

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

March 29, 2018 (Holy Thursday)

Embrace the Cross: A Service of Shadows (*Tenebrae*)

GATHERING

We invite worshipers to enter, and then pray, in silence.

Jesus, Remember Me

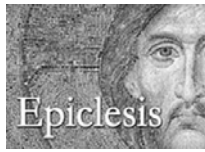
Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.

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[Silence]





A WORD ABOUT TONIGHT'S SERVICE

Psalm 22 (chanting)

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?*

and are so far from my cry and the words of my distress?

O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer,*

by night as well, but I find no rest.

All who see me laugh me to scorn;*

they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,

“He trusted in the LORD, let him deliver him;*

let him rescue him, if he delights in him.”

Be not far from me, for trouble is near,*

and there is none to help.

I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint;*

my heart within my breast is melting wax.

Packs of dogs close me in, and gangs of evildoers circle around me;*

they pierce my hands and my feet; I can count all my bones.

They stare and gloat over me;*

they divide my garments among them; they cast lots for my clothing.

Be not far away, O LORD;*

you are my strength; hasten to help me.

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD.*

and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him;*

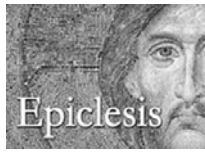
they shall be known as the LORD'S forever.

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn*

the saving deeds that he has done.

[A Time of Silent Meditation]

The first candle is extinguished



READING: Luke 22:7-16

The second candle is extinguished

THE TABLE OF THE LORD

Communion meditations:

Jesus says, “The bread of God is that which comes down out of heaven, and gives life to the world. ... I am the bread of life; all who come to Me will never hunger, and all who believe in Me will never thirst. ... I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. And this is His will: that everyone who believes in the Son will have eternal life.”

– from John 6:33-40

[A moment of silence]

Now when evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the twelve disciples.

While they were eating, Jesus took some bread, and after a blessing, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is My body.”

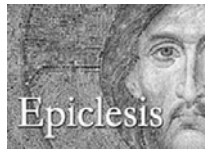
And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

“But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father’s kingdom.”

After singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

– Matthew 26:20, 26-30

[A moment of silence]



For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way He took the cup also after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

— 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

The Lord's Prayer (spoken)

**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 debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom,
And the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

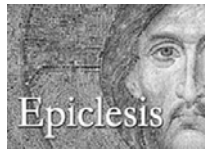
I Will Remember Thee

According to Thy gracious Word, in meek humility,
This will I do my dying Lord: I will remember Thee.
Thy body broken for my sake, my bread from heav'n shall be.
Thy testamental cup I take, and thus remember Thee.

Chorus

I will remember, I will remember,
I will remember, remember Thee.

When to the cross I turn mine eyes, and rest on Calvary,
O Lamb of God, my sacrifice, I must remember Thee.
Remember Thee and all Thy pains, and all Thy love to me;
Yea while a breath, a pulse remains, will I remember Thee.



Chorus

And when these failing lips grow dumb, and mind and memory flee,
When Thou shalt in Thy kingdom come, Jesus, remember me.

Chorus

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The third candle is extinguished

READING Isaiah 53:1-12

The fourth candle is extinguished

EMBRACE THE CROSS

We encourage worshipers to interact with the cross as they are led.

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

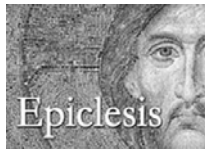
When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

See from His head, His hands, His feet
Sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were an offering far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1707. Music: Lowell Mason, 1824. Public domain.

The fifth candle is extinguished



Meditations

This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

– 1 John 4:10

But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the holy place, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. . . . Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant.

– Hebrews 9:11-12, 15

Redeemer Saviour Friend

I know You had me on Your mind when You climbed up on that hill,
For You saw me with eternal eyes, while I was yet in sin.
Redeemer, Saviour, Friend.

Every stripe upon Your battered back,
Every thorn that pierced Your brow,
Every nail drove deep through guiltless hands
Said that Your love knows no end. Redeemer, Saviour, Friend.

Chorus

Oh, Redeemer, redeem my heart again;
Saviour, come and shelter me from sin.
You're familiar with my weakness,
Devoted to the end. Redeemer, Saviour, Friend,

So the grace You pour upon my life will return to You in praise,
And I'll gladly lay down all my crowns
For the name by which I'm saved. Redeemer, Savior, Friend.

CCLI Song #2831523; ©1999 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; Chris Springer and Darrell Evans

The sixth candle is extinguished



Meditation

I have been crucified with Christ and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. And the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

– Galatians 2:20

God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

– Galatians 6:14

[Silence]

How Deep the Father's Love For Us

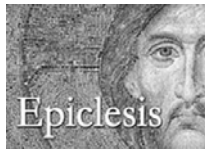
How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure;
That He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss! The Father turns His face away.
As wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.

Behold the Man upon a cross, my sin upon His shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished.
His dying breath has brought me life; I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything; no gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ: His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart:
His wounds have paid my ransom.

CCLI Song #1558110 ©1995 Thankyou Music. Stuart Townend. CCLI License # 3097801

The seventh candle is extinguished



DEPARTING

Closing meditation: *Tenebrae factae sunt*

(Gregorian chant)

Tenebrae factae sunt, dum crucifixissent Jesum Judaei.

Et circa horam nonam exclamavit Jesus voce magna:

Deus meus, ut quid me dereliquisti?

Et inclinato capite, emisit spiritum exclamans Jesus voce magna ait:

Pater, in manus tuas commendo spiritum meum.

Et inclinato capite, emisit spiritum.

Translation:

There was darkness over the earth when they crucified Jesus.

And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice:

My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?

And he bowed his head and gave up His spirit.

Jesus cried with a loud voice and said,

Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit.

And he bowed his head and gave up His spirit.

Closing Prayer and Benediction

Holy God, you have opened our ears to hear your word, and our hearts to see in the cross the revelation of your love. Trusting in your faithfulness and thankful for your sacrifice and the fulfillment of your promise in the New Covenant through the body and blood of our Redeemer, your Son Jesus Christ, we now depart in silence to walk with Him in the way of the cross. **Amen.**

Now may the Lord, Jesus Christ, who for our sake became obedient unto death, even death on a cross, keep you and strengthen you this night and forever.

Amen.

We invite worshipers to leave in silence.

Epiclesis: An Ancient-Future Faith Community

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Sunday mornings at The Carmichael Chapel, 4600 Winding Way
(Corner of Winding Way and Pasadena), Sacramento, CA 95841.

Informal gathering: 10:00 AM; Worship at 10:30 AM.

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