

Worship on April 15, 2022 (CCLI: License Number #3156883)

Good Friday Order of worship

We Gather

- Welcome
- Call to worship
- Praise song – BOP 238 Beneath the cross of Jesus
- Prayer for worship + Lord's Prayer
- Words of Assurance
- Praise song – BOP 235 Alas, and did my Saviour bleed

We Listen

- Prayer for illumination
- Scripture: Isaiah 52:13-53:12
- Sermon: It was the Lord's good plan to crush him
- Prayer

We Respond

- Song for the Journey – BOP 240 Rock of ages, cleft for me

We Serve

- Benediction

Announcements:

. Welcome! Grace and peace to you all who are worshipping God with us today. This is Sunday, April 15th, 2022. This is Good Friday. This is the day we gather together in gratitude and love remembering the suffering, humility, and sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ for us. As we worship our Saviour Jesus, may his love and grace fill your hearts.

As we come into the presence of our God, let us open our hearts and minds, and focus on our Lord and King.

Responsive Call to Worship

One: Blessed be the name of the Lord our God

All: who redeems us from sin and death.

One: For us and for our salvation,

All: Christ became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

One: God did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us,

All: Will God not also give us everything else with Christ?

One: Blessed be the name of the Lord

All: Now and forever.

Praise song – 238 Beneath the cross of Jesus

<u>Vs. 1</u> Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand, the shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land, a home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way, from the burning of the noontide heat and the burden of the day.	<u>Vs. 2</u> Upon the cross of Jesus mine eyes at times can see the very dying form of one who suffered there for me, and from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess: the wonders of redeeming love and my own unworthiness.
<u>Vs. 3</u> I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place; I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face; content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss; my sinful self my only shame, my glory all, the cross	

Prayer For Adoration and Confession

We come to the foot of your cross and bow with the disciples, Lord Jesus. We ponder the mystery of your life and death. We proclaim the truth of who you are with those who witnessed your love poured out for us. We come to you this day because you first came to us. We come to show our love for you because you first loved us. We come to serve you because you first served us. We come to worship you with God the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and always.

God of loving-kindness, you sent Christ into the world that we might have life and have it abundantly. Yet we live lives that are sometimes deadly, certainly less than your purposes intend. We allow your world to be filled with violence and terror; our trust in you is shallow and our faithfulness stumbles. In the face of uncertainty and trouble, we forget that your loving kindness governs all things. Forgive who we have been, amend who we are, and direct who we shall be through Christ our Lord.

This time we come to you in prayer that you taught us how to pray: (The Lord's Prayer:)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Sisters and brothers in Christ, Christ died on the cross that we may have life. What will separate us from the love of Christ? Hardship? Distress? Peril or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through the God who loves us. Neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Let us rejoice that, no matter what is happening around us, no matter what we have done, God's deep love will never let us go.

Praise Song: BOP 235 Alas, and did my Saviour bleed

<u>Vs. 1</u> Alas, and did my Saviour bleed, and did my Sovereign die? Would he devote that sacred had for sinners such as I	<u>Vs. 2</u> Was it for sins that I have done he groaned upon the tree? Amazing pity, grace unknown, and love beyond degree!
<u>Vs. 3</u> Well might the sun in darkness hide, and shut its glories in, when Christ the great redeemer died for fallen creatures' sin.	<u>Chorus</u> I, too, in shame would hide my face, while that dread cross appears; dissolve my heart in thankfulness and melt mine eyes to tears.
<u>Vs. 5</u> But drops of grief can ne'er repay the debt of love I owe; here, Lord, I give myself away; 'tis all that I can do	

Prayer for Illumination:

Source of wisdom and understanding, in the midst of our distractions, let us experience stillness. In the midst of competing voices, let us hear your Word. In the many choices we face, let us follow your will. In the name of Jesus, our teacher and saviour, we pray. Amen

Scripture: Isaiah 52:13-53:12

13 See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high.
14 Just as there were many who were astonished at him —so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of mortals—
15 so he shall startle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which had not been told them they shall see, and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.
53:1 Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?
2 For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.
3 He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account.
4 Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted.
5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.
6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.
7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.
8 By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people.
9 They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.
10 Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the Lord shall prosper.
11 Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

12 Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

“This is the word of the Lord / Thanks be to God.”

SERMON: It was the Lord's good plan to crush him

A long description of Jesus as the sacrificial Lamb.

What is your favorite image of Jesus?

Jesus walked on the water. Jesus cooked fish and buns for his disciples. Jesus opened the eyes of the blind. He cast out demons. He taught on the mount. He fed the hungry. He cleansed the temple. He was whipped. He fell. He carried the cross. He was hung on the cross. He was laid on the tomb. He appeared to his disciples with scars on his hands.

My favorite image is Jesus hugging you. When I went to mission trip years ago, I custom made T-shirts. I came up with this. “Jesus Hugs You.” We ordered children sizes as well. My boys still have the t-shirts. The image of Jesus hugging me is always in my heart.



