

Good Friday

April 7, 2023

Good Friday is to be a time of reflection on the suffering and death of our Savior. It is appropriate to hold our Good Friday service in the afternoon, for this is a reminder of that day when Christ agonized on Calvary. The altar is stripped of all sacred objects the offering is received at the door of the church as we depart. At the end of the service please leave in silence to consider the depth of God's love and the price paid for our sins. Please note that the congregation will read the words that are in bold.

Pre-Service Music

Adult Handbells....."O Sacred Head"
Piano Accompaniment by Cindy Natvig

So that Scripture would be fulfilled

The Old Testament is filled with prophecies about the Savior. An amazing number of these prophecies were fulfilled during the trial, crucifixion and death of Jesus. The fulfillment of each and every one of these prophecies is intended:

- to show that the author of the entire Bible is God: what he prophecies will happen and,
- to identify Jesus of Nazareth as the Savior who was foretold, and
- to show that God determined and set his heart to save us by the death of his own Son.

After rising from the dead, Jesus said to his disciples in Luke 24:44-48

"These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and He said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. "You are witnesses of these things. "

On this Good Friday, let us ponder the Old Testament prophecies which were fulfilled on Good Friday.

Opening Verse CWS #752 vs 1....."In Christ Alone"

In Christ alone my hope is found. He is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my all in all, Here in the love of Christ I stand.

Hated without cause

Prophecy: Psalm 69:4 Those who hate me without reason outnumber the hairs of my head; many are my enemies without cause, those who seek to destroy me. I am forced to restore what I did not steal.

Fulfillment: John 15:23-25 "He who hates Me hates My Father also. "If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would not have sin; but now they have both seen and hated Me and My Father as well. "But they have done this to fulfill the word that is written in their Law, 'THEY HATED ME WITHOUT A CAUSE.'

Betrayed by a friend

Prophecy: Psalm 41:9 Even my close friend, someone I trusted, one who shared my bread, has turned against me.

Fulfillment: Mark 14:10 Then Judas Iscariot, one of the Twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Jesus to them.

Sold for 30 pieces of silver

Prophecy: Zechariah 11:12 I told them, "If you think it best, give me my pay; but if not, keep it." So they paid me thirty pieces of silver.

Fulfillment: Matthew 26:14-15 Then one of the Twelve--the one called Judas Iscariot--went to the chief priests and asked, "What are you willing to give me if I deliver him over to you?" So they counted out for him thirty pieces of silver.

Hymn Verse CWS #752 vs 2....."In Christ Alone"

In Christ alone – who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones he came to save.
Till on that cross, as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied;
For ev'ry sin on him was laid. Here in the death of Christ I live.

Money to be returned for a potter's field

Prophecy: Zechariah 11:13 And the LORD said to me, "Throw it to the potter"--the handsome price at which they valued me! So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them to the potter at the house of the LORD.

Fulfillment: Matthew 27:3-10 Then when Judas, who had betrayed Him, saw that He had been condemned, he felt remorse and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." But they said, "What is that to us? See to that yourself!" And he threw the pieces of silver into the temple sanctuary and departed; and he went away and hanged himself. The chief priests took the pieces of silver and said, "It is not lawful to put them into the temple treasury, since it is the price of blood." And they conferred together and with the money bought the Potter's Field as a burial place for strangers. For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then that which was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled: "AND THEY TOOK THE THIRTY PIECES OF SILVER, THE PRICE OF THE ONE WHOSE PRICE HAD BEEN SET by the sons of Israel; AND THEY GAVE THEM FOR THE POTTER'S FIELD, AS THE LORD DIRECTED ME."

False witnesses accuse him

Prophecy: Psalm 27:12 Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes, for false witnesses rise up against me, spouting malicious accusations.

Fulfillment: Matthew 26:59-61 The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death. They did not find any, even though many false witnesses came forward. But later on two came forward, and said, "This man stated, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to rebuild it in three days.'"

Hymn #387 vs 1 & 3....."Drawn to the Cross"

1 Drawn to the cross, which you have blessed
With healing gifts for souls distressed,
To find in you my life, my rest,
Christ crucified, I come.

3 Wash me and take away each stain;
Let nothing of my sin remain.
For cleansing through your cross and pain,
Christ crucified, I come.

Silent when accused

Prophecy: Isaiah 53:7 He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

Fulfillment: Matthew 26:62-63 The high priest stood up and said to Him, "Do You not answer? What is it that these men are testifying against You?" But Jesus kept silent.

Struck and spit on

Prophecy: Isaiah 50:6 I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard; I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting.

Fulfillment: Mark 14:65 Then some began to spit at him; they blindfolded him, struck him with their fists, and said, "Prophecy!" And the guards took him and beat him.

Hymn #124 vs3....."Savior, When in Dust to You"

3 By your hour of dire despair,
By your agony of prayer,
By the cross, the nail, the thorn,
Piercing spear, and torturing scorn,
By the gloom that veiled the skies
O'er the dreadful sacrifice,
Listen to our humble sigh,
Hear our penitential cry!

