

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Good Friday

*The Good Friday Liturgy, Veneration of the Cross
& Mass of the Pre-Sanctified*

April 3, 2026

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THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

After the entrance of the ministers, all kneel for silent prayer.

Celebrant: Blessed be our God.

People: ✠ Forever and ever. Amen.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

ALMIGHTY GOD, we beseech thee graciously to behold this thy family, for which our Lord Jesus Christ was contented to be betrayed, and given up into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost ever, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

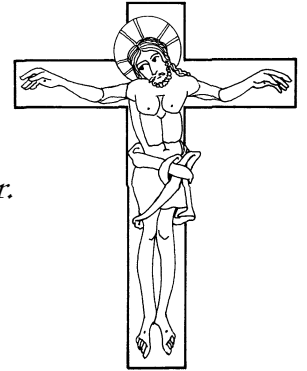
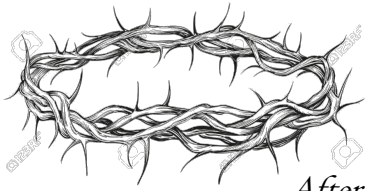
The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 52: 13 — 53: 12 [NRSV]

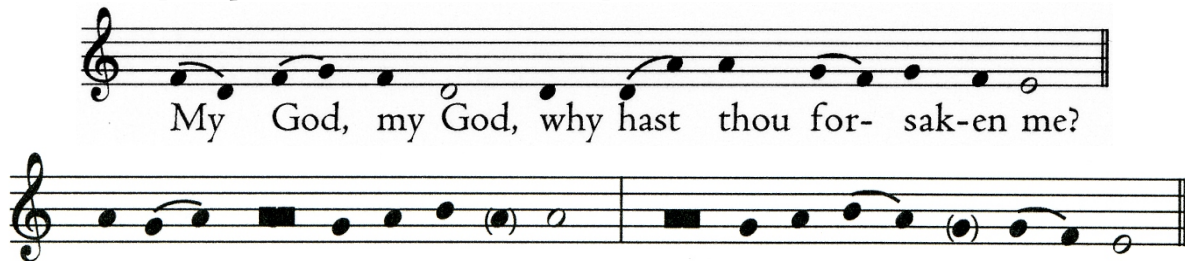
A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

SEE, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high. Just as there were many who were astonished at him — so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of mortals — so he shall startle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which had not been told them they shall see, and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate. Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account. Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the LORD shall prosper. Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

The Word of the Lord.

Congregation's Response: Thanks be to God.



*(Congregation sings antiphon as indicated.)**[Antiphon: Cantor first, then all]*

- 1 MY GÖD, my God, look upon me†; why hast | thou forsaken ^ me?
 * and art so far from my health and from the | words of my cömplaint?
- 2 O my God, I cry in the day-time | but thou hearest ^ not;
 * and in the night season | also I take ^ nö rest.
- 3 And thou conti- | nued holy,
 * O thou | Worship öf ^ Isräel.
- 4 Our fathers | hoped in thee;
 * they trusted in thee, and thou | didst delivër them.
- [All repeat antiphon.]*
- 5 THEY CALLÈD upon thee, | and were holpen;
 * they put their trust in thee, | and were nöt con^föunded.
- 6 But as for me, I am a | worm, and no man;
 * a very scorn of men, and the | outcast öf the ^ pëople.
- 7 All they that see me laugh | me to scorn;
 * they shoot out their lips and | shake their hëads säying,
- 8 He trusted in the LORD that he | would deliver ^ him;
 * let him deliver him | if he will häve him.
- [All repeat antiphon.]*
- 9 BUT THÖU art he that took me out | of my mother's ^ womb;
 * thou wast my hope, when I hanged yet up- | on my möthër's breasts.
- 10 I have been left unto thee ever since | I was born
 * thou art my God even | from my möthër's womb.
- 11 O go not from me; for trouble is | hard at hand,
 * and | there is nöne to ^ hëlp me.

*[All repeat antiphon.]*The Epistle: Hebrews 4: 14-16; 5: 7-9 *[NRSV]*

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

SINCE, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

The Word of the Lord.

