

Good Friday

March 29, 2024

Prelude: “Jesus Paid It All”

Welcome & Opening Prayer

Liturgy: “God Had A Lamb”

Song: “How Deep The Father’s Love For Us”

DRAMATIZATION OF THE PASSION OF CHRIST

The Gospel of Mark Chapters 14 & 15 (NRSV)

- ❖ All parts with this symbol and highlighted **in bold** are for the congregation as a whole

Throughout the service today we will extinguish the candles we have lit during Lent. This is based on an approach to Good Friday worship known as ‘Tenebrae’ (Latin for ‘darkness’). In our service this will represent the extinguishing of the initial hopes of the disciples as Jesus is arrested, tried and executed. Yet we do so knowing that hope is reborn on Easter Sunday.

The Plot to Kill Jesus

Narrator: It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him.

Chief Priests & Elders: Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.

The Anointing at Bethany

Narrator: While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard. She broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. But some were there who said to one another in anger;

- ❖ **Guests: “Why was the ointment wasted in this way? For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor.”**

Jesus: “Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.”

Narrator: Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. When they heard it, they were greatly pleased, and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

1st Candle is Extinguished

The Passover with the Disciples

Narrator: On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, Jesus was asked by his disciples:

- ❖ **Disciples: Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?**

Narrator: So he sent two of his disciples.

Jesus: Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks, where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.

Narrator: So the disciples set out and went to the city, and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal. When it was evening, he came with the twelve. And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said:

Jesus: Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me.

Narrator: They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another

❖Disciples: Surely, not I?

Jesus: It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.

Narrator: While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them.

Jesus: Take; this is my body.

Narrator: Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it.

Jesus: This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.

2nd Candle is Extinguished

Choir: "The Holy Heart"

On the Mount of Olives

Narrator: When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Jesus: You will all become deserters; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.' But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.

Peter: Even though all become deserters, I will not.

Jesus: Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.

Peter: Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.

❖Disciples: Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.

Jesus Prays In Gethsemane

Narrator: They went to a place called Gethsemane.

Jesus: Sit here while I pray.

Narrator: He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated.

Jesus: I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.

Narrator: And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.

Jesus: Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.

Narrator: Jesus came to the three disciples and found them sleeping.

Jesus: Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Narrator: And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy. They did not know what to say to him. Finally, he came to them a third time.

Jesus: Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand.

3rd Candle is Extinguished

Hymn: "Man of Sorrows" vs.1-4

#210

The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus

Narrator: Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign.

Judas: The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard.

Narrator: So when he came, he went up to him at once and kissed him.

Judas: Rabbi!

Narrator: Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear.

Jesus: Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled.

Narrator: All of them deserted him and fled. A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.

Trial before the Chief Priests and Elders

Narrator: They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. Some stood up and gave false testimony against him.

❖ **False Witnesses: We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.'**

Narrator: But even on this point their testimony did not agree. Then the high priest stood up before them and addressed Jesus.

High Priest: Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?"

Narrator: But Jesus was silent and did not answer.

High Priest: Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?"

Jesus: I am; and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power and coming with the clouds of heaven.

Narrator: Then the high priest tore his clothes.

High Priest: Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?

Narrator: All of them condemned him as deserving death. Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him,

Chief Priests & Elders: "Prophesy!"

Narrator: The guards also took him over and beat him.

Peter Denies Jesus

Narrator: While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him.

Servant Girl: You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth.

Peter: I do not know or understand what you are talking about.

Narrator: And Peter went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed. And the servant-girl, on seeing him, began to talk to the bystanders.

Servant Girl: This man is one of them.

Narrator: But again Peter denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders came up to Peter.

❖ **Bystanders: Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean.**

Narrator: But he began to curse, and he swore an oath.

Peter: I do not know this man you are talking about.

Narrator: At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him.

Jesus: Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.

Narrator: And he broke down and wept.

4th Candle is Extinguished

Hymn: "O Sacred Head Now Wounded" vs. 1&3 **#239**

Trial before Pilate

Narrator: As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the Roman governor.

Pilate: Are you the King of the Jews?

Jesus: You say so.

Narrator: Then the chief priests accused him of many things.

Pilate: Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.

Narrator: But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed. Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom.

Pilate: Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?

Narrator: For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed Jesus over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again.

Pilate: Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?

❖**Crowd: Crucify him!**

Pilate: Why, what evil has he done?

Narrator: But they shouted all the more.

❖**Crowd: Crucify him!**

Narrator: So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified. Then the soldiers led Jesus into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him.

❖**Soldiers: Hail, King of the Jews!**

Narrator: They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

5th Candle is Extinguished

Hymn: "Alas and Did My Saviour Bleed" vs.1,4,5 #235

The Crucifixion of Jesus

Narrator: They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus.

Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take. It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads.

❖**Crowd: Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!"**

Narrator: In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves

Chief Priests & Scribes: He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.

Narrator: Those who were crucified with him also taunted him. When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice.

Jesus: Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?"

Narrator: Which means:

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

❖**Crowd: Listen, he is calling for Elijah.**

Narrator: And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink.

❖**Crowd: Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.**

Narrator: Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last.

Centurion: Truly this man was God's Son!

Narrator: There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

6th Candle is Extinguished

The Burial of Jesus

Narrator: When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph.

Narrator: Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where the body was laid.

The Christ Candle is Hidden

WE RESPOND TO THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

Silent Meditation on the Word

❖**All: Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us peace.**

Choir: "Behold The Lamb"

We Celebrate The Lord's Supper

Offering

Closing Prayer

Hymn: "When I survey the wondrous cross" vs. 1,3,4 **#231**

Blessing

Quiet Departure

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

31 Sulphur Springs Road, Ancaster ON, L9G 1L7
Phone: (905) 648-6024 | Website: www.standrews.ws
Office Email: standrewsancaster@gmail.com



Opening Doors: To Jesus, To Our Neighbours,
To Go Into The World

We welcome all who have joined with us in worship today.

All hymns and songs are projected on the screen. There are crayons and activity sheets available for children at the back of the worship space.

Our church is equipped to help the hearing impaired.



A black case at the back of the sanctuary contains hearing devices. Follow the instructions and return the devices to the case after the service. If you need assistance, please let us know.

If you would like to support our church through a donation there will be an offering taken up during the service – *but don't feel obligated if you're with us for the first time.* You can also find our online giving options on your computer, tablet, or smartphone at www.standrews.ws.

Minister: Rev. John Read revjohnread@gmail.com
Clerk of Session: Rev. Anne Yee-Hibbs ayhibbs@gmail.com
Board of Managers: David Moore dqmoore11@gmail.com



**ST. ANDREW'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**Join us again to celebrate Jesus' resurrection
on Easter Sunday at 10:30am**

