

## BLESSING

**M:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C:** Amen.

**HYMN** *Lord, Let at Last Thine Angel Come*

Lord, let at last Thine an - gels come; To  
A - bram's bos - om bear me home That I may die un -  
fear - ing. And in its nar - row cham-ber keep  
My bo - dy safe in peace-ful sleep Un - til Thy  
re - ap - pear - ing. And then from death a -  
wak - en me That these mine eyes with joy may see,  
O Son of God, Thy glo-rious face, My Sav - ior and my  
Fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, My prayer at - tend, my  
prayer at - tend, And I will praise Thee with - out end.

AN ORDER FOR

EVENING WORSHIP

FOR

GOOD FRIDAY

---

March 21<sup>st</sup>, in the year of our Lord 2008

# Christ-Crucified

*a service of contemplation, prayer, scripture and song*

1 A Lamb goes un-com-plain-ing forth, Our guilt and  
2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend, The Lamb of  
e-vil bear-ing And, lad-en with the sins of  
God, our Sav-ior; Him God the Fa-ther chose to  
earth, None else the bur-den shar-ing. Goes pa-tient on,  
send To gain for us his fa-vor. O won-drous Love,  
grows weak and faint, To slaugh-ter led with-out complaint,  
what have you done! The Fa-ther of-fers up his Son,  
That spot-less life to of-fer, Bears shame and stripes and wounds  
De-sir-ing our sal-va-tion. O Love, how strong you are  
and death, An-guish and mock-er-y and says,  
to save! You make his bed with-in the grave  
"Will-ing all this I suf-fer."  
Who built the earth's foun-da-tion.

## CONTEMPLATION OF OUR SIN

*silence*

**You shall have no other gods.  
You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.  
Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.  
Honor your father and mother, that it may go well with  
you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.  
You shall not murder.  
You shall not commit adultery.  
You shall not steal.  
You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.  
You shall not covet your neighbor's house.  
You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, workers, ani-  
mals, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.**

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF GOD'S PARDON

Lord, your Son has suffered for me,  
Giv'n himself to rescue me,  
Died to save me and restore me,  
Reconciled and set me free.  
Jesus' cross alone can vanquish  
These dark fears and soothe this anguish.

God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ,  
not counting men's sins against them. And he has  
committed to us the message of reconciliation. We  
are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God  
were making his appeal through us. We implore  
you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God  
made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that  
in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Through Jesus' death on the cross your sins are all  
forgiven, in the name of the Father and of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**All respond: Amen.**

*Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-708436*

*Rest, O Christ, from All Your Labor. Text: © 1993, Herman Stuempfle, GIA Publications.*

*Reprinted under CCLI License #2947268*

*The Power of the Cross. Keith Getty, Stuart Townend © 2005 Thankyou Music (CCLI Song #4490766)*

**M:** God Most Holy, look with mercy on this your family for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, be given over into the hands of the wicked, and suffer death upon the cross. Keep us always faithful to him, our only Savior, who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**C:** Amen.

**LESSON: Isaiah 52:13–53:12**

<sup>13</sup> See, my servant will act wisely;  
he will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted.  
<sup>14</sup> Just as there were many who were appalled at him –  
his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any man  
and his form marred beyond human likeness –  
<sup>15</sup> so will he sprinkle many nations,  
and kings will shut their mouths because of him.  
For what they were not told, they will see,  
and what they have not heard, they will understand.

Who has believed our message  
and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

<sup>2</sup> He grew up before him like a tender shoot,  
and like a root out of dry ground.  
He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him,  
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.  
<sup>3</sup> He was despised and rejected by men,  
a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering.  
Like one from whom men hide their faces  
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

<sup>4</sup> Surely he took up our infirmities  
and carried our sorrows,  
yet we considered him stricken by God,  
smitten by him, and afflicted.

<sup>5</sup> But he was pierced for our transgressions,  
he was crushed for our iniquities;  
the punishment that brought us peace was upon him,

and by his wounds we are healed.  
<sup>6</sup> We all, like sheep, have gone astray,  
each of us has turned to his own way;  
and the LORD has laid on him  
the iniquity of us all.

<sup>7</sup> He was oppressed and afflicted,  
yet he did not open his mouth;  
he was led like a lamb to the slaughter,  
and as a sheep before her shearers is silent,  
so he did not open his mouth.

<sup>8</sup> By oppression and judgment he was taken away.  
And who can speak of his descendants?  
For he was cut off from the land of the living;  
for the transgression of my people he was stricken.  
<sup>9</sup> He was assigned a grave with the wicked,  
and with the rich in his death,  
though he had done no violence,  
nor was any deceit in his mouth.

<sup>10</sup> Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to  
suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering,  
he will see his offspring and prolong his days,  
and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.

<sup>11</sup> After the suffering of his soul,  
he will see the light of life and be satisfied;  
by his knowledge my righteous  
servant will justify many,  
and he will bear their iniquities.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore I will give him a portion among the great,  
and he will divide the spoils with the strong,  
because he poured out his life unto death,  
and was numbered with the transgressors.  
For he bore the sin of many,  
and made intercession for the transgressors.

**All (spoken): The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.**

**LESSON: Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9**

<sup>14</sup> Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. <sup>15</sup> For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. <sup>16</sup> Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. <sup>7</sup> During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. <sup>8</sup> Although he was a son, he learned obedience from what he suffered <sup>9</sup> and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey<sup>1</sup> him.

