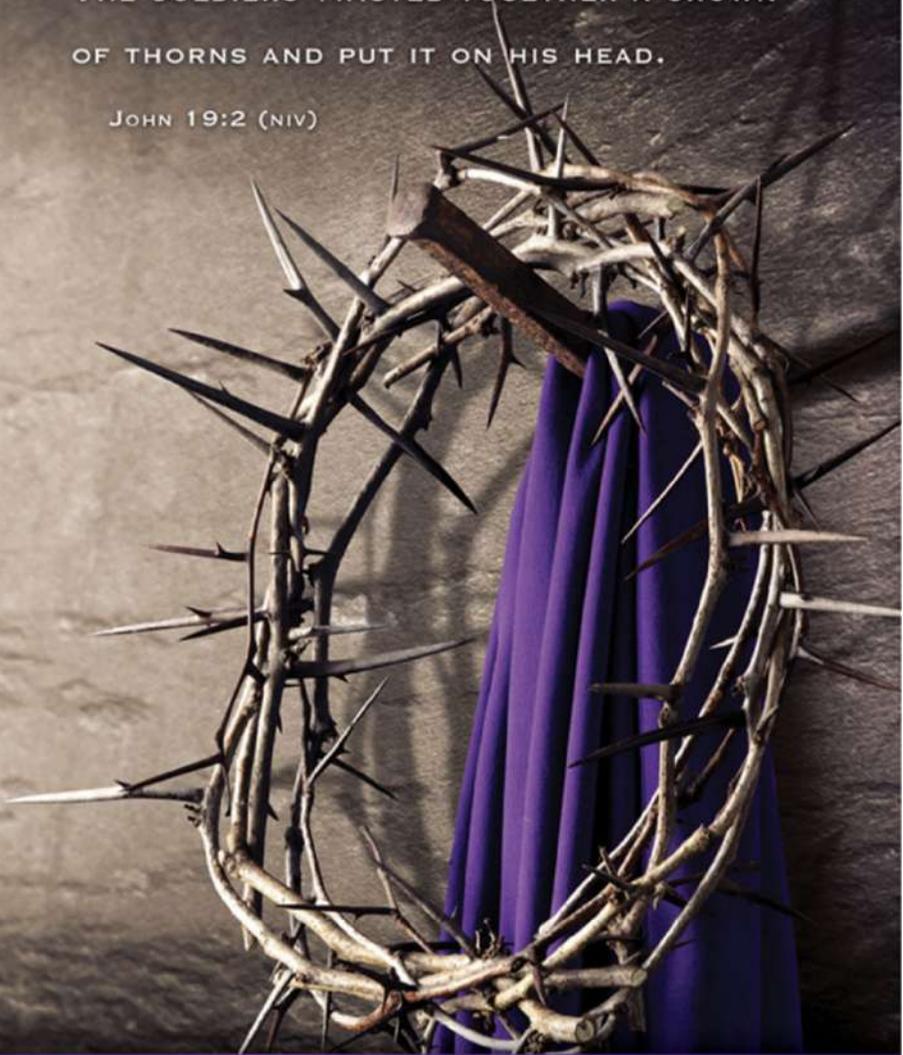


# GOOD FRIDAY

THE SOLDIERS TWISTED TOGETHER A CROWN  
OF THORNS AND PUT IT ON HIS HEAD.

JOHN 19:2 (NIV)



**Good Friday*****The Hand of the Lord on the Cross*****Order of Service**

**PLEASE ENTER IN SILENCE AND, OUT OF RESPECT, REFRAIN FROM TALKING BEFORE THE SERVICE. USE THIS TIME FOR MEDITATION, PRAYER AND CONTEMPLATION ON THE SUFFERING DEATH OF CHRIST ON THE CROSS.**

**Hymn** “Where You There When They Crucified My Lord” **ELW 353**

**P** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

**P** We place our trust in many things and in many people, yet often that trust is misplaced. Things do not work out as we planned, and people may fail us.