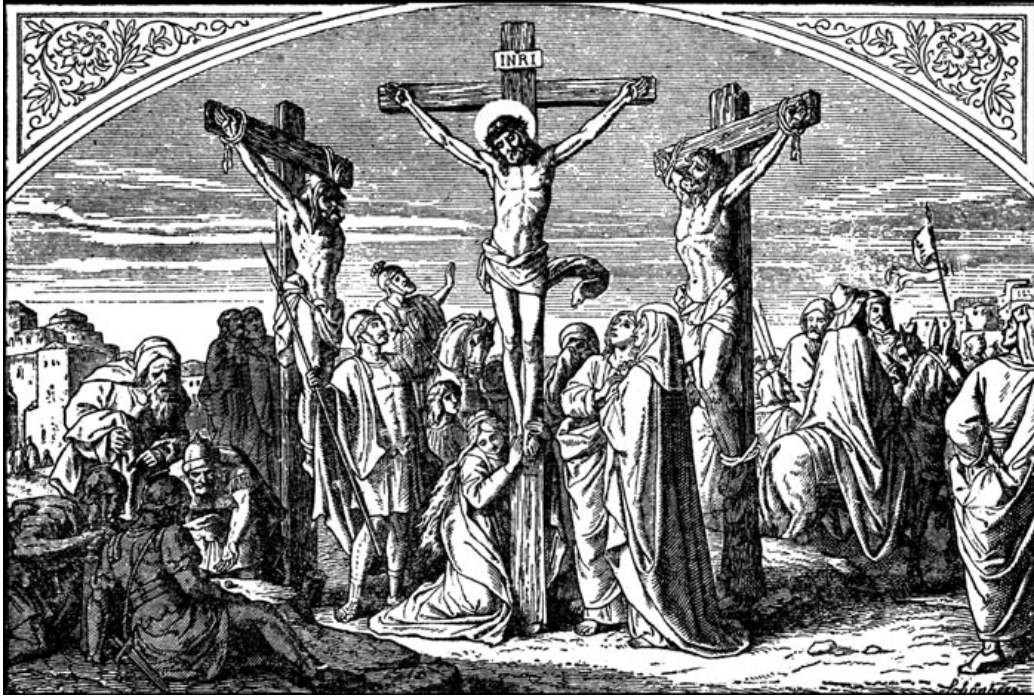
Congregation's Response: Thanks be to God.

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you
 *3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side? Were you
 4 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you

there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Oh! _____
 there when they nailed him to the tree? Oh! _____
 there when they pierced him in the side? Oh! _____
 there when they laid him in the tomb? Oh! _____

Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,
 Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,
 Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,
 Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,

trem-ble. Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 trem-ble. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 trem-ble. Were you there when they pierced him in the side?
 trem-ble. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?



The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ (*choir*)

St. John 19: 1-37 [RSV]

The customary responses before and after the Gospel are omitted. The people sit until after the phrase, "Then delivered he him therefore unto them to be crucified", whereupon they stand until the conclusion of the Passion.

THE Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. At that time: Pilate therefore took Jesus, and scourged him. And the soldiers platted a crown of thorns, and put it on his head: and they put on him a purple robe, and said: "Hail, King of the Jews!" and they smote him with their hands. Pilate therefore went forth again, and saith unto them: "Behold, I bring him forth to you, that ye may know that I find no fault in him." Then came Jesus forth, wearing the crown of thorns, and the purple robe. And Pilate saith unto to them: "Behold the man!" When the chief priests therefore and officers saw him, they cried out, saying: "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate saith unto them: "Take ye him, and crucify him: for I find no fault in him." The Jews answered him: "We have a law, and by our law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God." When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he was the more afraid. And went again into the judgement hall: and saith unto Jesus: "Whence art thou?" But Jesus gave him no answer. Then saith Pilate unto him: "Speakest thou not unto me? Knowest thou not that I have power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee?" Jesus answered: "Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above. Therefore he that delivered me unto thee has the greater sin."

AND from thenceforth Pilate sought to release him. But the Jews cried out saying: "If thou let this man go, thou art not Caesar's friend. Whosoever maketh himself a King speaketh against Caesar." When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus forth, and sat down in the judgment seat, in a place that is called the pavement, but in the Hebrew, Gab'batha. And it was the Preparation of the Passover, and about the sixth hour, and he saith unto the Jews: "Behold your King!" But they cried out: "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!" Pilate saith unto them: "Shall I crucify your king?" The chief priests answered: "We have no king but Caesar." Then delivered he him therefore unto them to be crucified.