Today's sermon title is **“It was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain.”**

To get meat, slaughtering cow is unavoidable. They do not kill the cows when they are in their barn, instead they should walk to the butchering place. When a farmer leads them out, they resist. By nature, they sense that they should not follow. Some shed tears, I heard. The farmers? They may feel bad, maybe sad, but this is the way it is.

V3, “He was despised and rejected – a man of sorrows, acquainted with deepest grief. We turned out backs on him and looked the other way. He was despised, and we did not care.” (NLT)

Farmers who takes benefit from the death of cows cannot help. This is the normal process. I am not talking bad about farmers.

V4, “Yet it was our weaknesses he carried; it was our sorrows that weighted him down. And we thought his troubles were a punishment from God, a punishment for his own sins!” (NLT)

We turned around and we ignored that man. We judged him. But, he was there for me. He was carrying my sin, my sorrows.

“5 But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed.

6 All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God's paths to follow our own. Yet the Lord laid on him the sins of us all.”

7 He was oppressed and treated harshly, yet he never said a word. He was led like a lamb to the slaughter. And a sheep is silent before the shearers, he did not open his mouth.

8 Unjustly condemned, he was led away. No one cared that he died without descendants, that his life was cut short in midstream. But he was struck down for the rebellion of my people.

9 He had done no wrong and had never deceived anyone. But he was buried like a criminal; he was put in a rich man's grave."

One person became the scapegoat. This man took all the blames for us. Is this seem fair? Can you find any good thing for him in this passage? None. Nothing good is done to Jesus. These are the description of his suffering and death in the place of ours.

The Bible says, v10, **"But it was the Lord's good plan to crush him and cause him grief."**

The Lord's good plan? Making one person the sacrifice for all. Is this a good plan?

For whom is it good? Why is this called good plan?

Through the suffering and death of Jesus Christ, these are achieved. Let's continue to read.

Yet when his life is made an offering for sin, he will have many descendants. He will enjoy a long life, and the Lord's good plan will prosper in his hands.

11 When he sees all that is accomplished by his anguish, he will be satisfied. And because of his experience, my righteous servant will make it possible for many to be counted righteous, for he will bear all their sins.

12 I will give him the honours of victorious soldier, because he exposed himself to death. He was counted among the rebels. He bore the sins of many and interceded the rebels.

First, we can find that Jesus is honoured after his sacrifice. It is similar that we respect soldiers. They sacrifice their lives to protect people. Their time of service is not easy, it also is dangerous because they expose their lives to death, but they are honoured.

Jesus satisfied God. With his own death, Jesus paid the price of sins of all people. Because the price of death was fully paid, we can be called righteous before the eyes of God. The brokenness was restored. The wrong was corrected. The disconnection between God and us was removed. By the death of Jesus Christ, our identity was completely changed from unrighteous to righteous.

Today, with thankful hearts, we commemorate this sacrificial love for us.

We love Jesus who gives us victory. We love Jesus when he comforts us, when he gives us power, and when he comes us in abundance. But, Jesus comes to us with the hands marked with scars. Without the sacrifice, without the nail-pierced hands, there is no victory. There is no redemption. There is no life. Let us come to Jesus who sacrifice his life for us.

This is the word of the Lord for us today.

Prayer on Good Friday

Gracious Father God, thank you for calling us here in your presence. It was your good plan to crush Jesus for us. For our goodness, Jesus became the sacrificial Lamb. He bore the consequences of all our sin. Loving Father God, pound our closed hearts. God, break our harden hearts. We turned away from you. Many times, we care for our own hearts first. We forget our life Giver. We forget the Source of our life. Alas Lord... Have mercy upon us. As we remember your suffering and death for us, help us come back to you. Help us turn our focus to you. Help us trust your forgiveness and help us live as the

people who have your love in the centre of our hearts. You hold us and you hug us. Help us be still in your arms.

In Jesus' precious and powerful and beautiful name, we pray. Amen.

Song for the Journey BOP 240 Rock of ages, cleft for me

Vs. 1 Rock of ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee; let the water and the blood, from thy riven side which flowed, be of sin the double cure: cleanse me from its guilt and power.	Vs. 2 Not the labours of my hands can fulfil thy law's demands; could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow, all for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone
Vs. 3 Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to thy cross I cling: naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace; foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Saviour, or I die.	Vs. 4 While I draw this fleeting breath, when my eyelids close in death, when I soar through tracts unknown, see thee on thy judgement throne, rock of ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

This is Good Friday. Long weekend is very exciting and fun. But, the main theme of this long weekend is not family, but it is Jesus. Put Jesus in front of your family. Jesus loves you taking care of your family and your life. But, this is the time for us to remember how we have all the things we have including our life. Let Jesus be the centre of this season.

Benediction: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, And the Love of God, And the intimate fellowship of the Holy Spirit, Be with us all, now and always. Amen.