**Dobbs Ferry Lutheran Church**

**Good Friday Service**

**April 10,2020**

Hello. I’m Pastor Marie. Welcome to worship with Dobbs Ferry Lutheran Church. Today, Good Friday, we stand beneath the cross of Jesus as He dies. Our service uses the Tenebrae service, an ancient service of light and dark. Eight candles are lit. We will be reading Christ’s Passion according to the gospel of John. After we read a portion of the gospel, we will extinguish a candle.

**To prepare for worship**: If you would like, gather eight candles to extinguish during the reading, or eight small stones and a bowl of water and place the stones in the water during the reading. You can Pause the video now while you gather the candles or stones.

We are learning new ways to be the church. WE are the church not the building. Our pews are empty, yet we continue to gather by computer to control the spread of the virus. I invite you to join me in the responses to the prayers and readings. At the end of the service I invite you to sit quietly for a time reflecting on the meaning of these events for you.

Close your eyes. Take a deep breath. Notice God noticing us as we begin our worship.

*Time for silent reflection*

**Prayer of the Day**

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

**The Passion According to John Chapters 18 and 19**

After each portion of the passion is read, please respond with Vs. 1 from Psalm 51. “Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love.”

**Chapter 18**

18 After he said these things, Jesus went out with his disciples and crossed over to the other side of the Kidron Valley. He and his disciples entered a garden there. 2Judas, his betrayer, also knew the place because Jesus often gathered there with his disciples. 3Judas brought a company of soldiers and some guards from the chief priests and Pharisees. They came there carrying lanterns, torches, and weapons. 4Jesus knew everything that was to happen to him, so he went out and asked, “Who are you looking for?”

5They answered, “Jesus the Nazarene.”

He said to them, “I Am.” (Judas, his betrayer, was standing with them.) 6When he said, “I Am,” they shrank back and fell to the ground. 7He asked them again, “Who are you looking for?”

They said, “Jesus the Nazarene.”

8Jesus answered, “I told you, ‘I Am.’ If you are looking for me, then let these people go.” 9This was so that the word he had spoken might be fulfilled: “I didn’t lose anyone of those whom you gave me.”

10Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it and struck the high priest’s servant, cutting off his right ear. (The servant’s name was Malchus.) 11Jesus told Peter, “Put your sword away! Am I not to drink the cup the Father has given me?”

Our response: “**Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love.”**

*(First candle is extinguished)*

12Then the company of soldiers, the commander, and the guards from the Jewish leaders took Jesus into custody. They bound him 13and led him first to Annas. He was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. (14Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jewish leaders that it was better for one person to die for the people.)

15Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Because this other disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the high priest’s courtyard. 16However, Peter stood outside near the gate. Then the other disciple (the one known to the high priest) came out and spoke to the woman stationed at the gate, and she brought Peter in. 17The servant woman stationed at the gate asked Peter, “Aren’t you one of this man’s disciples?”

“I’m not,” he replied. 18The servants and the guards had made a fire because it was cold. They were standing around it, warming themselves. Peter joined them there, standing by the fire and warming himself.

19Meanwhile, the chief priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. 20Jesus answered, “I’ve spoken openly to the world. I’ve always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews gather. I’ve said nothing in private. 21Why ask me? Ask those who heard what I told them. They know what I said.”

22After Jesus spoke, one of the guards standing there slapped Jesus in the face. “Is that how you would answer the high priest?” he asked.

23Jesus replied, “If I speak wrongly, testify about what was wrong. But if I speak correctly, why do you strike me?” 24Then Annas sent him, bound, to Caiaphas the high priest.

25Meanwhile, Simon Peter was still standing with the guards, warming himself. They asked, “Aren’t you one of his disciples?”

Peter denied it, saying, “I’m not.”

26A servant of the high priest, a relative of the one whose ear Peter had cut off, said to him, “Didn’t I see you in the garden with him?” 27Peter denied it again, and immediately a rooster crowed.

Our response: “**Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love.”**

*(Second candle is extinguished)*

28The Jewish leaders led Jesus from Caiaphas to the Roman governor’s palace. It was early in the morning. So that they could eat the Passover, the Jewish leaders wouldn’t enter the palace; entering the palace would have made them ritually impure.

