



**April 14, 2017**

## THE SILENT PROCESSIONAL

*In solemn silence, we gather at the foot of the cross.*

### GATHERING WORDS

P: All you who pass this way

**C: look and see the shadow of sin.**

P: All you who pass this way

**C: look and see the weight of the world.**

P: All you who pass this way

**C: look and see the suffering of our Savior.**

P: All you who pass this way

**C: look and see the sorrow of Jesus Christ.**

P: Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world.

### HYMN of RESPONSE “Go to Dark Gethsemane” [LW 110, v. 1]

#### SENTENCING: Matthew 27:1-2, 15-26

<sup>1</sup>Early in the morning, all the chief priests and the elders of the people made their plans how to have Jesus executed. <sup>2</sup>So they bound him, led him away and handed him over to Pilate the governor.

<sup>15</sup>Now it was the governor’s custom at the festival to release a prisoner chosen by the crowd. <sup>16</sup>At that time they had a well-known prisoner whose name was Jesus Barabbas. <sup>17</sup>So when the crowd had gathered, Pilate asked them, “Which one do you want me to release to you: Jesus Barabbas, or Jesus who is called the Messiah?” <sup>18</sup>For he knew it was out of self-interest that they had handed Jesus over to him.

<sup>19</sup>While Pilate was sitting on the judge’s seat, his wife sent him this message: “Don’t have anything to do with that innocent man, for I have suffered a great deal today in a dream because of him.” <sup>20</sup>But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowd to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus executed. <sup>21</sup>“Which of the two do you want me to release to you?” asked the governor. “Barabbas,” they answered.

<sup>22</sup>“What shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called the Messiah?” Pilate asked. They all answered, “Crucify him!” <sup>23</sup>“Why? What crime has he committed?” asked Pilate.

But they shouted all the louder, “Crucify him!”

<sup>24</sup>When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. “I am innocent of this man’s blood,” he said. “It is your responsibility!” <sup>25</sup>All the people answered, “His blood is on us and on our children!” <sup>26</sup>Then he released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

## THE RESPONSE

**(6:00) “Go to Dark Gethsemane” [LW 110, v. 2]**

**(8:00) “Ah, Holy Jesus”**

arr. Hart Morris

*DNP Handbells*

## CRUCIFIXION: Matthew 27:32-44

<sup>32</sup>As they were going out, they met a man from Cyrene, named Simon, and they forced him to carry the cross. <sup>33</sup>They came to a place called Golgotha (which means “the place of the skull”). <sup>34</sup>There they offered Jesus wine to drink, mixed with gall; but after tasting it, he refused to drink it. <sup>35</sup>When they had crucified him, they divided up his clothes by casting lots. <sup>36</sup>And sitting down, they kept watch over him there. <sup>37</sup>Above his head they placed the written charge against him: THIS IS JESUS, THE KING OF THE JEWS.

<sup>38</sup>Two rebels were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>39</sup>Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads <sup>40</sup>and saying, “You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! Come down from the cross, if you are the Son of God!” <sup>41</sup>In the same way the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders mocked him. <sup>42</sup>“He saved others,” they said, “but he can’t save himself! He’s the king of Israel! Let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. <sup>43</sup>He trusts in God. Let God rescue him now if he wants him, for he said, ‘I am the Son of God.’” <sup>44</sup>In the same way the rebels who were crucified with him also heaped insults on him.

## HYMN of RESPONSE “What Wondrous Love”

## CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

P: Jesus said, “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” (*Matthew 11:28*)

C: **He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.**

P: Let us lay our sins at the cross of Christ.

C: **I come to you, Jesus, burdened with my own sin. You know the sins I carry and how they weigh me down. I bring these to your cross, asking your forgiveness and mercy. You suffered because of me. You bled because of me. You chose to die instead of me. Change me from the inside out and cleanse me from my sin.**

P: Receive the forgiveness Jesus gives to you. By His wounds you are healed. His blood has set you free. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

## **DEATH: Matthew 27:45-54**

<sup>45</sup>From noon until three in the afternoon darkness came over all the land. <sup>46</sup>About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “*Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?*”(which means “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”).

<sup>47</sup>When some of those standing there heard this, they said, “He’s calling Elijah.”

<sup>48</sup>Immediately one of them ran and got a sponge. He filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a staff, and offered it to Jesus to drink. <sup>49</sup>The rest said, “Now leave him alone. Let’s see if Elijah comes to save him.”

<sup>50</sup>And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit.

<sup>51</sup>At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split <sup>52</sup>and the tombs broke open. The bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. <sup>53</sup>They came out of the tombs after Jesus’ resurrection and went into the holy city and appeared to many people.

<sup>54</sup>When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, “Surely he was the Son of God!”

## **HYMN of RESPONSE “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” [LW 115]**

### **SERMON “VITAL SIGNS”**

### **OFFERING**

**(6:00)** “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

arr. Dan Forrest

*Piano*

**(8:00)** “Man of Sorrows, What a Name”

Diane Hannibal/arr. Brad Nix

*Voices of Peace; Lisa Martin, cello*

## **BURIAL: Matthew 27:57-66**

<sup>57</sup>As evening approached, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who had himself become a disciple of Jesus. <sup>58</sup>Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus’ body, and Pilate ordered that it be given to him. <sup>59</sup>Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, <sup>60</sup>and placed it in his own new tomb that he had cut out of the rock. He rolled a big stone in front of the entrance to the tomb and went away. <sup>61</sup>Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were sitting there opposite the tomb.

<sup>62</sup>The next day, the one after Preparation Day, the chief priests and the Pharisees went to Pilate. <sup>63</sup>“Sir,” they said, “we remember that while he was still alive that deceiver said, ‘After three days I will rise again.’”

<sup>64</sup>So give the order for the tomb to be made secure until the third day. Otherwise, his disciples may come and steal the body and tell the people that he has been raised from the dead. This last deception will be worse than the first.”

<sup>65</sup>“Take a guard,” Pilate answered. “Go, make the tomb as secure as you know how.” <sup>66</sup>So they went and made the tomb secure by putting a seal on the stone and posting the guard.

**HYMN “Were You There”** [LW 505, v. 1-3]

## **REMOVING THE CHRIST CANDLE**

*Light has always been a symbol of God’s presence with His people. As the Christ Candle is removed from the Sanctuary, we recall how the presence of Jesus was removed from His disciples, but only for a time. Easter morning, the candle will return, just as Jesus rose from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true!*

## **RESPONSE**

“O Sacred Head Now Wounded”

arr. Hayes/Gaspard

*Piano/Organ*

## **THE STREPITUS**

*The loud noise, or “strepitus,” signifies the end of our service of darkness. Jesus is shut in a tomb. The Word of God has been fulfilled. The sacrifice is complete. Yet in the darkness, there is a promise of hope . . .*

**THE LORD’S PRAYER** (*Spoken in a whisper*)

**~ PLEASE LEAVE IN SILENCE ~**

*There is no Benediction at this service, for this is not the end.*

*Our service continues on Easter.*

*Come and experience the Joy of Easter!*

*Sunrise Worship is 7:00 am.*

*Easter Celebration is 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 am.*

*Easter breakfast will be served from 7:30-9:30 am.*



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