-Gilliam

Hymn

Lord, Is It I?
Stanzas 1-3

W&S 3080

Scripture

John 19:1-30

Lisa Gibbs-Smith

The word of God for the people of God.

Rusty Smith

Thanks be to God.

Prayers at the Cross

Rev. Tracy McNeil Wines

Anthem**Were You There?**

Maurice Furtado-Gilliam

You are invited to a time of silent prayer as we offer up the pain and suffering of the world to Jesus.

Solemn Reproaches of the Cross

Rev. Wines

Leader: O my people, what more could I have done for you?

Answer me!

I created you in my image,
but you do not recognize me
when you encounter people
whose skin color, sexuality, or politics
are different from yours.

I breathed my Spirit of welcome into your lungs,
and you breathe out hatred and division.
You have made a cross for your Savior.

**People: Holy God, we are poured out like water.
Holy immortal One, have mercy upon us.**

Leader: I delivered you out of slavery,
and you have created, and profited from,
a world where people are still enslaved.
Nobody is free until everyone is free.
You have made a cross for your Savior.

**People: Holy God, we are poured out like water.
Holy immortal One, have mercy upon us.**

Leader: I planted you as my vineyard,
nurturing your growth and watering your roots,
but you have yielded rotten fruit.
You have not nurtured the earth entrusted to our care.
You have exploited creation as if it were yours.
I created you as branches,
and you thought you were the vine.
You have made a cross for your Savior.

**People: Holy God, we are poured out like water.
Holy immortal One, have mercy upon us.**

Leader: I walked before you as cloud and fire,
guiding your journey.
I made a way where there was no way,
leading you through water on dry land,
but you refuse to help others on their journeys,
building walls instead of bridges.
You have made a cross for your Savior.

**People: Holy God, we are poured out like water.
Holy immortal One, have mercy upon us.**

Leader: I asked you to rend your hearts and not your garments,
but you have made public displays of thoughts and prayers,
and have not let your hearts be moved
by the violence that plagues your streets,
your theaters, your schools, your churches.
I told Peter to put down his sword,
but you have armed yourselves
and sought peace through violence.
You have made a cross for your Savior.

**People: Holy God, we are poured out like water.
Holy immortal One, have mercy upon us.**

Leader: I moved into your neighborhood, full of grace and truth,
but people remain on the streets
because housing is not available, not affordable,
in a world of growing inequality.
Where could the Word made flesh afford to lay his head today?
You have made a cross for your Savior.

**People: Holy God, we are poured out like water.
Holy immortal One, have mercy upon us.**

Leader: I was a stranger and you did not welcome me,
naked and you did not give me clothing,
sick and in prison and you did not visit me,
hungry and you did not feed me,
thirsty and you did not give me a drink.
You have made a cross for your Savior.

**People: Holy God, we are poured out like water.
Holy immortal One, have mercy upon us.**

(A brief silence follows.)

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be 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 forever. Amen.**

Hymn

O Love Divine, What Hast Thou Done

UMH 287

Dismissal

Rev. Wines

Go in peace. May Jesus Christ, who for our sake became obedient unto death, even death on a cross, keep you and strengthen you this night and forever. Amen.

Depart in silence.

Greeting written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, September 2024.

Opening Prayer adapted from Christine Jerrett, <https://christinejerrett.wordpress.com/>. Re-posted on the re:Worship blog at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2019/04/a-prayer-for-good-friday-now-we-know.html>.

Solemn Reproaches reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from "Connections Worship Companion." ©2021