**C Where do we place our trust?**

**P** “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths” (Proverbs 3:5-6).

**C How do we know that the Lord can be trusted?**

**P** “He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?” (Romans 8:32). God sent his own Son to suffer and die on the cross for the sake of our salvation. In him, we place our trust, and he will never fail us.

**C Lord, set the cross before us to guide us in trusting you.**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

**P** Let us confess our sins to God and ask his forgiveness.

**C Almighty God, we have sinned against you in our thoughts, words and actions. We seek to satisfy our own selfish desires. We listen to the temptations of the world around us instead of following your Word and ways. We do not love others as we should. Have mercy on us, and forgive us.**

**P** God, in his grace and mercy, sent his Son into the world as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the world. “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all” (Isaiah 53:6). I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**C With his wounds we are healed.**

**P:** Let us pray. Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**C: Amen.**

**Meditation**

**Pastor Jerald Rayl**

**Musical Offertory**

**Dr. Anthony Pattin**

**Offering** — *(NO offering will be collected in the pews. Offering plates are at the Entrance doors both front and back, please put your offering in these plates. Thank you.)*

**P:** Life and death stand side by side as we enter into Good Friday. In John’s passion account, Jesus reveals the power and glory of God, even as he is put on trial and sentenced to death. Standing with the disciples at the foot of the cross, we pray for the whole world in the ancient bidding prayer, as Christ’s death offers life to all. We gather in solemn devotion, but always with the promise that the tree around which we assemble is indeed a tree of life. We depart silently,

**Hymn** “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” **ELW 352**

**The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus** *John 18:1–11*

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus had spoken these words, He went out with His disciples across the Kidron Valley, where there was a garden, which He and His disciples entered. <sup>2</sup>Now Judas, who betrayed Him, also knew the place, for Jesus often met there with His disciples. <sup>3</sup>So Judas, having procured a band of soldiers and some officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, went there with lanterns and torches and weapons. <sup>4</sup>Then Jesus, knowing all that would happen to Him, came forward and said to them, “Whom do you seek?” <sup>5</sup>They answered Him, “Jesus of Nazareth.” Jesus said to them, “I am He.” Judas, who betrayed Him, was standing with them. <sup>6</sup>When Jesus said to them, “I am He,” they drew back and fell to the ground. <sup>7</sup>So He asked them again, “Whom do you seek?” And they said, “Jesus of Nazareth.” <sup>8</sup>Jesus answered, “I told you that I am He. So, if you seek Me, let these men go.” <sup>9</sup>This was to fulfill the word that He had spoken: “Of those whom You gave Me I have lost not one.” <sup>10</sup>Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high

priest's servant and cut off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus.) <sup>11</sup>So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given Me?"

<sup>12</sup>So the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound Him. <sup>13</sup>First they led Him to Annas, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. <sup>14</sup>It was Caiaphas who had advised the Jews that it would be expedient that one man should die for the people.

### **HYMN**     *"The Old Rugged Cross"*

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,  
The emblem of suffering and shame.  
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best  
For a world of lost sinners was slain.

(Refrain)

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross  
Till my trophies at last I lay down;  
I will cling to the old rugged cross  
And exchange it someday for a crown.

### **Jesus Before the High Priest & Denial of Peter**     *John 18:12–27*

<sup>15</sup>Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he entered with Jesus into the court of the high priest, <sup>16</sup>but Peter stood outside at the door. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the servant girl who kept watch at the door, and brought Peter in. <sup>17</sup>The servant girl at the door said to Peter, "You also are not one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." <sup>18</sup>Now the servants and officers had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves. Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself.

<sup>19</sup>The high priest then questioned Jesus about His disciples and His teaching. <sup>20</sup>Jesus answered him, "I have spoken openly to the world. I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. <sup>21</sup>Why do you ask Me? Ask those who have heard Me what I said to them; they know what I said."

