



**Good Friday**  
**April 2, 2021**  
**7:00pm**

**Welcome**

**Music for Worship Preparation**

*Adagio for Strings*

Samuel Barber

**Prayer of the Day**

*Clergy* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Clergy* Let us pray.

Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold your family across the world, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, and given into the hands of sinners, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Dramatic Reading of the Gospel**

John 19: 1-37

**Reflection**

The Rev. Dr. Charles Stewart, Deacon

**Music for Reverencing the Cross**

*When Jesus Wept*

William Billings

**Prayers for the World**

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 everlasting life.

As the cross draws us to new life in Christ, let us pray for all who stand in need of grace, hope, and life.

*Brief silence*

*Leader* Let us pray for the Church of Christ throughout the world;

*People* For its unity in witness and service, for all those who worship wherever they may be on these holy days, for those isolated due to illness or age, for all those seeking to serve their neighbors.

*Leader* May all your people be whole and one.

*Leader* I invite your prayers.

*Brief silence*

*Leader* Let us pray for all nations and peoples of the earth, and for those to whom their care is entrusted;  
*People* For all leaders around the world, for President Joseph Biden and his advisors, for all Governors and Mayors, for all County Executives, and all who serve the common good.

*Leader:* By God's help may they may seek justice and truth and the well-being of all people.

*Leader* I invite your prayers. *Brief silence*

*Leader* Let us pray for all who suffer and are afflicted in body, mind, or spirit;  
*People* For the hungry and homeless, the destitute and oppressed; for the mentally and physically ill, the wounded, and crippled; for those in loneliness, fear, and anguish; for those who face temptation, doubt, selfishness or despair; for the sorrowful and bereaved; for prisoners and refugees, and those in mortal danger. Especially we pray for all medical personnel and their families, and all those who labor this night for the sake of others. Stir in us the will to pray on their behalf.

*Leader:* May God in his mercy protect, comfort, and restore all for whom we pray, and grant them the knowledge of his love.

*Leader* I invite your prayers. *Brief silence*

### **Confession of Sin**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence*

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

### **Absolution**

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

*Leader*

Lord Jesus Christ, it was not the nails that held you to the cross. Nor was it our sin. Our sin could not compel God to do anything at all, much less nail God's own self to a cross, if God did not so choose. No, it was your love, Lord Jesus, that held you there--your love for us. Your love is what makes this day Good. Thank you Lord, for loving us so much, that you stretched out your arms on the hard wood of the cross, that ALL the world might come within your loving embrace. It is in your name that we pray. AMEN.

**Postlude**

*O Sacred Head, Sore Wounded*

J.S. Bach

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