St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another in Christ www.sjparish.net



The Liturgy for Good Friday

March 29, 2024

12:00 p.m.

Welcome!

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 need to participate in the service is found in this bulletin and in the blue hymnals in each pew.

If you are new to St. John's, or have been attending a while but the parish office doesn't yet have your information, please fill out our online newcomer form by scanning the QR code or going to siparish.net/newcomer

Our ushers are here to create a welcoming and safe space for worship; please let them know if you have questions, need assistance, or become aware of a health or safety concern. They have hearing assist devices available for those who need them. We're glad you're here!



Scan to fill out onling newcomer form.

Children are always welcome to be in church with their families. We encourage you to sit up front, as children will be more engaged if they can see and hear what's going on. Children are welcome here just as they are; please don't feel you must leave every time your little one makes a sound! We have children's bulletins, books, and other quiet activities available in the narthex (the entrance with the red doors) for children's use during the service. The Education Wing and nursery have changing tables and seating that parents/caregivers may use as needed.

Cover image: Rugged Cross by Mike Moyers



ORDER OF SERVICE

THE VOLUNTARY O Mensch, bewein dein sünde gross, BWV 622 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

O man, bewail thy sins so great

At the entrance of the ministers, all stand and then kneel or remain standing for prayer.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Officiant Blessed be our God.

People Forever and ever. Amen.

Officiant 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 WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9

All sit.

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.**

THE PSALTER

Psalm 22

The people say the text in **bold** print.

- 1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? * and are so far from my cry and from the words of my distress?
- 2 O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; * by night as well, but I find no rest.
- 3 Yet you are the Holy One, * enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
- 4 Our forefathers put their trust in you; * they trusted, and you delivered them.
- 5 They cried out to you and were delivered; * they trusted in you and were not put to shame.
- 6 But as for me, I am a worm and no man, * scorned by all and despised by the people.
- 7 All who see me laugh me to scorn; * they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,
- 8 "He trusted in the Lord; let him deliver him; * let him rescue him, if he delights in him."
- 9 Yet you are he who took me out of the womb, * and kept me safe upon my mother's breast.
- 10 I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; * you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.
- 11 Be not far from me, for trouble is near, * and there is none to help.

- 12 Many young bulls encircle me; * strong bulls of Bashan surround me.
- 13 They open wide their jaws at me, * like a ravening and a roaring lion.
- 14 I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint; * my heart within my breast is melting wax.
- 15 My mouth is dried out like a pot-sherd; my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; * and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.
- 16 Packs of dogs close me in, and gangs of evildoers circle around me; * they pierce my hands and my feet; I can count all my bones.
- 17 They stare and gloat over me; * they divide my garments among them; they cast lots for my clothing.
- 18 Be not far away, O Lord; * you are my strength; hasten to help me.
- 19 Save me from the sword, * my life from the power of the dog.
- 20 Save me from the lion's mouth, * my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.
- 21 I will declare your Name to my brethren; * in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.
- 22 Praise the Lord, you that fear him; * stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel; all you of Jacob's line, give glory.
- 23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither does he hide his face from them; * but when they cry to him he hears them.
- 24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
 I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: * "May your heart live for ever!"
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, * and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- 27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; * he rules over the nations.

28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; * all who go down to the dust fall before him.

- 29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; * they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn * the saving deeds that he has done.

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO JOHN

John 18:1-19:42

The congregation remains seated until mention of Jesus' arrival at Golgotha.

Jesus 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 men 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.

hen 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? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews.* But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, "I find no case against him. But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" They shouted in reply, "Not this man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a bandit. 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." 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.

All stand.

^{*} The passion scriptures contain many uses of the Greek *loudaioi*, translated here and other places as "the Jews." The Greek literally means "Judeans" and sometimes refers to Temple authorities in Jerusalem and sometimes to Jewish crowds or people. As Christians, we should be aware of how these passages have been used historically to blame Jewish people and incite violence against them.

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.

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."

After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

THE HOMILY *All sit.*

The Reverend Todd FitzGerald

CHORAL ANTHEM Surely he hath borne our griefs

Karl Heinrich Graun (1704–1759)

Text: Isaiah 53:4

Surely, surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows.

THE SOLEMN COLLECTS

All stand, and the people say the words in **bold**.

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.

The people kneel or remain standing.