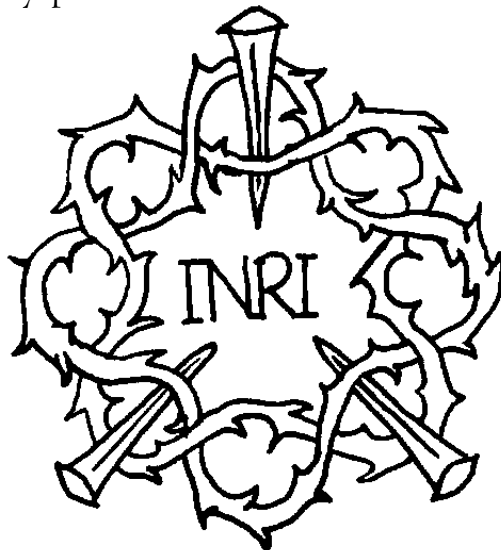
(All stand.) And they took Jesus, and led him away. And he, bearing his cross, went forth into a place called the place of a skull, which is called in the Hebrew, Gol'gotha: where they crucified him, and two other with him, on either side one, and Jesus in the midst. And Pilate wrote a title: and put it on the cross. And the writing was: "Jesus of Nazareth the King of the Jews." This title then read many of the Jews, for the place where Jesus was crucified was nigh to the city; and it was written in Hebrew, and Greek, and Latin. Then said the chief priests of the Jews to Pilate: "Write not, 'The King of the Jews,' but that he said: 'I am the King of the Jews.'" Pilate answered: "What I have written, I have written."

THEN the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took his garments, and made four parts: to every soldier a part, and also his coat. Now the coat was without seam, woven from the top throughout. They said therefore among themselves: "Let us not rend it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be." That the scripture might be fulfilled, which saith: "They parted my raiment among them: and for my vesture they did cast lots."

THESSE things therefore the soldiers did. Now there stood by the cross of Jesus, his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleophas, and Mary Mag'dalene. When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother: "Woman, behold thy son!" Then saith he to the disciple: "Behold thy mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home.

AFTER this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, saith: "I thirst." Now there was set a vessel full of vinegar. And they filled a sponge with vinegar, and put it upon hyssop, and put it to his mouth. When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said: "It is finished." And He bowed His head, and gave up the ghost. *(all kneel)*

Celebrant: The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the sabbath-day (for that sabbath-day was an high-day), besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. Then came the soldiers, and brake the legs of the first, and of the other which was crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus, and saw that He was dead already, they break not His legs. But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced His side, and forthwith came thereout blood and water. And he that saw it bare record, and his record is true: and he knoweth that he saith true, that ye might believe. For these things were done that the scripture should be fulfilled, "A bone of Him shall not be broken." And again another scripture saith, "They shall look on Him whom they pierced."



The Solemn Collects

Celebrant: Dear People of God: Our heavenly Father sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved; that all who believe in him might be delivered from the power of sin and death, and become heirs with him of everlasting life.

We pray, therefore, for people everywhere according to their needs.

Let us pray for the holy Catholic Church of Christ throughout the world;

For its unity in witness and service

For all bishops and other ministers and the people whom they serve

For Sean; Jeffrey and Laura, our Bishops, and all the people of this diocese

For all Christians in this community

For those about to be baptized

That God will confirm his Church in faith, increase it in love, and preserve it in peace.

Silence

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Let us pray for all nations and peoples of the earth, and for those in authority among them;

For Donald, the president of the United States

For the Congress and the Supreme Court

For the Members and Representatives of the United Nations

For all who serve the common good

That by God's help they may seek justice and truth, and live in peace and concord.

Silence

ALMIGHTY GOD, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth; that in tranquility your dominion may increase, until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Let us pray for all who suffer and are afflicted in body or in mind;

For the hungry and the homeless, the destitute and the oppressed

For the sick, the wounded, and the crippled

For those in loneliness, fear, and anguish

For those who face temptation, doubt, and despair

For the sorrowful and bereaved

For prisoners and captives, and those in mortal danger

That God in his mercy will comfort and relieve them, and grant them the knowledge of his love, and stir up in us the will and patience to minister to their needs.

