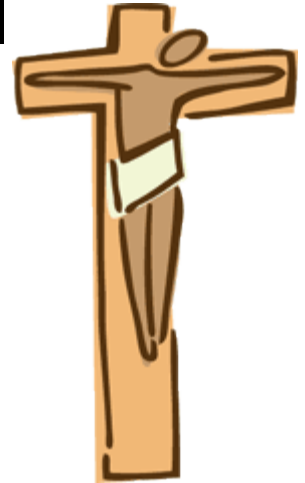


# Good Friday at Home 2020

Good Friday, Year A

April 10, 2020



Use this resource for your personal or family devotion and worship time during Good Friday.

*We've included an at home activity during the time we read the consider the Seven Last Words of Christ. As each word is heard, a candle is extinguished to symbolize our abandonment of our Savior. During the darkness of the Seventh Word, a sound signifies the death of Christ. After the Lord's Prayer a single candle is lighted, foreshadowing the celebration of Easter.*

*Materials Needed: 7 candles of any size and shape. If you have at least one flameless candle that can be used for one of the seven candles that would be preferred, if not, a regular flamed candle will do.*

*Light all seven candles. Shut all curtains and blinds or cover the windows up to help make it dark in the room.*

## THE SOLEMN REPROACHES

*Please say the bold lines out loud.*

O my people, O my church, what have I done to you? How have I offended you? Answer me. I led you out of slavery into freedom, and delivered you through the waters of rebirth, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. Forty years I led you through the desert, feeding you with manna on the way; I saved you from the time of trial and gave you my body, the bread of heaven, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I led you on your way in a pillar of cloud and fire, but you led me to the judgment hall of Pilate; I guided you by the light of the Holy Spirit, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I planted you as my fairest vineyard, but you brought forth bitter fruit; I made you branches of the vine and never left your side, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I poured out saving water from the rock, but you gave me vinegar to drink; I poured out my life and gave you the new covenant in my blood, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I gave you a royal scepter, but you gave me a crown of thorns; I gave you the kingdom and crowned you with eternal life, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I struck down your enemies, but you struck my head with a reed; I gave you my peace, but you draw the sword in my name, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I opened the waters to lead you to the promised land, but you opened my side with a spear; I washed your feet as a sign of my love, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I lifted you up to the heights, but you lifted me high on a cross; I raised you from death and prepared for you the tree of life, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I grafted you into my people Israel, but you made them scapegoats for your own guilt, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me. I came to you in the least of your brothers and sisters, but I was hungry and you gave me no food, thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me, and you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.**

*The Solemn Reproaches are in the Public Domain.*

**HYMN: JESUS, I WILL PONDER NOW v. 1-3**

Jesus, I will ponder now on your holy passion; let your Spirit now endow me for meditation. Grant that I in love and faith may cherish the image of your suffering, pain, and death, that I may not perish.

Make me see your great distress, anguish, and affliction, bonds and blows and wretchedness and your crucifixion; make me see how scourge and rod, spear and nails, did wound you, how you died for those, O God, who with thorns had crowned you.

Yet, O Lord, not thus alone make me see your passion, but its cause to me make known and its termination. For I also and my sin wrought your deep affliction; this the shameful cause has been of your crucifixion.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626-1681; tr. August Crull, 1846-1923, alt. Hymn is in the Public Domain.

## THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF JESUS

### THE FIRST WORD

**LUKE 23:32-34**

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, *'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.'* And they cast lots to divide his clothing.

**Lord, have mercy.**

### PSALM 55:16

Give ear to my prayer, O God; do not hide yourself from my supplication. Attend to me, and answer me; I am troubled in my complaint. I am distraught by the noise of the enemy, because of the clamor of the wicked. For they bring trouble upon me, and in anger they cherish enmity against me. My heart is in anguish within me, the terrors of death have fallen upon me. Fear and trembling come upon me, and horror overwhelms me. And I say, "O that I had wings like a dove! I would fly away and be at rest;

### HYMN: LORD JESUS, THINK ON ME

Lord Jesus, think on me, and purge away my sin; from selfish passions set me free and make me pure within.

Lord Jesus, think on me, by anxious thoughts oppressed; let me your loving servant be and taste your promised rest.

Lord Jesus, think on me, nor let me go astray; through darkness and perplexity point out your chosen way.

Lord Jesus, think on me, that, when the flood is past, I may enter the eternal brightness see and share your joy at last.

*Extinguish the first flame. Take a moment of silence for reflection.*

### THE SECOND WORD

**LUKE 23:36-43**

The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, *"Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."*

### PSALM 17:7-12a, 15

Wondrously show your steadfast love, O savior of those who seek refuge from their adversaries at your right hand. Guard me as the apple of the eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings, from the wicked who despoil me, my deadly enemies who surround me. They close their hearts to pity; with their mouths they speak arrogantly. They track me down; now they surround me; they set their eyes to cast me to the ground. They are like a lion eager to tear, like a young lion lurking in ambush.

