

# GOOD FRIDAY



**CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

Welcome to Church of the Good Shepherd. It fills us with joy that you have joined us for worship on this solemn evening. All are welcome to participate in worship, and everything you need to follow along with the service can be found in this bulletin. The people's responses are printed in **bold**.

### **On Antisemitism**

While Christianity cannot conceive of itself without acknowledging its deep roots in Judaism, the truth is that over the course of history our religion has been used as a weapon against the Jewish people. The liturgy of Good Friday is of particular concern, given the language in Saint John's Gospel regarding "the Jews" as those solely responsible for the murder of Jesus.

In light of this reality, it is important to understand that almost all of the characters in John's Gospel were Jews. When the author refers to "the Jews" in today's text, he is referring to a small group of leaders in Jerusalem, and not the entirety of the Jewish people. John's Gospel, more than the others, is concerned with carving out an identity amidst persecution, and so it more easily blames the Jewish people for the crimes of Jesus's death. But this does not suggest that the entirety of the Jewish people then, or today, are responsible for the crucifixion and therefore accursed. To do so would be a gross misinterpretation of the text and historical context.

### **On Tonight's Service**

This evening we enter into the greatest mystery of our faith, that Christ died on the cross for our sins and the salvation of the world. Tonight's liturgy is solemn in its reverence. *Please help us maintain this atmosphere of reverence by maintaining silence as you enter the church.* Silence will also mark the beginning of our service, as well as moments in the midst of the reading of Christ's Passion. You are invited to use these moments to enter more deeply into prayer and contemplation on the mighty act of Good Friday by which God has saved us, and to listen for God's loving voice among the clamor of the world's shouts: "crucify him!"

Good Friday March 29, 2024  
Proper Liturgy of the Day 7:00 PM  
214 Main Street; Post Office Box 412  
Nashua, New Hampshire 03061  
603-882-5352 [www.cgsnashua.org](http://www.cgsnashua.org)

*You are invited into silence to prepare for worship*

*The service begins in silence. Please kneel together in silent prayer with the ministers when they arrive at the altar.*

Opening Response

BCP 276

*The celebrant stands and says,*

*Celebrant:* Blessed be our God.

*People:* **For ever and ever. Amen.**

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* 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.**



***Please be seated.***

The First Lesson Isaiah 52:13-53:12

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah:

See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high. Just as there were many who were astonished at him --so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of mortals- so he shall startle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which had not been told them they shall see, and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate. Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account. Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By a

perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the Lord shall prosper. Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 22

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?  
**and are so far from my cry and from the words of my distress?**  
**O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer;**  
**by night as well, but I find no rest.**  
**Yet you are the Holy One, enthroned upon the praises of Israel.**  
**Our forefathers put their trust in you;**  
**they trusted, and you delivered them.**  
**They cried out to you and were delivered;**  
**they trusted in you and were not put to shame.**  
**But as for me, I am a worm and no man,**  
**scorned by all and despised by the people.**  
**All who see me laugh me to scorn;**  
**they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,**  
**"He trusted in the Lord; let him deliver him;**  
**let him rescue him, if he delights in him."**  
**Yet you are he who took me out of the womb,**  
**and kept me safe upon my mother's breast.**  
**I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born;**  
**you were my God when I was still in my mother's womb.**  
**Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help.**

Many young bulls encircle me; strong bulls of Bashan surround me.  
They open wide their jaws at me, like a ravening and a roaring lion.  
I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint;  
my heart within my breast is melting wax.  
My mouth is dried out like a pot-sherd;  
my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;  
and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.  
Packs of dogs close me in, and gangs of evildoers circle around me;  
they pierce my hands and my feet; I can count all my bones.  
They stare and gloat over me; they divide my garments among them;  
they cast lots for my clothing.  
Be not far away, O Lord; you are my strength; hasten to help me.  
Save me from the sword, my life from the power of the dog.  
Save me from the lion's mouth,  
my wretched body from the horns of wild bulls.  
I will declare your Name to my brethren;  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.  
Praise the Lord, you that fear him;  
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;  
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.  
For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;  
neither does he hide his face from them;  
but when they cry to him he hears them.  
My praise is of him in the great assembly;  
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.  
The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him:  
"May your heart live for ever!"  
All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord,  
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.  
For kingship belongs to the Lord; he rules over the nations.  
To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; \*  
all who go down to the dust fall before him.