Crucified with sinners

Prophecy: Isaiah 53:12 Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors.

Fulfillment: Matthew 27:38 Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left.

Hands and feet pierced

Prophecy: Psalm 22:16 Dogs surround me, a pack of villains encircles me; they pierce my hands and my feet.

Fulfillment: John 20:25-27 So the other disciples were saying to him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." After eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors having been shut, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then He said to Thomas, "Reach here with your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand and put it into My side; and do not be unbelieving, but believing."

Hymn #103 vs 1, 2 & 3....."Glory Be to Jesus"

1 Glory be to Jesus,
Who in bitter pains
Poured for me the lifeblood
From his sacred veins.

2 Grace and life eternal
In that blood I find;
Blest be his compassion,
Infinitely kind.

3 Blest through endless ages
Be the precious stream
Which from endless torments
Did the world redeem.

Prays for his enemies

Prophecy: Isaiah 53:12 For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Prophecy: Psalm 109:4 In return for my friendship they accuse me, but I am a man of prayer.

Fulfillment: Luke 23:34 Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

Soldiers cast lots for his clothes

Prophecy: Psalm 22:18 They divide my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment.

Fulfillment: John 19:23-24 When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom. "Let's not tear it," they said to one another. "Let's decide by lot who will get it." This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled that said, "They divided my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment." So this is what the soldiers did.

Hymn #320....."On My Heart Imprint Your Image"

On my heart imprint your image,
Blessed Jesus, King of grace,
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures
Have no pow'r to hide your face.
This the superscription be:
Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope's foundation,
And my glory and salvation.

Mocked and insulted

Prophecy: Psalm 22:6-8 But I am a worm and not a man, A reproach of men and despised by the people. All who see me sneer at me; They separate with the lip, they wag the head, saying, "Commit yourself to the LORD; let Him deliver him; Let Him rescue him, because He delights in him."

Fulfillment: Matthew 27:39-44 And those passing by were hurling abuse at Him, wagging their heads and saying, "You who are going to destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross." In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking Him and saying, "He saved others; He cannot save Himself. He is the King of Israel; let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe in Him. "HE TRUSTS IN GOD; LET GOD RESCUE Him now, IF HE DELIGHTS IN HIM; for He said, 'I am the Son of God.'" The robbers who had been crucified with Him were also insulting Him with the same words.

Hymn #138 vs 5 & 6..... "Oh, Perfect Life of Love"

5 In perfect love he dies;
For me he dies, for me!
O all-atoning Sacrifice,
You died to make me free!

6 In ev'ry time of need,
Before the judgment throne,
Your works, O Lamb of God, I'll plead,
Your merits, not my own.

Suffered vicariously (in our place)

Prophecy: Isaiah 53:4-5 Surely he took up our infirmities, And carried our sorrows; Yet we considered Him stricken, Smitten of God, and afflicted. But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; The punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, And by His wounds we are healed.

Fulfillment: Romans 4:25 He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

Fulfillment: 1 Corinthians 15:3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

Given gall and vinegar

Prophecy: Psalm 69:21 They put gall in my food and gave me vinegar for my thirst.

Fulfillment: John 19:28-29 Later, knowing that everything had now been finished, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips.

Not a bone to be broken

Prophecy: Psalm 34:20 He protects all his bones; not one of them is broken.

Fulfillment: John 19:33 But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs.

Hymn #113 vs 1 & 4..... "Upon the Cross Extended"

1 Upon the cross extended,
See, world, your Lord suspended;
Your Savior yields his breath.
The Prince of life from heaven
Himself has freely given
To shame and blows and bitter death.

4 A crown of thorns you're wearing,
My shame and scorn you're bearing
That I might ransomed be.
My bondsman, ever willing,
My place with patience filling,
From sin and guilt has made me free.

His side to be pierced

Prophecy: Zechariah 12:10 "And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son.

Fulfillment: John 19:32-34 The soldiers therefore came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with Jesus, and then those of the other. But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water.

To be buried with the rich

Prophecy: Isaiah 53:9 He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.

Fulfillment: Matthew 27:57-60 When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who himself had also become a disciple of Jesus. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock; and he rolled a large stone against the entrance of the tomb and went away.

The Collect for Good Friday

P: Let us pray.

C: Merciful and everlasting God, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all to bear our sins on the cross. Grant that our hearts may be so fixed with steadfast faith in Him that we fear not the power of sin, death, and the devil; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Hymn #138 vs 1 & 2..... " Oh, Perfect Life of Love"

1 Oh, perfect life of love!
All, all is finished now,
All that he left his throne above
To do for us below.

2 No work is left undone
Of all the Father willed;
His toil, his sorrows, one by one,
The Scriptures have fulfilled.

Sermon

The Lord's Supper

After you are dismissed from receiving the Lord's Supper, please leave in silence.

Easter Worship – 8:30AM & 10:30AM