



# St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church

serving North Vancouver since 1899

# Good Friday Service, The Way of the Cross April 7, 2023 11:00 am

Officiant: The Reverend Patrick Blaney

## St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church

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## Welcome

(Please turn cell phones and other electronic devices off or to "silent")
Liturgy by Deborah Foster, MATS, with the Rev. Gary Hamblin

#### Musical Prelude

## Territorial Acknowledgement

Leader The community of St. John's acknowledges that we live, work and worship

on the ancestral and unceded land of the Coast Salish Peoples: The

Musqueam, Squamish, and Tseil-Waututh Nations. May the

reconciling love of Christ be reflected in our words and in our actions.

#### The Collect

(We gather our bodies, hearts, and minds together in communal meditation)

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us join together in our opening Collect.

All: Lord, you are wounded,

no longer divided

between inside and out,

knowing in your flesh and soul

the deadly violence that kills what it fears.

Take us this day with you

through the narrow gate from which

an endless river of life flows,

lead us through our own wounds,

from our own fear and darkness into

courage, love, forgiveness of ourselves and others,

into your light and resurrection life.

May we walk with you this day

within the passionate heart of God.

Leader: Please be seated.

## Musical Reflection by Choir

Speak To Me In Ashes
Words by Karen Crane
Music by Douglas Nolan

#### The Gospel of John: (John 18:1-27)

Narrator: After Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his

disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them,

Jesus: Whom are you looking for?

All: Jesus of Nazareth.

Jesus: I am he.

Narrator: Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. When

Jesus said to them, "I am he," they stepped back and fell to the ground.

Again Jesus asked them,

Jesus: Whom are you looking for?

All: Jesus of Nazareth.

Jesus: I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let

these men go.

Narrator:

This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken, "I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me."

Narrator:

Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus. Jesus said to Peter,

Jesus:

Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?

Narrator:

So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him. First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people. Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. The woman said to Peter,

All:

You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?

Peter:

I am not.

Narrator:

Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself. They asked him,

All:

You are not also one of his disciples, are you?

Peter:

I am not.

Narrator:

One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked,

All: Did I not see you in the garden with him?

Narrator: Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.

## Musical Reflection by Choir:

On The Mount Of Olives

Music by Eleanor Daley

Words from the Office of Tenebrae

## The Stations of the Cross:

(Gospel readings from John 18.1-19.42)

Leader: Please join with me in saying:

All: Lord Jesus Christ,

help me walk with you along that holy way

you once walked towards your death. I offer you my mind, my memory, and

my anxious, reluctant heart.

Help me to see what you once did for love of me and all the world.

Leader: Let's now gather around the First Station.

#### The First Station: Jesus is Condemned

Narrator: Then they took Jesus from

Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They

themselves did not enter the headquarters,

so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. So Pilate

went out to them and said,



Pilate: What accusation do you bring against this man?

All: If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you.

Pilate: Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law.

All: We are not permitted to put anyone to death.

Narrator: This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated

the kind of death he was to die. Then Pilate entered the headquarters again,

summoned Jesus, and asked him,

Pilate: Are you the King of the Jews?

Jesus: Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about

me?

Pilate: I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests

have handed you over to me. What have you done?

Jesus: My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were

from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my

kingdom is not from here.

Pilate: So you are a king?

Jesus: You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I

came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who

belongs to the truth listens to my voice.

Pilate: What is truth?

Narrator: After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and

told them,

Pilate: I find no case against him. But you have a custom that I

release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me

to release for you the King of the Jews?

All: Not this man, but Barabbas!

Narrator: Now Barabbas was a bandit. Then Pilate took Jesus and

had him flogged.

(Silent Reflection)

#### The Second Station: Jesus Carries His Cross

Narrator: And the soldiers wove a crown

of thorns and put it on his head,

and they dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him, striking

him on the face, saying,

All: Hail, King of the Jews!

Narrator: Pilate went out again and said to them,

Pilate: Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against

him. Here is the man.

Narrator: So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. When

the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted,

All: Crucify him! Crucify him!

Pilate: Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him.

All: We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God.

Narrator: Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. He entered his

headquarters again and asked Jesus,

Pilate: Where are you from?

Narrator: But Jesus gave him no answer. Pilate therefore said to him,

Pilate: Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release

you, and power to crucify you?

Jesus: You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above;

therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin.

Narrator: From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out,

All: If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who

claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor.

Narrator: When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the

judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha.

Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon.

He said to the Jews,

Pilate: Here is your King!

All: Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!

Pilate: Shall I crucify your King?

All: We have no king but the emperor.

Narrator: Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus; and

carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the

Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha.

(Silent reflection)

#### The Third Station: Jesus' First Fall

Leader: Jesus falls for the first time. (Silent reflection)...

Jesus emptied himself, and took the form of a slave.