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 Jeff 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 Joe, 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 and the wounded; 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 the Jewish people who possess an eternal covenant with the Lord, who delivered them from bondage to freedom; for continued faithfulness to God's covenant with them; for their flourishing in peace as witnesses to God's sustaining love; for safety from all malice and harm; for the fullness of

redemption for the sake of God's name. That unity and concord may exist between Jews and Christians, in obedience to God's will.

Silence

O God of Abraham, you planted your people Israel as the root and grafted Gentiles as wild branches into a single olive tree of praise to you: As we come near to the cross, we lament Christian acts of prejudice and violence against your faithful people, of whom Jesus Christ was born. Bless the children of your covenant, so that together we may attain the fullness of your blessing for the world. **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.**

At this time, a cross is brought into the church and placed in sight of the people. During the choral anthem, the people may approach the cross to bow or pray before it if they wish.

CHORAL ANTHEM We shall walk through the valley Spiritual, arr. Undine Smith Moore (1904–1989) *All sit.*

We shall walk through the valley in peace; we shall walk through the valley in peace.

Refrain:

If Jesus himself shall be our leader, we shall walk through the valley in peace. There will be no sorrow there; there will be no sorrow there. *Refrain*

SPOKEN ANTHEM

The people stand and say the words in **bold**.

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.

HYMN 160 Cross of Jesus, cross of sorrow *All sing*.

CROSS OF JESUS

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

Officiant 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 PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY

Officiant: The Reverend Margie Baker
Preacher: The Reverend Todd FitzGerald
Deacon: The Reverend Walter McKenney
Lawrender: Bill Lockery

Layreader: Bill Lockery The St. John's Schola

Rich Barstow, Danielle Foint, Frisha Hugessen, Katherine Reardon, Patrick Reardon, Rainerio Reyes, Ram Tysoe, Abby White

Organist & Choirmaster: Scott Lamlein
Ushers: Robert Eikel, Enid Oberholtzer, Erica Weinstock
Livestream Oversight: Ray Giolitto

EASTER SUNDAY

Festal Eucharist at 8 a.m. with the St. John's Adult Choir Festal Eucharist at 10:30 a.m. with the St. John's Adult Choir, Choir School, brass, and timpani Easter egg hunt after the 10:30 service (outdoors if weather permits)

The Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA, and used by permission.

Hymns used by permission of OneLicense, No. A-724992. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

It is the tradition of the national Episcopal Church to send a Good Friday offering to the Anglican Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East. You are invited to make a Good Friday offering using one of the online methods below. Alternatively, you may write a check to St. John's with "Good Friday Offering" in the memo or put cash in an envelope labeled "Good Friday Offering," and we will forward donations to the national church.



Join us in celebrating a century of gifts and rejoicing in 2000 years of Good News.

Make a gift to the Good Friday Offering in one of the following ways:







Scan this Text "GFC
OR code to 91999

Or visit our webpage at iam.ec/goodfridayoffering

St. John's Episcopal Church

A place to discover connections with God and one another in Christ www.sjparish.net

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



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8 a.m. Sunday: Spoken Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m. Sunday: Christian education for all ages 10:30 a.m. Sunday: Choral Holy Eucharist (also livestreamed) p.m. on the second Sunday of the month (October – May, no service in December): Celtic Euchar

5 p.m. on the second Sunday of the month (*October – May, no service in December*): Celtic Eucharist in Hubbard Hall 5 p.m. on select fourth Sundays of the month: Choral Evensong

STAFF

The Rev. Todd FitzGerald (todd@sjparish.net)	Priest in Charge
The Rev. Margie Baker (margie@sjparish.net)	
Scott Lamlein (scott@sjparish.net)	Director of Music
The Rev. Walter McKenney	Deacon
Ellen Painter Dollar (ellen@sjparish.net)	Director of Operations & Communications
Dwight Latif (dwight@sjparish.net)	Sexton
Peggy O'Toole (peggy@sjparish.net)	Financial Administrator
Christa Rakich	Organ Artist-in-Residence
Ralph Valentine	Organist and Choirmaster Emeritus

VESTRY

Eleanor Barnes	Warden
Stewart Murchie	Warden
Anne Harney and David McCary	Co-Treasurers

2022–24: Lissie Brooks, Marcos Donnelly, Rosa Guzzo, Mary Honyotski

2023-25: Angela Allen-Peck, John Nowacki, Tom Oberholtzer

2024–26: Ginger Gillespie, Lauren Mascola, Linda Schatz, Brenda Zanta