29So Pilate went out to them and asked, “What charge do you bring against this man?”

30They answered, “If he had done nothing wrong, we wouldn’t have handed him over to you.”

31Pilate responded, “Take him yourselves and judge him according to your Law.”

The Jewish leaders replied, “The Law doesn’t allow us to kill anyone.” (32This was so that Jesus’ word might be fulfilled when he indicated how he was going to die.)

33Pilate went back into the palace. He summoned Jesus and asked, “Are you the king of the Jews?”

34Jesus answered, “Do you say this on your own or have others spoken to you about me?”

35Pilate responded, “I’m not a Jew, am I? Your nation and its chief priests handed you over to me. What have you done?”

36Jesus replied, “My kingdom doesn’t originate from this world. If it did, my guards would fight so that I wouldn’t have been arrested by the Jewish leaders. My kingdom isn’t from here.”

37“So you are a king?” Pilate said.

Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. I was born and came into the world for this reason: to testify to the truth. Whoever accepts the truth listens to my voice.”

38“What is truth?” Pilate asked.

After Pilate said this, he returned to the Jewish leaders and said, “I find no grounds for any charge against him. 39You have a custom that I release one prisoner for you at Passover. Do you want me to release for you the king of the Jews?”

40They shouted, “Not this man! Give us Barabbas!” (Barabbas was an outlaw.)

Our response: “**Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love.”**

*(Third candle is extinguished)*

19 Then Pilate had Jesus taken and whipped. 2The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and dressed him in a purple robe. 3Over and over they went up to him and said, “Greetings, king of the Jews!” And they slapped him in the face.

4Pilate came out of the palace again and said to the Jewish leaders, “Look! I’m bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no grounds for a charge against him.” 5When Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe, Pilate said to them, “Here’s the man.”

6When the chief priests and their deputies saw him, they shouted out, “Crucify, crucify!”

Pilate told them, “You take him and crucify him. I don’t find any grounds for a charge against him.”

7The Jewish leaders replied, “We have a Law, and according to this Law he ought to die because he made himself out to be God’s Son.”

Our response: “**Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love.”**

*Fourth candle is extinguished)*

8When Pilate heard this word, he was even more afraid. 9He went back into the residence and spoke to Jesus, “Where are you from?” Jesus didn’t answer. 10So Pilate said, “You won’t speak to me? Don’t you know that I have authority to release you and also to crucify you?”

11Jesus replied, “You would have no authority over me if it had not been given to you from above. That’s why the one who handed me over to you has the greater sin.” 12From that moment on, Pilate wanted to release Jesus.

However, the Jewish leaders cried out, saying, “If you release this man, you aren’t a friend of the emperor! Anyone who makes himself out to be a king opposes the emperor!”

13When Pilate heard these words, he led Jesus out and seated him on the judge’s bench at the place called Stone Pavement (in Aramaic, *Gabbatha*). 14It was about noon on the Preparation Day for the Passover. Pilate said to the Jewish leaders, “Here’s your king.”

15The Jewish leaders cried out, “Take him away! Take him away! Crucify him!”

Pilate responded, “What? Do you want me to crucify your king?”

“We have no king except the emperor,” the chief priests answered. 16Then Pilate handed Jesus over to be crucified.

Our response: “**Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love.”**

*(Fifth candle is extinguished)*

The soldiers took Jesus prisoner. 17Carrying his cross by himself, he went out to a place called Skull Place (in Aramaic, *Golgotha*). 18That’s where they crucified him—and two others with him, one on each side and Jesus in the middle. 19Pilate had a public notice written and posted on the cross. It read “Jesus the Nazarene, the king of the Jews.” 20Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city and it was written in Aramaic, Latin, and Greek. 21Therefore, the Jewish chief priests complained to Pilate, “Don’t write, ‘The king of the Jews’ but ‘This man said, “I am the king of the Jews.”’”

22Pilate answered, “What I’ve written, I’ve written.”

Our response: “**Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love.”**

*(Sixth candle is extinguished)*

23When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and his sandals, and divided them into four shares, one for each soldier. His shirt was seamless, woven as one piece from the top to the bottom. 24They said to each other, “Let’s not tear it. Let’s cast lots to see who will get it.” This was to fulfill the scripture,

*They divided my clothes among themselves,*  
    *and they cast lots for my clothing.*  
        That’s what the soldiers did.

