

“What Is Truth?”

Good Friday

March 25, 2016, 7:30p

A Service of the Word

PRAYER AND INVOCATION

Minister (M) In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congr. (C) Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING

from Ps. 38; Is. 53; Hb. 9; Ps. 111

M O Lord, do not rebuke me in Your wrath,

C Nor chasten me in Your hot displeasure!

M For Your arrows pierce me deeply,

C And Your hand presses me down.

M There is no soundness in my flesh because of Your anger,

C Nor any health in my bones because of my sin.

M For my iniquities have gone over my head;

C Like a heavy burden they are too heavy for me.

M For I am ready to fall,

C And my sorrow is continually before me.

M For I will declare my iniquity;

C I will be in anguish over my sin.

M Do not forsake me, O Lord;

C O my God, be not far from me!

M Make haste to help me,

C O Lord, my salvation!

M But He was wounded for our transgressions,

C He was bruised for our iniquities;

M The chastisement for our peace was upon Him,

C And by His stripes we are healed.

M With His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all having obtained eternal redemption. And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant. He has sent redemption to His people.

M The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

M Let us pray,

Almighty God, graciously behold this Your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, delivered into the hands of sinful men, and to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ,

Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

PASSION STORY

(1) John 18:1-11

The Betrayal

RESPONSIVE READING

from Isaiah 53

M Who has believed our report?

C And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

M For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant,

C And as a root out of dry ground.

M He has no form or comeliness;

**C And when we see Him, There is no beauty that we should
desire Him.**

M He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and
acquainted with grief.

C And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him;

♪ Sing (w intro, from TLH 143):

O dearest Jesus, what law hast thou broken

That such sharp sentence should on Thee be spoken?

Of what great crime hast Thou to make confession, --

What dark transgression?

(2) John 18:12-27

Before the High Priest

RESPONSIVE READING

from Isaiah 53

M He was despised,

C and we did not esteem Him.

M Surely He has borne our griefs

C And carried our sorrows;

M Yet we esteemed Him stricken,

C Smitten by God, and afflicted.

♪ Sing:

They crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;

With cruel mockings to the cross they urge Thee;

They give Thee gall to drink, they still decry Thee;

They crucify Thee.

(3) John 18:28-40

Before Pilate

RESPONSIVE READING

from Isaiah 53

M But He was wounded for our transgressions,

C He was bruised for our iniquities;

M The chastisement for our peace was upon Him,

C And by His stripes we are healed.

M All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to
his own way;

C And the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

♪ Sing

What punishment so strange is suffered yonder!

The Shepherd dies for sheep that loved to wander;

The Master pays the debt His servants owe Him,

Who would not know Him.

(4) John 19:1-16

Before the People

RESPONSIVE READING

from Isaiah 53

M He was oppressed and He was afflicted,

C Yet He opened not His mouth;

M He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent,

C So He opened not His mouth.

M He was taken from prison and from judgment,

C And who will declare His generation?

M For He was cut off from the land of the living;

C For the transgressions of My people He was stricken.

♪ Sing

**The sinless Son of God must die in sadness;
The sinful child of man may live in gladness;
Man forfeited his life and is acquitted, --
God is committed.**

(5) John 19:17-30

The Crucifixion

RESPONSIVE READING

from Isaiah 53

M And they made His grave with the wicked—

C But with the rich at His death,

M Because He had done no violence,

C Nor was any deceit in His mouth.

M Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise Him;

C He has put Him to grief.

M When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed,
He shall prolong His days,

C And the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in His hand.

M He shall see the labor of His soul,

C and be satisfied.

♪ Sing

**O wondrous love, whose depth no heart hath sounded,
That brought Thee here, by foes and thieves surrounded!
All worldly pleasures, heedless, I was trying
While Thou wert dying.**

(6) John 19:31-42

The Burial

RESPONSIVE READING

from Isaiah 53

M By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many,

C For He shall bear their iniquities.

M Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great,
C And He shall divide the spoil with the strong,
M Because He poured out His soul unto death,
C And He was numbered with the transgressors,
M And He bore the sin of many,
C And made intercession for the transgressors.

♪ Sing

O mighty King, no time can dim Thy glory!
How shall I spread abroad Thy wondrous story?
How shall I find some worthy gifts to proffer?
What dare I offer?

MEDITATION

John 18:36–38

³⁶ Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here.”

³⁷ Pilate therefore said to Him, “Are You a king then?”

Jesus answered, “You say *rightly* that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice.”

³⁸ Pilate said to Him, “What is truth?” And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews, and said to them, “I find no fault in Him at all.

The Truth

RESPONSE

♪ Sing (w intro, TLH 179):

**On my heart imprint Thine image,
Blessed Jesus, King of Grace,
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures
Have no power Thee to efface.
This the superscription be:
Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope's Foundation,
And my Glory and Salvation.**

GATHERING OF OUR THANK OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH ~ *spoken responsively (TLH 151)*

Christ, the Life of all the living, Christ, the Death of death, our foe,
Who, Thyself for me once giving To the darkest depths of woe,--
Through thy sufferings, death, and merit I eternal life inherit:
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Thou, ah! Thou, hast taken on Thee Bonds and stripes, a cruel rod;
Pain and scorn were heaped upon Thee, O Thou sinless Son of God!
Thus didst Thou my soul deliver From the bonds of sin forever.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Thou hast suffered men to bruise Thee That from pain I might be free;
Falsely did Thy foes accuse Thee,-- Thence I gain security;
Comfortless Thy soul did languish Me to comfort in my anguish.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Thou hast suffered great affliction And hast borne it patiently,
Even death by crucifixion, Fully to atone for me;
Thou didst choose to be tormented That my doom should be prevented.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Then, for all that wrought my pardon, For Thy sorrows deep and sore,
For Thine anguish in the Garden, I will thank Thee evermore,
Thank Thee for Thy groaning, sighing, For Thy bleeding and Thy dying,
For that last triumphant cry, And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C 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 forever and ever. Amen!**

THE BENEDICTION

M The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C **Amen.**

HYMN

TLH 159

Go to Dark Gethsemane



The Feast of Our Lord's Resurrection

A Service of Word and Sacrament

Sunday, April 5 at 10:00 a.m.