



ST. PETER'S
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



**Ecumenical Walk
*of Prayer and Meditation***

April 2, 2021

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Good Friday – Jesus’ Words, Passion and Prayer

O sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down
Now scornfully surrounded with thorns, your only crown
How pale you are with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn!
Now does your visage languish which once was bright as morn!
(Bernard of Clairvaux, Trans. James W. Alexander)

Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.” (Luke 23:34)

As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him.

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him.

When they came to the place that is called The Place of the Skull, in Hebrew, Golgotha, they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it.

They crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left.

Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, “This is Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” (from Luke 23, Matthew 27, John 19)

Behold the cross on which hung the salvation of the whole world.
(Book of Worship, UCC)

5 Breaths of Quiet Meditation

Help us, your people, to grow in love for one another, to grasp more fully the mystery of your Godhead, and so to become more perfect witnesses of your love in the sight of all people. We ask through Christ our Savior. (Book of Worship, UCC)

Jesus said: "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."
(Luke 23:43)

And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!"

Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross."

In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel, let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God, let God deliver him now if he wants to, for he said, 'I am God's Son'." The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way. The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"

And they cast lots to divide his clothing. (from Luke 23, Matthew 27)

Behold the cross on which hung the salvation of the whole world.
(Book of Worship, UCC)

5 Breaths of Quiet Meditation

What you, dear Savior, suffered, was all for sinners' gain
Mine, mine was the transgression, but hours the deadly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Savior, for I deserve your place.

Look on me with your favor, O grant to me your grace.

(Bernard of Clairvaux, Trans. James W. Alexander)

Jesus said: “I am thirsty.” (John 19:28)

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.

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. (from John 19)

Behold the cross on which hung the salvation of the whole world.

(Book of Worship, UCC)

5 Breaths of Quiet Meditation

Almighty and eternal God, you created humanity so that all might long to know you and have peace in you. Grant that, in spite of the hurtful things that stand in their way, all may recongize in the lives of Christians the tokens of your love and mercy, and gladly acknowledge you as the one true God of us all. We ask this through Christ our Savior.

(Book of Worship, UCC)

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun’s light failed.

And about three o’clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” that is, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

(Matthew:27:46)

After this Jesus said: "It is finished." (John 19:30)

And crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." (Luke 23:46)

Then Jesus bowed his head and gave up his spirit, and breathed his last. (from Luke 23, Matthew 27, John 19)

Behold the cross on which hung the salvation of the whole world.
(Book of Worship, UCC)

5 Breaths of Quiet Meditation

What language shall I borrow to thank you, dearest friend
For this your dyng sorrow, your pity without end?
May I be yours forever; and through my days be few,
O Savior, let me never outlive my love for you.
(Bernard of Clairvaux, Trans. James W. Alexander)

At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. ... Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, "Truly this man was God's Son!" Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had provided for him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.
(from Matthew 27)

Behold the cross on which hung the salvation of the whole world.
(Book of Worship, UCC)

5 Breaths of Quiet Meditation

Almighty and eternal God, you are the champion of the poor and oppressed. In your goodness, watch over those in authority so that people everywhere may enjoy justice, peace, freedom, and a share in the goodness of your creation. (Book of Worship, UCC)

5 Breaths of Quiet Meditation

Heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, and rid the world of falsehood, hunger, and disease. (Book of Worship, UCC)

5 Breaths of Quiet Meditation

Give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart. Hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need.
(Book of Worship, UCC)

5 Breaths of Quiet Meditation

Behold the cross on which hung the salvation of the whole world.
(Book of Worship, UCC)

5 Breaths of Quiet Meditation

Were you there when they crucified my Lord? Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you there when God wept at Mary's cry? O sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

*Were you there? Were you there? **Were you there?***
(African American Spiritual)

5 Breaths of Quiet Meditation

As Jesus prayed, we too say:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

(Book of Worship, UCC)

We adore you, O Christ, we bless you. By your cross you have redeemed the world. (Book of Worship, UCC)

5 Breaths of Quiet Meditation. Amen.



Legend: **Bold** = Unison | *Italics* = Leader

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