

# EPIPHANY†

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*Seattle*

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GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 7, 2023 AT 7:30 PM

*Donations support the ministries of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East.*

Dear Epiphany,

During this Holy Week we've spent a good bit of time asking "Who is Jesus?" but today I'm reflecting on the other side of the question: Who are we? As we meditate on the events of Jesus' Passion, there are so many characters with whom we might identify. The little band at the foot of the cross—Jesus' mother, Mary Magdalene, the Beloved Disciple and a few others—are no doubt in agony, broken hearted, sharing his humiliation, horrified by the sheer physical brutality of it. Maybe we've felt that way too: dreading going through this week and the raw emotions it would drag us through. I confess that I often want to skip straight from Palm Sunday to Easter, passing over all that happens in between. But the Church, in her wisdom, does not let us do that. However much we might prefer to live in a comfortable denial, the Church relentlessly calls us to truth.

I've sometimes imagined myself, not as one of the heroic Marys or the Beloved Disciple standing by the cross, but as Veronica. According to legend, Veronica stepped out of the crowd as Jesus passed carrying his cross, to wipe Jesus' sweaty, bloody face. She may not have been among his inner circle, but she cared, she had compassion, she tried to give him what little comfort she could. Maybe you see yourself as Simon of Cyrene, just minding your own business when suddenly you find yourself in the midst of this drama, and you relieve Jesus of his burden for a time. You may not have chosen this role, but now that you're in it, it seems like the decent thing to do.

I imagine that no one who comes to church on Good Friday wants to identify with those in the crowd who had called for Jesus' blood, or who delight in taunting him now that he hangs on the cross. And we cringe to think of the times we've been Pilate, who does what's expedient rather than what's right, or Herod, who just wants to see a good show. But we may well see ourselves in the crowd of stunned onlookers, those who aren't feeling much of anything. They know a tragedy is unfolding before their eyes, a terrible injustice, but they're overwhelmed and numb. It doesn't seem real; it's like an out-of-body experience, and they're just watching helplessly as the whole thing plays out. Maybe we feel that way too.

We may identify with any and all of these people as we contemplate the events of the Passion. We've probably been all of them at one time or another. But Jesus' call is fresh every day: "Follow me." Whoever and whatever we've been, that's who we are now: his followers. And whether we're experiencing extremes of devotion, the "wrong" emotions, or no emotion at all, I think it's important to remember that feelings come and go. We have little control over them, and they're often not a very accurate gauge of our spiritual state.

So whether you're sailing or grinding your way through Holy Week, just stay close to him. Tears of sorrow or tears of joy, we will shed them together.

Susan Pitchford

## THE GATHERING

*We invite you to help create the experience of silence before our service.  
Our hope is to calm our hearts as we prepare to enter into an intensity of shared presence.  
Thank you for turning off all electronic devices.*

*The people stand as the altar party enters the church.  
Then all kneel for silent prayer.*

*After a time, all stand with the ministers.*

**The Collect of the Day** *said by all*

*Priest* Let us pray.

**Almighty God, we pray you graciously to behold this your family, 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.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*The people sit for*

**The Lesson**

Hebrews 10:16-25

The Holy Spirit testifies saying, "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds," he also adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."

Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

The people stand to sing

Sequence Hymn 158 (stanzas 1-3)

Ah, holy Jesus

Herzliebster Jesu

1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed, that man to  
2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my  
3 Lo, the Good Shep - herd for the sheep is of - fered; the slave hath  
4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thy in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal  
5 There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -

1 judge thee hath in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,  
2 trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,  
3 sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for our a - tone - ment,  
4 sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish  
5 dore thee, and will ev - er pray thee, think on thy pi - ty

1 by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.  
2 I it was de - nied thee: I cru - ci - fied thee.  
3 while we noth - ing heed - ed, God in - ter - ced - ed.  
4 and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.  
5 and thy love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.

The people are seated for the first part of the Passion, which is sung by the choir.  
We invite you to consider closing your bulletin and simply listening to the sung story of the Passion.

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

John 19:1-37  
musical setting: Craig Phillips (b. 1961)

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and striking him on the face. Pilate went out again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him." So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!" When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him." The crowd answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God."

Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. Therefore Pilate said to him, "Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?" Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin." From then on Pilate tried to release him, but they all cried out, "If you release this man, you are no friend of Caesar. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor."