Being born human, he humbled himself, willing to go as far as death on a cross.



All:

Give us the courage, Lord, to have the same mind as you, emptying ourselves of self-obsession, fear, indifference. May we open ourselves to have the same mind and heart as you. We dare to pray that by your dying and rising within us each day, we will find the strength to love as you have loved. Give your grace and your power to all who fall and feel they cannot rise.

(Silent Reflection)

#### The Fourth Station: Jesus Meets His Mother

Leader: Simeon the old priest and sage,

said to Mary the mother of Jesus:

"This child is destined to be the

downfall and the rise of many in Israel. He is a sign that will be

opposed. And you yourself shall feel pierced by a sword. The

thoughts of many will be laid bare.



All: Blessed Mary, mother of Jesus, you stand by your son.

With love beyond all measure you share his grief as one.

Yours is the love that does not count the cost,

present and supporting through your own deepest loss.

May we be as you, maintaining steadfast watch.

(Silent Reflection)

## The Fifth Station: Simon Carries Jesus' Cross

Leader: A man named Simon of Cyrene

was coming in from the fields. The soldiers, seeing that Jesus could no

longer bear the weight of the heavy wood himself, pressed

Simon into service, forcing him to carry Jesus' cross.



forced into the heart of another's suffering,

willing or not, Simon shared with all his neighbours

the fear of violent oppression.

Did he feel compassion for Jesus' suffering?

Did he feel fear, indifference, resentment?

How close can we come to the burden of others?

Dare we love; dare we help? Lord give us grace to see you



in the needs of our neighbours.

May we have your heart and mind in our actions and service.

May we enter into your passion this day, transformed by your love, to love you, ourselves, others.

(Silent Reflection)

## The Sixth Station: Veronica Wipes Jesus' Face

Leader: Tradition tells us that a woman

named Veronica stepped into

the path of Jesus, defying his Roman guards, and wiped his face with her veil.

Hear the words of Jesus:

Jesus: Those who welcome you welcome me; and those who welcome me welcome

God who sent me. I promise that whoever gives a cup of cold water will not

want for a reward.

All: Such a simple thing:

a cloth, a cup of water, a loving word. Lord, help us value such small things, daily acts of kindness and caring, daily acts of courage and love. In serving each other, we serve you.

(Silent Reflection)

#### The Seventh Station: Jesus' Second Fall

Leader: We see Jesus fall a second time,

weakened by impersonal cruelty.

Jesus: I am rejected, in their eyes I am

no one, the scorn of all, despised, discarded.



All:

As the Son of Man falls, God's Divinity is assaulted; and the hope of those who loved him is shattered. Seeing this broken Christ, is our own faith challenged? We pray for all who face darkness and despair. In this your second fall, O Lord, remember us: our weakness, our helplessness, our human frailty. Lord, come to our assistance.

(Silent Reflection)

## The Eighth Station: Jesus Meets the Women

Leader: Many women had also followed

Jesus, ministered to by him, and

serving him. Seeing him in such suffering and on his way to execution, they wept and grieved for him. Seeing them in their distress, Jesus spoke to them:

Jesus: All:

Weep not for me, but for your children.

Shall we weep for our own children?

for all the generations of this earth
who face the frailties and failings of
humanity? As you wept and loved,
Lord; as your mother grieved and loved;
as the women who served you lamented
and loved; so we grieve for all who suffer
on this earth. May we seek to follow you,
be transformed in you. May our suffering
be one with your own, so that we may
share in God's redemption and healing
of our world.



(Silent Reflection)

#### The Ninth Station: Jesus' Third Fall

Leader: This is the third time Jesus falls,

tradition tells us, broken in body

by the overwhelming forces against him.

Jesus: I am like water poured out:

all my bones are racked.

You have brought me down to the dust of death.

All: Like water poured out,

your strength is gone.

You fall like a broken tree to the dust of the earth.

In our own weakness we turn to your strength, in our own need we turn to your resource,

in our own fear we turn to your love.

In gratitude we follow your way, and receive your gift of life to us.

Lord, in your mercy, come to our aid.

(Silent Reflection)

## The Tenth Station: Jesus is Stripped

Leader: Jesus arrives at the place of

execution: Golgotha in Hebrew, the Place of the Skull. In the

degrading process of crucifixion, he is stripped of his clothes.

The soldiers gamble, casting lots for his robes.





All:

Stripped of your clothes, and your physical strength, with no power to resist, you chose instead the power to forgive. Where most would be degraded and stripped of their humanity, you revealed the divine life within the truly human. O Lord, where our hearts are closed in fear and pain, where we find it difficult to love and forgive, grant us your mercy. Where we strive and fail, come to our assistance. Lord, in your mercy, come to our aid.

(Silent Reflection)

Narrator:

### The Eleventh Station: Jesus is Nailed to the Cross

Narrator: There they crucified him, and with

him two others, one on either side,

with Jesus between them. Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read,

"Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate,

All: Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of

the Jews.'