Silence

GRACIOUS GOD, the comfort of all who sorrow, the strength of all who suffer: Let the cry of those in misery and need come to you, that they may find your mercy present with them in all their afflictions; and give us, we pray, the strength to serve them for the sake of him who suffered for us, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Let us pray for all who have not received the Gospel of Christ;

For those who have never heard the word of salvation

For those who have lost their faith

For those hardened by sin or indifference

For the contemptuous and the scornful

For those who are enemies of the cross of Christ and persecutors of his disciples

For those who in the name of Christ have persecuted others

That God will open their hearts to the truth, and lead them to faith and obedience.

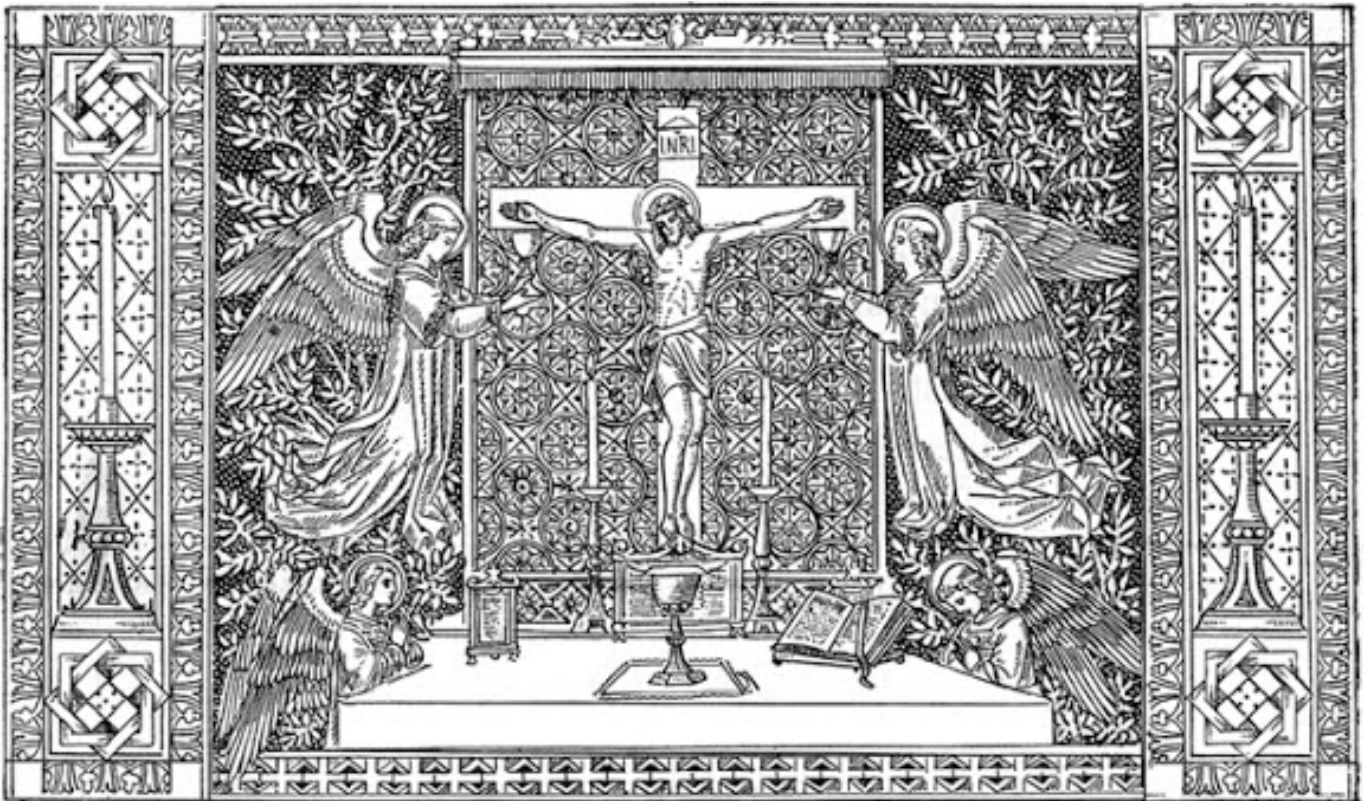
Silence

MERCIFUL GOD, creator of all the peoples of the earth and lover of souls: Have compassion on all who do not know you as you are revealed in your Son Jesus Christ; let your Gospel be preached with grace and power to those who have not heard it; turn the hearts of those who resist it; and bring home to your fold those who have gone astray; that there may be one flock under one shepherd, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

