

Holy Wednesday (April 16, 2025)

Evening Prayer Service

Opening Rites

Prelude

Greeting

Officiant

If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night," darkness is not dark to You, O Lord; the night is as bright as the day; darkness and light to You are both alike. *Psalm 139:10,11*

Welcome to our Holy Wednesday Evening Prayer Service. As we remember the Passion of our Lord, let us come together tonight and align our hearts to savor anew His great love for us.

Opening Hymn

People stand

#134 – “Down at the Cross Where My Savior Died”

Verse 1

Down at the cross where my Savior died,
Down where for cleansing from sin I cried,
There to my heart was the blood applied;
Glory to His name!
Glory to His name, glory to His name:
There to my heart was the blood applied;
Glory to His name!

Verse 2

I am so wondrously saved from sin,
Jesus so sweetly abides within;
There at the cross where He took me in;
Glory to His name!
Glory to His name, glory to His name:
There to my heart was the blood applied;
Glory to His name!

“十字架上耶穌受釘死”

- 1 十字架上耶穌受釘死，
流出寶血洗我罪清潔，
祂有復活贖罪功勞成，
榮耀歸主名。
榮耀歸主名。榮耀歸主名。
祂有復活贖罪功勞成，
榮耀歸主名。
- 2 我罪極重耶穌拯救我，
深深感激祂恩情極大，
從十架上顯出祂的愛，
榮耀歸主名。
榮耀歸主名。榮耀歸主名。
從十架上顯出祂的愛，
榮耀歸主名。

Verse 3

Oh, precious fountain that saves from sin,
I am so glad I have entered in;
There Jesus saves me and keeps me clean;
Glory to His name!
Glory to His name, glory to His name:
There to my heart was the blood applied;
Glory to His name!

3 信主耶穌得赦罪恩典，
盡一世人做主的差用，
我心欣慕跟救主來行，
榮耀歸主名。
榮耀歸主名。榮耀歸主名。
我心欣慕跟救主來行，
榮耀歸主名。

Confession of Sin

People kneel

Officiant

Dear friends in Christ, as we kneel here in the presence of Almighty God, let us, with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Officiant and People together, all kneeling

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in Your will, and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your Name. Amen.

The Priest alone stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

The Invitatory and Psalter

All stand

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

People O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Psalm (Responsorial)

Psalm 69:7-15, 22-23

⁷ Because for Your sake I have borne reproach;
Shame has covered my face.

- ⁸ I have become a stranger to my brothers,
And an alien to my mother's children;
⁹ Because zeal for Your house has eaten me up,
And the reproaches of those who reproach You have fallen on me.
¹⁰ When I wept *and chastened* my soul with fasting,
That became my reproach.
¹¹ I also made sackcloth my garment;
I became a byword to them.
¹² Those who sit in the gate speak against me,
And I *am* the song of the drunkards.
¹³ But as for me, my prayer *is* to You,
O Lord, *in* the acceptable time;
O God, in the multitude of Your mercy,
Hear me in the truth of Your salvation.
¹⁴ Deliver me out of the mire,
And let me not sink;
Let me be delivered from those who hate me,
And out of the deep waters.
¹⁵ Let not the floodwater overflow me,
Nor let the deep swallow me up;
And let not the pit shut its mouth on me.
- ²² Let their table become a snare before them,
And their well-being a trap.
²³ Let their eyes be darkened, so that they do not see;
And make their loins shake continually.

At the end of the Psalms is sung or said

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Lessons

The First and Second Reading from Isaiah 50:4-9 & Matthew 26:1-16.

After each Reading, the Reader may say

The word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Anthem – “The Glory of the Cross”

John Chisum

arr. by Bruce Greer

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Verse 1

Who could have known the mind of God or discerned His master plan,
That a simple man, a carpenter was to be the sinless Lamb?

He was offered up a sacrifice, slain on Calvary,
Love so pure, so freely given to set the captive free.

Chorus

O the glory of the cross!
O the triumph over the grave!
O the depths of God's great love and the mystery of His ways,

That an instrument of shameful death would become the Door of Life.
Counting all else loss,
We will glory in the glory of the cross.

Solo

Who could have dreamed of power so great that would raise a man from death,
Or of life so strong unconquerable it can raise His children yet?

Now we're offered up in living praise,
laying our lives down,
Taking up Your cross again for the joy that we have found.

Chorus

O the glory of the cross!
O the triumph over the grave!
O the depths of God's great love and the mystery of His ways,

That an instrument of shameful death would become the Door of Life.
Counting all else loss,
We will glory in the glory of the cross.

