



**In Observance of Good Friday**  
**April 10, 2020**  
**8:00 p.m.**

**A Service for the Worship of God  
in Observance of Good Friday**

ANTHEM AND PLACING OF THE CROSS

*Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed*

Gilbert M. Martin

Alas! And did my Savior bleed and did my Sovereign die?

Would he devote that sacred head for sinners such as I?

Was it for sins that I have done He suffered on the tree?

Amazing pit! Grace unknown! And love beyond degree!

Well might the sun in darkness hide and shut his glories in,  
When Christ, the great Redeemer, died, for man, the creatures' sin.

But drops of grief can ne'er repay the debt of love I owe:

Here, Lord, I give myself away; 'Tis all I can do.

OPENING SENTENCES

Leader: The Lord is merciful and gracious.

**People: Slow to anger and abounding in love.**

Leader: Let us hold fast to the hope of our faith.

**People: For God who has promised is faithful.**

**All: Let us worship God.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

*What Wondrous Love Is This*

American Folk Hymn

Ann Crutchfield, Soloist

OPENING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.**

**Amen.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**God our Redeemer, we confess that we are people of ashes and dust. We despise and reject your servant, like a lamb led to the slaughter. We betray and deny our Lord, the one you sent to save us. Forgive us, God of grace. Even in this hour of anguish, show us the light of your salvation and lead us to new life. Lord, have mercy.**

(Silence)

THE WORD FROM THE PROPHETS

*Isaiah 52:13-53:12*

Anthem

*Surely He Hath Borne Our Grievs*

Lloyd Larson

He was wounded for us and bruised for our iniquities. Recorded April 14, 2019

The chastisement fell upon Him, and with His stripes we are healed.

Like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, yet He opened not His mouth.

Ah, holy Jesus, how have you offended, that mortal judgment has on you descended?

By foes derided, by your own rejected, O most afflicted.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

## THE WORD FROM THE GOSPEL

Narrator: Then the whole company of them arose, and brought Jesus before Pontius Pilate. And they began to curse him, saying,

**People:** *We found this man perverting our nation, and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ the King!*

Pilate: *Are you the King of the Jews?*

Narrator: And he answered him, *You have said so.* And Pilate said to the chief priests and the multitudes,

Pilate: *I find no crime in this man.*

Narrator: But they were urgent, saying,

**People:** *He stirs up the people, teaching throughout Galilee even to this place.*

Narrator: And when Pilate heard that he was a Galilean, of Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod. There he was vehemently accused and treated with contempt and mocked, and arrayed in purple, and then sent back again. Pilate said to the rulers of the people,

Pilate: *You have brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and after examining him, behold, I did not find him guilty of any charges against him. Behold, nothing deserving death has been done by him. I will therefore chastise him and release him.*

Narrator: But they all cried out together,

**People:** *Away with this man! Away! Away! Release to us Barabbas!*

Narrator: Barabbas...a man who had been thrown into prison, for insurrection and for murder. Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus. But they shouted out,

**People:** *Crucify him! Crucify him!*

Pilate: *Why? What evil has he done? I've found no crime in him deserving death. I'll chastise him. I'll release him.*

Narrator: But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed. So Pilate gave sentence that their demand should be granted. He released the man who had been jailed for murder. But Jesus he delivered up to their will.

Choir:                         Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
  that were a present far too small;  
  Love so amazing, so divine,  
  demands my soul, my life, my all.

Narrator: But Jesus, he delivered over to their will.

**Men:** *And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus.*

**Women:** *And there followed him a great multitude of women who bewailed and lamented him.*

Narrator: But Jesus, turning to them said, *Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never gave suck!' For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it dries!'*

**People:** *(on cue from the organ)*

*Were you there when they crucified my Lord?*

*Were you there when they crucified my Lord?*

*Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.*

*Were you there when they crucified my Lord?*

Narrator: Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place, which is called the Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on the right and one on the left.

**People:** *(on cue from the organ)*

*Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?*

*Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?*

*Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.*

*Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?*

Narrator: And Jesus said, *Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.*

**Women:** **Forgive us our sins.**

**Men:** **And they cast lots to divide his garments.**

**Women:** **Forgive us our sins.**

Narrator: And the people stood by, watching. But the rulers scoffed at him, saying,

**Men:** *He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Messiah of God!*

**Women:** **Forgive us our sins.**

**Men:** **The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him vinegar.**

**Women:** **There was an inscription over him...*This is the king of the Jews.***

**Men:** **Forgive us our sins. Forgive us, O Lord, our sins!**

Narrator: One of the criminals who was hanged with him railed at him saying,

**Criminal 1:** *Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!*

Narrator: But the other rebuked him saying,

**Criminal 2:** *Do you not fear God, since we are under the same sentence, and we justly? But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.*

**People:** **Forgive us our sins. Deliver us from evil. Thine is the kingdom.**

Narrator: And Jesus said to him...

**People:** **And the power...**

Narrator: *Truly, truly, I say to you...*

**People:** **And the glory...**

Narrator: *Today, you will be with me in Paradise.*

**People:** **Forever and ever. Amen.**

Narrator: It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from the top to the bottom. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, *Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit!* And having said this, he breathed his last.

**People:** *(on cue from the organ)*

*Were you there when the sun refused to shine?*

*Were you there when the sun refused to shine?*

*O, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.*

*Were you there when the sun refused to shine?*

Narrator: When they saw what had taken place, they returned home beating their breasts.

**Women:** **And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance and saw these things.**

SILENT REFLECTION

THE PROMISE FROM THE PSALMS

*Psalm 23*

**The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.**

TOLLING OF THE BELL

MEDITATION ON THE CROSS

*There is no formal dismissal tonight. Following the bell toll, worshippers are invited to linger for silent prayer and meditation. This act of worship is not complete until the announcement of the resurrection on Easter. May God's abiding presence make you whole and give you peace . . .*

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\*All who are able may stand.

The scripture reading is adapted from *The Ragman and Other Cries of Faith* by Walter Wangerin.