

An Ancient-Future Faith Community
Liturgy
April 6, 2023 (Holy Thursday)
Tenebrae: A Service of Shadows

GATHERING

We invite worshipers to enter, and then pray, in silence.

Jesus, Remember Me

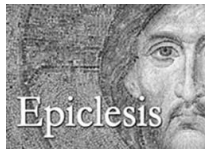
Jesus, remember me,
When You come into Your kingdom. . . .

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[Silence]



Pavel Mata, *Jesus Christ on the Cross*, 2018.



A WORD ABOUT TONIGHT'S SERVICE

RESPONSORIAL READING: from Psalm 22

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
and are so far from my cry and the words of my distress?
*O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer,
by night as well, but I find no rest.
Yet you are the Holy One, enthroned on the praises of Israel.*

Sung:

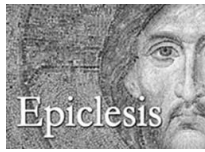
**What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul?
What wondrous love is this, O my soul?
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul?**

All who see me laugh me to scorn; they curl their lips
and wag their heads, saying, "He trusted in the LORD,
let him deliver him; let him rescue him, if he delights in him."
*Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help.
I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint;
my heart within my breast is melting wax.*

Packs of dogs close me in, and gangs of evildoers circle around me;
they pierce my hands and my feet; I can count all my bones.
*They stare and gloat over me; they divide my garments among them;
they cast lots for my clothing.*

Be not far away, O LORD;
you are my strength; hasten to help me.
*All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD.
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.*
My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him;
they shall be known as the LORD'S forever.
*They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn
the saving deeds that he has done.*

Sung: **What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul? . . .**



Wondrous Love

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down;
When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; . . .
To God and to the Lamb, who is the Great "I Am,"
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

Public domain. American Folk Hymn; Music: William Walker's *Southern Harmony*, 1835.

The first candle is extinguished

READING Isaiah 53:1-12

A Time of Contemplation and Interaction with the Stations

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

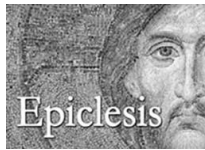
O sacred Head, now wounded with grief and shame weighed down;
Now scornfully surrounded, with thorns Thine only crown.
How pale Thou art with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn;
How does that visage languish, which one was bright as morn!

What Thou, my Lord, hast suffered was all for sinners' gain;
Mine, mine was the transgression, but Thine the deadly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Savior; 'tis I deserve Thy place.
Look on me with Thy favor; vouchsafe to me Thy grace.

What language shall I borrow to thank Thee dearest Friend,
For this, Thy dying sorrow, Thy pity without end?
O make me Thine forever; and, should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never outlive my love to Thee.

Paul Gerhardt; based on Medieval Latin poem ascribed to Bernard of Clairvaux;
Transl. James W. Alexander; Music: Hans Leo Hassler; harmonized by J. S. Bach

The second candle is extinguished



READING: Luke 22:7-16

The third candle is extinguished

THE TABLE OF THE LORD

Jesus says, “The bread of God is that which comes down out of heaven, and gives life to the world. . . . I am the bread of life; all who come to Me will never hunger, and all who believe in Me will never thirst. . . . I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. And this is His will: that everyone who believes in the Son will have eternal life.”

– from John 6:33-40

The Lord’s Prayer (spoken)

**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**

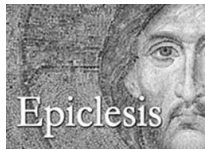
A Time of Contemplation and Interaction with the Stations

I Will Remember Thee

According to Thy gracious Word, in meek humility,
This will I do my dying Lord: I will remember Thee.
Thy body broken for my sake, my bread from heav’n shall be.
Thy testamental cup I take, and thus remember Thee.

Chorus

I will remember, I will remember;
I will remember, remember Thee.



When to the cross I turn mine eyes, and rest on Calvary,
O Lamb of God, my sacrifice, I must remember Thee.
Remember Thee and all Thy pains, and all Thy love to me;
Yea while a breath, a pulse remains, will I remember Thee.

Chorus

And when these failing lips grow dumb, and mind and memory flee,
When Thou shalt in Thy kingdom come, Jesus, remember me.

