The Liturgy of Good Friday

*The Gathering*

**The Collect**

Eternal God, in the cross of Jesus we see the cost of our sin and the depth of your love:

in humble hope and fear may we place at his feet all that we have and all that we are,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Silence is kept.*

**New Testament Reading**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

‘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’, he also adds, ‘I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.’ Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin. Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 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. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, 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.

*Silence is kept.*

*Hymn Were you there when they crucified my Lord?*

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**The Passion Reading**

*John 18.1–end of 19*

*During the passion reading there are 4 breaks. During each break, we will keep a moment of silence.*

*You are invited to kneel during the periods of silence*

*Silence is kept.*

*The Proclamation of the Cross*

*Hymn: O Sacred Head*

*A wooden cross may be brought into the church and placed in the sight of the people.*

*Quiet music is played (Allegri’s Miserere)*

*Reflection*

*The Prayers of Intercession*

Give to your Church grace to enter deeply into the sad mystery of this day …

as we stand before the Cross of Jesus Christ,

make us more worthy to take that Cross as the sign of our faith.

Have mercy on a world that goes its way ignorant or forgetful of Christ’s sacrificial love …

in the power of the Cross, let his true kingship be established.

As Jesus cared for his mother and his friend even in the hour of death,

let nothing diminish our concern for one another …

As he was crucified near to a city, may his saving love come into our dwellings.

Look with compassion on all who are bruised and smitten by suffering …

In the sufferings of Christ, let them find healing.

We pray for all whose earthly lives are finished …

We pray that the death which destroyed death shall be their life.

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers**

**through the mercy of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Standing at the foot of the cross, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come;**

**thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection

of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world:

grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross

we may triumph in the power of his victory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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