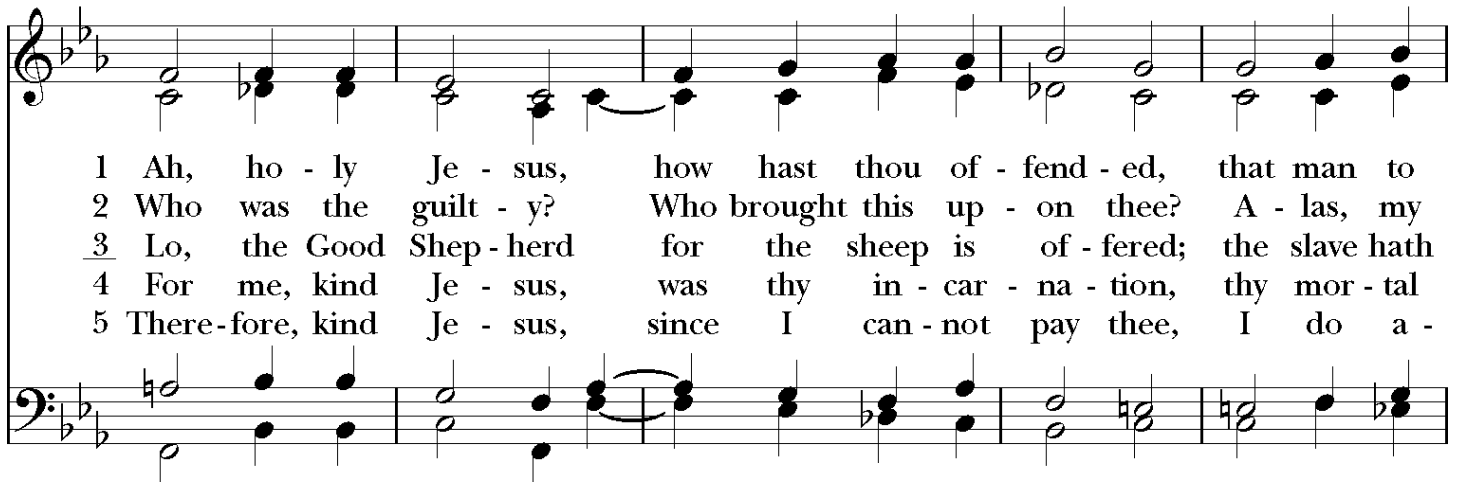
Let us commit ourselves to God, and pray for the grace of a holy life, that, with all who have departed this world and have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to God alone, we may be accounted worthy to enter into the fullness of the joy of our Lord, and receive the crown of life in the day of resurrection.

