



BEHOLD THE LAMB

***A SOLEMN SERVICE
FOR GOOD FRIDAY***

APRIL 19, 2019, 7:00 PM

P Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide. And to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided." Genesis 22:13-14

**Once by a ram, a substitute ensnared,
Young Isaac's life from sacrifice was snared.
Now by a Lamb we too may find release.
O Christ, have mercy on us, grant us peace.
(Tune: "Abide with Me")**

P All the people of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs. Exodus 12:6-7,13

**Blood of the lamb, once painted on the door.
Angel of death beheld and then passed o'er.
Blood of the Lamb, poured out on Calvary
From sin and death to set God's people free.**

P For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. 1 Peter 1:8-9

**Behold the Lamb, who died upon the cross,
Christ for our sake regarded all things loss,
Poured out His blood on this most sacred day
That the world's sin might all be borne away.**

P Let us pray: This most grievous day of Your life has become for us, O Christ, a most glorious day! This day of death for You has become for us a day of life! This day of agony for You has become for us a day for adoring You! We will not weep for You but we will worship You, for on this day You offered to Your Father the sacrifice for our sins, the sacrifice which saved us! Glory be to You, O Jesus, for in bitter pains You poured out Your lifeblood from Your sacred veins -- so that we might live! Bless us now, O Savior, in our worship of You on this holy day. Amen.

SACRED SCRIPTURE

(Responsive readings from Isaiah 52:13–53:9)

P Behold, My Servant will prosper:

C He will be highly exalted.

P Many were amazed when they saw Him—beaten and bloodied, so disfigured one would scarcely know He was a person:

C So He shall startle many nations.

P Kings will stand speechless in His presence:

C For they will see what they had not previously been told about; they will understand what they had not heard about.

P Who has believed our message? To whom will the LORD reveal His saving power?:

C My servant grew up in the LORD’S presence like a tender green shoot, sprouting from a root in dry and sterile ground.

P There was nothing beautiful or majestic about His appearance:

C Nothing to attract us to Him.

P He was despised and rejected:

C A man of sorrows, acquainted with bitterest grief.

P We turned our backs on Him and looked the other way when He went by:

C He was despised, and we did not care.

P When they said this, Pilate brought Jesus out to them again. Then Pilate sat down on the judgment seat on the platform that is called the Stone Pavement (in Hebrew, Gabbatha). It was now about noon of the day of preparation for the Passover. And Pilate said to the people, “Here is your king!” “Away with Him,” they yelled. “Away with Him—crucify Him!” “What? Crucify your king?” Pilate asked. “We have no king but Caesar,” the leading priests shouted back. Then Pilate gave Jesus to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus and led Him away.

John 19:13-16

P Yet it was our weaknesses He carried; it was our sorrows that weighed Him down:

C We thought His troubles were a punishment from God for His own sins!

P But He was wounded and crushed for our sins:

C He was beaten that we might have peace. He was whipped, and we were healed!

P All of us have strayed away like sheep. We have left God’s paths to follow our own:

C Yet the LORD laid on Him the guilt and sins of us all.

P Carrying the cross by Himself, Jesus went to the place called Skull Hill (in Hebrew, Golgotha). There they crucified Him. There were two others crucified with Him, one on either side, with Jesus between them. And Pilate posted a sign over Him that read, “JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS.”

John 19:17-19

P He was oppressed and treated harshly:

C Yet He never said a word.

P He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep is silent before the shearers:

C He did not open His mouth.

**O dearest Jesus, what law hast Thou broken That such sharp
sentence should on Thee be spoken? Of what great crime hast
Thou to make confession, – What dark transgression?**

**They crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;
With cruel mockings to the cross they urge Thee; They give Thee
gall to drink, they still decry Thee; They crucify Thee.**

P By a perversion of justice He was taken away:

**C Who among the people realized that He was dying for their sins—that He was suffering
their punishment?**

*P The Jewish leaders didn't want the victims hanging there the next day, which was the
Sabbath (and a very special Sabbath at that, because it was the Passover), so they asked
Pilate to hasten their deaths by ordering that their legs be broken. Then their bodies could be
taken down. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the two men crucified with Jesus. But
when they came to Jesus, they saw that He was dead already, so they didn't break His legs.
One of the soldiers, however, pierced His side with a spear, and blood and water flowed out.
John 19:31-34*

P He had done no wrong, and He never deceived anyone:

C But He was buried like a criminal; He was put in a rich man's grave.

*P Later, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Now Joseph was a disciple of
Jesus, but secretly because he feared the Jews. With Pilate's permission, he came and took
the body away. He was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at
night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds. Taking
Jesus' body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen. This was in
accordance with Jewish burial customs. At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a
garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had ever been laid. Because it was
the Jewish day of Preparation and since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there. John
19:38-42*

**O darkest woe! Ye tears, forth flow! Has earth so sad a wonder?
God the Father's only Son Now is buried yonder.**

**O sorrow dread! Our God is dead! Upon the cross extended.
There His love enlivened us As His life was ended.**

**O child of woe: Who struck the blow That killed our gracious Master?
"It was I," thy conscience cries, "I have wrought disaster!"**

**Thy Bridegroom dead! God's Lamb has bled Upon thy sin forever,
Pouring out His sinless self In this vast endeavor.**

**Such innocence! His countenance A fount of faith undying!
Worlds on worlds cannot contain Grief at Him here lying.**

**O Virgin's Son, What Thou hast won Is far beyond all telling:
How our God, detested, died, Hell and devil felling.**

**O Jesus Christ Who sacrificed Thy life for lifeless mortals:
Be my life in death and bring Me to heaven's portals!**

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

***GLORY BE TO JESUS WHO, BY HIS DEATH,
FREED US FROM THE FEAR OF DEATH!***

Good Friday Offering / Prayer

Solemn Meditation

P Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world:

C By His holy cross He has redeemed the world.

P Remember His words:

C For they are our light.

P Remember His works:

C For they are our example.

P Remember His grace:

C For it is ours to receive.

P Remember His glory

C For it is the brilliance of God.

P Remember His pain:

C For it was not deserved.

P Remember His sorrows:

C For it was for our hardness of heart.

P Remember His life:

C For it was perfect before God.

P Remember His death:

C For it was ours.

P Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world:

C By His holy cross He has redeemed the world.

The Benediction



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