Bridge

Had the prince of darkness known the power of the precious blood,
He never would have had Him crucified.
But the Lamb was slain before the very forming of this world,
And Jesus Christ forever lives,
Forever reigning Lord on high!

Chorus

O the glory of the cross!
O the triumph over the grave!
O the depths of God's great love and the mystery of His ways,

That an instrument of shameful death would become the Door of Life.
Counting all else loss,
We will glory in the glory of the cross.
We will glory in the glory of the cross.

The glory of the cross.
The glory of the cross.

Sermon by Dcn. Jeremiah Kwok

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together, all standing

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day He rose again from the dead .

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there, He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

The People stand or kneel

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

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,
 for ever and ever. Amen.

Suffrages

V. Show us Your mercy, O Lord;
R. And grant us Your salvation.

V. Clothe Your ministers with righteousness;
R. Let Your people sing with joy.

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. For only in You can we live in safety.

V. Lord, keep this nation under Your care;
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

V. Let Your way be known upon earth;
R. Your saving health among all nations.

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. And sustain us with Your Holy Spirit.

V. Let us now pray for our own needs and those of others.

Moment of Silence

Collects

Collect of the Day

Lord God, Whose blessed Son our Savior gave His body to be whipped and His face to be spit upon: Give us grace to accept joyfully the sufferings of the present time, confident of the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer for Mission

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give Your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for Your love's sake. *Amen.*

General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all blessings, we sincerely thank You for all Your goodness and lovingkindness to us and to all men. We praise You for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but, above all, for the immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of Your mercies, that, with truly thankful hearts, we may show forth Your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to Your service, and by walking in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with You and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. *Amen.*

Offertory

34 - There Is A Fountain Filled With Blood vv.1,3,4,5

Verse 1

There is a fountain filled with blood
drawn from Immanuel's veins,
And sinners plunged beneath that flood
lose all their guilty stains.

Verse 3

Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood
shall never lose its pow'r,
Till all the ransomed Church of God
be saved, to sin no more.

Verse 4

E'er since, by faith, I saw the stream
Thy flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme,
and shall be till I die.

Verse 5

Then in a nobler, sweeter song,
I'll sing Thy pow'r to save,
When this poor lisping, stammering tongue,
lies silent in the grave. *Amen.*

“一道寶泉流血殷紅”

- 1 一道寶泉流血紅紅，
出自以馬內利，
罪惡污穢雖然極重，
由此皆得清潔。
- 3 以馬內利寶血功效，
極大無物可比，
無數罪人洗清以後，
功效留存萬世。
- 4 今我由信看見真明，
會知贖罪道理，
看破世間各項事情，
為着我主致意。
- 5 現今愛報救贖恩情，
嘴舌尚未齊備，
至死升天會吟分明，
讚美以馬內利。阿們。

After the offerings are collected, the people sing

All things come of Thee, O Lord. And of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen.

Blessing

The Officiant may then conclude with one of the following

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. *Amen. 2 Corinthians 13:14*

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. *Amen. Romans 15:13*

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to Him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. *Amen. Ephesians 3:20,21*

Closing Rites

Announcements

1. Please be mindful of our Holy Week and Easter Service Schedule:

April 18 – Maundy Thursday (8:00PM)

April 19 – Good Friday (9:00AM)

April 20 – Easter Sunday (8:30AM)

Closing Hymn

#32 – “Lead Me to Calvary” vv. 1,2,4

Verse 1

King of my life I crown Thee now,
Thine shall the glory be;
Lest I forget Thy thorn-crowned brow,
Lead me to Calvary.

Chorus

Lest I forget Gethsemane;
Lest I forget Thine agony;
Lest I forget Thy love for me,
Lead me to Calvary.

Verse 2

Show me the tomb where Thou wast laid,
Tenderly mourned and wept;
Angels in robes of light arrayed
Guarded Thee whilst Thou slept.

“活命的主我讚美祢”

1 活命的主我讚美你，
願榮耀都歸你，
導我到各各他山邊，
思念祢替我死。

和： 主耶穌在客西馬尼，
祈禱慘感心若爆裂；
導我到各各他山邊，
思念祢替我死。

2 當我看祢埋葬所在，
心悲哀流眼淚，
燦爛天使從天下來，
看守於主墓內。

Verse 4

May I be willing, Lord to bear
Daily my cross for Thee;
Even thy cup of grief to share,
Thou hast borne all for me.

4 主啊，我今甘心樂意，
背十架跟隨祢，
祢的苦杯我歡喜接，
凡事靠你扶持。

Dismissal

Deacon When Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.

Christ was obedient unto death. Go in His peace.

People Thanks be to God!

Postlude