



**GOOD FRIDAY
VIRTUAL WORSHIP
ST PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
2 APRIL 2021
TUNE YOUR RADIO TO 87.9**

**PRESIDING: MICHAEL ZIMMERMAN
PREACHING: THE REV. DONA L CUMMINGS**

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: The Lord be with you.

R: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. Merciful God, your Son was lifted up on the cross to draw all people to himself. Grant that we who have been born out of his wounded side may at all times find mercy in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

R: **Amen**

**A reading from the Prophet Isaiah beginning
with the Fifty Second Chapter**

See, 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.

¹⁰Yet 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.

¹¹Out 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.

¹²Therefore 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.

HOLY WISDOM, HOLY WORD

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Hebrews beginning with the fourth chapter

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

^{5:7}In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

HOLY WISDOM, HOLY WORD

The Holy Gospel of St John beginning with the Nineteenth Chapter

¹⁶Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus; ¹⁷and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. ¹⁸There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. ¹⁹Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." ²⁰Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. ²¹Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" ²²Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written." ²³When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. ²⁴So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says,

"They divided my clothes among themselves,
and for my clothing they cast lots."

²⁵And that is what the soldiers did. Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

²⁸After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." ²⁹A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. ³⁰When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Homily: Rev. Dona Cummings

Bidding Prayers:

P: Gracious God, Lord of the cross. Sin, bold and visible and prominent before our own eyes and the eyes of the world, and sin that creeps within our hearts like a web that traps and deceives, keeps us from loving you, loving others and loving ourselves. We do not know what we do to ourselves or one another. Gracious God, Lord of the cross, forgive us for you know what we are doing. Set before us your forgiveness shown in the cross of Christ, and free us from that which deceives and traps. Lord hear our prayer.

R: O Lord, hear my prayer, when I call answer me.

O Lord, Hear my prayer: Come and listen to me.

P: Gracious God, Lord of the cross. We seek promises and those who keep promises. We seek that which remains faithful and true. We seek that which will not betray us or abandon us. Fulfill in Christ, your promise to bring us to paradise. Do not invoke your anger upon us for our sinfulness. Do not invoke your wrath upon us for seeking what will fulfill us. Instead fulfill in us your will that we may be united with you and be welcomed into your glory. Lord, hear our prayer.

R: O Lord, hear my prayer, when I call answer me.

O Lord, Hear my prayer: Come and listen to me.

P: Gracious God, Lord of the cross. The tongues of humans are dry. Our mouths are cracked. Our throats are raw. Our hearts are parched and barren. Set free your living waters to flood our tongues and throats and mouths and hearts. Set free your living waters to rush into our lives and bring forth lush, green vibrant life. Set free your living waters to rush into our lives and quench the insatiable thirst for truth and hope that comes from your death on the cross. Lord hear our prayer.

R: O Lord, hear my prayer, when I call answer me.

O Lord, Hear my prayer: Come and listen to me.

P: Gracious God, Lord of the cross. It is indeed finished. Your will for our lives has been made known to all who will hear. You have died on the cross for the sake of us—those who cannot save themselves. Your kingdom come. Your will be done. Now on earth as it is in heaven. It is indeed finished. Your will has been made known to us. Hope, peace, and justice have been given to us through the cross of condemnation, turmoil, and oppression. Your will has been made known to us. At the cross, you have been glorified. Lord, hear our prayer.

R: O Lord, hear my prayer, when I call answer me.

O Lord, Hear my prayer: Come and listen to me.

Lord's Prayer:

P: Finally let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask.

**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,
Forever and ever. Amen.**

(presentation of The Cross)

P: Behold the life giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world.

R: O come, let us worship the Lord.

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

R: By your holy cross you have redeemed us.

P: The Lord of the Cross bless you and keep you,

The Lord of the Cross look upon you with favor and be gracious to you,

The Lord of the Cross give you peace.

R: Amen