©2001 Maranatha! Music. Creatorex/Montgomery. Tune, chorus: John A. Schreiner

The fourth candle is extinguished

READING: John 13:1-17, 31b-35

A Time of Contemplation and Interaction with the Stations

Redeemer Saviour Friend

I know You had me on Your mind when You climbed up on that hill,
For You saw me with eternal eyes, while I was yet in sin.
Redeemer, Saviour, Friend.

Every stripe upon Your battered back,
Every thorn that pierced Your brow,
Every nail drove deep through guiltless hands
Said that Your love knows no end. Redeemer, Saviour, Friend.

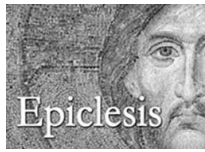
Chorus

Oh, Redeemer, redeem my heart again;
Saviour, come and shelter me from sin.
You're familiar with my weakness,
Devoted to the end. Redeemer, Saviour, Friend,

So the grace You pour upon my life will return to You in praise,
And I'll gladly lay down all my crowns
For the name by which I'm saved. Redeemer, Savior, Friend.

CCLI Song #2831523; ©1999 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; Chris Springer and Darrell Evans

The fifth candle is extinguished



MEDITATIONS:

This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. – 1 John 4:10

God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. – Galatians 6:14

I have been crucified with Christ and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. And the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. – Galatians 2:20

A Time of Contemplation and Interaction with the Stations

How Deep the Father's Love For Us

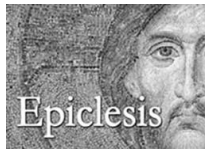
How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure;
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss!
The Father turns His face away.
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the Man upon a cross, My sin upon His shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished.
His dying breath has brought me life; I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything; no gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ: His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart: His wounds have paid my ransom.

CCLI Song #1558110 ©1995 Thankyou Music. Stuart Townend. CCLI License #3097801

The sixth candle is extinguished



MEDITATION: Hebrews 12:1b-3

Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us,
fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.
For the joy set before Him He endured the cross, scorning its shame,
and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.
Consider Him who endured such opposition from sinners,
so that you will not grow weary and lost heart.

Once Again

Jesus Christ, I think upon Your sacrifice;
You became nothing, poured out to death.
Many times I've wondered at Your gift of life,
I'm in that place once again.
I'm in that place once again.

Chorus

Once again I look upon the cross where You died.
I'm humbled by Your mercy and I'm broken inside.
Once again I thank You,
Once again I pour out my life.

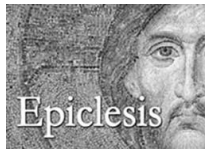
Now You are exalted to the highest place;
King of the heavens, where one day I'll bow.
But for now, I marvel at this saving grace,
I'm full of praise once again.
I'm full of praise once again.

Bridge

Thank You for the cross,
Thank You for the cross,
Thank You for the cross, my Friend.

CCLI Song #1564362 ©1995 ThankYou Music. Matt Redman.

The seventh candle is extinguished



DEPARTING

Closing meditation: *Tenebrae factae sunt* (Gregorian chant)

*Tenebrae factae sunt, dum crucifixissent Jesum Judaei.
Et circa horam nonam exclamavit Jesus voce magna:
Deus meus, ut quid me dereliquisti?
Et inclinato capite, emisit spiritum exclamans Jesus voce magna ait:
Pater, in manus tuas commendo spiritum meum.
Et inclinato capite, emisit spiritum.*

Translation:

There was darkness over the earth when they crucified Jesus.
And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice:
My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?
And he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.
Jesus cried with a loud voice and said,
Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit.
And he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Closing Prayer and Benediction

Holy God, You have opened our ears to hear Your word, and our hearts to see in the cross the revelation of Your love. Trusting in Your faithfulness, and thankful for Your sacrifice and the fulfillment of Your promise in the New Covenant through the body and blood of our Redeemer, Your Son Jesus Christ, we now depart in silence to walk with Him in the way of the cross. **Amen.**

Now may the Lord, Jesus Christ, who for our sake became obedient unto death, even death on a cross, keep you and strengthen you this night and forever.

Amen.

We invite worshipers to leave in silence.

Epiclesis: An Ancient-Future Faith Community
www.Epiclesis.org | Info line: (916)572-9113

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Text the word **Connect** to (916)347-5038 to join our text alert list.

Sunday mornings at The Carmichael Chapel, 4600 Winding Way
(Corner of Winding Way and Pasadena), Sacramento, CA 95841.

Informal gathering: 10:00 AM; Worship at 10:30 AM.

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