

Good Friday April 2, 2021

A Combined Worship Service of:





Front Cover Artwork

Golgotha Gold, Julie Wecker. 2010. Mixed Media. Used by permission of the artist by email on 04/16/2019. "Golgotha Gold was painted to remind us of the gift of life God has given to all of us. There are 3 crosses of Calvary, the dice thrown by the soldiers as they tossed for Jesus's robe (bottom right) and gold throughout symbolizing the preciousness of this gift."

About the artist:

Julie Wecker was born in Queensland, Australia and continues to paint from a studio in Redcliffe, Queensland as well as teach art. She studied printmaking, sculpture, painting, and drawing at Queensland University of Technology (QUT). Collections of her work are held by the Moreton Bay Regional Council and the Redcliffe Museum. She has been artist-in-residence at the Hamilton Island Gallery, Australia and the Galleria Monteolivetto, Nice, France. For more information: www.juliewecker.com and www.galleriamonteoliveto.it/scheda artista.php?art=129&lan=en.

Welcome

Welcome to Hershey PCA (HPCA). We are glad to have you join with us in the worship of God through Jesus Christ, our Savior and King. We also welcome today those who join with us from Lebanon Valley Presbyterian Church (LVPCA).

Today's Tenebrae service will feature several readings from the account of Jesus's crucifixion from John's Gospel along with several songs of meditation.

Throughout the service the candles will be extinguished to remind us that the world was plunged into darkness as the Light of the World was hanging on the cross. (See Matthew's Gospel, chapter 27, verse 45.)

Thanks to all those who participate in making this worship service possible (worship service participants may include in alphabetical order): Ephraim Church (violin), Dave Eakin (vocals), Bonnie Kertland (vocals), Mark Linstedt (vocals), Pam Linstedt (vocals); Kimberly Robinson (vocals), Brad Weaver (sound), Nick Yingst (piano).

Prelude

*Approach to God

Greeting

O people, lament your great sin, for the sake of which Christ left his Father's bosom and came to earth.

Of a pure, gentle virgin
Jesus was born for us;
he gave life to the dead and put aside all sickness
until the time arrived
that he should be sacrificed for us.

He bore the heavy burden of our sins stretched out on the cross. The light has come into the world, and the world loved darkness rather than light.

God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift up our hearts to the Lord.

*Call to Worship

Isaiah 53:1, 4-5

Who has believed what he has heard from us?

And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,

and with his wounds we are healed.

Light, Black Text = Read by Leader
Bold Text = Read by Group

*Praise the Savior Now and Ever



The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus: John 18:1-1 Teaching Elder (TE) Francisco Victa (LVPCA)

When Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the brook Kidron, where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. ² Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, for Jesus often met there with his disciples. ³ So Judas, having procured a band of soldiers and some officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, went there with lanterns and torches and weapons. ⁴ Then Jesus, knowing all that would happen to him, came forward and said to them, "Whom do you seek?" ⁵ They answered him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am he." Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. ⁶ When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they drew back and fell to the ground. ⁷ So he asked them again, "Whom do you seek?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." ⁸ Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he. So, if you seek me, let these men go." ⁹ This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken: "Of those whom you gave me I have lost not one." ¹⁰ Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant and cut off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus.) ¹¹ So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?"

¹² So the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound him. ¹³ First they led him to Annas, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. ¹⁴ It was Caiaphas who had advised the Jews that it would be expedient that one man should die for the people.

Extinguishing the First Candle

Jesus Is Questioned and Denied: John 18:15-27

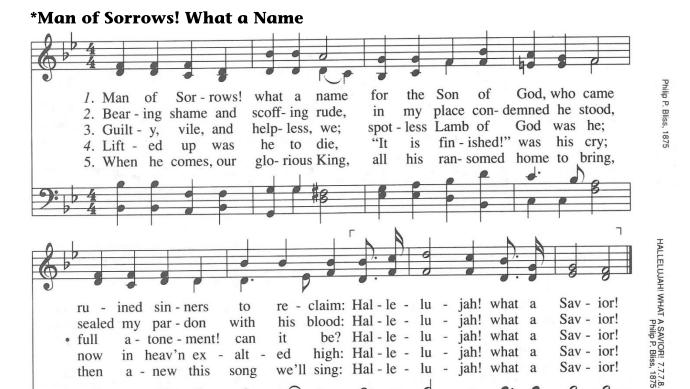
Pam Linstedt (HPCA)

