



Good Friday
IT IS FINISHED.

DEFINING GRACE

March 30, 2018
Aberdeen EMC

Narrator	Rudy
Jesus	Sol
Woman/Witness	Teresa
Peter	Jim
Witness	Teresa
Pilate	Henry
People	Congregation
Song Leader	Darlene
Pianist	Deb

March 30, 2018, Good Friday

The Passion of our Lord, according to John

Please be prepared to join in reading in unison the part of the People, which is in **bold** type.

Welcome

Prayer of Invocation

Let us remember Jesus,
who, though rich, became poor and dwelt among us;
who was mighty indeed, healing the sick and the troubled;
who, as a teacher to his disciples, was their companion and servant.
**May we ever be grateful for Jesus the Christ
and what he has done for us.**

Let us remember Jesus,
who prayed for the forgiveness of those who rejected him
and for the perfecting of those who received him;
who loved all people and prayed for them,
even if they denied and rejected him;
who hated sin because he knew the cost of pride and selfishness,
of cruelty and hatred, both to people and to God.
**May we ever be grateful for Jesus the Christ
and what he has done for us.**

Let us remember Jesus,
who humbled himself, obedient unto the cross.
God has exalted him who has redeemed us
from the bondage of sin and given us new freedom.
**May we ever be grateful for Jesus the Christ
and what he has done for us and continues to do for us.**
(Silence of remembrance)

Amen

Hymn Go to dark Gethsemane #240 HWB

John 18:1-19:42 (NRSV)

Narrator: Jesus went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place to 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 priest 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?

Narrator: They answered,

People: Jesus of Nazareth

Narrator: Jesus replied,

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, he asked them,

Jesus: Whom are you looking for?

Narrator: And they said,

People: Jesus of Nazareth

Narrator: Jesus answered,

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?

Hymn 'Tis Midnight, and on Olive's Brow # 241 HWB

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,

Woman: You are not also one of the man's disciples, are you?

Narrator: Peter said,

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

Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. Jesus answered,

Jesus: I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said.

Narrator: When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying,

Witness: Is that how you answer to the high priest?

Narrator: Jesus answered

Jesus: If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?

Narrator: Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him,

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

Narrator: He denied it and said,

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,

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

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

Narrator: Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate headquarters. It was very 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?

Narrator: They answered,

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

Narrator: Pilate said to them

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

Narrator: They replied

People: 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?

Narrator: Jesus answered,

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

Narrator: Pilate replied,

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?

Narrator: Jesus answered,

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.

Narrator: Pilate asked him,

Pilate: So are you a king?

Narrator: He answered,

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.

Narrator: Pilate asked him,

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?

Narrator: They shouted in reply,

People: Not this man, but Barabbas!

Narrator: Now Barabbas was a bandit.

Hymn Man of Sorrows #258 HWB

Narrator: The Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. 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 saying,

People: Hail, King of the Jews!

Narrator: As they said this they struck him on the face. 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.

Narrator: So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and purple robe. Pilate said to them,

Pilate: Here is the man!

Narrator: When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted,

People: Crucify him! Crucify him!

Narrator: Pilate said to them,

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

Narrator: They answered him,

People: 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?

Narrator: Jesus answered him,

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,

People: 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

Narrator: They cried out,

People: Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!

Narrator: Pilate asked them,

Pilate: Shall I crucify your King?

Narrator: The chief priests answered

People: We have no king but the emperor.

Narrator: Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

Narrator: 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. 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 the 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,

People: Do not write, "The king of the Jews," but, " This man said, I am King of the Jews"

Narrator: Pilate answered,

Pilate: What I have written I have written.

Hymn O sacred Head, now wounded #252 HWB

Narrator: When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into 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,

People: Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it.

Narrator: 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 his disciple,

Jesus: here is your mother.

Narrator: And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home. After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture),

Jesus: I am thirsty

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

(Silence)

Hymn Jesus, remember me #247 HWB

Narrator: Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the body left on the cross during the Sabbath, especially because the 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 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 may also believe.

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.

Prayer of the People

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

Oh, come, let us worship Him.

Hymn When I survey the wondrous Cross #259 HWB

Benediction

May you find in the cross a sure ground for faith,
a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sins forgiven.
And may the blessing of God go with you,
now and forevermore. Amen.



*We will meet again to celebrate the resurrection on
Sunday morning!*

Easter Potluck at 9:30 am

Easter Service at 10:45 am