Silence

O GOD of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*



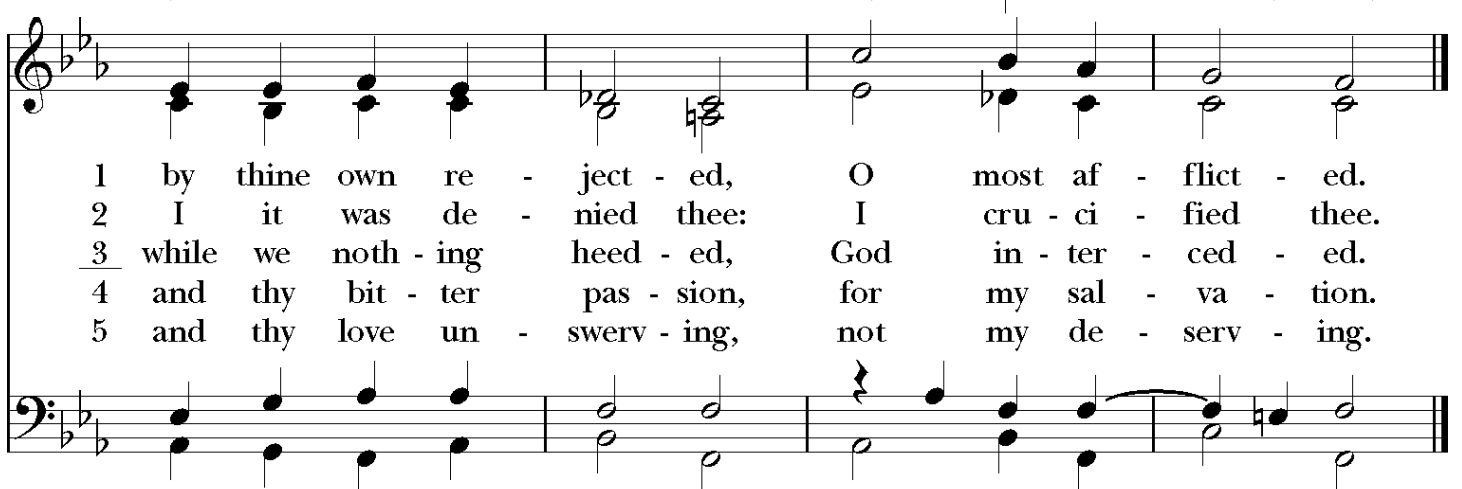
Congregation and choir, vv. 1, 3, 5; choir only, vv. 2 and 4 (harmonization by J. S. Bach).



1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed, that man to
 2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my
 3 Lo, the Good Shep - herd for the sheep is of - fered; the slave hath
 4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thy in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal
 5 There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -

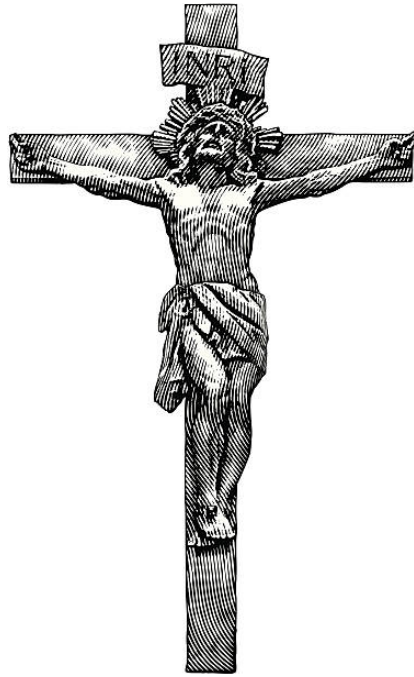


1 judge thee hath in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,
 2 trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,
 3 sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for our a - tone - ment,
 4 sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish
 5 dore thee, and will ev - er pray thee, think on thy pi - ty



1 by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.
 2 I it was de - nied thee: I cru - ci - fied thee.
 3 while we noth - ing heed - ed, God in - ter - ced - ed.
 4 and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.
 5 and thy love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.





The Veneration of the Cross

The following is traditionally sung thrice, each time a half-step higher:

Celebrant

Behold the wood of the / Cross,*
whereon was hung the / Savior of the world:

People

O come, let us wor-ship.

The Reproaches (*choir*)

O my people, O my Church, what have I done unto thee, and wherein have I offended thee? Testify against me.

Because I brought thee forth from the land of Egypt, and delivered thee by the waters of Baptism, thou hast prepared a Cross for thy Saviour.

Trisagion: Agios o Theos. Holy God.

Agios ischyros. Holy and Mighty.

Agios, athanatos, eleison imas. Holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.

Because I led thee through the desert forty years, and fed thee with manna; and brought thee through tribulation and penitence, and gave thee my body, the bread of heaven, thou hast prepared a Cross for thy Saviour. *Repeat Trisagion.*

What more could I have done unto thee that I have not done? I indeed did plant thee, O my vineyard, with exceeding fair fruit; and thou art become very bitter unto me. For vinegar mingled with gall thou gavest me when thirsty: and hast pierced with a spear the side of thy Saviour. *Repeat Trisagion.*

[*Antiphon*] We venerate thy Cross, O Lord, and praise and glorify thy holy Resurrection: for by virtue of the Cross, joy hath come to the world. [*Psalm*] God be merciful unto us, and bless us: and show us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

