



# Good Friday

March 29, 2024 | 7:30 PM



**All are welcome at Saint John's** regardless of race, culture, ethnicity, age, gender expression or identity, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, socioeconomic position, immigration path, or faith journey. We believe that a diverse and inclusive congregation benefits all, and that we grow when we listen to and learn from those who are different from us. Scripture teaches us to do good and seek justice, and we invite you to join us in striving for a just world. We are committed to continuing the work of anti-racism, social and economic justice, and environmental care. We look forward to learning from one another and growing together on this journey of faith, grace, and love.

Jesus said: "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35).

**Guests are welcome.** We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. So that we may be in contact with you, we invite you to sign the guest book in the narthex. Our programs are open to all and you are invited to participate. We hope you will worship with us again soon.

**Children are welcome.** We encourage them to attend worship with their parents—even their noise and restlessness are surely a delight to God. Children's bulletins are available.

**To assist you during worship:** Large print worship bulletins are available from the ushers. Please inform an usher if you would like the pastor to commune you at your pew.

**Offerings:** St. John's is a tithing church. We dedicate a percentage of our offerings to the mission of the wider church through the NJ Synod of the ELCA and to many other mission partners. We are able to support these ministries because of your offerings and tithes.

**Assisted Listening:** To access assisted listening, Connect to the StJohnsALS WiFi network. Download the free WaveCast app to your phone. Tap ST\_JOHNS\_



## **Ministers: The People of Saint John's**

### **Clergy & Staff**

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet, Pastor

Christopher Harlow-Jennings, Director of Music

Carolyn Rothman, Church Administrator

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Deacon Linda Walker, Minister of Children's Faith Formation

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We're delighted you're worshiping with us. As part of our ongoing outreach, your voice and your image may be videographed and photographed and used by St. John's for ministry purposes. For any questions or concerns, contact the church office.



*Please stand.*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**Amen.**

## HYMN ELW 803 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the  
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the  
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and  
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I  
death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that  
love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and  
pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: HAMBURG, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

*Please be seated.*

**FIRST READING** Isaiah 52:13–53:12

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

<sup>53:1</sup>Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

<sup>2</sup>For he grew up before him like a young plant, 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. <sup>3</sup>He 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.

<sup>4</sup>Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup>But 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.

<sup>6</sup>All 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.

<sup>7</sup>He 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.

<sup>8</sup>By 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. They 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.

<sup>10</sup>Yet 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. <sup>11</sup>Out 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.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore 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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 22

*The cantors chant the light text; the assembly joins on the bold text.*

- <sup>1</sup>My God, my God, why have you for- | saken me?  
Why so far from saving me, so far from the words | of my groaning?
- <sup>2</sup>**My God, I cry out by day, but you | do not answer;  
by night, but I | find no rest.**
- <sup>3</sup>Yet you are the | Holy One,  
enthroned on the prais- | es of Israel.
- <sup>4</sup>**Our ancestors put their | trust in you,  
they trusted, and you | rescued them.**
- <sup>5</sup>They cried out to you and | were delivered;  
they trusted in you and were not | put to shame.
- <sup>6</sup>**But as for me, I am a worm | and not human,  
scorned by all and despised | by the people.**
- <sup>7</sup>All who see me laugh | me to scorn;  
they curl their lips; they | shake their heads.
- <sup>8</sup>**“Trust in the LORD; let the | LORD deliver;  
let God rescue him if God so de- | lights in him.”**
- <sup>9</sup>Yet you are the one who drew me forth | from the womb,  
and kept me safe on my | mother’s breast.
- <sup>10</sup>**I have been entrusted to you ever since | I was born;  
you were my God when I was still in my | mother’s womb.**
- <sup>11</sup>Be not far from me, for trou- | ble is near,  
and there is no | one to help.
- <sup>12</sup>**Many young bulls en- | circle me;  
strong bulls of Ba- | shan surround me.**
- <sup>13</sup>They open wide their | jaws at me,  
like a slashing and | roaring lion.
- <sup>14</sup>**I am poured out like water; all my bones are | out of joint;  
my heart within my breast is | melting wax.**
- <sup>15</sup>My strength is dried up like a potsherd; my tongue sticks to the roof | of my mouth;  
and you have laid me in the | dust of death.
- <sup>16</sup>**Packs of dogs close me in, a band of evildoers | circles round me;  
they pierce my hands | and my feet.**
- <sup>17</sup>I can count | all my bones  
while they stare at | me and gloat.
- <sup>18</sup>**They divide my gar- | ments among them;  
for my clothing, | they cast lots.**
- <sup>19</sup>But you, O LORD, be not | far away;  
O my help, hasten | to my aid.
- <sup>20</sup>**Deliver me | from the sword,  
my life from the power | of the dog.**

<sup>21</sup>Save me from the | lion's mouth!