25Jesus’ mother and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene stood near the cross. 26When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, “Woman, here is your son.” 27Then he said to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” And from that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

28After this, knowing that everything was already completed, in order to fulfill the scripture, Jesus said, “I am thirsty.” 29A jar full of sour wine was nearby, so the soldiers soaked a sponge in it, placed it on a hyssop branch, and held it up to his lips. 30When he had received the sour wine, Jesus said, “It is completed.” Bowing his head, he gave up his life.

Our response: “**Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love.”**

*(Seventh candle is extinguished)*

31It was the Preparation Day and the Jewish leaders didn’t want the bodies to remain on the cross on the Sabbath, especially since that Sabbath was an important day. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of those crucified broken and the bodies taken down. 32Therefore, the soldiers came and broke the legs of the two men who were crucified with Jesus. 33When they came to Jesus, they saw that he was already dead so they didn’t break his legs. 34However, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. 35The one who saw this has testified, and his testimony is true. He knows that he speaks the truth, and he has testified so that you also can believe. 36These things happened to fulfill the scripture, *They won’t break any of his bones*. 37And another scripture says, *They will look at him whom they have pierced.*

38After this Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate if he could take away the body of Jesus. Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but a secret one because he feared the Jewish authorities. Pilate gave him permission, so he came and took the body away. 39Nicodemus, the one who at first had come to Jesus at night, was there too. He brought a mixture of myrrh and aloe, nearly seventy-five pounds in all. 40Following Jewish burial customs, they took Jesus’ body and wrapped it, with the spices, in linen cloths. 41There was a garden in the place where Jesus was crucified, and in the garden was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. 42Because it was the Jewish Preparation Day and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus in it.

Our response: “**Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love.”**

*(the Christ candle is extinguished)*

**BIDDING PRAYER**

Let us pray, brothers and sisters, for the holy church throughout the world. Each invitation to prayer ends… We ask this through Christ our Lord. Please respond: **Amen**

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, you have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ. By your Holy Spirit guide the church and gather it throughout the world. Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name, and bring the good news of salvation in Christ to all people. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for Paul our bishop, for Marie our pastor, and all servants of the church, and for all the people of God.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, your Spirit guides the church and makes it holy. Strengthen and uphold our bishops, pastors, other ministers, and lay leaders. Keep them in health and safety for the good of the church, and help each of us in our various vocations to do faithfully the work to which you have called us. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those preparing for baptism.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, you continue to bless the church.

Increase the faith and understanding of those preparing for baptism. Give them new birth as your children, and keep them in the faith and communion of your holy church. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for our sisters and brothers who share our faith in Jesus Christ.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, you give your church unity. Look with favor on all who follow Jesus your Son. Make all the baptized one in the fullness of faith, and keep us united in the fellowship of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for the Jewish people, the first to hear the word of God.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, long ago you gave your promise to Abraham and your teaching to Moses. Hear our prayers that the people you called and elected as your own may receive the fulfillment of the covenant’s promises. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, gather into your embrace all those who call out to you under different names. Bring an end to inter-religious strife, and make us more faithful witnesses of the love made known to us in your Son. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those who do not believe in God.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, you created humanity so that all may long to know you and find peace in you. Grant that all may recognize the signs of your love and grace in the world and in the lives of Christians, and gladly acknowledge you as the one true God. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for God's creation.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, you are the creator of a magnificent universe. Hold all the worlds in the arms of your care and bring all things to fulfillment in you. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those who serve in public office.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, you are the champion of the poor and oppressed. In your goodness, give wisdom to those in authority, so that all people may enjoy justice, peace, freedom, and a share in the goodness of your creation. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those in need.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty and eternal God, you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart. Heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, and deliver your world from falsehood, hunger, and disease. Hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble,that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask as we pray the prayer our Savior taught us:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **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**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Epiousios) **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 for ever. Amen.** |  |

**Procession of the Cross**

Behold, the life-giving cross, on which was hung the Savior of the whole world.

**Oh, come, let us worship him.**

*(The cross is placed at the front of the church)*

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

**By your holy cross you have redeemed the world.**

Meditate in Silence as you listen to the singing of “Were You There”