

Good Friday

Service of Prayer and Meditation

Friday, March 30th, 2018 - 10:00 am

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW)

We gather in silence to contemplate the meaning of this day.

GATHERING SONG *Ah, Holy Jesus* (ELW 349)

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Let us pray. Merciful God, your Son was lifted up on the cross to draw all people to himself. Grant that we who have been born out of his wounded side may at all times find mercy in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM: *Lamb of God, Your Only Son*

FIRST READING: Isaiah 52:13--53:12

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

PSALM: Psalm 22 (*sung in unison*)

SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:16-25

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 263)

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

GOSPEL: John 18:1--19:42

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Oh Sacred Head, Now Wounded* (ELW 351)

BIDDING PRAYER

Let us pray for the holy church of God throughout the world (*silent prayer*)

Almighty and eternal God, you have shown your glory to all nations in Christ your Son. By your Holy Spirit, guide the work of your church and gather it throughout the world. Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name, and bring the good news of your salvation to all people.

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

Let us pray for our bishops, pastors, all servants of the church and for all the people of God. (*silent prayer*) Almighty and eternal God, you guide the church and keep it holy. Help all of us to work faithfully for you and

each of us in our various vocations.

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

Let us pray for those who are searching for faith in God, that God will wash them in the waters of new birth, and give them the gift of the Holy Spirit. (*silent prayer*) Almighty and eternal God, you continue to bless the church. Increase the faith and understanding of those preparing for baptism. Give them new birth as your children, and strengthen them by your grace to life eternal.

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

Let us pray for all Christians, that God will gather us by his Spirit and keep us united in faith and love. (*silent prayer*) Almighty and eternal God, you give your church unity. Look with favour on all who follow Jesus your Son. Make all the baptized one in the fullness of faith, and keep us united in the fellowship of love.

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

Let us pray for all who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ. (*silent prayer*) Almighty and eternal God, gather into your embrace all those who call out to you under different names. Bring an end to inter-religious strife, and make us more faithful witnesses of the love made known to us in Jesus Christ.

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

Let us pray for God's creation. (*silent prayer*) Almighty and eternal God, you are the creator of a magnificent universe. Hold all the worlds in the arms of your care and bring all things to fulfilment in you.

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

Let us pray for those who serve us in public office, that God may use them to curb what is evil and work for the wellbeing of all people. (*silent prayer*) Almighty and eternal God, you are the champion of the poor and oppressed. In your goodness, give wisdom to those in authority, so that all people may enjoy justice, peace, freedom, and a share in the goodness of your creation. Continue to bless our country and all who hold positions of responsibility and authority: our prime minister, premier and mayor. Direct the parliaments across Canada, so that we may enjoy good government, and live together in freedom and harmony.

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

Let us pray for all the needy people of the earth, that God will provide for them according to their needs. (*silent prayer*) Almighty and eternal God, you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart. Heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, and deliver your world from falsehood, hunger and disease. Hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need.

Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask, saying: **Our Father in heaven... (Lord's Prayer, ELW p. 264)**

HYMN: *Were you There?* (ELW 353)

PROCESSION OF THE CROSS (ELW p. 264)

Behold the life-giving cross, on which was hung the Savior of | the whole world. **Oh, come, let us | worship him.**

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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.

We adore you, O Christ, | and we bless you.

By your holy cross you have re- | deemed the world.

SENDING SONG: *Lord of the Dance* (INSERT)

*All may leave in silence, leaving offerings in baskets
at the sanctuary entrance. Thank you.*

Worship Assistants:

Readers: Marie Fortier, Sharon Wirth, Melvin Schwalm, Marla de Graff, and Joanna Malina

Counters: Pierre Quenneville and Brian Wirth

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