<sup>22</sup>When He had said these things, one of the officers standing by struck Jesus with his hand, saying, "Is that how You an-

swer the high priest?" <sup>23</sup>Jesus answered him, "If what I said is wrong, bear witness about the wrong; but if what I said is right, why do you strike Me?" <sup>24</sup>Annas then sent Him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

<sup>25</sup>Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. So they said to him, "You also are not one of His disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." <sup>26</sup>One of the servants 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?" <sup>27</sup>Peter again denied it, and at once a rooster crowed.

### **HYMN**     *"The Old Rugged Cross"*

Oh, that old rugged cross,  
so despised by the world,  
Has a wondrous attraction for me;  
For the dear Lamb of God  
left His glory above To bear it to dark Calvary.

(Refrain)

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross  
Till my trophies at last I lay down;  
I will cling to the old rugged cross  
And exchange it someday for a crown

### **Jesus Before Pilate**     *John 18:28–40*

<sup>28</sup>Then they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the governor's headquarters. It was early morning. They themselves did not enter the governor's headquarters, so that they would not be defiled, but could eat the Passover. <sup>29</sup>So Pilate went outside to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" <sup>30</sup>They answered him, "If this man were not doing evil, we would not have delivered Him over to you." <sup>31</sup>Pilate said to them, "Take Him yourselves and judge Him by your own law." The Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death." <sup>32</sup>This was to fulfill the word that Jesus had spoken to show by what kind of death He was going to die.

<sup>33</sup>So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?" <sup>34</sup>Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about Me?" <sup>35</sup>Pilate answered, "Am I a

Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered You over to me. What have You done?”<sup>36</sup> Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But My kingdom is not from the world.”<sup>37</sup> Then Pilate said to Him, “So You are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to My voice.”<sup>38</sup> Pilate said to Him, “What is truth?”

After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, “I find no guilt in Him.<sup>39</sup> But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover. So do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?”<sup>40</sup> They cried out again, “Not this man, but Barabbas!” Now Barabbas was a robber.

#### **HYMN**     *“The Old Rugged Cross”*

In that old rugged cross,  
stained with blood so divine,  
A wondrous beauty I see,  
For 'twas on that old cross  
Jesus suffered and died, To pardon and sanctify me.

(Refrain)

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross  
Till my trophies at last I lay down;  
I will cling to the old rugged cross  
And exchange it someday for a crown

#### **Jesus Prepared for Crucifixion**     *John 19:1–16a*

<sup>1</sup>Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged Him. <sup>2</sup>And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on His head and arrayed Him in a purple robe. <sup>3</sup>They came up to Him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and struck Him with their hands. <sup>4</sup>Pilate went out again and said to them, “See, I am bringing Him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in Him.” <sup>5</sup>So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Behold the man!” <sup>6</sup>When the chief priests and the officers saw Him, they cried out, “Crucify Him, crucify Him!” Pilate said to them, “Take Him yourselves and crucify Him, for I find no

guilt in Him.” <sup>7</sup>The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and according to that law He ought to die because He has made Himself the Son of God.” <sup>8</sup>When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. <sup>9</sup>He entered his headquarters again and said to Jesus, “Where are You from?” But Jesus gave him no answer. <sup>10</sup>So Pilate said to Him, “You will not speak to me? Do You not know that I have authority to release You and authority to crucify You?” <sup>11</sup>Jesus answered him, “You would have no authority over Me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore he who delivered Me over to you has the greater sin.”

<sup>12</sup>From then on Pilate sought to release Him, but the Jews cried out, “If you release this man, you are not Caesar’s friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar.” <sup>13</sup>So when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Stone Pavement, and in Aramaic Gabbatha. <sup>14</sup>Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, “Behold your King!” <sup>15</sup>They cried out, “Away with Him, away with Him, crucify Him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar.” <sup>16</sup>So he delivered Him over to them to be crucified.

