The Liturgy for Good Friday

March 30, 2018
7:00 p.m.
A Holy Week Message from the Rector

The time of Lent has passed and we are journeying with Jesus during Holy Week as he makes his final entrance into Jerusalem. On Palm Sunday, we wave our palms and sing our favorite songs of joy and jubilation as we recall how the crowds in Jesus’s time cheered and watched him pass by, riding on a humble donkey. However, within a short time the atmosphere changes from joy to a sense of dread and foreboding. During the three days leading up to Easter Sunday, we mark Jesus’s journey to the cross with the special services of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. These services make up the Triduum, where we relive Jesus’s last few hours on earth. On Maundy Thursday, we will hear Jesus’s words that instituted our Holy Communion, wash one another’s feet and strip the altar. Good Friday is a somber time when we recall Jesus’s betrayal, trial and agonizing death on the cross. All children and their parents are invited to Walk with Jesus on Friday morning, a special Good Friday service for our younger members, with hands-on storytelling and songs. Holy Saturday, the day that Jesus lay in his tomb, is a time of faithful vigil as we prepare for Easter Sunday, a time of rebirth and joy. May you have a blessed Holy Week. We hope you will join us for one or all of these special services as we journey with Jesus, placing our hope and faith in the promise of new life we will find in the Risen Christ on Easter morning.

If you are with us for the first time, please make yourself comfortable. We look forward to meeting you. If you would like to learn more about the church, please fill out a card (hanging in each pew), put it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher or member of the clergy, and we will be in touch. It is our custom to be silent before the service, so as you take some time to pray, please turn off all electronic devices. All you should need to participate in the service is found here, in this bulletin and in the blue hymnal in the pew rack. Hearing assist devices are available. Please ask the ushers for assistance with this or any other requests. Again, welcome.

Cover image: Christ on the Cross with the Virgin and St. John by Michelangelo Buonarotti. Michelangelo created this and five other drawings of the crucifixion for his own use and experimentation. This one, probably the last of the series, differs from the others in how the figures interact with one another. In the other drawings, the figures standing under the cross are isolated from one another and from Jesus, lonely and abandoned. In this drawing, however, Mary (left) nestles against Jesus, while John (right) gazes up at him. They are, all three, bound to one another. The anguished mourners find comfort in remaining close to Jesus even as he is dying. It is a portrait of intimacy between those who suffer, and the God who suffers with and for them.

ORDER OF SERVICE

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY     Choral Dorien      Jehan Alain (1911–1940)

At the entrance of the clergy, all stand and then kneel for prayer.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant    Blessed be our God.
People       Forever and ever. Amen.
Celebrant    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.
People       Amen.
THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO JOHN

THE FIRST READING

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, “Here is 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.”

ANTHEM

Salvator mundi

Salvator mundi, salva nos, qui per crucem et sanguinem redemisti nos. Auxiliare nobis, te deprecamur, Deus noster.

Saviour of the world, save us, thou who by thy cross and blood hast redeemed us. Come to our rescue, we beseech thee, our God.

THE SECOND READING

From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, “If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor.” 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 the emperor.” Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. 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.

A MEDITATION

MY SONG IS LOVE UNKNOWN

All stand and sing.
GOOD FRIDAY

THE THIRD READING
*John 19:19–24*

*All sit.*

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.”

A MEDITATION
*The Reverend Susan Pinkerton*

HYMN 474  *When I survey the wondrous cross*

ROCKINGHAM

*All stand and sing.*

THE FOURTH READING
*John 19:25–27*

*All sit.*

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.

A MEDITATION
*The Reverend Molly Louden*

HYMN 172  *Were you there when they crucified my Lord*

WERE YOU THERE

*All stand and sing.*

THE FIFTH READING
*John 19:28–30*

*All sit.*

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.

