

CONCERNING GOOD FRIDAY

The Good Friday liturgy is the second part of the Triduum (the sacred three days). This most somber of all days is appropriately marked by fasting, abstinence, and penitence, leading us to focus on Jesus and the meaning of his Cross. Some churches do not use musical instruments or bells on this day. The church is often darkened. The bare, stark appearance of the church serves as a reminder of the solemnity and the sorrow of the day. The Lord of Life was rejected, mocked, scourged, and then put to death on the Cross. The faithful are reminded of the role which their own sin played in this suffering and agony, as Christ took all sin upon himself, in obedience to his Father's will. By the Cross we are redeemed, set free from bondage to sin and death. The Cross is a sign of God's never-ending love for us. It is a sign of life, in the midst of death.

In addition to the liturgies for the Triduum, there are many other edifying devotions appropriate for this day, including The Way of the Cross, *Tenebrae*, and The Seven Last Words.

GOOD FRIDAY

On this day the ministers enter in silence.

All then kneel for silent prayer.

The Officiant rises and may say

All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned every one to his own way,

People **And the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.**

The Officiant says

Let us pray.

Almighty God, we beseech thee graciously to behold this thy family, for which our Lord Jesus Christ was contented to be betrayed, and given up into the hands of wicked men, and to suffer death upon the cross; who now liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

Amen.

THE LESSONS

GENESIS 22:1-18 *or* ISAIAH 52:13—53:12

PSALM 22:1-11 (12-21)^v *or* 40:1-16^v *or* 69:1-22^v

HEBREWS 10:1-25

The Passion Gospel is announced in the following manner

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

The customary responses before and after the Gospel are omitted.

JOHN 18:1—19:37 or 19:1-37

The Passion Gospel may be read or chanted by clergy and lay persons. Specific roles may be assigned to different persons, the choir or Congregation taking the part of the crowd.

The Congregation may be seated for the first part of the Passion. All stand at the verse that mentions the arrival at Golgotha (John 19:17). All may kneel in silence after the verse that mentions Christ's death (John 19:30).

THE SERMON

A hymn may be sung.

THE SOLEMN COLLECTS

All standing, the Officiant says

Dearly beloved brethren: Our heavenly Father sent not his Son into the world 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.

We pray, therefore, for people everywhere according to their needs.

The biddings may be read by a Deacon or other person appointed. The Officiant says the Collects. The People may be directed to stand or kneel.

Let us pray for the holy Church throughout the world: that the Lord our God may preserve her in unity, peace, and safety, bringing into divine subjection all powers and principalities; and that he may grant unto us to dwell in such quiet and tranquility that we may show forth the glory of God.

Silence

Almighty Father, we humbly beseech thee for thy holy catholic Church; that thou wouldst be pleased to fill it with all truth, in all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, establish it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ thy Son our Savior. **Amen.**

Let us pray likewise for *N.* our Bishop and for *N.* our Archbishop: that like as the Lord our God hath appointed them to their offices, so he may preserve them in health and safety for the governance of God's holy people.

Silence

Almighty and everlasting God, whose judgment upholdeth all things in heaven and earth: We beseech thee mercifully to have respect unto our prayers, that like as thou hast appointed these thy servants to be our Bishops so thou wouldest of thy mercy defend them against all adversities; and that we, acknowledging thee alone as the great Bishop and Shepherd of our souls, may so prosper by their care that we may duly increase in bringing forth the fruits of righteousness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray likewise for all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons; and for all the holy people of God.

Silence

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified; Receive our supplications and prayers, which we offer before thee for all members of thy holy church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and godly serve thee; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Let us pray likewise for *N.* our *President/Sovereign/Prime Minister*, and for all in Civil Authority; that they, knowing whose ministers they are, may above all things seek God's honor and glory: and that we and all the people, duly considering whose authority they bear, may faithfully and obediently honor them in accordance with God's holy Word.

Silence

Almighty God, whose kingdom is everlasting, and power infinite: We commend this nation to thy merciful care, that being guided by thy Providence, we may dwell secure in thy peace. Grant to our *President/Sovereign/Prime Minister*, and to all in authority, wisdom and strength to know and to do thy will. Fill them with the love of truth and righteousness; and make them ever mindful of their calling to serve this people in thy fear; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray likewise for those who are preparing for Holy Baptism [especially _____]: that the Lord our God may open their hearts to his grace and mercy; that by the washing of regeneration they may obtain the remission of all their sins, and be found faithful servants of our Lord Christ Jesus.

Silence

Almighty and everlasting God, who dost ever increase thy Church in each generation: We beseech thee that thou wouldest grant the gifts of faith and understanding to them being taught in thy holy Word; that being washed in the waters of Baptism, they may be born again and numbered among thine adopted children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray likewise to God the Father Almighty, that he would cleanse the world from all evil, deliver it from pestilence and famine, set free them that are in captivity; restore the sick to health, and bring them that travel to a haven of safety.

Silence

Gracious God, the comfort of all that sorrow, the strength of all that suffer: Let the cry of those in misery and need come unto thee, that they may find thy mercy present with them in all their afflictions; and give us, we beseech thee, the strength to serve them for the sake of him who suffered for us, thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray likewise for all them that are in heresy or schism: that the Lord our God may deliver them from all false doctrines, and restore them to the faith and unity of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

Silence

O God of truth and love, who desireth not the death of a sinner but rather that he may turn from his wickedness and live: Look with mercy upon those who are deceived by the lies of the world, the flesh, and the devil; that the hearts of those who have gone astray may be restored to wisdom and return to the way of truth in the unity of thy holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray likewise for the Jewish people: that the Lord our God may look graciously upon them, and that they may come to know Jesus as the Messiah, and as the Lord of all.