#### **HYMN**     *“The Old Rugged Cross”*

To the old rugged cross  
I will ever be true;  
Its shame and reproach gladly bear;  
Then He'll call me someday to my home far away,  
Where His glory forever I'll share

(Refrain)

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross  
Till my trophies at last I lay down;  
I will cling to the old rugged cross  
And exchange it someday for a crown

#### **The Crucifixion of Jesus**     *John 19:16b–24*

So they took Jesus,<sup>17</sup> and He went out, bearing His own cross, to the place called The Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. <sup>18</sup>There they crucified Him, and with Him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. <sup>19</sup>Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the

cross. It read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.”<sup>20</sup> Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, in Latin, and in Greek.<sup>21</sup> So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, “Do not write, ‘The King of the Jews,’ but rather, ‘This man said, I am King of the Jews.’”<sup>22</sup> Pilate answered, “What I have written I have written.”

<sup>23</sup>When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took His garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier; also His tunic. But the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom,<sup>24</sup> so they said to one another, “Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be.” This was to fulfill the Scripture which says,

“They divided My garments among them,  
and for My clothing they cast lots.”

So the soldiers did these things.

### **Jesus’ Mother and His Death**      *John 19:25–30*

<sup>25</sup>But standing by the cross of Jesus were His mother and His mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.<sup>26</sup> When Jesus saw His mother and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, “Woman, behold, your son!”<sup>27</sup> Then He said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

*(Please Stand)*

<sup>28</sup>After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), “I thirst.”<sup>29</sup> A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to His mouth.<sup>30</sup> When Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, “It is finished,” and He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.

*(Silence is kept)*

### **Jesus’ Side is Pierced**      *John 19:31–42*

<sup>31</sup>Since it was the day of Preparation, and so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken and that they might be taken away.

<sup>32</sup>So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with Him.<sup>33</sup> But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs.<sup>34</sup> But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water.<sup>35</sup> He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe.<sup>36</sup> For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled: “Not one of His bones will be broken.”<sup>37</sup> And again another Scripture says, “They will look on Him whom they have pierced.”

<sup>38</sup>After these things Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took away His body.<sup>39</sup> Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight.<sup>40</sup> So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews.<sup>41</sup> Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid.<sup>42</sup> So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

*(Please Be Seated)*

Hymn

*“Ah, Holy Jesus”*

**ELW 349**

*(Silence is Kept)*

***The service ends in SILENCE.  
Worshippers may remain  
as long as desired for meditation and prayer,  
but are asked to LEAVE IN SILENCE.  
Thank you.***

## **Cross of Glory**

"It is finished." The final word Jesus says from the cross in the Gospel of John is not just a recognition that the end has come; it is a declaration of accomplishment. The light has shone in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. In the Gospel of John, Jesus' passion is recounted as a story of victory. Jesus is captured, betrayed and denied by his closest friends, scourged, mocked, and executed. Yet in John's Gospel, Jesus always seems to be in control, confident of his mission and purpose. The accent is less on his suffering humanity and more on his triumphant divinity.

Throughout this Gospel Jesus has made "I am" statements: I am the true vine, I am the bread of life, I am the good shepherd. This "I am" recalls the holy name of God revealed to Moses (Exod. 3:14). When the soldiers come to capture Jesus, he asks whom they seek. "Jesus of Nazareth," they reply. In Greek, Jesus responds simply, "I am"--the name of God--and that is why the soldiers step back and fall to the ground.

It's hard for us to remember the reality of Jesus' suffering when we want to celebrate, and hard for us to see God's victory as won through suffering. Often our Palm Sundays have been parades, and our Good Fridays have been funerals. The wisdom of the ancient church, though, is to read on Palm Sunday the Passion according to Matthew, Mark, or Luke, one of the gospels where Jesus' suffering humanity is emphasized. On Good Friday, when we might get caught up in the sadness and horror of Jesus' death, the church sends us to the Passion according to John, where the cross is glory. In the darkness of cruelty, pain, and death, the light of God shines unconquered.