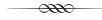


Good Friday Service

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



“Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, When any one of you brings an offering to the Lord, you shall bring your offering of livestock from the herd or from the flock. ³“If his offering is a burnt offering from the herd, he shall offer a male without blemish. He shall bring it to the entrance of the tent of meeting, that he may be accepted before the Lord. ⁴He shall lay his hand on the head of the burnt offering, and it shall be accepted for him to make atonement for him.

—Leviticus 1:2-4

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

—Hebrews 4:14-16

"But what does it all mean?" asked Susan when they were somewhat calmer. "It means," said Aslan, "that though the Witch knew the Deep Magic, there is a magic deeper still which she did not know. Her knowledge goes back only to the dawn of time. But if she could have looked a little further back, into the stillness and the darkness before Time dawned, she would have read there a different incantation. She would have known that when a willing victim who had committed no treachery was killed in a traitor's stead, the Table would crack and Death itself would start working backward."

—"The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe," C.S. Lewis

 **CALL TO WORSHIP**

from Psalm 31

Leader: In you, O LORD, do I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame;
in your righteousness deliver me!

*ALL: Incline your ear to me;
rescue me speedily!
Be a rock of refuge for me,
a strong fortress to save me!
For you are my rock and my fortress;
and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me;
you take me out of the net they have hidden for me,
for you are my refuge.*

Leader: I will rejoice and be glad in your steadfast love,
because you have seen my affliction;
you have known the distress of my soul,
and you have not delivered me into the hand of the enemy;
you have set my feet in a broad place.

*ALL: Love the LORD, all you his saints!
The LORD preserves the faithful
but abundantly repays the one who acts in pride.
Be strong, and let your heart take courage,
all you who wait for the LORD!*

☒ HYMN OF SALVATION

"Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed?"



1. A - las and did my Sav - ior bleed?
2. Was it for crimes that I had done,
3. Well might the sun in dark - ness hide,
4. Thus might I hide my blush - ing face,
5. But drops of grief can ne'er re - pay



And did my Sov - 'reign die?
He groaned up - on the tree?
And shut its glo - ries in,
While His dear cross ap - pears;
The debt of love I owe;



Would He de - vote that sa - cred Head
A - maz - ing pi - ty! Grace un - known!
When God, the might - y Mak - er, died
Dis - solve my heart in thank - ful - ness,
Here, Lord, I give my - self a - way,



For sin - ners such as I?
And love be - yond de - gree!
For His own crea - ture's sin.
And melt mine eyes to tears.
'Tis all that I can do.

Words: Issac Watts, 1707. Music: anonymous; arr. Ralph E. Hudson, 1885.

 **PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

O Lord Jesus Christ,
who suffered death upon the cross:
help us who have died with You, to show forth Your death,
and, in our living, to show forth Your life.
As we look upon You whom we have pierced,
help us hate our sins and turn from them;
teach us to forgive, and to suffer, with You,
By Your great power, help us overcome sin, death, and evil.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Grant us your peace.
And Lord, remember us when You come into Your kingdom. Amen.

READING FROM THE PROPHETS

Isaiah 53:3-12

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.

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.

⁶All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he opened not his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he opened not his mouth.

⁸By oppression and judgment he was taken away;
and as for his generation, who considered
that he was cut off out of the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people?

⁹And they made his grave with the wicked
and with a rich man in his death,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him;
he has put him to grief;
when his soul makes an offering for guilt,
he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days;
the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

¹¹Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied;
by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant,
make many to be accounted righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.

¹²Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong,
because he poured out his soul to death
and was numbered with the transgressors;
yet he bore the sin of many,
and makes intercession for the transgressors.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Let us confess our sins to Almighty God:

*ALL: Lord Jesus Christ,
Who gave your life for us that we might receive pardon and peace:
Mercifully cleanse us from all sin,
And keep us in your favor and love,
You, who live and reign with the Father and Holy Spirit, ever one God,
World without end.*

Leader: Hear us now, as we silently confess our sins.

 **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

“This is the covenant that I will make with them
after those days, declares the Lord:

I will put my laws on their hearts,
and write them on their minds;”

then he adds,

“I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.”

—Hebrews 10:16-17

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

"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 once 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.

Words: Bernard of Clarivaux, 1091-1153; tr. by Paul Gerhardt, 1656; tr. by James W. Alexander, 1830. Music: PASSION CHORALE; Hans Leo Hassler, 1601; arr. by J.S. Bach, 1729.

*face; expression; countenance

**to grant or give, as by favor

READINGS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

Acts 2:23

This Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.

Matthew 27:1-2, 11-23, 27-50

When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death. ²And they bound him and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate the governor.

¹¹Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You have said so." ¹²But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he gave no answer. ¹³Then Pilate said to him, "Do you not hear how many things they testify against you?" ¹⁴But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

¹⁵Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. ¹⁶And they had then a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. ¹⁷So when they had gathered, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?" ¹⁸For he knew that it was out of envy that they had delivered him up. ¹⁹Besides, while he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, "Have nothing to do with that righteous man, for I have suffered much because of him today in a dream." ²⁰Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. ²¹The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas." ²²Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said, "Let him be crucified!" ²³And he said, "Why? What evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified!"

²⁷Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him.

²⁸And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, ²⁹and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ³⁰And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. ³¹And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him.

³²As they went out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. They compelled this man to carry his cross. ³³And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), ³⁴they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. ³⁵And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots. ³⁶ Then they sat down and kept watch over him there. ³⁷And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." ³⁸Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. ³⁹And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads ⁴⁰and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." ⁴¹So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, ⁴²"He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. ⁴³He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" ⁴⁴And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way.

⁴⁵Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. ⁴⁶And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" ⁴⁷And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, "This man is calling Elijah." ⁴⁸And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave

it to him to drink. ⁴⁹But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." ⁵⁰And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit.

All flesh is like grass,

And all its glory is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades,

But the word of our God stands forever.

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

This we pray in the name of the One who taught us to pray, saying:

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.

☒ HYMN OF THE 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, alt. 1961. Music: O MEIN JESU, ICH MUSS STERBEN,
Geistliche Volkslieder, Paderborn, 1850, arr. by Fernando Ortega.

☒ BENEDICTION

Join us for services on

Easter Sunday

April 4, 2021

Sunrise Service at Vulcan Park | 6:15 am

Gathered Worship | 8:00 am*

Gathered Worship | 9:30 am*

Gathered Worship | 11:00 am*

**RSVPs required through covpres.com/lent.*

Please note that Children's Worship will be available at the 8:00 and 9:30 am services.

Our 11:00 am service will be livestreamed at covpres.com/covid-information.

Covenant

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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