Silence

Almighty and everlasting God, who didst of old establish thy covenant with Abraham and his seed: Hear the prayers of thy Church, that the people through whom thou didst bring blessing to the world may also receive the blessing of salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray likewise for all those who do not believe in Christ, that the Holy Ghost may enlighten them through the Gospel and bring them into the way of salvation.

Silence

Merciful God, creator of all men and lover of all souls: Have mercy upon all who know thee not as thou art revealed in thy Son Jesus Christ; let thy Gospel be preached with grace and power to those who have not heard it; turn the hearts of those who resist it; and so fetch them home, blessed Lord, to thy fold, that they may be made one flock under one shepherd, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us commit ourselves to our God, and pray for the grace of a holy life, that, with all who have died in the peace of Christ, and with those whose faith is known to God alone, we may be accounted worthy to enter into the fullness of the joy of our Lord, and receive the crown of life in the day of resurrection.

Silence

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably upon thy whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; and by the tranquil operation of thy providence, carry out the work of man's salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being renewed unto the perfection of him through whom all things were made, thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

Appropriate devotions may follow, which may include any or all of the following. If desired, the liturgy may end here with the singing of a hymn or anthem, the Lord's Prayer, and the Concluding Prayer.

DEVOTION BEFORE THE CROSS

A wooden cross may now be brought into the church and placed in the sight of the people. The following antiphon may be said or sung three times as the cross is being uncovered.

Behold the wood of the Cross,
whereon which was hung the world's Salvation.

People **O come, let us adore him.**

The following or other suitable anthems may be said or sung.

THE REPROACHES

O my people, what have I done unto thee?
Or wherein have I wearied thee? Testify against me..
I brought thee forth from the land of bondage,
and led thee through the waters of salvation,
and thou hast prepared a Cross for your Savior.

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

I led thee through the desert forty years,
and fed thee with manna;
I brought thee into the land of promise,
and thou hast prepared a Cross for thy Savior.

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

What could I have done unto thee that I have not done?
I indeed did plant thee, O my vineyard, with exceeding fair fruit:
and thou art become very bitter unto me:
for vinegar, mingled with gall, thou gavest me when thirsty.

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

I passed over thy first-born and delivered them from death,
and thou hast delivered me into the hands of mine enemies;
I led thee in the pillar of cloud,
and thou didst lead me unto the judgment hall of Pilate.
O my people, what have I done unto thee?
Or wherein have I wearied thee? Testify against me.

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

I did strike down the kings of the Canaanites for thy sake,
and thou didst strike my head with a reed;
I gave unto thee a royal inheritance,
and thou hast crowned my head with thorns.
O my people, what have I done unto thee?
Or wherein have I wearied thee? Testify against me.

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

I did open the rock and give thee to drink from the water of life,
and thou didst open my side with a spear.
I did raise thee on high with great power,
and thou didst hang me high upon the Cross.
O my church, what have I done unto thee?
Or wherein have I wearied thee? Testify against me.

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

ANTHEM 1

We glory in thy Cross, O Lord,
and praise and glorify thy holy resurrection;
for by virtue of the Cross
joy hath come to the whole world.

God be merciful unto us and bless us,
show us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us;

That thy way may be known upon earth,
thy saving health among all nations.

Let the peoples praise thee, O God;
yea, let all the peoples praise thee.

We glory in thy Cross, O Lord,
and praise and glorify thy holy resurrection;
for by virtue of the Cross
joy hath come to the whole world.

ANTHEM 2

We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee,
because by thy holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

If we be dead with him, we shall also live with him:

If we suffer, we shall also reign with him.

We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless thee,
because by thy holy Cross thou hast redeemed the world.

The hymn "Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle," or some other hymn extolling the glory of the Cross, may then be sung.

In the absence of a Bishop or Priest, all that precedes may be led by a Deacon or lay reader.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

The rite of Holy Eucharist is not celebrated on this day.

If there is no Communion, the liturgy continues with the Concluding Prayer.

If Communion is to be administered from previously consecrated elements, the following order is observed.

The Deacon or other person appointed says the following

Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins and are in love and charity with your neighbors and intend to lead the new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to Almighty God.

Silence

The Deacon and People kneel as able and pray

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
maker of all things, judge of all men:

We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness,
which we from time to time most grievously have committed,
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine majesty,
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.

We do earnestly repent,
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,
the burden of them is intolerable.

Have mercy upon us,

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;

and grant that we may evermore serve and please thee
in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Bishop or Priest stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Officiant then says

And now as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say:

The Officiant and People together pray the Lord's Prayer. The concluding doxology is customarily omitted.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is 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. Amen.**

Facing the People, the Officiant may say the following invitation

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him that taketh away the sins of the world.

JOHN 1:29^T

The Ministers receive the Sacrament, and then immediately deliver it to the People.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

If the Lord's Prayer has not already been said, it is said here. The concluding doxology is customarily omitted.

The service always concludes with the following prayer. No blessing or dismissal is added.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, we pray thee to set thy passion, cross, and death between thy judgment and our souls, now and in the hour of our death. Give mercy and grace to the living; pardon and rest to the dead; to thy holy Church peace and concord; and to us sinners everlasting life and glory; for with the Father and the Holy Ghost thou livest and reignest, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

The Ministers and People depart in silence.