From the horns of wild bulls you have | rescued me.

<sup>22</sup>**I will declare your name | to my people;  
in the midst of the assembly | I will praise you.**

<sup>23</sup>You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's | line, give glory.  
Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off- | spring of Israel.

<sup>24</sup>**For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;  
neither is the LORD's face hid- | den from them;  
but when they cry out, | the LORD hears them.**

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;  
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear the LORD.

<sup>26</sup>**The poor shall eat | and be satisfied.**

**Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts | live forever!**

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD;  
all the families of nations shall bow | before God.

<sup>28</sup>**For dominion belongs | to the LORD,  
who rules o- | ver the nations.**

<sup>29</sup>Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow | down in worship;  
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel be- | fore the LORD.

<sup>30</sup>**Their descendants shall | serve the LORD,  
whom they shall proclaim to genera- | tions to come.**

<sup>31</sup>They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people | yet unborn,  
saying to them, "The | LORD has acted!"

## **SECOND READING** Hebrews 10:16–25

[After the Holy Spirit says,] <sup>16</sup>“This is the covenant that I will make with them  
after those days, says the Lord:

I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds,”

<sup>17</sup>he also adds,

“I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.”

<sup>18</sup>Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

<sup>19</sup>Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus,  
<sup>20</sup>by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh),  
<sup>21</sup>and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup>let us approach with a true heart in  
full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies  
washed with pure water. <sup>23</sup>Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for  
he who has promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup>And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and  
good deeds, <sup>25</sup>not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one  
another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

*The reader concludes:* The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* Thanks be to God.

*Please stand.*

**HYMN ELW 353 Were You There**



Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you there?  
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

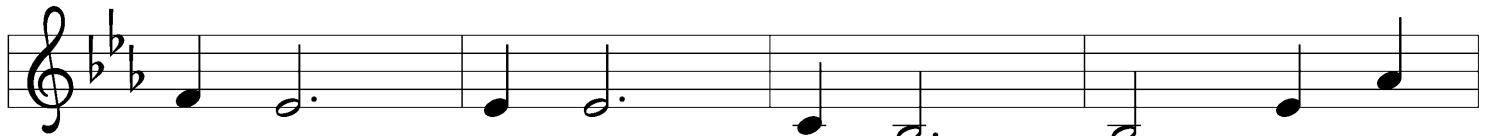


Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you there?  
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

*Refrain*



Oh, some-times it caus - es me to



trem-ble, trem - ble, trem - ble. Were you



there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?  
there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you there?  
there when they laid him in the tomb?

Text: African American spiritual  
Music: WERE YOU THERE, African American spiritual

**THE PASSION OF OUR LORD ACCORDING TO JOHN**

Passion setting by Tomás Luis de la Victoria, arr. Brian Harlow

*Please remain seated until the direction to stand.*

**SERMON**

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet

*Please stand.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 351 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.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, based on Arnulf of Louvain, d. 1250; tr. composite

Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, German melody, c. 1500; adapt. Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612



*Please kneel or sit.*

## **BIDDING PRAYER**

Let us pray for the holy church throughout the world.

Almighty and eternal God, you have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ. By your Holy Spirit guide the church and gather it throughout the world. Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name, and bring the good news of salvation in Christ to all people. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those preparing for baptism.

Almighty and eternal God, you bless the church. Increase the faith and understanding of those preparing for baptism. Give them new birth as your children, and keep them in the faith and communion of your holy church. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those who share our faith in Jesus Christ.

Almighty and eternal God, you give your church unity. Look with favor on all who follow Jesus your Son. Make all the baptized one in the fullness of faith, and keep us united in the fellowship of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ.

Almighty and eternal God, gather into your embrace all those who call out to you under different names. Bring an end to inter-religious strife, and make us more faithful witnesses of the love made known to us in your Son. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those who do not believe in God.

Almighty and eternal God, you created humanity so that all may long to know you and find peace in you. Grant that all may recognize the signs of your love and grace in the world and in the lives of Christians, and gladly acknowledge you as the one true God. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for God's creation.

Almighty and eternal God, you are the creator of a magnificent universe. Hold the world in your care and bring all things to fulfillment in you. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those who serve in public office.

Almighty and eternal God, you are the champion of the poor and oppressed. In your goodness, give wisdom to those in authority, so that all people may enjoy justice, peace, freedom, and a share in the goodness of your creation. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those in need.