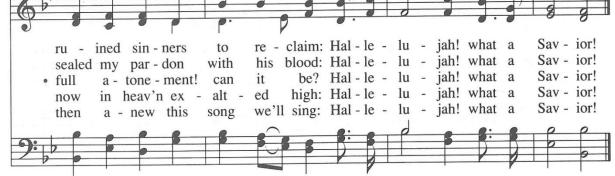
Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he entered with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, ¹⁶ but Peter stood outside at the door. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the servant girl who kept watch at the door, and brought Peter in. ¹⁷ The servant girl at the door said to Peter, "You also are not one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." ¹⁸ Now the servants and officers had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves. Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself.

¹⁹ The high priest then questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. ²⁰ Jesus answered him, "I have spoken openly to the world. I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. ²¹ Why do you ask me? Ask those who have heard me what I said to them; they know what I said." ²² When he had said these things, one of the officers standing by struck Jesus with his hand, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?" ²³ Jesus answered him, "If what I said is wrong, bear witness about the wrong; but if what I said is right, why do you strike me?" ²⁴ Annas then sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

²⁵ Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. So they said to him, "You also are not one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." ²⁶ One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" ²⁷ Peter again denied it, and at once a rooster crowed.

Extinguishing the Second Candle





Jesus Before Pilate: John 18:28-40

Jessica Robinson (HPCA)

Then they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the governor's headquarters. It was early morning. They themselves did not enter the governor's headquarters, so that they would not be defiled, but could eat the Passover. 29 So Pilate went outside to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?" 30 They answered him, "If this man were not doing evil, we would not have delivered him over to you." 31 Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law." The Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death." 32 This was to fulfill the word that Jesus had spoken to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

³³ So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" 34 Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?" 35 Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?" 36 Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world." 37 Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice." 38 Pilate said to him, "What is truth?"

After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, "I find no quilt in him. 39 But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover. So do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?" 40 They cried out again, "Not this man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a robber.

Extinguishing the *Third* Candle

Most holy and merciful Father. we confess to you and to one another, that we have sinned against you by what we have done and by what we have left undone, We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not fully loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not always had in us the mind of Christ. We have too often turned away from him and rejected him in refusing to listen to his Word in our lives. You alone know how often we have grieved you by wasting your gifts, by wandering from your ways. Forgive us, we pray you, most merciful Father; and free us from our sin. Renew in us the grace and power of your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ your Son our Savior. Amen.

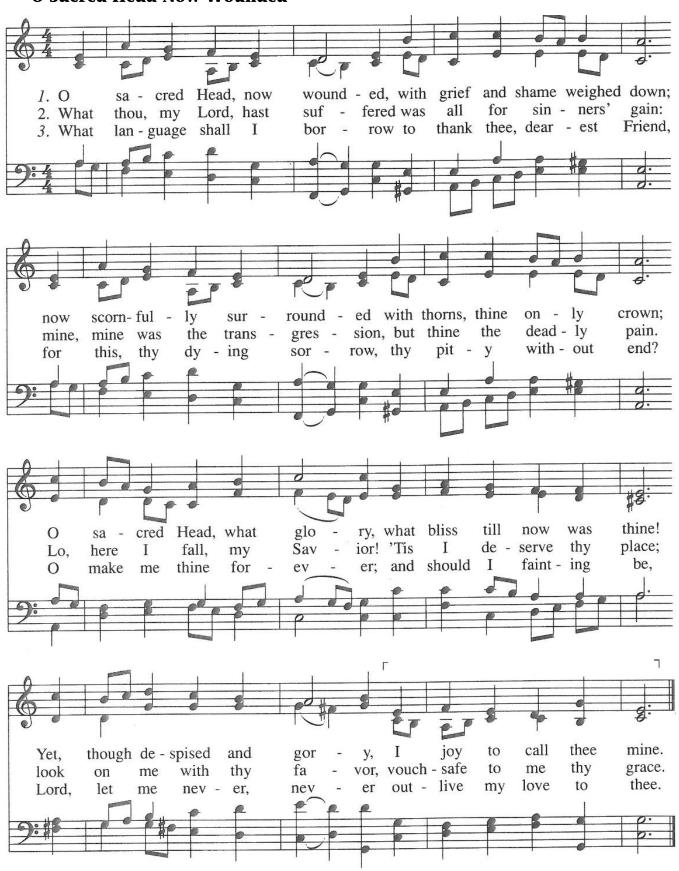
Jesus Is Delivered Over to Be Crucified: John 19:1-16a Mark Linstedt (HPCA)

Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. ² And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. ³ They came up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and struck him with their hands. ⁴ Pilate went out again and said to them, "See, I am bringing him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in him." ⁵ So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!" ⁶ When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him." ⁷ The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God." ⁸ When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. ⁹ He entered his headquarters again and said to Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰ So Pilate said to him, "You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have authority to release you and authority to crucify you?" ¹¹ Jesus answered him, "You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore he who delivered me over to you has the greater sin."

¹² From then on Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are not Caesar's friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar." ¹³ So when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Stone Pavement, and in Aramaic Gabbatha. ¹⁴ Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" ¹⁵ They cried out, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." ¹⁶ So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

Extinguishing the Fourth Candle

***O Sacred Head Now Wounded**



So they took Jesus, ¹⁷ and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called The Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. ¹⁸ There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. ¹⁹ Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." ²⁰ Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Aramaic, in Latin, and in Greek. ²¹ So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but rather, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'" ²² Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written."

²³ When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom, ²⁴ so they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be." This was to fulfill the Scripture which says, "They divided my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots."

So the soldiers did these things, ²⁵ but standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

Extinguishing the Fifth Candle

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

Stricken, smitten, and afflicted, See him dying on the tree! 'Tis the Christ by man rejected; Yes, my soul, 'tis he, 'tis he. 'Tis the long-expected Prophet, David's Son, yet David's Lord; By his Son God now has spoken: 'Tis the true and faithful Word.

Tell me, ye who hear him groaning, Was there ever grief like his? Friends through fear his cause disowning, Foes insulting his distress; Many hands were raised to wound him, None would interpose to save; But the deepest stroke that pierced him Was the stroke that Justice gave.

Kimberly Robinson and Bonnie Kertland

Ye who think of sin but lightly
Nor suppose the evil great
Here may view its nature rightly,
Here its guilt may estimate.
Mark the Sacrifice appointed,
See who bears the awful load;
'Tis the Word, the Lord's Anointed,
Son of Man and Son of God.

Here we have a firm foundation,
Here the refuge of the lost;
Christ's the Rock of our salvation,
His the name of which we boast.
Lamb of God, for sinners wounded,
Sacrifice to cancel guilt!
None shall ever be confounded
Who on him their hope have built.

The Death of Jesus: John 19:28-30

TE David Kertland (HPCA)

After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst." ²⁹ A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. ³⁰ When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Extinguishing the Sixth Candle

Meditation: "Like that of a lamb without blemish or spot"

1 Peter 1:17-19

If you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, ¹⁸ knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

Verification and Burial: John 19:31-42

TE Francisco Victa (LVPCA)

Since it was the day of Preparation, and so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken and that they might be taken away. ³² So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him. ³³ But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ³⁴ But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. ³⁵ He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe. ³⁶ For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled: "Not one of his bones will be broken." ³⁷ And again another Scripture says, "They will look on him whom they have pierced."

³⁸ After these things Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took away his body. ³⁹ Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight. ⁴⁰ So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹ Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. ⁴² So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

Extinguishing the Seventh Candle

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross



*The Promise: John 12:27-28, 32

TE David Kertland (HPCA)

Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? "Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again."

Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.

*Benediction 1 Peter 5:14

Peace to all of you who are in Christ.

We ask you to leave from the worship space today in silence.

We invite you to consider what the cross demonstrates about the cost of our forgiveness and salvation.

So costly, that the Son of God had to come to pay it, and yet, so freely given to us.

Today's Service Information

- 1) **Artwork:** Golgotha Gold by Julie Wecker. The jpeg image is found at https://juliewecker.files.wordpress.com/2010/04/portfolio-pictures-2-010.jpg (accessed 04/17/2019)
- 2) Music: "Praise the Savior Now and Ever (243), "Man of Sorrows! What a Name" (246), "O Sacred Head Now Wounded" (247), "Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted" (257), and "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" (252) are reprinted from *The Trinity Hymnal* (Great Commission Publications, Atlanta, GA, 2000). Music used by permission: CCLI License #20711820 and CCLI Streaming License #20711837.
- 3) **Quotes:** Biblical quotes are from the English Standard Version (ESV) unless otherwise noted.