



Good Friday

S E R V I C E

GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 29

“Agnus Dei”
Exodus 12:1-13

Due to the solemn nature of the day, the opening hymn is omitted. All enter in silence.

CALL TO WORSHIP

[During the sermon series on Exodus we are using psalms that celebrate Israel's Deliverance from Egypt. Today we use selected verses from Psalm 80.]

- P** Turn us again to yourself, O God Almighty.
- C** **Make your face shine upon us.**
- P** Only then will we be saved.
- C** **You brought Israel from Egypt like a grapevine.**
- P** You drove away the nations and transplanted them into your land.
- C** **You cleared the ground for your people.**
- P** They took root and filled the land.
- C** **But now, our walls are broken down.**
- P** The wild boar from the forest devours it, and the wild animals feed on it.
- C** **Make your face shine upon us.**
- P** Look from heaven and see our plight. Take care of this grapevine
- C** **Turn us again to yourself, O God Almighty.**
- P** Make your face shine upon us.
- All:** **Only then will we be saved.**

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

- P** Dear Jesus, our Savior and Lord, lead us to reverently behold the agony of your rejection, the pain of your condemnation, and the horror of your crucifixion.
- C** **Bring us to the places you walked and to the people you encountered on that Friday so long ago.**
- P** Stay with us, Lord, as we witness your suffering and listen to your last words of love.
- C** **As we approach Calvary let us become mindful of our sins and of our willful rebellion against your holy commandments.**
- P** Eternal God, we confess that we have turned away from you in our thinking, speaking and doing.
- C** **We have lived for ourselves and have refused to bear the burdens of others.**
- P** We have passed by the hungry, the poor and the oppressed.
- C** **O God, we have tried to hide from you and from one another.**
- P** We confess our fatal attractions that enslave us and the failed relationships that haunt us.
- C** **We cannot plead the strength of our temptations or the frailty of our nature or place the blame on other people.**
- P** We can only say, "For the sake of Jesus, God, be merciful to me, a sinner."

+ A moment of silent reflection +

P By the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I, a called and ordained servant of Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. O God, make your face shine upon us.

All: Only then will we be saved!

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Almighty God, graciously behold this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed and delivered into the hands of sinful men to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING Exodus 12:1–13 (The Passover)

12 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ²“This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household. ⁴And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. ⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, ⁶and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.^[a] ⁷“Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. ¹⁰And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD's Passover. ¹²For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

P Let us pray for all the ministers of the Word, for all vocations in the Church, and for all the people of God:

P Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified, receive the supplications and prayers which we offer before You for all Your servants in Your holy Church that every member of the same may truly serve You according to Your calling; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P Let us pray for all in authority that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty:

P O merciful Father in heaven, because You hold in Your hand all the might of man and because You have ordained, for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do well, all the powers that exist in all the nations of the world, we humbly pray You graciously to regard Your servants, especially Joe, our president; the Congress of the United States; Kristi, our governor; and all those who make, administer, and judge our laws; that all who receive the sword as Your ministers may bear it according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P Let us pray to our Lord God Almighty that He would deliver the world from all error, take away disease, ward off famine, set free those in bondage, and grant health to the sick and a safe journey to all who travel:

P Almighty and everlasting God, the consolation of the sorrowful and the strength of the weak, may the prayers of those who in any tribulation or distress cry to You graciously come before You, so that in all their necessities they may rejoice in Your manifold help and comfort; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P Let us pray for all who are outside the Church, that our Lord God would be pleased to deliver them from their error, call them to faith in the true and living God and His only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and gather them into His family, the Church:

P Almighty and everlasting God, because You seek not the death but the life of all, hear our prayers for all who have no right knowledge of You, free them from their error, and for the glory of Your name bring them into the fellowship of Your holy Church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

The congregation leaves in silence.

*For God so loved
the world that he gave
his only Son.*

John 3:16, NRSV

