

Good Friday Service

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 29, 2018

He was despised and rejected by men,
a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;
and as one from whom men hide their faces
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Isaiah 53:3

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sandy Willson

(Congregational responses are *italicized*.)

Blessed be the name of the Lord our God.

Who redeems us from sin and death.

For us and for our salvation,
Christ became obedient unto death,
even death on a cross.

Blessed be the name of the Lord.

Behold the cross
on which was hung the salvation of the world.

Come, let us worship.

 *Congregation stand as able.*

HYMN OF SALVATION

“Nothing But the Blood”

What can wash away my sins?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
What can make me whole again?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Chorus:
Oh precious is the flow
That makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know;
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Nothing can for sin atone:
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
Naught of good that I have done:
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
(*Chorus*)

This is all my hope and peace:
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
This is all my righteousness:
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
(*Chorus, twice*)

Words and Music: Robert Lowry, 1876.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Almighty God,
look with mercy on this your family
for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed,
and to be given over to the hands of sinners
and to suffer death upon the cross;
who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen.

READING FROM MARK

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Mark 15:16-41

And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. ¹⁷And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him. ¹⁸And they began to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ¹⁹And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him. ²⁰And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.

²¹And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. ²²And they brought him to the place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull). ²³And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. ²⁴And they crucified him and divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. ²⁵And it was the third hour when they crucified him. ²⁶And the inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." ²⁷And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left. ²⁹And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, ³⁰save yourself, and come down from the cross!" ³¹So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. ³²Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.

³³And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. ³⁴And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" ³⁵And some of the bystanders hearing it said, "Behold, he is calling Elijah." ³⁶And

someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." ³⁷And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last. ³⁸And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. ³⁹And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"

⁴⁰There were also women looking on from a distance, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. ⁴¹When he was in Galilee, they followed him and ministered to him, and there were also many other women who came up with him to Jerusalem.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION OF SIN

*O most mighty God, and merciful Father,
who has compassion upon all men,
and who desires not the death of a sinner,
but rather that he should turn from his sin, and be saved;
Mercifully forgive us our trespasses; receive and comfort us,
who are grieved and wearied with the burden of our sins.
Your property is always to have mercy;
therefore, from you alone comes the forgiveness of sins.
Spare us therefore, good Lord, spare your people,
whom you have redeemed;
enter not into judgment with your servants;
but so turn your anger from us,
who meekly acknowledge our transgressions,
and truly repent of our faults,
and so make haste to help us in this world,
that we may ever live with you in the world to come;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Book of Common Prayer

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

⁴Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. ⁵But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

Isaiah 53:4-5

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you forgiveness of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of His Holy Spirit.

HYMN OF RESPONSE

“It Is Finished – Pt II (Hark, the Voice of Love and Mercy)”

Hark! the voice of love and mercy Sounds aloud from Calvary;
See, it rends the rocks asunder, Shakes the earth, and veils the sky:
“It is finished! It is finished!” Hear the dying Savior cry;
“It is finished! It is finished!” Hear the dying Savior cry.

“It is finished!” O what pleasure Do these charming words afford;
Heavenly blessings, without measure, Flow to us from Christ the Lord:
“It is finished! It is finished!” Saints, the dying words record;
“It is finished! It is finished!” Saints, the dying words record.

Finished all the types and shadows Of the ceremonial law;
Finished all that God had promised; Death and hell no more shall awe:
“It is finished! It is finished!” Saints, from hence your comfort draw;
“It is finished! It is finished!” Saints, from hence your comfort draw.

Tune your harps anew, ye seraphs, Join to sing the pleasing theme;
Saints on earth, and all in heaven, Join to praise Immanuel’s name;

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Glory to the bleeding Lamb!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Glory to the bleeding Lamb!
(*Twice*)

Words: Attributed to Jonathan Evans, 1784 & Benjamin Francis, 1787.
Music: Jeff Koonce, 2005.

SECOND READING FROM MARK

Mark 14:53-65

And they led Jesus to the high priest. And all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes came together. ⁵⁴And Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he was sitting with the guards and warming himself at the fire. ⁵⁵Now the chief priests and the whole council were seeking testimony against Jesus to put him to death, but they found none. ⁵⁶For many bore false witness against him, but their testimony did not agree. ⁵⁷And some stood up and bore false witness against him, saying, ⁵⁸“We heard him say, ‘I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.’” ⁵⁹Yet even about this their testimony did not agree. ⁶⁰And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, “Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?” ⁶¹But he remained silent and made no answer. Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?” ⁶²And Jesus said, “I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.” ⁶³And the high priest tore his garments and said, “What further witnesses do we need? ⁶⁴You have heard his blasphemy. What is your decision?” And they all condemned him as deserving death. ⁶⁵And some began to spit on him and to cover his face and to strike him, saying to him, “Prophecy!” And the guards received him with blows.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

☒ HYMN OF CHRIST

"Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted"



1. Strick- en, smit- ten, and af- flict- ed, see him dy- ing on the tree!
2. Tell me, ye who hear him groan- ing, was there ev- er grief like his?
3. Ye who think of sin but light- ly nor sup- pose the e- vil great,
4. Here we have a firm foun- da- tion, here the ref- uge of the lost;



'Tis the Christ by man re- ject- ed; yes, my soul, 'tis he, 'tis he!
Friends thro' fear his cause dis- own- ing, foes in- sult- ing his dis- tress;
here may view its na- ture right- ly, here its guilt may es- ti- mate.
Christ, the Rock of our sal- va- tion, his the name of which we boast.



'Tis the long- ex- pect- ed Proph- et, Da- vid's son, yet Da vid's Lord;
man- y hands were raised to wound him, none would in- ter- pose to save;
Mark the sac- ri- fice ap- point- ed, see who bears the aw- ful load;
Lamb of God, for sin- ners wound- ed, sac- ri- fice to can- cel guilt!



by his Son God now has spo- ken: 'tis the true and faith- ful Word.
but the deep est stroke that pierced him was the stroke that Jus- tice gave.
'tis the Word, the Lord's A- noint- ed, Son of Man and Son of God.
None shall ev- er be con found- ed who on him their hope have built.

Words: Thomas Kelly, 1804. Music: O MEIN JESU, ICH MUSS STERBEN. Geistliche Volkslieder, Paderborn, 1850; arr. Fernando Ortega.

☒ BENEDICTION

EASTER SUNDAY

Join us in celebrating our Risen Lord!

Sunrise Service at Vulcan Park | 6:15 a.m.

Pancake Breakfast | 7:00 a.m.
(Covenant's Fellowship Hall)

Gathered Worship | 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.