Almighty and eternal God, you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart. Heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, and deliver your world from falsehood, hunger, and disease. 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. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

*Please be seated.*

**ANTHEM** Jesus, So Lowly

Harold Friedell

Jesus, so lowly, Child of the earth:  
christen me wholly, bring me new birth.

Jesus, so lonely, weary and sad;  
teach me that only love maketh glad.

Jesus, so broken, silent and pale;  
be this the token love will not fail.

Jesus, victorious, mighty and free;  
teach me how glorious death is to be.

– Edith Williams

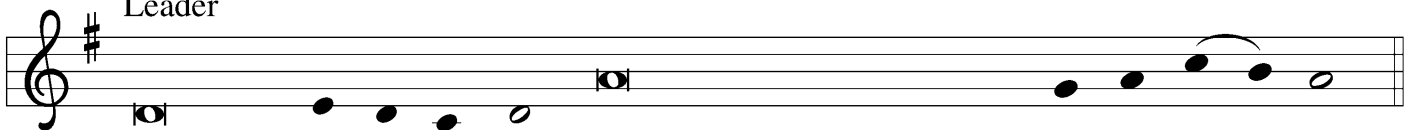
*Please stand.*

## PROCESSION OF THE CROSS

*The assembly turns and faces the cross as it is carried through the sanctuary.*

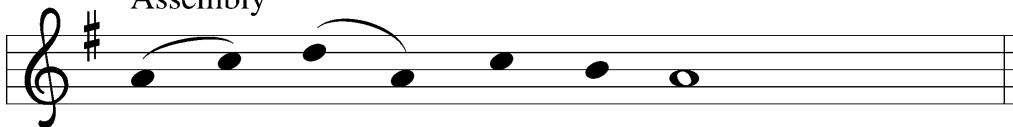
*The verse is sung three times.*

Leader



Behold the life-giv-ing cross, on which was hung the Savior of the whole world.

Assembly



Oh, come, let us worship him.

*Please kneel or be seated.*

## SOLEMN REPROACHES

*Refrain*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God, ho - ly and might - y,  
ho - ly and im - mor - tal, have mer - cy on us.

O my people, O my church, what I have I done to you? How have I offended you? Answer me.  
I led you out of slavery into freedom, and delivered you through the waters of rebirth,  
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior. ***Refrain***

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me.  
Forty years I led you through the desert, feeding you with manna on the way;  
I saved you from the time of trial, and gave you my body, the bread of heaven;  
but you have prepared a cross for your Savior. ***Refrain***

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me.  
I struck down your enemies, but you struck my head with a reed;  
I gave you my peace, but you draw the sword in my name  
and you have prepared a cross for your Savior. ***Refrain***

O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me.  
I lifted you to the heights, but you lifted me high on a cross,  
I raised you from death and prepared for you the tree of life  
I grafted you into my people Israel, but you made them scapegoats for your own guilt,  
and you have prepared a cross for your Savior. ***Refrain***

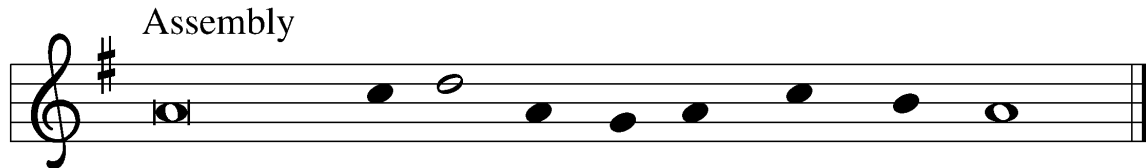
O my people, O my church, what more could I have done for you? Answer me.  
I came to you in the least of your brothers and sisters, but I was hungry and you gave me no  
food, thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and  
you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me,  
and you have prepared a cross for your Savior. ***Refrain***

*Please stand.*

## ADORATION OF THE CROSS

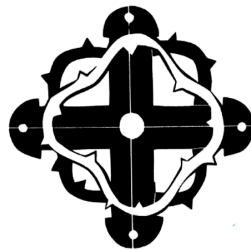


We a - dore you, O Christ, and we bless you.



**By your ho-ly cross you have re-deemed the world.**

**HYMN ELW 355 Sing, My Tongue**



*You may remain to pray or to personally reverence the cross. Depart when you are ready.*

*The Liturgy continues tomorrow with the Easter Vigil at 7:30 PM.*

<b>Easter Sunday</b>	
<b>March 31</b>	
8:00 AM	Worship Service
9:00 AM	Easter Brunch
9:30 AM	Easter Egg Hunt
10:30 AM	Festival Worship Service

**SAINT JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
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**RECONCILING IN CHRIST**

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