**My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him;  
they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.  
They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn  
the saving deeds that he has done.**

The Second Lesson Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Hebrews:

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Anthem

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

Isaac Watts

*When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.  
Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the death of Christ, my God!  
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them through his blood.  
See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down.  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?  
Were the whole realm of nature mine,,that were a present far too small.  
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.*

*The people sit for the first portion of the Passion*

The Gospel John 18:1-19:42

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*All remain standing for a time as silence is kept*

The Sermon

The Rev Kathy Boss

Hymn

*Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle*

Hymnal 166

*Please stand as you are able.*

The Solemn Collects

BCP 277

*All standing, the Deacon, or other person appointed, says to the people,*

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.

*The biddings may be read by a Deacon or other person appointed. The Celebrant says the Collects.*

Let us pray for the holy Catholic Church of Christ throughout the world;

For its unity in witness and service

For all bishops and other ministers  
and the people whom they serve

For Rob, our Bishop, and all the people of this diocese

For all Christians in this community

For those about to be baptized

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

*Silence*

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.**

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

For Joseph, 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.

*Silence*

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.**

Let us pray for the Jewish people who possess an eternal covenant with the Lord, who delivered them from bondage to freedom;

For continued faithfulness to God's covenant with them;

For their flourishing in peace as witnesses to God's sustaining love;

For safety from all malice and harm;

For the fullness of redemption for the sake of God's Name.

That unity and concord may exist between Jews and Christians in obedience to God's will.

*Silence*

God of Abraham, you planted your people Israel as the root and grafted Gentiles as wild branches into a single olive tree of praise to you: As we come near to the cross, we lament Christian acts of prejudice and violence against your faithful people, of whom Jesus Christ was born. So bless the children of your covenant that we together may attain the fullness of your blessing for the world. **Amen.**

Let us pray for all who suffer and are afflicted in body or in mind;

For those who are hungry and homeless, destitute and oppressed

For those who are ill or disabled, in body, mind, or spirit

For those in loneliness, fear, and anguish

For those who face temptation, doubt, and despair

For those who are sorrowful and bereaved

For those who are persecuted for the sake of Christ

For prisoners, refugees, and captives

For victims of war, genocide, and trafficking, and all 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.

*Silence*



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.**

Let us pray for all who have not embraced God's redemptive love;  
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.

*Silence*

Merciful God, the source of life and fountain of mercy, let the Gospel of your Son Jesus Christ be preached with grace and love; turn the hearts of the followers of Jesus who have harmed others in his name; lead all to repentance and amendment of life; and sustain by your loving grace all who lift their eyes to you.

**Amen.**

Let us commit ourselves to 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.

*Silence*

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.**

Veneration of the Cross

*Please stand as you are able*

*A veiled cross is carried presented and unveiled.*

*Celebrant:* Behold the wood of the cross where on was hung the world's salvation.

*People:* **O come, let us worship. Amen.**

*Following the altar party, the people are invited to come forward to venerate the cross with a bow or genuflection.*

Transfer of Reserve Sacrament

*The Reserve Sacrament is now transferred to the altar for communion.*

The Confession

BCP 360

*Please remain standing or kneel*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.**

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 Lord's Prayer

As our savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say, **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.**



**Church of the Good Shepherd (Episcopal)**

**Ministers**

All Baptized Parishioners

**Bishop of New Hampshire**

The Rt. Rev. A. Robert Hirschfeld

**Rector**

The Rev. Kathy Boss—rector@cgsnashua.org

**Deacon**

The Rev. Nancy Meyer—deacon@cgsnashua.org

**Senior Warden**

Sue Corman—cgsvestry@cgsnashua.org

**Junior Warden**

Don Yelton

**Vergers**

John Townsend, Howard Titus, John Rowntree

**Music Director**

Nick Pothier - music@cgsnashua.org

**Parish Administrator**

John Budzyna 603-882-5352

**Youth Ministry**

Nancy Madeira—youth@cgsnashua.org

**Sunday School**

Kate Engle—sundayschool@cgsnashua.org

**Special Projects**

Johanna Graves—news@cgsnashua.org

**Easter Vigil**

**3/30/2024 - 7:00 PM**

**Easter Sunday**

**3/31/2024 - 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM**

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