As for me, I shall behold your face in righteousness; when I awake I shall be satisfied, beholding your likeness.

*Extinguish the second flame. Take a moment of silence for reflection.*

### THE THIRD WORD

**JOHN 19:25b-27**

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

### PSALM 17:1-6

Hear a just cause, O LORD; attend to my cry; give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit. From you let my vindication come; let your eyes see the right. If you try my heart, if you visit me by night, if you test me, you will find no wickedness in me; my mouth does not transgress. As for what others do, by the word of your lips I have avoided the ways of the violent. My steps have held fast to your paths; my feet have not slipped. I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God; incline your ear to me, hear my words.

### HYMN: BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS v. 1 & 3

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; the unity of heart and mind is like to that above.

We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear, and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740-1817, alt. Hymn is in the Public Domain.

*Extinguish the third flame. Take a moment of silence for reflection.*

### THE FOURTH WORD

**MATTHEW 27:45-46**

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

### PSALM 4

Answer me when I call, O God of my right! You gave me room when I was in distress. Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer. How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame? How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies? But know that the LORD has set apart the faithful for himself; the LORD hears when I call to him. When you are disturbed, do not sin; ponder it on your beds, and be silent. Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD. There are many who say, "O that we might see some good! Let the light of your face shine on us, O LORD!" You have put gladness in my heart more than when their grain and wine abound.

I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O LORD, make me lie down in safety.

**HYMN: O SACRED HEAD, NOW WOUNDED**

O sacred head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down, now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thine only crown; O sacred head, what glory, what bliss till now was thine! Yet, through despised and glory, I joy to call thee mine.

How pale thou art with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn; how does thy face now languish, which once was bright as mourn! Thy grief and bitter passion were all for sinner's gain; mine, mine was the transgression, but thine the deadly pain.

What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend, for this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end? Oh, make me thine forever, and should I fainting be, Lord, let me never out live my love to thee.

Lord, be my consolation; shield me when I must die; remind me of thy passion when my last hour draws nigh. These eyes, new faith receiving, from thee shall never move; for all who die believing die safely in thy love.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-1676, based on Arnulf of Louvain, d. 1250; tr. composite. The hymn is in the Public Domain.

*Extinguish the fourth flame. Take a moment of silence for reflection.*

**THE FIFTH WORD**

**JOHN 19:28**

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), *"I am thirsty."*

**PSALM 38:1-8, 11-16, 21-22**

O LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger, or discipline me in your wrath. For your arrows have sunk into me, and your hand has come down on me. There is no soundness in my flesh because of your indignation; there is no health in my bones because of my sin. For my iniquities have gone over my head; they weigh like a burden too heavy for me. My wounds grow foul and fester because of my foolishness; I am utterly bowed down and prostrate; all day long I go around mourning. For my loins are filled with burning, and there is no soundness in my flesh. I am utterly spent and crushed; I groan because of the tumult of my heart. My friends and companions stand aloof from my affliction, and my neighbors stand far off. Those who seek my life lay their snares; those who seek to hurt me speak of ruin, and meditate treachery all day long. But I am like the deaf, I do not hear; like the mute, who cannot speak. Truly, I am like one who does not hear, and in whose mouth is no retort. But it is for you, O LORD, that I wait; it is you, O LORD my God, who will answer. For I pray, "Only do not let them rejoice over me, those who boast against me when my foot slips." Do not forsake me, O LORD; O my God, do not be far from me; make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation.

**HYMN: AH, HOLY JESUS v. 1-2, 5**

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended that we to judge thee have in hate pretended? By foes derided, by thine own rejected, O most afflicted.

Who was the guilty? Who brought this up on thee? Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee. 'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee; I crucified thee.

Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee, I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee; think on thy pity and thy love unswerving, not my deserving.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585-1647; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844-1930; alt. Hymn is in the Public Domain.

*Extinguish the fifth flame. Take a moment of silence for reflection.*

**THE SIXTH WORD****JOHN 19:29-30**

A 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. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, *'It is finished.'* Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

*Extinguish the sixth flame. Take a moment of silence for reflection.*

**THE SEVENTH WORD****LUKE 23:44-46**

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, *"Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."* Having said this, he breathed his last.

*Extinguish the seventh flame. Turn off any lights in the room. Take a moment of silence for reflection. Keep the lights off.*

*Whisper the Lord's Prayer while in the dark.*

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

*A single flameless candle, night light, or another form of light can be used. The light will remain on throughout the weekend.*

**THE LIGHT RETURNS**

*We light a single light as a reminder of the promise of resurrection.*