

# Rutherfordton Community Service

## Good Friday

April 2, 2021

PRELUDE

O Mensch, bewein dein Sünde groß, BWV 622 J. S. Bach (1685-1750)  
("O mortal, lament your grievous sin," a Lutheran hymn for Good Friday)

SILENT PROCESSION

*All then kneel for silent prayer, after which the Celebrant stands and begins the liturgy with the Collect of the Day.*

Celebrant: Blessed be our God.

**People: For ever and ever. Amen.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*All sit for lessons*

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Remain seated.*

PSALM 22: 1-11

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

- 4 Our forefathers put their trust in you; \*  
they trusted, and you delivered them.
- 5 They cried out to you and were delivered; \*  
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.
- 6 But as for me, I am a worm and no man, \*  
scorned by all and despised by the people.
- 7 All who see me laugh me to scorn; \*  
they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,
- 8 "He trusted in the LORD; let him deliver him; \*  
let him rescue him, if he delights in him."
- 9 Yet you are he who took me out of the womb, \*  
and kept me safe upon my mother's breast.
- 10 I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; \*  
you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.
- 11 Be not far from me, for trouble is near, \*  
and there is none to help.

SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 10: 16-25

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

The Holy Spirit testifies saying, "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds," he also adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more." Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin. Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO JOHN

See Insert

*Silence will be kept after the Gospel reading.*

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Andrea Purcell

*Please stand, as able*

HYMN 474

When I survey the wondrous cross

Tune: *Rockingham*

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross where the young  
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the  
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet sor - row and  
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were an  
Prince of Glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I  
cross of Christ, my God: all the vain things that  
love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and  
of - fering far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748) Music: *Rockingham*, from *Second Supplement to Psalmsody in Miniature*, ca. 1780; harm. Edward Miller (1731-1807)

## THE SOLEMN COLLECTS

*All standing, the person appointed says*

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.

*The people may be directed to stand or kneel. The Celebrant says the Collects. \**

Let us pray for the holy Church throughout the world;  
 For its unity in witness and service  
 For all bishops and other ministers and the people whom they serve  
 For José, our Bishop, and all the people of this diocese  
 For all Christians in this community and the ministers who serve their churches  
 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 Joe Biden, 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 our 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 lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

MEDITATION ON THE CROSS

Chaplin Don Ledbetter

*Leader:* Behold the wood of the cross, on which was hung the world's salvation.

**People: Come, let us worship.**

THE ANTHEMS

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 the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
**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.**

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.**

SOLO

*Were You There When They Crucified My Lord*

Gordon Pendarvis

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

*The Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.  
*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

THE ABSOLUTION

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

**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.**

*The service concludes with the following prayer. No blessing or dismissal is added.*

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, we pray you to set your passion, cross, and death between your 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 your holy

Church peace and concord; and to us sinners everlasting life and glory; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The Worshipers Leave in Silence.*

Participating Clergy:

The Rev. Don Ledbetter, Retired Hospital Chaplain  
Dr. In-Yong Lee, First United Methodist Church  
The Rev. Andrea Purcell, Matthew's Chapel AME Zion Church  
The Rev. Dr. Don Scofield, Rutherfordton Presbyterian Church  
The Rev. Bruce Walker, St. Francis Episcopal Church

Thomas Alexander, Organist

