

Good Friday

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church April 19, 2019 | 12 pm

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Salt Lake City, Utah 801.582.2321 | zelc.org Pastor Steven A. Klemz

On Thursday, we dispersed in silence—no sending song, no blessing or dismissal, only the rustle of jackets, the sound of feet, freshly washed and covered again, moving into the night. Now, as if awaiting our return, the silence receives us and invites us more deeply into the empty room, the unfolding story, the widening hour, the mystery of faith.

With boldness we approach the throne of grace, the cross upon which Christ is lifted, to pray not only for the church and those preparing for baptism, but also for those of other faiths, those who do not believe in God, and everyone, everywhere, in any kind of need. As he promised, Jesus draws them—all people, named and unnamed, all things, seen and unseen—to himself and to the heart of God. There we rest, like grains of wheat buried in the earth awaiting the joyful harvest.



Gathering

All gather in silence.

Prayer of the Day

Grieving God,
on the cross
your Son embraced death
even as he had embraced life:
faithfully and with good courage.
Grant that we who have been
born out of his wounded side
may hold fast to our faith in him exalted
and may find mercy in all times of need.

Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Hymn No. 351 "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

First Lesson

Isaiah 52:13-53:12

The fourth servant poem promises ultimate vindication for the servant, who made his life an offering for sin. The early church saw in the servant's pouring himself out to death and being numbered with the transgressors important keys for understanding the death of Jesus.

¹³See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high. ¹⁴Just as there were many who were astonished at him -so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of mortals-¹⁵so 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. 53:1 Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? ²For 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. ³He 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.

⁴Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. ⁵But 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. ⁶All 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. ⁷He 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.
⁸By 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.
⁹They 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.

10 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.

11 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.
12 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.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22

Refrain: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

¹My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
 Why so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning?
 ²My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer;
 by night, but I find no rest.

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<sup>3</sup>Yet you are the Holy One,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.
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⁴Our ancestors put their trust in you, they trusted, and you rescued them. **Refrain**

⁵They cried out to you and were delivered; they trusted in you and were not put to shame.

⁶But as for me, I am a worm and not human, scorned by all and despised by the people.

⁷All who see me laugh me to scorn; they curl their lips; they shake their heads.

8"Trust in the LORD; let the LORD deliver; let God rescue him if God so delights in him." **Refrain**

⁹Yet you are the one who drew me forth from the womb, and kept me safe on my mother's breast.

¹⁰I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.

¹¹Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is no one to help.

¹²Many young bulls encircle me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me. **Refrain**

¹³They open wide their jaws at me, like a slashing and roaring lion.

¹⁴I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint; my heart within my breast is melting wax.

¹⁵My strength is dried up like a potsherd; my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;

and you have laid me in the dust of death.

¹⁶Packs of dogs close me in, a band of evildoers circles round me; they pierce my hands and my feet. **Refrain**

¹⁷I can count all my bones while they stare at me and gloat.

¹⁸They divide my garments among them; for my clothing, they cast lots.

 $^{19}\mbox{But you, O LORD, be not far away;}$

0 my help, hasten to my aid.

²⁰Deliver me from the sword, my life from the power of the dog.

- ²¹Save me from the lion's mouth! From the horns of wild bulls you have rescued me.
- ²²I will declare your name to my people; in the midst of the assembly I will praise you. **Refrain**
- ²³You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory. Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.
- ²⁴For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD'S face hidden from them; but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.
- ²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.
- ²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied, Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!
- ²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow before God.
- ²⁸For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations. *Refrain*
- ²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.
- ³⁰Their descendants shall serve the LORD, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.
- ³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The LORD has acted!" *Refrain*

Second Lesson

Hebrews 10:16-25

In the death of Jesus, forgiveness of sins is worked and access to God is established. Hence, when we gather together for worship and when we love others we experience anew the benefits of Jesus' death.

¹⁶"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," ¹⁷he also adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more." ¹⁸Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin. ¹⁹Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let 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. ²³Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel

The Passion According to St. John

John 18:1-19:42

On Good Friday, the story of Jesus' passion—from his arrest to his burial—is read in its entirety from the Gospel of John.

Homily

"On our hearts" - Pastor Steven Klemz

Bidding Prayer

Since the third century, Christians have gathered on Good Friday at the foot of the cross and there prayed the great intercessions. It is as if the cross is in the center of all things, and as we stand with Mary and John at the cross, the bidding prayer opens us up to ever-widening circles of concern. In these intercessions we ask God to look with mercy on every person and thing in the cosmos.

Each petition concludes, "we ask this through Christ our Lord." The people prayerfully respond, "Amen."

The Lord's Prayer

Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask: **Our Father in** heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Procession and Adoration of the Cross

As with the foot washing on Maundy Thursday, the procession of the cross on Good Friday, practiced since the fourth century, offers us a ritual that helps express a religious devotion far beyond words. The cross that is carried into our midst brings to mind Christ, whom we worship as Savior of the world. The ritual gives our body something to do as our heart opens to receive Christ. Someone processes down the aisle with a large rough-hewn cross, after which the assembly remains seated for silent prayer; or files past to touch the cross; or comes forward to kneel before it; or stands to join in a profound bow.

The cross is carried in and placed in the chancel. The assembly faces the cross as it is brought forward. The following response is said three times:

(As the procession begins)

Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world. Oh, come, let us worship him.

(halfway to the altar)

Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world. Oh, come, let us worship him.

(as the procession ends at the altar)

Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world. Oh, come, let us worship him.

Hymn of Triumph

Hymn No. 342 | "There in God's Garden"

Departure

The congregation departs in silence as each of us contemplates the meaning of Christ's death for us.

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