GOOD FRIDAY

At the heart of the Good Friday liturgy is the passion according to Mark, which proclaims Jesus as humble servant who reigns from the cross. The ancient title for this day—the triumph of the cross—reminds us that the church gathers not to mourn this day but to celebrate Christ's life-giving passion and to find strength and hope in the tree of life.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

The candles are lit.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: Eternal God, Your son lost everything when he gave himself up to be killed. May we remember his final hour with compassion and gratitude for all that we have received as a result of his selfless act. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

PSALM Psalm 22:1-2, 14-21

SPECIAL MUSIC Gethsemane Madigan

*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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

*HYMN Go to Dark Gethsemane #347

Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter's pow'r; your Redeemer's conflict see. Watch with him one bitter hour; turn not from his griefs away; learn from Jesus Christ to pray.

Follow to the judgment hall, view the Lord of life arraigned; oh, the wormwood and the gall! Oh, the pangs his soul sustained! Shun not suff'ring, shame, or loss; learn from him to bear the cross.

Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb; there, adoring at his feet, mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete.
"It is finished!" hear him cry; learn from Jesus Christ to die.

Early hasten to the tomb, where they laid his breathless clay; all is solitude and gloom. Who has taken him away? Christ is ris'n! He meets our eyes. Savior, teach us so to rise.

THE PASSION ACCORDING TO MARK

FIRST READING Mark 14:1-25

First candle is extinguished

HYMN Jesus, Remember Me #616

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom

SECOND READING Mark 14:26-50

Second candle is extinguished

HYMN O Sacred Head, Now Wounded #351, vrs. 1-2

O sacred head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down, now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thine only crown;
O sacred head, what glory, what bliss till now was thine!
Yet, though despised and gory, I joy to call thee mine.

How pale thou art with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn; how does thy face now languish, which once was bright as morn! Thy grief and bitter passion were all for sinners' gain; mine, mine was the transgression, but thine the deadly pain.

THIRD READING Mark 14:53-72

Third candle is extinguished

HYMN

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

#351, vrs. 3-4

What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend, for this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?

Oh, make me thine forever, and should I fainting be, Lord, let me never, never out live my love to thee.

Lord, be my consolation; shield me when I must die; remind me of thy passion when my last hour draws nigh. These eyes, new faith receiving, from thee shall never move; for all who die believing die safely in thy love.

FOURTH READING

Mark 15:1-19

Fourth candle is extinguished

HYMN

Ah, Holy Jesus

#349, vrs. 1-2

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended that we to judge thee have in hate pretended? By foes derided, by thine own rejected, O most afflicted.

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee? Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee. 'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee; I crucified thee.

FIFTH READING

Mark 15:20-37

Fifth candle is extinguished

HYMN Ah, Holy Jesus

#349, vrs. 3-5

#353, vrs.1-5

Lo, the Good Shepherd for the sheep is offered; the slave hath sinned, and the Son hath suffered; for our atonement, while we nothing heeded, God interceded.

For me, kind Jesus, was thine incarnation, thy mortal sorrow, and thy life's oblation; thy death of anguish and thy bitter passion, for my salvation.

Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee, I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee; think on thy pity and thy love unswerving, not my deserving.

SIXTH READING

Mark 15:38-47

Sixth candle is extinguished

HYMN Were You There?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (Were you there?)

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

O sometimes it causes me to tremble! tremble! tremble!

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed him to the cross? (Were you there?)

Were you there when they nailed him to the cross?

O sometimes it causes me to tremble! tremble! tremble!

Were you there when they nailed him to the cross?

Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (Were you there?)

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

O sometimes it causes me to tremble! tremble! tremble!

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?

Were you there when the sun refused to shine? (Were you there?)

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?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? (Were you there?)

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

O sometimes it causes me to tremble! tremble! tremble!

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

*LITANY OF THE CROSS

Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." In the name of Jesus, we pray:

Lord, help us to take up our cross and follow you.

You stood before Pilate, your life condemned, your word rejected, your innocence ignored:

Keep us from rejecting your word of truth and salvation.

You carried your cross on the wounded stripes of your back, for love of us and for all the world. Help us to bear our cross, for love of you and for love of others.

The weight of your cross was the weight of our sins which make us stumble and fall.

In our weakness, remind us to turn to you for strength.

Although you suffered, you still reached out to care for your mother.

May our cross-bearing never keep us from caring for our families.

As you struggled to bear your cross to Calvary, a passerby was drafted to help you.

Make us as willing as Simon to bear the burdens of those in need.

Others also took risks to comfort you.

Strengthen our faith to take loving risks for our needy brothers and sisters.

Sin weighed heavily upon you as you stumbled along the way.

Forgive us, Lord, for the sins which make us fall.

Your suffering under the cross caused the women of Jerusalem to weep.

Make our suffering in life a share in your suffering.

The full burden of our sin crushed you mightily to the earth.

Do not forsake us in our falling, but bring us to repentance and faith.

Stripped and jeered, you endured humiliation without complaint.

Humble us in our work and daily lives.

Nailed to the cross, you took your place among the condemned.

Take your place beside us sinners, and bring us through faith to the Paradise of God.

When your sacrifice was complete, you handed your life to the Father, and he did not forsake you.

Keep us close to your cross and death, today and at the hour of our death.

Faithful friends and loving women took loving care of your lifeless body.

Turn the darkness of death into the brightness of day for those we love.

In the tomb you were laid, and from the tomb you arose.

You are the Lord of the resurrection for all of us!

*PRAYER OF DECLARATION

HYMN

Loving Jesus, for the sake of your cross and passion, we are justified in faith, washed cleaned of our sins by baptism and repentance, and made one with God. We thank you for your cross and for the depths of your love for us. Help us to bear our cross in the world and follow you until you bring us into your heavenly kingdom; where you reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