When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. Now it was the Day of Preparation of the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to them, "Here is your King!" They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

*All stand.*

So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of a Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. Then the chief priests said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written." When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfil what the scripture says, "They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots." And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfil the scripture), "I thirst." A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

*All kneel. Silence is kept.*

Since it was the Day of Preparation, in order to prevent the bodies from remaining on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity, they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. (He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken." And again another scripture says, "They shall look on him whom they have pierced."

*Reflective silence and stillness are kept after the sermon.*

*The people stand for the prayers.*

**The Solemn Collects**

*Priest* 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.

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

Let us pray for the holy catholic Church of Christ throughout the world:

For its unity in witness and service;

For our Presiding Bishop Michael, and all bishops and other ministers  
and the people whom they serve;

For Melissa our Bishop Provisional, and all the people of this diocese;

For all Christians in this community;

That God will confirm his Church in faith, increase it in love, and preserve it in peace.

*Silent Prayer*

**ALL Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*Priest* Let us pray for all nations and peoples of the earth, and for those in authority among them:

For Joseph Biden, the President of the United States;

For the Congress and the Supreme Court;

For the Members and Representatives of the United Nations;

For all who serve the common good;

That by God's help they may seek justice and truth, and live in peace and concord.

*Silent Prayer*

**ALL Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth; that in tranquility your dominion may increase, until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Priest* Let us pray for all who suffer and are afflicted in body or in mind:

For the hungry and the homeless, the destitute and the oppressed;  
For the sick, the wounded, and the crippled;  
For those in loneliness, fear, and anguish;  
For those who face temptation, doubt, and despair;  
For the sorrowful and bereaved;  
For prisoners and captives, and those in mortal danger;

That God in his mercy will comfort and relieve them, and grant them the knowledge of his love, and stir up in us the will and patience to minister to their needs.

*Silent Prayer*

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

*Priest* Let us pray for all who have not received the Gospel of Christ:

For those who have never heard the word of salvation;  
For those who have lost their faith;  
For those hardened by sin or indifference;  
For the contemptuous and the scornful;  
For those who are enemies of the cross of Christ and persecutors of his disciples;  
For those who in the name of Christ have persecuted others;

That God will open their hearts to the truth, and lead them to faith and obedience.

*Silent Prayer*

**ALL Merciful God, creator of all the peoples of the earth and lover of souls: Have compassion on all who do not know you as you are revealed in your Son Jesus Christ; let your Gospel be preached with grace and power to those who have not heard it; turn the hearts of those who resist it; and bring home to your fold those who have gone astray; that there may be one flock under one shepherd, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Priest* Let us commit ourselves to our God, and pray for the grace of a holy life, that, with all who have departed this world and have died in the peace of Christ, and 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.

*Silent Prayer*

**ALL** **O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of 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 brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **THE VENERATION OF THE CROSS**

*The people kneel as a wooden cross is now brought into the church.*

*When the cross is in place, the Presider proclaims*

*Priest* Behold the wood of the cross

**People** **on which was hung our salvation.**

*The Priest offers the following obsecration before the cross:*

*Priest* Lord, by this sweet and saving sign, defend us from our foes and thine.

Jesu, by thy wounded feet, direct our path aright;

Jesu, by thy nailed hands, move ours to deeds of love;

Jesu, by thy pierced side, cleanse our desires;

Jesu, by thy crown of thorns, annihilate our pride;

Jesu, by thy silence, shame our complaints;

Jesu, by thy parched lips, curb our cruel speech;

Jesu, by thy closing eyes, look on our sin no more;

Jesu, by thy broken heart, knit ours to thine.

And by this sweet and saving sign, Lord, draw us to our peace and thine.

*The people remain kneeling as able or  
they may proceed to the cross for silent prayer as desired.*

***More than one person may venerate the cross at a time.***



## At the Veneration of the cross

### Anthem

We glory in your cross, O Lord,  
and praise and glorify your holy resurrection;  
for by virtue of your cross  
joy has come to the whole world.

May God be merciful to us and bless us,  
show us the light of his countenance, and come to us.

Let your ways be known upon earth,  
your saving health among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

We glory in your cross, O Lord,  
and praise and glorify your holy resurrection;  
for by virtue of your cross  
joy has come to the whole world.