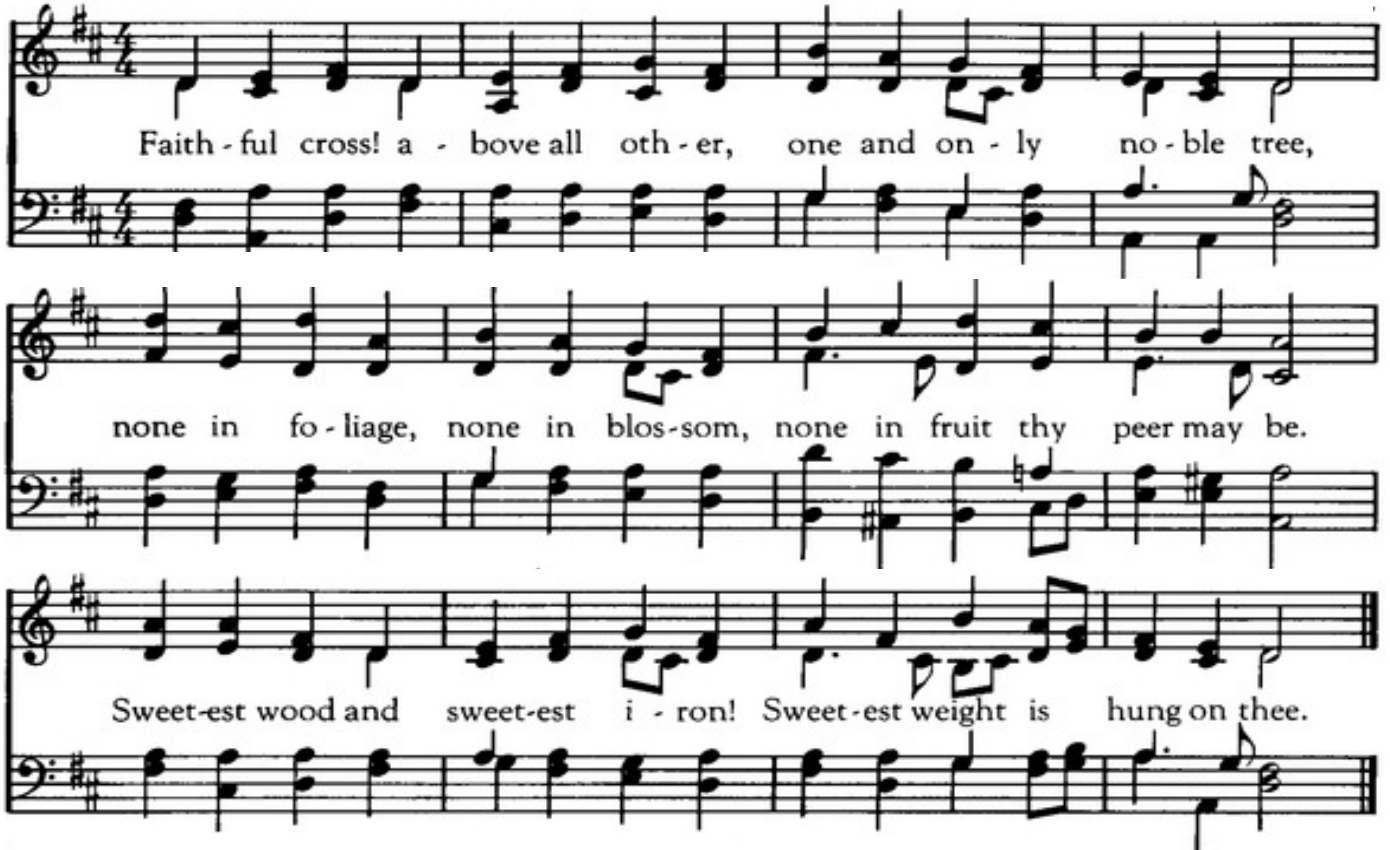
Procession of the Blessed Sacrament from the Altar of Repose

Hymn (*choir*) *Pange lingua*

Mode III

SING, my tongue, the glorious battle; of the mighty conflict sing; tell the triumph of the victim, to his cross thy tribute bring. Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer, from that cross now reigns as King.

