



# The Liturgy for Good Friday

Friday, April 2, 2021

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church ☞ Richmond, Virginia

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**Officiant** Blessed be our God.  
**People** **For ever and ever. Amen.**

## The Collect for Good Friday

The Book of Common Prayer, page 221

**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. **Amen.**

## THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO JOHN John 19:1-37

*You are invited to say the sentences in bold.*

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.

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. 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."

**Music for Meditation:** *The Crown of Roses*

Pytor Ilyich Tchaikovsky

**Homily**            The Rev. Cate Anthony

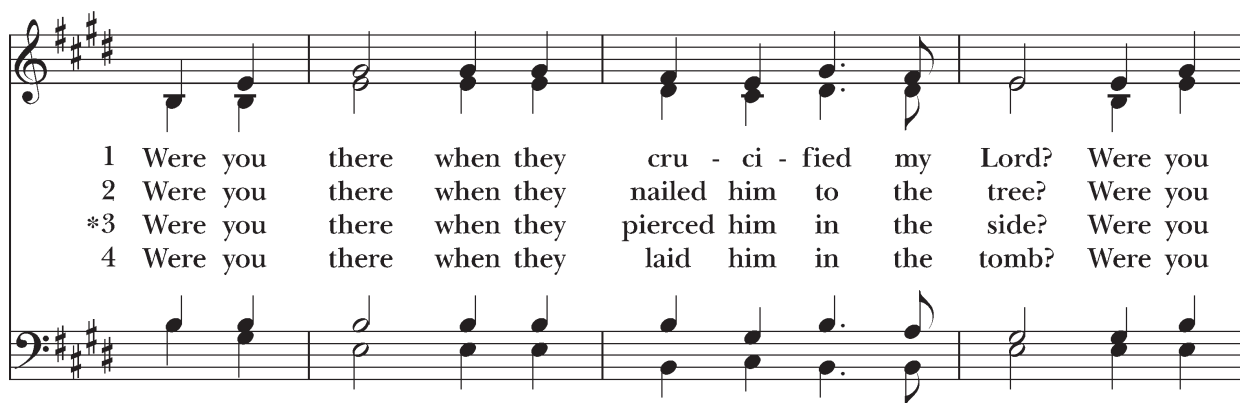
**The Solemn Collects**

Prayer Book, page 277

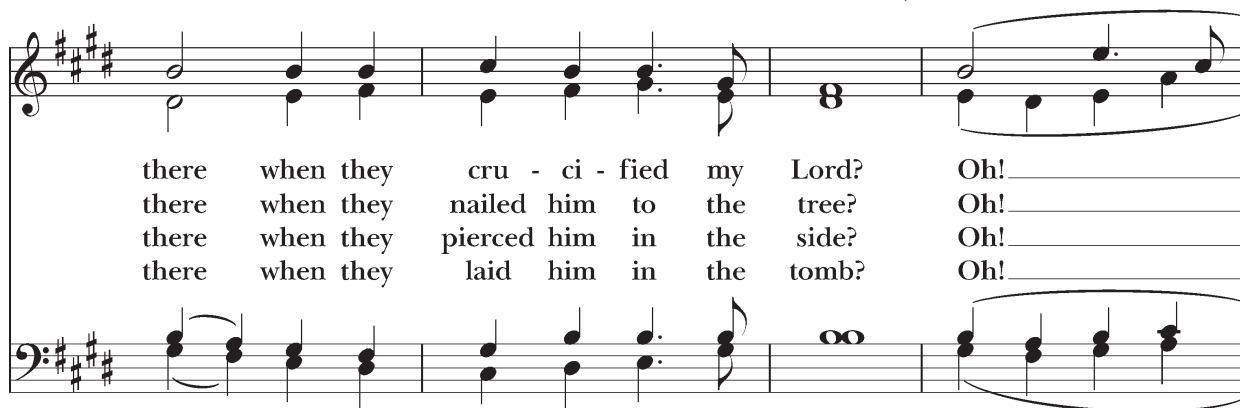
**Officiant**        Dear People of God: Our heavenly Father sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved; that all who believe in him might be delivered from the power of sin and death, and become heirs with him of everlasting life. We pray, therefore, for people everywhere according to their needs.

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.

*A wooden cross is brought into the church and placed in front of the chancel steps.*




1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you  
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you  
 \*3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side? Were you  
 4 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you



there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Oh!  
 there when they nailed him to the tree? Oh!  
 there when they pierced him in the side? Oh!  
 there when they laid him in the tomb? Oh!



Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,  
 Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,  
 Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,  
 Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,



trem-ble. Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
 trem-ble. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
 trem-ble. Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
 trem-ble. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

## Concluding Prayer

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 Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## Tolling of the Bell

*A bell is tolled thirty-three times in commemoration of each year of our Lord's earthly life.*



## Good Friday at St. Stephen's

You are invited to come to church between Noon and 2 p.m. for silent prayer; please sign up in advance at **ststephensRVA.org/holyweek**. There is no Holy Communion on Good Friday.

Visit the same page of our Web site for information and sign-up for Stations of the Cross, a service led by the youth of St. Stephen's Church. Groups of parishioners will walk the stations at intervals between 5:30 and 7 p.m. today. Masks and sign-up are required.

**The Good Friday Offering:** It is customary in the Episcopal Church for the Good Friday offering to be designated for the work of the church in Jerusalem. Our Good Friday offering will go to The American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, which promotes and raises funds for humanitarian work of the Diocese of Jerusalem and its institutions so it may better serve the needs of all people in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Palestine and Israel. Gifts support the work of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem in 14 schools, two major hospitals, four outpatient clinics, and four institutes for the disabled, in addition to parishes in Palestine, Israel, Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan, an area of 121,000 square miles. Information at [afedj.org](http://afedj.org). If you come to church on Good Friday to pray between Noon and 2 p.m., you will find alms basins for your offering.

## Easter at St. Stephen's

Be sure to visit our Web site to learn about Easter services, including in-person, video, and livestream, **ststephensRVA.org/Easter2021**.

## Participants

**CLERGY:** The Rev. John Jenkins, the Rev. Will Stanley; **HOMILIST:** The Rev. Cate Anthony; **PASSION READERS:** Jim Smith-Parham, Pam O'Berry, Brack Hill, Trey Packard, John Bates, Walker Hill, Sherlyn Dibble; **MUSICIANS: Soprano:** Stephanie Hill Blackwood, Abby Outlaw, Kelsey Snyder; **Alto:** Katie Fessler, Claudia Kessel, Martha Prewitt, Alyssa Shevchuk; **Tenor:** Chris Edwards, Matt Hassmer, Margee Krebs, Joe McDonald; **Bass:** Malcolm Hines, Travis Krickovic, Christopher Lindbloom, Ian Richardson, Jim Smith-Parham; Brent te Velde, organ, piano

**Thank you** to St. Stephen's Altar Guild, Flower Guild, sextons, and all who have helped make these services possible.



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