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FM 99.1**

**GOOD FRIDAY, April 2, 2021, 3pm
Liturgy of the Cross**

(P: pastor; C: congregation)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

There is silence for prayer.

P: 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 LESSON: Hosea 6:1-6, *God desires steadfast love*

“Come, let us return to the Lord;
for he has torn us, that he may heal us;
he has struck us down, and he will bind us up.

²After two days he will revive us;
on the third day he will raise us up,
that we may live before him.

³Let us know; let us press on to know the Lord;
his going out is sure as the dawn;
he will come to us as the showers,
as the spring rains that water the earth.”

⁴What shall I do with you, O Ephraim?
What shall I do with you, O Judah?
Your love is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes early away.

⁵Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets;
I have slain them by the words of my mouth,
and my judgment goes forth as the light.

⁶For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,
the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.”

P: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

PASSION OF OUR LORD: John 18:1 – 19:42, *The passion and death of Christ*

BIDDING PRAYER

P: Let us pray, brothers and sisters, for the holy Church of God throughout the world, that God the almighty Father guide it and gather it together, so that we may worship him in peace and tranquility.

There is a time of silence.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you have shown your glory to all nations in Jesus Christ. Guide the work of the Church. Help it to persevere in faith, proclaim your name, and bring salvation to people everywhere. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: Let us pray for Matthew (*LC-MS president*) and Daniel (*Indiana District president*), for our pastors and other ministers, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people of God.

There is a time of silence.

P: Almighty and eternal God, your Spirit guides the Church and makes it holy. Strengthen and uphold our pastors and our leaders; keep them in health and safety for the good of the Church, and help each of us to do faithfully the work to which you have called us. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: Let us pray for those preparing for Baptism, that God make them responsive to his love, and give them new life in Jesus Christ.

There is a time of silence.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you continually bless the Church with new members. Increase the faith and understanding of those preparing for Baptism. Give them a new birth as your children, and keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: Let us pray for all our brothers and sisters who share our faith in Jesus Christ, that God may gather and keep together in one Church all those who know Christ as Lord.

There is a time of silence.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you give your Church its unity. Look with favor on all who follow Jesus your Son. We are all consecrated to you by our Baptism; make us one in the fullness of faith, and keep us one in the fellowship of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: Let us pray for the Jewish people, the first to hear the Word of God, that they may receive the fulfillment of the covenant's promises.

There is a time of silence.

P: Almighty and eternal God, long ago you gave your promise to Abraham and his posterity. Hear the prayers of your Church that the people you first made your own may arrive with us at the fullness of redemption. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: Let us pray for those who do not believe in Christ, that the light of the Holy Spirit may show them the way of salvation.

There is a time of silence.

P: Almighty and eternal God, enable those who do not acknowledge Christ to receive the truth of the Gospel. Help us, your people, to grow in love for one another, to grasp more fully the mystery of your Godhead, and so to become more perfect witnesses of your love in the sight of all people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: Let us pray for those who do not believe in God, that they may find him who is the author and goal of our existence.

There is a time of silence.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you created humanity so that all might long to know you and have peace in you. Grant that in spite of the hurtful things that stand in their way, they may all recognize in the lives of Christians the tokens of your love and mercy, and gladly acknowledge you as the one true God and Father of us all. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: Let us pray for those who serve in public office, that God may guide their minds and hearts, so that all of us may live in true peace and freedom.

There is a time of silence.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you are the champion of the poor and oppressed. In your goodness, watch over those in authority, so that people everywhere may enjoy justice, peace, freedom, and a share in the goodness of your creation. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: Let us pray that God, the almighty and merciful Father, may heal the sick, comfort the dying, give safety to travelers, free those unjustly deprived of liberty, and rid the world of falsehood, hunger, and disease.

There is a time of silence.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you give strength to the weary and new courage to those who have lost heart. Hear the prayers of all who call on you in any trouble, that they may have the joy of receiving your help in their need. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

There is a time of silence.

Other prayers and intercessions may said by the leader.

P: Finally, let us pray for all those things for which the Lord would have us ask, saying:

**C: 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.**

VENERATION OF THE CROSS

As the cross is brought into the church, these versicles are spoken three times:

P: Behold, the life-giving cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world.

C: Oh, come, let us worship him.

When the cross is placed in its stand, there is a time of silence.

REPROACHES

P: Thus says the Lord: what have I done to you, O my people, and wherein have I offended you? Answer me. For I have raised you up out of the prison house of sin and death, and you have delivered up your redeemer to be scourged. For I have redeemed you from the house of bondage, and you have nailed your Savior to the cross. O my people.

C: Holy Lord God, holy and mighty God, holy and most merciful redeemer; God eternal, leave us not to bitter death. O Lord, have mercy.

P: Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O my people, and wherein have I offended you? Answer me. For I have conquered all your foes, and you have given me over and delivered me to those who persecute me. For I have fed you with my Word and refreshed you with living water, and you have given me gall and vinegar to drink. O my people.

C: Holy Lord God, holy and mighty God, holy and most merciful redeemer; God eternal, allow us not to lose hope in the face of death and hell. O Lord, have mercy.

P: Thus says the Lord: What have I done to you, O my people, and wherein have I offended you? Answer me. What more could have been done for my vineyard that I have done for it? When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad? My people, is this how you thank your God? O my people.

C: Holy Lord God, holy and mighty God, holy and most merciful redeemer; God eternal, keep us steadfast in the true faith. O Lord, have mercy.

Silence is held for a time.

HYMN: “Ah, Holy Jesus” LBW 123

**Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended
That man to judge thee hath in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected, O most afflicted.**

**Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee.
‘Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee; I crucified thee.**

**Lo, the Good Shepherd for the sheep is offered;
The slave hath sinned, and the Son hath suffered;
For man’s atonement, while he nothing heedeth, God intercedeth.**

**For me, kind Jesus, was thine incarnation.
Thy mortal sorrows, and thy life’s oblation;
Thy death of anguish and thy bitter Passion, For my salvation.**

THE CLOSING OFFICE

P: He has made me dwell in darkness

C: like the dead, long forgotten.

P: In obedience Christ accepted death – even death on a cross.

Silence is held for a time.

P: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

C: by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

Those who wish to remain for prayer and meditation are invited to do so.

We strive to use our gifts and the best resources available to support people in their faith. To inquire about our sermons and/or the resources used to produce them please contact us through our church office. To God be the glory!

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