

Silent Meditation

Introit

“O Vos Omnes” Tomás Ludovico da Vittoria
*Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by?
Look and see if there be any sorrow like my sorrow.*

*Call to Worship and Prayer

Minister: *God is light, in whom there is not gloom at all.*

People: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

Minister: *And this is the judgment,
that the light has come into the world,*

People: and we loved the gloom rather than the light.

Minister: *Let us pray.*

**People: Jesus, crucified and living Savior,
we are huddled together in doubt
and fear like the disciples.
We do not want to be separated;
we do not want to be forsaken;
we do not want to follow you with a cross.
But even as we know you ask us to follow you,
we also know that you have gone before us.
As we remember the Good Friday events of long ago,
bring us closer to each other and to you.
Mold us into your image. Stay with us always. Amen.**

*Hymn 221. “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalms 51:1–12 Old Testament, page 492

Anthem

“The Passion of Jesus Christ, According to John” Plainsong
arr. Mason Martens

Spoken Word

Cantata

“Stabat Mater” Domenico Scarlatti

1. Stabat Mater

The grieving mother stood weeping beside the cross where
her son was hanging.

2. Cujus animam gementem

Through her weeping soul, compassionate and grieving, a sword
passed. O how sad and afflicted was that blessed mother of the
only begotten Son. Who is the person who would not weep seeing
the mother of Christ in such agony?

3. Quis non posset

Who would not be able to feel compassion on beholding Christ's
mother suffering with her son? For the sins of God's people,
she saw Jesus in torment and subjected to the scourge. She saw
her own son dying, forsaken, while he gave up his Spirit.

4. Eja Mater, fons amoris

O mother, fountain of love, make me feel the power of your sorrow
that I may grieve with you. Grant that my heart may burn in the
love of Christ, my Lord, that I may please him.

5. Sancta Mater, istud agas

Holy mother, grant that the wounds of the crucified one drive
deep into my heart. Let me share the pains of your wounded
son, who deigned to suffer for my sake.

6. Fac me vere tecum flere

Let me sincerely weep with you, bemoaning the crucified,
until I depart this life.

7. Juxta crucem

I desire to stand beside the cross with you and join you in your
weeping. Chosen virgin of virgins, be not bitter with me; let me
weep with thee. Grant that I may bear the death of Christ, share
his Passion, and contemplate his wounds. Let me be wounded
by his wounds and by the cross be transported because of love
for the Son.

8. **Inflammatuus**

Thus aflame with fire of love, shield me on the day of judgment.
Let me be shielded by the cross, protected by Christ’s death, and
nurtured by grace. Let me die in your embrace.

9. **Fac ut animae**

Grant that my soul may receive the glory of heaven. Amen.

Spoken Word

Prayers of the People

Offering

Offertory Anthem

“Good Friday Anthems” Plainsong
arr. Russell Schulz-Widmar

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 all the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. We glory in your cross, O Lord, and praise and glorify your whole resurrection; for by virtue of your cross joy has come to the whole world. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world. If we have died with him, we shall also live with him; if we endure, we shall also reign with him. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world. O Savior of the world, who by thy cross and precious blood hast redeemed us: save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.

Litany for Good Friday

Minister: *O crucified Jesus, Son of the Father,
conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
eternal Word of God,*

People: we worship you.

Minister: *O crucified Jesus, holy temple of God,
dwelling place of the Most High, gate of heaven,
burning flame of love,*

People: we worship you.

Minister: *O crucified Jesus, sanctuary of justice and love,
full of kindness, source of all faithfulness,*

People: we worship you.

Minister: *O crucified Jesus, ruler of every heart,
in you are all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge,
in you dwells all the fullness of the Godhead,*

People: we worship you.

Minister: *Jesus, Lamb of God,*

People: have mercy on us.

Minister: *Jesus, bearer of our sins,*

People: have mercy on us.

Minister: *Jesus, redeemer of the world,*

People: grant us peace.

Minister: *Almighty God, look with mercy on your family
for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing
to be betrayed and 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. Amen.*

Silent Meditation

*Hymn 218. “Ah, Holy Jesus”

*There is no benediction this day.
Our service and watch continues into the night and the empty tomb.*

Tolling of the Bells

*The bells toll thirty-three times, once for each year of Jesus’ life on earth.
When the bells cease, the congregation departs in silence.*

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A NOTE ON GOOD FRIDAY AND ANTI-SEMITISM

The Passion texts can pose problems for Christian-Jewish relations. For centuries, many Christians blamed “The Jews” for Christ’s death. This interpretation is incorrect, misguided, and dangerous. In fact, crucifixion was solely a Roman form of punishment, one used to frighten subjugated peoples into obeying Roman authority. Tragically, Christians have misused the reading of the Passion to foment violent anti-Semitic pogroms. Anti-Semitism still plagues the world.

We read these texts with sensitivity and caution,
remembering the cruelties and failures of our past.

Worship Leaders

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