



First Presbyterian
Church of DuPage

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
APRIL 2, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.

The liturgy for the Three Days proclaims one dramatic story in three acts. The events of **Maundy Thursday, Good Friday**, and the **Great Vigil of Easter** are best understood as one service, unfolding over the course of three days.

Maundy Thursday (from *mandatum*, Latin for commandment) proclaims Jesus' new commandment to love one another as he has loved us. It celebrates Christ's example of humble service and self-offering, represented by the washing of feet and the sharing of communion. **Good Friday** proclaims the good news of salvation through the paradoxical suffering and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. The center of this liturgy is the reading of the passion narrative from the Gospel of John, in which Christ is lifted up on the cross as a sign of God's great love for the world. And **The Great Vigil of Easter** proclaims God's victory over sin and death through Christ's resurrection. Traditionally, the Easter Vigil begins at sunset, in keeping with the ancient Jewish/Christian understanding of evening as the start of a new day.

The liturgy for the Three Days encompasses the end of Lent and the beginning of Easter. Like the threshold of a door, it stands between the two seasons.

GATHERING

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Christ Jesus bore our sins in his body on the cross
so that we might die to sin and live for righteousness.

People: **Blessed is the name of the Lord.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

HYMN – “What Wondrous Love is This” (p. 314 in The Celebration Hymnal)

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb I will sing,
To God and to the Lamb who is the great "I AM,"
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
And thro' eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And thro' eternity, I'll sing on.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE: [Isaiah 53:4-6](#)

SERMON – "The Meaning of the Cross" – Pastor David Boumgarden

HYMN – "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" (#321 in The Celebration Hymnal)

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.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ, my God.
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

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?

SOLEMN REPROACHES OF THE CROSS

Leader: I led you out of slavery into freedom,
and delivered you through the waters of rebirth,
but you have made a cross for your Savior.

**People: Holy God,
Holy and mighty,
Holy immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

Leader: Forty years I lead you through the desert,
feeding you with manna on the way;
I saved you from the time of trial
and gave you my body, the bread of heaven,
but you have made a cross for your Savior.

**People: Holy God,
Holy and mighty,
Holy immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

Leader: I led you on your way in a pillar of cloud and fire,
But you led me to the judgment hall of Pilate;
I guided you by the light of the Holy Spirit,
but you have made a cross for your Savior.

People: **Holy God,
Holy and mighty,
Holy immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

Leader: I gave you a royal scepter,
but you gave me a crown of thorns;
I gave you the kingdom
and crowned you with eternal life,
but you have made a cross for your Savior.

People: **Holy God,
Holy and mighty,
Holy immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

Leader: I opened the waters
to lead you to the promised land,
but you opened my side with a spear;
I washed your feet as a sign of my love,
but you have made a cross for your Savior.

People: **Holy God,
Holy and mighty,
Holy immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

Leader: I lifted you up to the heights,
but you lifted me high on the cross;
I raised you from death
and prepared for you the tree of life,
but you have made a cross for your Savior.

People: **Holy God,
Holy and mighty,
Holy immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**

Leader: I was hungry and you gave me no food,
thirsty and you gave me no drink,
a stranger and you did not welcome me,
naked and you did not clothe me,
sick and in prison and you did not visit me,
and you have made a cross for your Savior.

People: **Holy God,
Holy and mighty,
Holy immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.**