<sup>1</sup> "Obey" here means heed his gospel call, i.e., believe in him.

**All (spoken): The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.**

**BRIEF INTERLUDE (choir gathers)**

**LESSON: John 19:17-30**

<sup>17</sup> Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). <sup>18</sup> Here they crucified him, and with him two others—one on each side and Jesus in the middle.

<sup>19</sup> Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. <sup>20</sup> Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek. <sup>21</sup> The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate, "Do not write 'The King of the Jews,' but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews."

<sup>22</sup> Pilate answered, "What I have written, I have written."

<sup>23</sup> When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom.

<sup>24</sup> "Let's not tear it," they said to one another. "Let's decide by lot who will get it."

This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled which said,

"They divided my garments among them  
and cast lots for my clothing."

So this is what the soldiers did.

<sup>25</sup> Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. <sup>26</sup> When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son," <sup>27</sup> and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

<sup>28</sup> Later, knowing that all was now completed for the Scriptures to be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." <sup>29</sup> A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. <sup>30</sup> When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

**All (spoken): The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.**

**CHOIR** *Cross Cry*

## HYMN O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

Most Christian churches and hymnals use the straight rhythm version of this classic hymn as printed below. The tempo is slow but not dragging.



1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, With grief and shame weighed down,  
2 My bur - den in your pas - sion, Lord, you have borne for me,



Now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed, With thorns your on - ly crown,  
For it was my trans - gres - sion, My shame, on Cal - va - ry.



O sa - cred head, no glo - ry Now from your face does shine;  
I cast me down be - fore you; Warth is my right - ful lot.



Yet, though de - spised and go - ry, I joy to call you mine.  
Have mer - cy, I im - plore you; Re - deem - er, spurn me not!

## MESSAGE

**All (spoken): The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.**

### The Power of the Cross

## HYMN: The Power of the Cross (congregation joins for stanza 4)



1 Oh, to see the dawn Of the dark - est day:  
2 Oh, to see the pain Writ - ten on Your face,  
3 Now the day - light flees; Now the ground be - neath  
4 Oh, to see my name Writ - ten in the wounds,



Christ on the road to Cal - va - ry.  
Bear - ing the awe - some weight of sin.  
Quakes as its Mak - er bows His head.  
For through Your suf - fering I am free.



Tried by sin - ful men, Torn and beat - en, then  
Ev - 'ry bit - ter thought, Ev - 'ry e - vil deed  
Cur - tain torn in two, Dead are raised to life;  
Death is crushed to death; Life is mine to live,



Nailed to a cross of wood. This, the pow'r  
Crown - ing Your blood - stained brow. This, the pow'r  
"Fin - ished!" the vic - t'ry cry. This, the pow'r  
Won through Your self - less love. This, the pow'r



of the cross: Christ be - came sin for us; Took the  
of the cross: Christ be - came sin for us; Took the  
of the cross: Christ be - came sin for us; Took the  
of the cross: Son of God— slain for us. What a



blame, bore the wrath— We stand for - giv - en at the cross.  
blame, bore the wrath— We stand for - giv - en at the cross.  
blame, bore the wrath— We stand for - giv - en at the cross.  
love! What a cost! We stand for - giv - en at the cross.

*interlude after verses 1-3*



## THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## OFFERING

## PRAYERS

## THE SERMON FROM THE CROSS

**Luke 23:34** "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

**Luke 23:43** "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise."

**John 19:26,27** he said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son," <sup>27</sup> and to the disciple, "Here is your mother."

**Mark 15:34** "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" – which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

**John 19:28** "I am thirsty."

**John 19:30** "It is finished."

**Luke 23:46** "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit."

(When he had said this, he breathed his last.)

*Stand*

## HYMN: Rest, O Christ, from All Your Labor

*This hymn is sung to the familiar Lenten tune "Stricken, Smitten and Afflicted."*



1 Rest, O Christ, from all your la - bor; Sleep with -  
2 Peace at last from all your an - guish, Wounds in  
3 Help us keep this sol - emn sab - bath As we  
4 As through part - ing Red Sea wa - ters Is - rael



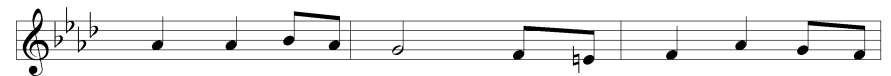
in your bor - rowed tomb. Foes have cru - ci - fied and  
hand and feet and side. En - e - mies no long - er  
wait for East - er dawn. Earth's dark night of sin is  
marched to lib - er - ty, So we pass through bap - tism's



bound you Fast with - in death's nar - row room.  
mock you, Scourged, a - ban - doned, cru - ci - fied.  
pass - ing; Death's long reign will soon be gone.  
wa - ter, Washed by grace, from sin set free.



Pi - late's guards stand watch - ing, wait - ing Where they  
Faith - ful wom - en gath - er spic - es, Weep for  
Christ, in whom the new cre - a - tion Ris - es  
Je - sus, ris - en, liv - ing, reign - ing Now and



rolled the seal - ing stone. All un - seen an - oth - er  
you whom sin has slain. Though they mourn, the God who  
bright - er than the sun: May we, as we watch for  
through e - ter - ni - ty: Grant that, through your life un -



watch - es: God will not for - sake his own.  
guards you Will not let your death be vain.  
morn - ing, Trust the vic - t'ry you have won.  
dy - ing, We may live vic - tor - ious - ly.