*Adoramus te, Christe*

*Giovanni Maria Nanino (1543-1607)*

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

*(Sung in Latin)*

The people remain kneeling as able to sing

### Hymn 166

Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle

Pange Lingua



1 Sing, my tongue, the glo - rious bat - tle; of the might - y con - flict  
 2 Thir - ty years a - mong us dwell - ing, his ap - point - ed time ful -  
 3 He en - dures the nails, the spit - ting, vin - e - gar, and spear, and  
 4 Faith - ful cross! a - bove all o - ther, one and on - ly no - ble  
 5 Bend thy boughs, O tree of glo - ry! Thy re - lax - ing sin - ews  
 \*6 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, praise and hon - or to the



1 sing; tell the tri - umph of the vic - tim, to his  
 2 filled, born for this, he meets his pas - sion, this the  
 3 reed; from that ho - ly bo - dy bro - ken blood and  
 4 tree! None in fo - liage, none in blos - som, none in  
 5 bend; for a - while the an - cient ri - gor that thy  
 6 Son, praise and hon - or to the Spi - rit, ev - er



1 cross thy tri - bute bring. Je - sus Christ, the world's Re -  
 2 Sa - vior free - ly willed: on the cross the Lamb is  
 3 wa - ter forth pro - ceed: earth, and stars, and sky, and  
 4 fruit thy peer may be: sweet - est wood and sweet - est  
 5 birth be - stowed, sus - pend; and the King of heaven - ly  
 6 Three and ev - er One: one in might and one in



1 deem - er from that cross now reigns as King.  
 2 lift - ed, where his pre - cious blood is spilled.  
 3 o - cean, by that flood from stain are freed.  
 4 i - ron! sweet - est weight is hung on thee.  
 5 beau - ty gent - ly on thine arms ex - tend.  
 6 glo - ry while e - ter - nal a - ges run.

## THE COMMUNION

The people remain kneeling as able.

### The Confession of Sin

*Priest* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**People** 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

*Priest* 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.

*The people stand.*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Priest* As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

**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.**

### **The Invitation to Communion**

*Priest* We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

*From the earliest days of the Church, it has been the custom not to celebrate the Eucharist on Good Friday. However, Communion is administered from the reserved bread that was blessed at the Maundy Thursday service. No wine is administered, in keeping with the penitential nature of this fast day.*

*All are invited to receive the Holy Communion. The bread will be placed in your palm. The people's response to receiving the bread is "Amen." To indicate to the priest that you would like a gluten-free wafer, please present your hands palms down. Those who do not wish to receive Communion are invited to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest.*

### **At the Communion, Motet**

Give me that Stranger

Michael McCarthy

When he saw that the sun had hidden its rays,  
and that the veil of the temple was rent as the Savior died,  
Joseph of Arimathea went to Pilate, pleaded with him, and cried out:

"Give me that stranger, who since his youth had wandered as a stranger,  
killed in hatred by his own people as a stranger;  
upon whom I look with wonder, seeing him as a guest of death;  
whom envious men estranged from the world;  
that I may bury him in a tomb, who, being a stranger,  
had no place whereon to lay his head;  
to whom his mother cried out when she saw him dead: '  
My Son! My senses are wounded, and my heart is burned as I see you dead!  
Yet, trusting in your resurrection, I will magnify you!'"

In such words did the honorable Joseph plead with Pilate.  
And took the Savior's body and, with fear, wrapped it in linen with spices.  
And he placed you in a tomb.  
O you who grant everlasting life and great mercy to us all.

The people kneel as able.

## Hymn 172

### Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were You There

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you  
2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you  
\*3 Were you there when they pierced him in the side? Were you  
4 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you

there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Oh!  
there when they nailed him to the tree? Oh!  
there when they pierced him in the side? Oh!  
there when they laid him in the tomb? Oh!

Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,  
Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,  
Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,  
Some-times it caus - es me to trem-ble, trem-ble,

trem-ble. Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
trem-ble. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
trem-ble. Were you there when they pierced him in the side?  
trem-ble. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

*Priest* Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, we pray you to set your passion, cross, and death between your 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 your holy Church peace and concord; and to us sinners everlasting life and glory; for with the Father and Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The ministers depart in silence.*

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*Confession follows in the church and chapel.  
If you would like to participate, please  
take a seat in the back of the church.*