A MEDITATION
*The Reverend William J. Eakins*

HYMN 458, vv. 5–7  *My song is love unknown*

LOVE UNKNOWN

*All stand and sing.*

THE SIXTH READING
*John 19:31–37*

*All sit.*

Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the
crucified men broken and the bodies removed. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. (He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, “None of his bones shall be broken.” And again another passage of scripture says, “They will look on the one whom they have pierced.”

ANTHEM  

Greater love hath no man  

John Ireland (1879-1962)  

Words: Song of Solomon 8:7,6; John 15:13; 1 Peter 2:24; 1 Corinthians 6:11; 1 Peter 2:9; Romans 12:1  

John Kramer, treble; John Nowacki, baritone  

Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it. Love is strong as death. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness. Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus; Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

THE SOLEMN COLLECTS  

All stand.

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 bishops and other ministers and the people whom they serve; for Ian and Laura our Bishops, and all the people of this diocese; for all Christians in this community; for those about to be baptized; that God will confirm his 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 our 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.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All 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
for ever and ever. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING PRAYER

Celebrant 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.

People Amen.

The congregation departs in silence.
The labyrinth is available for meditative walking in Hubbard Hall.

THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY

Clergy: The Reverend Susan Pinkerton, the Reverend William J. Eakins, the Reverend Robert C. Hooper, the Reverend Molly Louden
Gospeler: The Reverend Walter McKenney
The Choirs of St. John’s and St. James’s
St. John’s Organist & Choirmaster: Scott Lamlein
St. James’s Organist & Choirmaster: Vaughn Mauren
Acolyte: J.P. Evans
Ushers: Sarah Kieffer, Christoph Stretz

EASTER DAY SERVICES

St. John’s Episcopal Church
8 & 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Easter egg hunt following the 10:30 service

St. James’s Episcopal Church
10 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Easter egg hunt and mimosas on the lawn following the service

A warm word of welcome to the clergy and members of St. James’s Church. It is an honor to share this most solemn of services with you, as we come together as the Living Body of Christ.
St. John’s Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another

www.sjparish.net

679 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford, Connecticut 06119
860 523 5201 office@sjparish.net

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. each Sunday morning
4:30 p.m. Celtic contemplative service on the first Sunday of the month (Oct – June)
5:00 p.m. Evensong on selected last Sundays of the month
5:30 p.m. Evening Prayer each Monday, Wednesday and Friday
Christian Education at 9:30 a.m. September – May

STAFF

The Rev. Susan Pinkerton (susan@sjparish.net) .......................................................... Rector
Scott Lamlein (scott@sjparish.net) .......................................................... Director of Music
The Rev. Walter McKenney* (walter@sjparish.net) .......................................................... Deacon
The Rev. Hope Eakins* (hope@sjparish.net) .......................................................... Priest Associate
The Rev. William Eakins* (bill@sjparish.net) .......................................................... Priest Associate
Janet Babbitt (janet@sjparish.net) .......................................................... Director of Religious Education
Ellen Painter Dollar (ellen@sjparish.net) .......................................................... Parish Manager and Assistant to the Rector
Dwight Latif (dwight@sjparish.net) .......................................................... Sexton
Peggy O’Toole (peggy@sjparish.net) .......................................................... Financial Administrator
Mary Scripko (mary@sjparish.net) .......................................................... Religious Education Assistant
Ralph Valentine .......................................................... Organist and Choirmaster Emeritus

*These positions are non-stipendiary. These clergy give generously of their time and expertise to support St. John’s mission and ministries.

VESTRY

Buffy Ineson .......................................................... Warden
Wes Winterbottom .......................................................... Warden
Tim Goetz and John Roche .......................................................... Co-Treasurers
Ellen Painter Dollar .......................................................... Scribe

2016-18: Bess Amamoo, Ginny Kemp, Will Smith
2017-19: Geoff Emerick, Douglas Hyland, Virginia Van Dyk, Andrew Worrell
2018-20: Steve Crocker, Ann Hutchinson, Sonia Michel, Alex Nelson