

Good Friday

April 18, 2025

*On your way into the service, please take a
black rock to hold*

Owning Our History and the Christian Influence of Anti-Semitism

“Jesus of Nazareth, charged by the Roman authorities with sedition, dies on a Roman cross. But Jews — the collective, *all Jews* — became known as “Christ-killers.” Still haunting, the legacy of that charge becomes acute during Holy Week, when pastors and priests who speak about the death of Jesus have to talk about “*the Jews*”. Every year, the same difficulty surfaces: how can a gospel of love be proclaimed, if that same gospel is heard to promote hatred of Jesus's own people?



The charge against “the Jews” permeates the pages of the New Testament. In the gospel of Matthew, Pilate literally washes his hands while “all the people” — all the Jewish people — clamour for Jesus's death: “Let him be crucified ... His blood be on us and on our children!” (Matthew 27:23, 27). John’s gospel identifies the Jews as “from your father the devil” (John 8:44) and blames them for backing Pilate into a corner and forcing him to kill an innocent man.

In the Acts of the Apostles, Peter charges “the entire house of Israel” (Acts 2:36) with crucifying Jesus and so having “killed the author of life” (Acts 3:14-15). Paul then bluntly refers to “the Jews, who killed the Lord Jesus” (1 Thessalonians 2:14-15).

Perhaps this vilification was inevitable. Jesus's followers could not understand how the vast majority of Jews could not accept their belief in him as the Messiah. The majority of Jews, in turn, saw no sign of the Messianic age having dawned: no general resurrection of the dead; no ingathering of the exiles to Zion; no end to death, war, disease or poverty. What was self-evident to one group was incomprehensible to the other. Incomprehension turned to mistrust, and mistrust, on both sides, turned to vilification.”

—“Holy Week and the hatred of the Jews: How to avoid anti-Judaism this Easter” Amy-Jill Levine

We must learn the historical contexts of our Scriptures; As we know better, we must do better

Tolling of the Bell

Please stand as you are able

In the name of the +Holy Trinity: Source, Word and Breath. **Amen.**

Blessed be our God. **Forever and ever. Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

The Word of God

Please be seated for the Lessons

Children's Message

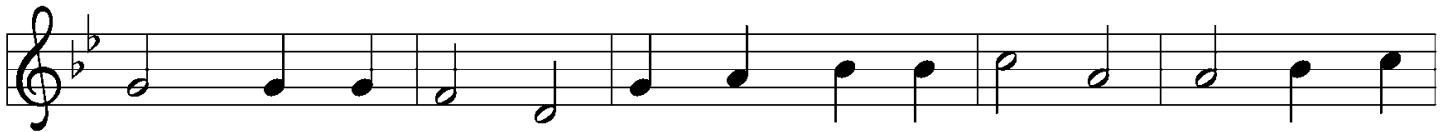
Reading: Hebrews 10: 16-25

The Psalm: *Psalm 22: 1-11*

The act of chanting, and listening to chant, has been found to relax the body, slow down the nervous system, and calm the mind

Procession of the Cross

Song *Ah, Holy Jesus* *Please stand as you are able*



1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed that we 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 thine in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal
5 There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -



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



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

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Please remain seated; you will be asked to stand as you are able during the Passion.

The Reflection

Bidding Prayers —

We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Finally, let us pray for all those things for which our Lord would have us ask. *Silent prayer.* Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

Our loving God in heaven, holy is your name. May your reign come on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sin 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.

The Veneration of the Cross

Veneration is not to worship, but to give thanks.

You are invited to come forward as an act of thanksgiving and love for what has been given

Song *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*



- 1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,
- 2 How pale thou art with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;
- 3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
- 4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; shield me when I must die;



now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!
for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?
re - mind me of thy pas - sion when my last hour draws nigh.



O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
 Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;
 Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,
 These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall nev - er move;



Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
 mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.
 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.
 for all who die be - liev - ing die safe - ly in thy love.

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Song *What Wondrous Love*



What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my
 As you have shown the way, let us love, let us
 Wher - ev - er you are found, may we be, may we
 As in - stru - ments of peace, may we grow, may we
 O let us hear your call to be love, to be



soul? What won - drous love is this, O my soul? What
 love, As you have shown the way, let us love; As
 be, Wher - ev - er you are found, may we be. Wher -
 grow, As in - stru - ments of peace, may we grow; As
 love, O let us hear your call to be love; O



won - drous love is this that caused the Lord of
 you have shown the way, so teach us ev' - ry
 ev - er you are found in souls and bo - dies
 in - stru - ments of peace to bring the bound re -
 let us hear your call, great ser - vant of us

