

**The Ministry of the Word**

All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned every one to their own way,

**And the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.**

Christ the Lord became obedient unto death,

**Even death on a cross.**

*Silence*

Almighty God, **Our heavenly Father, we have sinned in thought and word and deed; we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We pray you of your mercy, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.**

O Holy and Immortal One, we veil our faces before your glory, and bow before the cross of your wounded Christ. With angels and archangels we praise you, our Mercy, and we bless you, our Compassion, for in our brokenness you have not abandoned us. **Amen.**

**The Proclamation of the Word**

**A Reading from Isaiah**

See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high. Just as there were many who were astonished at him - so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of mortals - so 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. Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For 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. He 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. Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But 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. All 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. He 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. By 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. They 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. 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. 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. 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.

ISAIAH 52:13-53:12

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom. **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 22

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me **and are so far from my cry and from the words of my distress?**  
O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; **by night as well, but I find no rest.**

Yet you are the Holy One, **enthroned upon the praises of Israel.**

Our ancestors put their trust in you; **they trusted, and you delivered them.**

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

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

All who see me laugh me to scorn; **they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,**

“You trusted in the Lord; let the Lord deliver you; **let God rescue you, if God delights in you.**”

Yet you are the one who took me out of the womb, **and kept me safe upon my mother’s breast.**

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

Be not far from me, for trouble is near, **and there is none to help.**

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

They open wide their jaws at me, **like a ravening and a roaring lion.**

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

My mouth is dried out like a potsherd; my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;

**and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.**

Packs of dogs close me in and gangs of evildoers circle around me; **they pierce my hands and my feet.**

I can count all my bones **while they stare and gloat over me.**

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

Be not far away, O Lord; **you are my strength; hasten to help me.**

Save me from the sword, **my life from the power of the dog.**

Save me from the lion’s mouth, **my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.**

I will declare your name to my kindred; **in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.**

Praise the Lord, you that fear God; **stand in awe of God, O offspring of Israel; all you of Jacob’s line, give glory.**

For God does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither turns away from them;

**when they cry to the Lord, they are heard.**

My praise is of God in the great assembly; **I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship the Lord.**

The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall give praise: **“May your heart live for ever!”**

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, **and all the families of the nations shall bow before God.**

For sovereignty belongs to the Lord, **who rules over the nations.**

To God alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; **all who go down to the dust fall before God.**

My soul shall live for God; my descendants shall serve God; **they shall be known as the Lord’s for ever.**

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn **the saving deeds that God has done.**

## A Reading from Hebrews

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

HEBREWS 10:16-25

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom. **Thanks be to God.**

## The Passion Gospel: John 18.1—19.42

*Please stand when the Reader says, "the Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha."*

## Homily

### The Solemn Intercession

Dear people of God, our heavenly Father sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved, that all who believe in him might be delivered from the power of sin and death and become heirs with him of eternal life. [...]

*Prayers for the Church, the World, Those In Need, and Those Who Have Died*

[...] O God of unchangeable power and eternal light, look favourably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery. By the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquillity the plan of salvation. Let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### Meditation on the Cross of Jesus

Christ our Lord became obedient unto death. **Come let us worship.**

We glory in your cross, O Lord, **And praise and glorify your holy resurrection; for by virtue of your cross joy has come to the whole world.**

May God be merciful to us and bless us, show us the light of his countenance, and come to us. **Let your ways be known upon the earth, your saving health among all nations.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. **We glory in your cross, O Lord, and praise and glorify your holy resurrection; for by virtue of your cross, joy has come to the whole world.**

*As we meditate on the Cross of Jesus, all are welcome to come lay their rocks and burdens on the Altar Steps, singing:*

**We will lay our burdens down,  
we will lay our burdens down,  
we will lay our burdens down,  
before the Cross of Jesus.**

### The Lord's Prayer

**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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

### Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, we pray to you to set your passion, cross, and death between your judgement and our souls, now and in the hour of our death. Give mercy and grace to the living, pardon and rest to the dead, to your holy church peace and concord, and to us sinners everlasting life and glory; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



**The Great Vigil of Easter:** Saturday, April 4 at 7:30 pm  
**The Sunday of the Resurrection:** Holy Eucharist as well as Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.

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Reader: Donna Robinson  
Passion: Elisabeth Dempsey, James Phillips,  
Warren Trickey  
Greeter: Owen and Donna Robinson

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