Antiphon (*sung by all; tune: St. Thomas*):



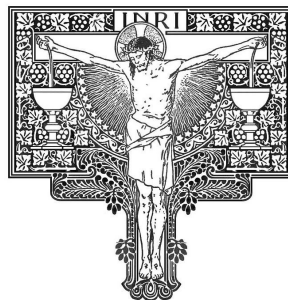
Faith - ful cross! a - bove all oth - er, one and on - ly no - ble tree,
none in fo - liage, none in blos - som, none in fruit thy peer may be.
Sweet - est wood and sweet - est i - ron! Sweet - est weight is hung on thee.

THIRTY years among us dwelling, his appointed time fulfilled, born for this, he meets his passion, this the Savior freely willed: on the cross the Lamb is lifted, where his precious blood is spilled. [Antiphon]

He endures the nails, the spitting, vinegar, and spear, and reed; from that holy body broken, blood and water forth proceed: earth, and stars, and sky, and ocean, by that flood from stain are freed. [Antiphon]

Bend thy boughs, O tree of glory! Thy relaxing sinews bend; for a while the ancient rigor that thy birth bestowed, suspend; and the King of heavenly beauty gently on thine arms extend. [Antiphon]

Praise and honor to the Father, praise and honor to the Son, praise and honor to the Spirit, ever Three and ever One: one in might and one in glory while eternal ages run. [Antiphon]



Confession of Sin and Absolution

Celebrant: Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

People: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, ✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

People: 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Communion of the People

Prayer of Spiritual Communion (*said by those worshipping virtually*)

IN UNION, O Dear Lord, with the faithful at every Altar of Thy Church, where Thy blessed Body and Blood are being offered to the Father, I desire to offer Thee praise and thanksgiving. I present to Thee my soul and body, with the earnest wish that I may ever be united to Thee. And since I cannot now receive Thee sacramentally, I beseech Thee to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to Thee, and embrace Thee with all the affections of my soul. O let nothing ever separate me from Thee. Let me live and die in Thy love. Amen.

Closing Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

LORD Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, we pray thee to set thy passion, cross, and death between thy judgment and our souls, now and in the hour of our death. Give mercy and grace to the living; pardon and rest to the dead; to thy holy Church peace and concord; and to us sinners everlasting life and glory; for with the Father and the Holy Ghost thou livest and reignest, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

No blessing or dismissal is added.

A bell will sound thirty-three times, after which the ministers and people will leave in silence.



A Word of Welcome:

WE WELCOME all who are visiting with us. All baptized Christians are invited to receive Communion here at Grace Church; those not yet baptized are invited to receive a blessing at the altar rail. We hope you feel at home with us and that you find the love, peace, inspiration, and strength to meet the challenges of your daily life.



Holy Week, Easter Eve, and Easter Day Services

*(*Choir at all starred services)*

- Good Friday: 1:30-2:30 P.M.: Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)
(appointments may be made with Mtr. Marta)
- Holy Saturday: 10:00 A.M.: LIVESTREAMED Proper Liturgy for Holy Saturday *(YouTube)*
- Easter Eve: 4:00 P.M.: *The Great Vigil of Easter *(also on YouTube)*
(followed by reception in Nason Hall)
- Easter Day: 8:00 A.M.: Low Mass with Hymns
- 10:30 A.M.: *Solemn High Mass *(also on YouTube)*



Grace Episcopal Church

55 New Park Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106

Office: 860-233-0825 Fax: 860-233-5082

E-mail: church@gracehartford.org Web site: www.gracehartford.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/GECHartford

YouTube: www.youtube.com/@GraceEpiscopalHartford

WE are a diverse community united by our commitment to Jesus Christ and our desire to live the Christian life. Our prayers and the Sacraments help us find Christ in church and in the world. Seeing Christ in each other and in the faces of strangers, we are inspired to reach out in love and service.

The Rev. Rowena J. Kemp, *Rector*

Cell phone: 203-209-4178 Church office: 860-233-0825

Email: RevRowena@gracehartford.org

The Rev. Marta S. Rivera Monclova, PhD, *Curate*

Email: marta@havenreligious.org; Cell: 203-493-1066

The Rev. Canon Robert G. Carroon, *Associate Priest*

The Rev. Canon Annika Warren, *Associate Priest*

The Rev. Joseph L. Pace, *Associate Priest*

Mr. Kyle Swann, *Choirmaster and Organist*