Pilate: What I have written I have written.

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says, "They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots." And that is what the soldiers did. Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside

her, he said to his mother,

Jesus: Woman, here is your son.

Narrator: Then he said to the disciple,

Jesus: Here is your mother.

Narrator: And from that hour the disciple took her into the disciple's own home.

(Silent Reflection)

### The Twelfth Station: Jesus Dies

Narrator: After this, when Jesus knew that

all was now finished, he said

Jesus: I am thirsty.

Narrator: A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a

sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to

his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said,

Jesus: It is finished.

Narrator: Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

(Silent Reflection)



(As we sing, Jesus Remember Me, please return to your seats for intercessions and our final two stations.) Chant: 3x etc.

# Musical Reflection Choir:

God So Loved the World

by John Stainer (1840-1901)

Arranged by Robert Sumner

#### The Solemn Intercession:

Intercessor: Please take whatever position is comfortable for you for our

time of intercession...

Dear followers of Christ:

God sent Jesus, Son of God and Son of Humanity, into the world, not to condemn us, but to reveal God's immeasurable and unceasing love for us; that through the living, dying, and rising of Jesus the world might know the redemptive Gift of God. All who open to this great gift and receive this love that Jesus brings, can know release from the power of sin and death, and live instead within the sacred power of healing, forgiveness, and life.

(Silence reflection)

Intercessor: Together let us pray

All: Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit,

the whole body of your faithful people is enlivened

and guided into the likeness of Christ.

Receive our prayers which we bring to you

for the whole living body, your Church in Christ.

In this time of challenge and change,

may we reflect you in our neighbourhoods and in our communities. In the life of Christ we pray. Amen.

Intercessor: I invite your prayers for the Church, the Body of Christ throughout the

world.../

for our Christian leaders and teachers and priests... / for those about to be baptized or confirmed and for

those who support them.../

for our fellow Christians in those places where they cannot worship freely but are persecuted for the name of Christ... /

for all who have been harmed by those in positions of trust in the church, and for those who have done the harm... / Lord may we have courage to acknowledge our shadow selves and actions, may we have strength to repent, may we have grace to heal and transform.

May all of us grow in faith, open to the deep searching of your Spirit in our hearts. May all of us increase in love, and live in service and peace.

(Silently or out loud, please add your prayers)

Intercessor:

I invite your prayers for the many faith traditions throughout our world, that we may grow in tolerance, acceptance of each other, mutual understanding and compassion, and that we may work together for the wellbeing of all...

(Silently or out loud, please add your prayers)

Intercessor:

I invite your prayers for all nations and people of the earth, and for all who govern and are in positions of authority among us...

(Silently or out loud, please add your prayers)

Intercessor:

I invite your prayers for all who endure the hardship of unemployment, financial distress, injustice, disablement, in our own communities and throughout the world...

(Silently or out loud, please add your prayers)

Intercessor:

I invite your prayers for those who are ill or facing death, for their families, friends and caregivers...

(Silently or out loud, please add your prayers)

All: Almighty God,

kindle we pray, in every heart
the true love of peace,
and guide with your wisdom
those who take counsel for the nations of the earth,
that justice and peace may increase,
until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love.
We offer our prayers through the love and life
we receive through our Lord Jesus Christ.



Hymn: Were You There (Verses 1, 2, and 3) (On Page 20)

## Thirteenth Station: Jesus is Taken Down from the Cross

Narrator: Since it was the day of Preparation,

the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the sabbath, especially because that sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have

the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed.

Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out.

(He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, "None of his bones shall be broken." And again another passage of scripture says, "They will look on the one whom they have pierced."

Hymn: Were You There (on Page 20)

(Verses 4,5, and 6)

(As the last verse of the hymn is sung, the two Marys slowly and reverently approach the altar.)

#### The Fourteenth Station: Jesus is Laid in the Tomb

During this next narration, Mary, Jesus' mother,

behind, closing the door behind them.)

lays aside the crown of thorns. Together, the two
Marys lift the wooden cross (which is resting
against the front of the altar) and place the cross on the altar lengthwise. They
pick up the white shroud (which is on a chair nearby) and prayerfully cover the
cross with the shroud. When the Narrator is finished reading, the two Marys
pick up the cross from the altar, Mary Magdalene holding the foot of the cross,
Mary the mother holding the head; they slowly and reverently carry the shroud
covered cross through the chapel and out to the sacristy. The Narrator follows



Narrator:

After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body.

Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews.

Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

#### (Silent Reflection)

(Mary Magdalene re-enters alone through the side chapel. She approaches the main altar, takes the crown of thorns and places it centrally on the altar. She then sits with head bowed in the Deacon's chair, keeping vigil until everyone is gone)

