

Good Friday Service for Family Worship

Encourage all ages to participate through songs, Scripture reading, confession, and prayer.

Call to Worship

We gather together to remember the supreme sacrifice of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who willingly offered Himself in death so that we might live forever.

Hymn – “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” (AH #61) and Isaiah 53
(alternating hymn stanzas and Scripture on the Suffering Servant)

Isaiah 53:1-3

Stanza 1

O sacred Head, now wounded, With grief and shame weighed down,
Now scornfully surrounded With thorns, Thine only crown;
O sacred Head, what glory, What bliss, til now was Thine!
Look on me with Thy favor, Vouchsafe to me Thy grace.

Isaiah 53:4-6

Stanza 2

What Thou, my Lord, hast suffered Was all for sinners' gain;
Mine, mine was the transgression, But Thine the deadly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Savior! 'Tis I deserve Thy place;
Lord, let me never, never Outlive my love to Thee.

Isaiah 53:7-8

Stanza 3

What language shall I borrow To thank Thee, dearest Friend,
For this, Thy dying sorrow, Thy pity without end?
O make me Thine forever; And should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never Outlive my love to Thee.

Isaiah 53:9-10

Stanza 4

Be near when I am dying, O show Thy cross to me;
Lord, on Thy help relying, Come Thou and set me free.
These eyes, new faith receiving, From Jesus shall not move,
For he who dies believing, Dies safely through Thy love.

Isaiah 53:11-12

Prayer of Confession (AH p.48, #5)

Heavenly Father, we rejoice in the coming of Your Son, Jesus Christ, to live, suffer, and die for our sins. We know that we cannot have eternal life without His costly sacrifice. Thank You that He became our sacrificial lamb so that we might have the forgiveness of sins and eternal life. We believe Your Word which tells us that “there is therefore no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, the Lord.” Forgive us and cleanse us from all our sins and help us in all our words, thoughts, and deeds to honor You and Your sacrifice that was given for us. In the Name of Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

Proclamation (spoken together in unison) – Romans 5:1-2

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God.

Prayer (pray for the spread of the Gospel and for salvation of family members, friends, neighbors, leaders, and peoples of all nations)

Hymn – “Beneath the Cross of Jesus” (AH #62) and Mark 15:22-39
(alternating hymn stanzas and Scripture on the Crucifixion)

Mark 15:22-26

Stanza 1

Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand,
The shadow of a mighty rock Within a weary land;
A home within the wilderness, A rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat, And the burden of the day.

Mark 15:27-32

Stanza 2

Upon the cross of Jesus, Mine eye at times can see
The very dying form of One Who suffered there for me.
And from my smitten heart with tears, These wonders I confess,
The wonder of redeeming love And my unworthiness.

Mark 15:33-39

Proclamation (sung or spoken together in unison) – John 3:16

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.”

Children’s Litany (echo each phrase):

Leader: Jesus died for all. **Children:** *Jesus died for all.*

Leader: Jesus died for you. **Children:** *Jesus died for you.*

Leader: Jesus died for me. **Children:** *Jesus died for me.*

Hymn – “What Wondrous Love Is This” (AH #72)

Stanza 1

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 dreaded curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreaded curse for my soul.

Stanza 2

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.

Stanza 3

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.

Confession of Faith – Martin Luther’s Explanation to the Second Article of the Apostles’ Creed (AH p.98)

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true Man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord;

Who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, bought me and freed me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with silver and gold, but with His holy and precious blood, and with His innocent sufferings and death;

In order that I might be His own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness; even as He is risen from the dead, and lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

Meditation (have a family member share a devotional message or listen to a sermon online – see www.aflc.org/listen-online)

Hymn – “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” (AH #63)

Stanza 1

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.

Stanza 2

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.

Stanza 3

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?

Stanza 4

Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a tribute far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Closing Proclamation – adapted from I Peter 1:18-21 (spoken together in unison)

We know that we were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from our futile way of life inherited from our forefathers, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, *the blood of Christ*. For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for our sake who through Him are believers in God, and He raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that our faith and hope are in God.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

This service uses resources from the Ambassador Hymnal indicated as “AH.” Downloadable music for hymns is provided.