

Holy Saturday Morning Prayer Service

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Opening Hymn: *O Sacred Head Surrounded*

O sacred head surrounded
By crown of piercing thorn!
O bleeding head, so wounded,
Reviled and put to scorn!
The pow'r of death comes o'er you,
The glow of life decays,
Yet angel hosts adore you,
And tremble as they gaze.

I see your strength and vigor
All fading in the strife,
And death with cruel rigor,
Bereaving you of life,
O agony and dying!
O love to sinners free!
Jesus, all grace supplying,
O turn your face on me.

In this, your bitter passion,
Good Shepherd, think of me
With your most sweet compassion,
Unworthy though I be.
Beneath your cross abiding
Forever would I rest,
In your dear love confiding
And with your presence blest.

Antiphon 1 (*leader*): Though sinless, the Lord has been put to death. The world is in mourning as for an only son.

Psalm 64

- 1 Hear my voice, O God, as I complain,
guard my life from dread of the foe.
Hide me from the band of the wicked,
from the throng of those who do evil.
- 2 They sharpen their tongues like swords;
they aim bitter words like arrows
to shoot at the innocent from ambush,
shooting suddenly and recklessly.
- 1 They scheme their evil course;
they conspire to lay secret snares.
They say: "Who will see us?
Who can search out our crimes?"

- 2 He will search who searches the mind
and knows the depth of the heart.
God has shot them with his arrow
and dealt them sudden wounds.
Their own tongue has brought them to ruin
and all who see them mock.
- 1 Then will all men fear;
they will tell what God has done.
They will understand God's deeds.
The just will rejoice in the Lord
and fly to him for refuge.
All the upright hearts will glory.
- 2 Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
- 1 As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

Antiphon 1 (*all*): Though sinless, the Lord has been put to death. The world is in mourning as for an only son.

Antiphon 2 (*leader*): From the jaws of hell, Lord, rescue my soul.

Canticle

Isaiah 38:10-14, 17-20

- 1 Once I said,
"In the noontime of life I must depart!
To the gates of the nether world I shall be consigned
for the rest of my years."
- 2 I said, "I shall see the Lord no more
in the land of the living.
No longer shall I behold my fellow men
among those who dwell in the world."
- 1 My dwelling, like a shepherd's tent,
is struck down and borne away from me;
you have folded up my life, like a weaver
who severs the last thread.
- 2 Day and night you give me over to torment;
I cry out until the dawn.
Like a lion he breaks all my bones;
day and night you give me over to torment.
- 1 Like a swallow I utter shrill cries;
I moan like a dove.
My eyes grow weak, gazing heaven-ward:
O Lord, I am in straits; be my surety!
- 2 You preserved my life
from the pit of destruction,
when you cast behind your back
all my sins.

- 1 For it is not the nether world that gives you thanks,
nor death that praises you;
neither do those who go down into the pit
await your kindness
- 2 The living, the living give you thanks
as I do today.
Fathers declare to their sons,
O God, your faithfulness.
- 1 The Lord is our savior;
we shall sing to stringed instruments
in the house of the Lord
all the days of our life.
- 2 Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
- 1 As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

Antiphon 2 (*all*): From the jaws of hell, Lord, rescue my soul.

Antiphon 3 (*leader*): I was dead, but now I live for ever, and I hold the keys of death and of hell.

Psalm 150:

- 1 Praise God in his holy place,
praise him in his mighty heavens.
Praise him for his powerful deeds,
praise his surpassing greatness.
- 2 O praise him with sound of trumpet,
praise him with lute and harp.
Praise him with timbrel and dance,
praise him with strings and pipes.
- 1 O praise him with resounding cymbals,
praise him with clashing cymbals.
Let everything that lives and that breathes
give praise to God.
- 2 Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
- 1 As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

Antiphon 3 (*all*): I was dead, but now I live for ever, and I hold the keys of death and of hell.

Reading *Hosea 5:15b-16.2*

Thus says the Lord:
In their affliction, they shall look for me:
“Come, let us return to the Lord,
For it is he who has rent, but he will heal us;
he has struck us, but he will bind our wounds.
He will revive us after two days;
on the third day he will raise us up,
to live in his presence.”

Antiphon 4 (*leader*): For our sake, Christ was obedient, accepting even death, death on a cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him the name above all other names.

Canticle of Zechariah

Antiphon (*leader*): Save us, O Savior of the world. On the cross you redeemed us by the shedding of your blood; we cry out for your help, O God.

1 Blessed be the Lord, the God Of Israel;
he has come to his people and set them free.

2 He has raised up for us a mighty savior,
Born of the house of his servant David.

1 Through his holy prophets he promised of old
that he would save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all who hate us.

2 He promised to show mercy to our fathers
and to remember his holy covenant.

1 This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.

2 You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
to give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of our sins.

1 In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn shall break upon us,
to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

2 Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

1 As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Antiphon (*all*): Save us, O Savior of the world. On the cross you redeemed us by the shedding of your blood; we cry out for your help, O God.

Intercessions:

Leader: Our Redeemer suffered and was buried for us in order to rise again. With sincere love we adore him, and aware of our needs we cry out:

Response: Lord, have mercy on us.

Leader: Christ our Savior, your sorrowing Mother stood by you at your death and burial,

Response: in our sorrows may we share your suffering.

Leader: Christ our Lord, like the seed buried in the ground, you brought forth for us the harvest of grace,

Response: may we die to sin and live for God.

Leader: Christ, the Good Shepherd, in death you lay hidden from the world,

Response: teach us to love a life hidden with you in the Father.

Leader: Christ, the new Adam, you entered the kingdom of death to release all the just since the beginning of the world,

Response: may all who lie dead in sin hear your voice and rise to life.

Leader: Christ, Son of the living God, through baptism we were buried with you,

Response: risen also with you in baptism, may we walk in newness of life.

The Lord's Prayer – *Our Father...*

Closing Prayer:

All powerful and ever living God,
Your only son went down among the dead and rose again in glory.
In your goodness, raise up your faithful people buried with him in baptism
to be one with Him in the eternal life of heaven,
where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
One God, forever and ever. Amen.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.