



An Ecumenical Good Friday Worship Experience April 2, 2021

WELCOME

Thank you for worshipping with us today!

If you have an email address and want to be on POP's weekly announcement list, please let the church office know. You can find worship each week at <https://princeofpeace-er.org/worship/>.

If you would like to support the mission of Prince of Peace so that we can continue worship, community outreach, and other ministries, you can give any amount by cash, check, or online. Thank you for your generosity.

ORDER OF SERVICE *The assembly speaks the bold verses*

Preparing for Worship

Today we gather, as do Christians throughout the world, to hear the proclamation of the passion, to pray for the life of the world, and to meditate on the life-giving cross. Good Friday marks the death of Jesus Christ. The day is called "good" because of what Jesus' death means for the redemption of the world. Christians can never recall Jesus' death without remembering his resurrection, so while Good Friday recalls the sorrow of the crucifixion, it also celebrates the victory gained over death and sin which brings us new life.

Procession of the Cross

Call to Worship

Pastor Andrea Fluegel, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

Holy One, as we gather this night, the day of sorrows is upon us, and our cries have changed from 'hosanna' to 'crucify.' We stand in the crowd fearful and anxious. We wait and watch in the shadows. Accept our worship we pray. **Amen.**

Gathering Around the Cross

This night is a night for quiet. A time to pause. A time to reflect.

A time to mourn the passing of humanity's goodness.

Yet a time to give thanks for selfless love.

And so, we gather before a Cross that stands as an eternal symbol of God's devotion to us.

We remember God's pain:

for the way in which humanity failed, and continues to fail him;

for the need of his Son's death.

We recall God's Love for us:

everlasting and liberating, full of mercy and grace.

In the name of Jesus who loves us and died for us. **Amen.**

Prayer

O Holy One, on this Holy Friday we come quietly. Together with Jesus, we pray for all creation and the many ways we are suffering. Be with us now, that around the cross your people throughout the world might be renewed in depth of spirit. In the name of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, God with us in suffering. **Amen.**

Psalm 22:1-5

My God, O my God, why?

Why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from helping me?

-- ignoring my anguished roars.

O my God, I cry by day, but you don't answer;

by night, but I find no rest.

Yet you are the Holy One

enthroned on the praise of all who know you and have struggled with you.

Our ancestors trusted you,

and you delivered them.

They cried to you, and were rescued;

They trusted you, and were not sorry they did.

Hymn *"My God, O my God" (Psalm 22) - Richard Bruxvoort Colligan*

My God, O my God / Why have You forgotten me?

My God, O my God / How can You be silent now?

i The dogs are closing in / My mouth is dry / Where is God in my despair / So far from my cries

ii Our ancestors put their trust in you / And you delivered them

iii I am poured out like water / My heart is melting

iv I will declare your name / The poor will eat and for once be satisfied

Psalm 22:11-21

Don't be far from me, for trouble is near
and there is no one to help.

Many bulls stalk me,
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;
they open their mouths wide at me like ferocious, roaring lions.

I am poured out like water

and my bones have fallen apart;
my heart is like wax melting in my chest;
my mouth is as dry as a piece of broken pottery,
my tongue is stuck to my palate;
and you,

All: you have laid me in the dust of death.

For the dogs are closing in--
a pack of evil encircling me, coming at my hands and my feet.
I count the bones of my body while they stare and gloat over me;
they divide my clothes among themselves, One: casting lots for them.

O Holy One, don't fail me now!

My Help!
My Strength!

Come quickly to rescue me!

Save my life from the battle,
from these terrible and vicious dogs!
Save me from the lion's mouth!

My God, One: O my God.**Drawn to the Word****The Passion Story from the Gospel of John**

Paul Oman, pastor and artist

Reflection

Pastor Gail Irwin, First Congregational UCC

Music *"Lamb of God" - The Many*

Lamb of God,
with love poured out,
you suffer with the world
Have mercy. Have mercy. *(repeat)*

Lamb of God
Who suffers with the world
Grant us peace, grant us peace.
Grant us peace, grant us peace.

