

The Solemn Reproaches of the Cross *(congregation seated)*

O my people, O my Church,
what have I done to you, or in what have I offended you?
I led you forth from the land of Egypt
and delivered you by the waters of baptism,
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One,
have mercy upon us.**

A brief silence is kept after each of the responses.

I led you through the desert forty years and fed you with
manna; I brought you through times of persecution and of
renewal and gave you my body, the bread of heaven;
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One,
have mercy upon us.**

I made you branches of my vineyard
and gave you the water of salvation,
but when I was thirsty you gave me vinegar and gall
and pierced with a spear the side of your Savior.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One,
have mercy upon us.**

I went before you in a pillar of cloud,
but you have led me to the judgment hall of Pilate.
I brought you to a land of freedom and prosperity,
but you have scourged, mocked, and beaten me.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One,
have mercy upon us.**

I gave you a royal scepter, and bestowed the keys to the
kingdom, but you have given me a crown of thorns.
I raised you on high with great power,
but you have hanged me on the cross.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One,
have mercy upon us.**

My peace I gave, which the world cannot give,
and washed your feet as a servant,
but you draw the sword to strike in my name
and seek high places in my kingdom.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One,
have mercy upon us.**

I accepted the cup of suffering and death for your sakes,
but you scatter and deny and abandon me.
I sent the Spirit of truth to lead you,
but you close your hearts to guidance.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One,
have mercy upon us.**

I called you to go and bring forth fruit,
but you cast lots for my clothing.
I prayed that you all may be one,
but you continue to quarrel and divide.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One,
have mercy upon us.**

I came to you as the least of your brothers and sisters.
I was hungry but you gave me no food,
thirsty but you gave me no drink.
I was a stranger but you did not welcome me,
naked but you did not clothe me,
sick and in prison but you did not visit me.

**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal One,
have mercy upon us.**

*During this time the altar railing is open for prayer should anyone wish to
come forward and pray at the cross. A time of silent prayer is kept during this
portion of the service. After the dismissal, all are asked to depart in silence.
The bell is rung 33 times at the conclusion of the service to indicate the number
of years Christ spent on the earth among us.*

Sending Forth

Dismissal

May Jesus Christ,
who for our sake became obedient unto death,
even death on a cross,
keep you and strengthen you,
now and forever.
Amen.

Tolling of the Church Bell
Depart (in silence)

A Service of Worship Good Friday



Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church
Friday, April 3, 2015
7:00 pm
The Rev. J. Curtis Goforth, Pastor

A Service of Worship

Good Friday Service
April 3, 2015 (7:00 pm)
Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church
www.asburymethodist.org

*Welcome to Asbury Memorial UMC!
The congregation reads the words in **bold** type.*

Entrance

Choral Introit
Greeting

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.
Be not far away, O Lord;
hasten to help us, O God.

Opening Prayer

Almighty God,
your Son Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross
so that he might draw the whole world to himself.
Grant that we, who glory in this death for our salvation,
may also glory in his call to take up our cross and follow him;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

⊕ Hymn #292.....“What Wondrous Love Is This”
⊕ Responsive Reading #752.....Psalm 22:1-18, 25-31

Proclamation of the Word

Prayer for Illumination

**God of love,
whose arms were always outstretched
to sinners and outcasts;
grant that as we hear the life-giving story of your death
that the arms of our hearts might reach to you and to
others; through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.**

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 52:13-53:12

¹³See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high. ¹⁴Just as there were many who were astonished at him—so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of mortals— ¹⁵so 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.

¹Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? ²For he grew up before him like a young plant,

⊕ *the congregation standing, if able.*

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. ³He 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.

⁴Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. ⁵But 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. ⁶All 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. ⁷He 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. ⁸By 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. ⁹They 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.

¹⁰Yet 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. ¹¹Out 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. ¹²Therefore 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.

Special Music.....“Sonata”
[Henry Eccles]
Day Ann Emory, viola and Sherry Bates, piano

Gospel Lesson: Mark 15:1-39

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. ²Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” He answered him, “You say so.” ³Then the chief priests accused him of many things. ⁴Pilate asked him again, “Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.” ⁵But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

⁶Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. ⁷Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. ⁸So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. ⁹Then he answered them, “Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?” ¹⁰For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. ¹¹But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. ¹²Pilate spoke to them again, “Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?” ¹³They shouted back, “Crucify him!” ¹⁴Pilate asked them, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Crucify him!” ¹⁵So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

¹⁶Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor’s headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. ¹⁷And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a

crown, they put it on him. ¹⁸And they began saluting him, “Hail, King of the Jews!” ¹⁹They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. ²⁰After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

²¹They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. ²²Then they brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). ²³And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. ²⁴And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

²⁵It was nine o’clock in the morning when they crucified him. ²⁶The inscription of the charge against him read, “The King of the Jews.” ²⁷And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. ²⁹Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, “Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, ³⁰save yourself, and come down from the cross!” ³¹In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying, “He saved others; he cannot save himself. ³²Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe.” Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

³³When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ³⁴At three o’clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” ³⁵When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, “Listen, he is calling for Elijah.” ³⁶And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, “Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.” ³⁷Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. ³⁸And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. ³⁹Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, “Truly this man was God’s Son!”

Special Music.....“Andante”
[Giuseppe Tartini]
Day Ann Emory, viola and Sherry Bates, piano

The Solemn Reproaches of the Cross

The Solemn Reproaches of the Cross have their origin in the Jerusalem Church where on Good Friday a piece of the original cross would be venerated by the congregation in what is now the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. In this ancient liturgy from the Jerusalem Church the cross is given voice to call the people of God to recognize their sinfulness.

As a large wooden cross is brought in from the back of the church, the following hymn is sung, repeating the verses until the cross is placed in the chancel area. The congregation is asked to stand, as able, during the singing of the hymn.

⊕ Hymn #488.....“Jesus, Remember Me”