Prayers of the People

Holy Friday is an invitation to think about the life, ministry and death of Jesus. Jesus' lamenting prayer from the cross, "My God, O My God," invites us to be with Jesus where he is--present to suffering all over the world. In our time of prayer, we will call the roll, if you will, of all who are in need, both near us and around the world.

O Holy One, on this Holy Friday we come quietly. Together with Jesus, we pray for all creation and the many ways we are suffering. Be with us now, that around the cross your people throughout the world might be renewed. Hear us, O God, our God, in the name of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, God with us in suffering. **Amen.**

God, we pray for those in danger, and for those living in fear of violence. In distant places; in places near. We pray for all who are trapped in patterns of abuse-- physical, verbal, mental, sexual, spiritual. Hear us, O God, our God, in the name of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, God with us in suffering. **Amen.**

Let us pray for those who are suffering with illness or injury. For all those whose bodies, minds and spirits are restless, anxious or in pain, both near and far away. Hear us, O God, our God, in the name of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, God with us in suffering. **Amen.**

We pray for all those at the mercy of oppressive systems: those treated unfairly because of race, gender, age, ability or sexual orientation. We pray for all who are dehumanized by unjust systems, both victim and violator. Hear us, O God, our God, in the name of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, God with us in suffering. **Amen.**

We pray for those in deep sadness, anger or grief: those suffering a loss; those dealing with troubled emotions and memories, for all who are craving hope. Hear us, O God, our God, in the name of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, God with us in suffering. **Amen.**

Holy One, we pray for all those who are abandoned: for those rarely seen, heard or recognized. For all who are poor now, lonely, unemployed or in prison. Those without a safe home, without status, without freedom. Hear us, O God, our God, in the name of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, God with us in suffering. **Amen.**

God, we call the roll of suffering in our world, praying for all of creation and its wounds. In this moment, we name silently the needs most heavily on our hearts.

Into your hands we commend our lives and all our cares in the name of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, God with us in suffering. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Hymn *"Were You There"* - Rachel Kurtz

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when the sun refused to shine?

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Limited in-person worship is now being held. Pre-registration is required each week to attend in-person. We will be following social distancing guidelines as well, and masks will be required. Online or on-demand worship will continue to be available. Please register online or call the church office and leave a voicemail message. We will call you back to confirm. Sanctuary doors will be unlocked 10 minutes prior to worship.

Easter Worship Opportunities

Easter Sunday, April 4 – 9 a.m. in-person worship (*50 person limit*) (*online also available*)

Gathered and Sent Bible Discussion Available By Phone

The weekly Gathered and Sent Bible discussion recording (podcast) is now available by phone. Just call **978-599-7887** and stay on the line to listen to the recording that discusses the upcoming Sunday scripture reading. A new recording is posted every Monday. Gathered and Sent podcasts can also be found on the church website, Spotify, Pandora, Alexa, Audible, iTunes, Apple Podcast, Google Podcasts, and more. Listen, invite, and participate in God's Word.

Mountain of Love

Each Lenten season, Prince of Peace has a Mountain of Love to support the Weekend Backpack Program, Caritas, and the Vilas Food Pantry as a spiritual practice of generosity and almsgiving. This year, we are asking for monetary donations, or you can donate specific items needed such as spices, plastic spoons, cooking oil, oatmeal packets or cups, apple cider packets, or dry soup packets. These are much needed items, but rarely donated.

CURRENT PHASE: 2

- **Limited in-person worship.** Pre-registration is required to attend in-person. Online or on-demand worship will continue to be available. Please **sign up** on the church website at <https://princeofpeace-er.org/signups/> or by calling the church office. **Please sign up each household individual.** Again, use the sanctuary doors to enter the building. Doors will be unlocked 10 minutes prior to worship.
- Critical staff and volunteers by invitation-only access to building.
- Visitors must wear a facemask and keep to social distancing guidelines.



MISSION STATEMENT

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is a community who believes in God's love, knows Jesus as Savior, and is blessed by the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Thankful for these gifts, we gather to pray and praise, explore God's Word and its meaning for our lives, strengthen each other in our witness, and serve each other and our neighbors in the world.

VISION STATEMENT

Gathered by Grace ~ Sent to serve.
*Core Values: Spirituality, Community,
Grace, Helping Others, Creativity.*

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